

This Week's Services & Events

Sunday 9th March	8am BCP Holy Communion	Ash
	9am Morning Worship	Ridley
	10am Holy Communion	Ash
	8am BCP Holy Communion	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
	10.30am Holy Communion	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	<i>Livestreamed Service: https://bit.ly/356qawt</i>	
	10.30am Morning Worship	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
Monday 10th March	2.30pm – 4.30pm Chat & Craft	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	<i>Bring a craft or hobby & join together for a chat and refreshments</i>	
Tuesday 11th March	9am Morning Prayer	Zoom
	<i>To join please use the link shown on the Notes and News email</i>	
	10.30am Bible Study Group	Zoom
	<i>Please contact Susan Heads for more info/link (susan@rnwkgroup.org.uk)</i>	
	7.30pm Ash PCC Meeting	Venue as on the Agenda
Wednesday 12th March	10.15 – 11.45am Coffee & Chat	St Mary Magdalene Longfield
	7.30pm Lent Group	Hartley Rectory
	<i>Booking with Rev Joss required</i>	
Thursday 13th March	9am Morning Prayer	Ash
	10.15am Ash Saplings	Ash
	2pm – 4.30pm The Space	Youth & Community Centre, NAG
	<i>Free and welcome to all - refreshments, company, games & quizzes</i>	
Friday 14th March	9am Morning Prayer	Zoom
	<i>To join please use the link shown on the Notes and News email</i>	
Saturday 15th March	3pm Messy Church	Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre
	7pm Bexley Phoenix Choir Concert	Ash
	<i>Tickets £10.00 - Students £5.00 – 16 & under Free</i>	

Sunday's Readings & Prayers

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament reading:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk

God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you

Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom

that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Gospel reading: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."'

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I

please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Other readings: Romans 10:8b-13 and Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Post Communion prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Parish Safeguarding Officer Needed

One year on we remain without a PSO for Ash and Ridley. As we prepare to enter a vacancy and look for a new minister this is a vital role in the life of our church needs to be filled. We are not properly equipped for our mission and ministry without one.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is the key link between the diocese and the parish/s, concerning safeguarding matters. They have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults, and will seek to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy. The role can be taken by one person or shared, for example with one

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk

God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you

Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom

person covering children the other, for vulnerable adults.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will stir up the right person for these roles – ***if that might be you and you would like more information please contact me or Ian Nurdin.***

Messy Church

A celebration for everyone – faith, food & fun for families & individuals of all ages & stages. If you are under 16, an adult will need to stay with you. No need to book, just come along!
Next meeting this Saturday 15th March 3pm – 5pm, Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre.- poster attached

Messy Cathedral this year will be held on **31st May between 1pm – 3pm – poster attached**

Lent Course

This year's Lent Course will be based around **The Big Church Read Lent Book 2025 – 'Wild, Bright Hope'** and held in Hartley rectory (dependant on numbers!) Each Wednesday from 11th March to 16th April. Booking is required – *poster attached*

Prayer Team & Prayer List

The ministry of prayer at Ash church after Sunday services has now been active for 6 months and it is heart-warming to see that this service is being well used - thank you to Rev Dorothy for her leadership and the team for their dedication. **We are looking to expand the prayer team** so I ask you again to prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to this ministry and to join the team. Rev Dorothy would love to hear from you if you would like more information.

Prayer List – Julia has done and is continuing to do a wonderful job maintain the list of those who have asked for the prayers of the church family. In order to better maintain this list and serve those on it from April as well as adhering to the removal of names after 4 weeks the prayer team will in contacting people on the list to see how they are,

whether we as a church can offer any other help or support and determine whether they would find remaining on the list helpful. If anyone has any concerns about this please speak with Rev Dorothy or Helen.

New Electoral Roll

Every six years all churches have to prepare a new electoral roll. The old roll is discarded and everyone who wishes to take part in the APCM **must** complete a new application form. The deadline for completing the forms in time for the Ash APCM is **Sunday 23rd March**. Being on the church electoral roll is also a good indication to the Diocese of the membership of the church so please do renew or start your membership. Application forms for the electoral roll will be available in churches or from the Electoral Roll officer: Ash - Carol Clark (carol@cclark.me.uk – 01474 874526)

Flower Festival Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of V.E. DAY.

To be held at **Ash Church May 3rd - 5th.**

All are welcome to participate in this important landmark event by creating a flower arrangement or posy **or** sponsoring an arrangement in someone's memory **or** by making a donation towards the event. Nearer the time there will also be a request for cakes and help to run the event!

If interested in any way please contact Jean. jeanbentley51@gmail.com 07985 171403

Deanery Confirmation Service

Our confirmation service this year will be held at **Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre at 4pm on 8th June with Bishop Simon.** If you would like to be confirmed or would like any further information about confirmation please speak with Rev Helen.

Next Sunday's Readings
Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 / Luke 13:31-end

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk

God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you

Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom