Notices

Vestry Meeting

APCM –The Annual Vestry Meeting and APCM is on Sunday May 26th, 2024. This will be held at St. Stephen's Tovil (Archbishop Courtenay School) at 10am

There will be elections -for 2 Church Wardens to serve for one year. 1 Deanery Synod Member – One year 3 PCC Members 2 for two years and 1 for one year.

<u>Community Cafe</u> - a reminder that the church will be open at 6 p.m. on Fridays for anyone who would like to help with the set-up for the following Saturday: any assistance is greatly appreciated.

<u>Date for your Diary:</u> John and Sue Richardson invite you to an open day at Dymchurch Rectory on Saturday August 31^{st.} 10.30am-12noon – Morning Coffee 12.30pm-2.30pm Afro Caribbean Street Food catered by FFF Coastal Catering FOC

Life The Celebrating Festival is now just five weeks away and there is much interest both from the general public in Maidstone as well as from members of our congregations. The leaflet with all the events are now available in all churches and posters are available for display.

Please check the programme and begin to make decisions re the events you will support and if you are coming to the Afro Caribbean Supper on Thursday the 27th or the Formal Dinner on Friday the 28th please sign up on either the Q Code on the programme or on the list at the back of the churches. We are still in need of stewards for some events and lists to sign are also available today. Please remember this outreach Festival in your prayers that God will bless bountifully for all involved in this venture.

<u>Bible Study Group -</u>10am for 10.30am – 11.30am at St Philips Church - Next Meeting is May 21st – "The Wisdom Literature.. Psalms to The Song of Soloman"

 Civic Service will be held on Saturday 18th May at 12noon. The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil

Sunday 19th May 2024 Pentecost



10.00am Parish Eucharist at All Saints with Day of Prayer for Celebrating Life 9.30-4.30pm with Said Evensong at 4pm

Next Week's Service's

Sunday 26th May The First Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Morning Worship at St Stephens (Archbishop Courtenay School) followed by the Annual Vestry Meeting and the APCM

Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a

noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Gospel John 16:12-15

'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Post Communion

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Parish Services in June 2024

- 2nd 10am Parish Eucharist at St. Philip's and. 6:30pm Choral Evensong at All Saints
- 9th 10am Parish Eucharist at All Saints

- 16th 10am at St Stephens –
 Archbishop Courtenay School- Family
 Celtic Communion with Healing with
 The Revd. Lorraine Apps-Huggins
 from the Living Well as the Preacher.
- 23rd 10am at All Saints Celebrating
 Life Festival Communion with the
 Revd. Canon and Prebendary Caroline
 Pinchbeck, as the Preacher who is the
 Vicar of the Market Weighton Benefice
 and Rural Adviser to the Diocese of
 York followed by Buffet Lunch.
- 23rd 3:30pm at All Saints Celebrating Life Sung Evensong led by The Very Revd. John Richardson with the Maidstone Singers and supported by the congregation, visitors to the Flower Festival and the Bellringers.
- 30th 10am at All Saints Celebrating Life Morning Worship on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of the Very Revd. John Richardson.

Special prayers

Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'

Daphne Holland, Mary Wheeler, Jane Sadler, Pamela Hocking, John Wilson, Paul Crease, Joan Bull, Ray Stephens, Derek Warne, Howard Cooke

<u>Vicar: All saints, Maidstone with St.</u> <u>Philip's, and St. Stephen's Tovil</u>

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson
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Please note Revd John will be on Leave on
Wednesdays of each week.

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