

NOTICES: Please let Judy know of anyone who would appreciate a visit or Home Communion and if anyone moves in near you. Many thanks, 270227.

**STITCH, CHAT AND CREATE.**

Meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of the month in the afternoon in the Tower Room, 2pm – 4pm at Wittersham Church. Everyone welcome, old and young, male or female.

**St. John the Baptist, Wittersham  
St Mary the Virgin, Ebony**

**Sunday June 18th, 2017**  
**First Sunday after Trinity**

**IN WITTERSHAM THE ALTAR CANDLES ARE LIT 10 MINUTES BEFORE THE SERVICE. MAY WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT QUIET IS THEN KEPT TO ALLOW OTHERS TIME AND SPACE FOR REFLECTION AND PREPARATION.**

*Welcome to our churches today, if you are a visitor or a newcomer please make yourself known to the clergy or those on duty. All are welcome at the altar rail to receive the sacrament or a blessing.*

***In Wittersham Church there is a hearing induction loop for all services and large print service books are also available.***

***The toilet facility at Wittersham is located just outside the Church, turn left and follow the path round to the building on your right. Activities for children are available in the North aisle Children's area of Wittersham Church.***

**Services today**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP Ebony  
10.30 am Matins (BCP) Wittersham  
2.30 pm Baptism Wittersham

**Readings for 9.00 am**

Epistle: 1 John 4: 7 - end  
Gospel: Luke 16: 19 – end

**Readings and Hymns for 10.30 am**

Old Testament: Exodus 19: 2 – 8a  
Gospel: Matthew 9: 35 – 10:8  
Psalm 100

A&M 100 All people that on earth do dwell  
A&M 458 Forth in the peace of Christ we go  
A&M 131 Love Divine, all loves excelling  
A&M 233 O thou who camest from above  
Choir anthem: Day by Day, How.

**Collect (BCP)**

O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping of thy commandments we may please thee both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**We are here to help:**

**Priest: Rev'd Judy Darkins**

The Rectory, The Street, Wittersham, Tenterden,  
Kent TN30 7EA

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Telephone 01797 270227

**Associate Priest: Rev'd Judith Shaw**

01580 763468

e-mail [shawmalthouse@aol.com](mailto:shawmalthouse@aol.com)

**Church Wardens:**

**Wittersham: Terry Kirby 270844**

**Lee Bailey 270037**

**Deputy: Felicitie Sykes 270639**

**Ebony: Cynthia Cleverdon 270122**

**Deputy: Joyce Bates 270379**

**Organists: Giles Ridley 270370**

**Jennifer Maynard 270804**

**Websites: [www.wittershamchurch.com](http://www.wittershamchurch.com)**

**e-mail [info@wittershamchurch.com](mailto:info@wittershamchurch.com)**

**[www.ebonychurch.co.uk](http://www.ebonychurch.co.uk)**

***From the rotas, a polite reminder for***

***June 25<sup>th</sup>: Sue & Angela***

***Coffee: Joe and Liz Best***

***Church Cleaning: Mary M, Jenny C, plus one.***

**Rowing the Rother – 10.30 am start**

On Sunday July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 please sponsor oarsman Keith Quilter who is 95 years old as he rows from Newenden Bridge to Star Lock, Rye, (distance 9 miles) in aid of two charities.

1. St John the Baptist Church, Wittersham.
2. Centre Point, London.

The boat is kindly loaned and returned from Star Lock by "The Bodiam Boating Station", Newenden.

72 years ago, in the last week of July 1945, Keith was shot down and ditched his aircraft in a harbour in Honsu, the main island of Japan. He was rowing (paddling) his rubber dinghy like mad to get out of reach and avoid capture that day too.

**Coming Events .....**

**17<sup>th</sup> June** - Picnic – the Great Get Together – 3.00 to 6.00 pm Wittersham Churchyard, a national celebration of the life of MP Jo Cox, murdered 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

**24<sup>th</sup> June** - Gift Day. BBQ & "Banned" in churchyard 5 pm onwards

**5-6<sup>th</sup> August** - Flower Festival

**Some thoughts for prayer:** From the Diocesan prayer diary this week. We pray for the Churches of Madagascar, The Northern Territory (Australia), Northern Uganda, Northwest Texas, Northwestern Pennsylvania, Norwich, Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island and Nsukka (Nigeria).

We pray for all involved in the tragic fire in London this week. We keep in mind all the families involved in the terrorist tragedies in both Manchester and London and pray for all who influence others to commit these crimes that they may have a change of heart understanding peace rather than hatred.

Today we pray for all who are preparing for Baptism, Annabelle,(to be Baptised today) Noah, James and Sam, and those to be Confirmed on Tuesday this week. Katie, Sophie, Niamh, James, Evie and Serena.

We pray for our Archbishops Justin and John and also Bishop Trevor. We pray for integrity from all our politicians.

We thank God for the gift of our beautiful villages whilst remembering those whose surroundings are dark, devastated by war and violence, or famine and disease. We pray for just sharing of resources and give thanks to all who seek to bring relief and comfort to the many people suffering both here and around the world. We pray for your broken world and for all who are in any way victims of other people's violence. We pray for refugees and all who are displaced, giving thanks for the aid agencies who help and bring comfort to them.

We pray for all who are persecuted for their faith.

We pray for our school and the children, staff and Governors. In our churches this week we pray for the PCC and Standing Committee.

We thank you for much healing in our communities and Lord bring comfort, wholeness and peace to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Especially we pray for **Gail, Tony, David, Tony, Victoria, Elaine, Jemima, Valerie, John and Peter** and all who watch and wait. We pray for those who are lonely or confused. We remember all whom we have loved but see no longer and may we live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory.

Lastly Lord we pray for ourselves, forgive us in broken relationships and when we fail. Help us to always acknowledge your presence with us in our daily lives. We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to your mercy and protection.

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**No flower dedication but the Parish  
Pot is out for the victims of the  
London fire.**

**Services in the coming weeks.....**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June Trinity 1**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP Ebony  
10.30 am Matins BCP Wittersham  
2.30pm Baptism at Wittersham

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Patronal Festival**

10.30 am Parish Eucharist Wittersham  
7.00 pm Choral Evensong Wittersham

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July Trinity 3**

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP Ebony  
10.30 am Parish Eucharist Wittersham

**St John the Baptist Wittersham  
MEMORIAL SERVICE**

3pm Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Everyone is invited to attend a short memorial service for all involved in the Manchester and London terrorist tragedies, and the London Fire tragedy.

Following this will be a BBQ in the churchyard when we hope for donations to the UK Solidarity Fund, set up for the victims and families.

**Weekday services at Wittersham this week:**

Monday	8.30 am Morning Prayer
Tuesday	8.30 am Morning Prayer
Wednesday	8.30 am Holy Communion
Thursday	8.30 am Morning Prayer
Friday	8.30 am Morning Prayer

**Confirmation Service 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm**

We are delighted that five of our pupils will be confirmed by Bishop Trevor at Wittersham Church. Please pray for Sophie, Katie, James, Evie and Niamh.

*Please support them by attending the service.*

**London to Paris Bike Ride**

A very BIG thank- you to everyone who so kindly sponsored us in our London to Paris Bike Ride. 97 of us arrived hot and sweaty, but triumphant in Paris after 3 days of cycling, 187 miles covered, 100s of bananas eaten, 4 crashes (not us!), and lots of tired legs and sore bottoms.

In total the whole team raised over £100,000 for the Stroke Association and we are so grateful to you all for helping us raise so much money for such a good cause in memory of our dear friend Tina.

*Jane, James & Ed Maclachlan*