

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.

We are here to help:

Priest: Rev'd Judy Darkins

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

e-mail judy.darkins@btinternet.com

Telephone 01797 270227

Associate Priest: Rev'd Judith Shaw

01580 763468

e-mail shawmalthouse@aol.com

Church Wardens:

Wittersham: Terry Kirby 270844

Lee Bailey 270037

Deputy: Felicitie Sykes 270639

Ebony: Vacant

Deputy: Joyce Bates 270379

Organists: Giles Ridley 270370

Jennifer Maynard 270804

Websites: www.wittershamchurch.com

e-mail info@wittershamchurch.com

www.ebonychurch.co.uk

From the rotas, a polite reminder for

February 25th:

Coffee: Bumble & Angela

Church Cleaning: Sue and Deirdre

Coming events:

Stone Lent Lunch

Wednesday 21st February

Table Top Sale

Saturday March 10th

10 – 12 in the Village Hall.

Cakes please, and could you help serve coffee?

Ebony APCM March 14th, 11.15 am in church.

Church Springclean

Saturday 17th March

Volunteers wanted for an extra clean up!

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

Sunday 18th February, 2018

The First Sunday of Lent

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 Wittersham

Readings for 9.00 am

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6: 1 - 10

Gospel: Matthew 4: 1 - 11

Collect of the day

O Lord, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may every obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.
Amen.

Readings and hymns for 10.30 am

Old Testament: Genesis 9: 8 - 17

Gospel: Mark 1: 9 – 15

A&M 217 Be thou my guardian and my guide

A&M 27 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's cry

A&M 129 Lord Jesus, think on me (2nd tune)

A&M 123 Jesus, lover of my soul (*tune: Aberystwyth*)

Choir Anthem: O, for a closer walk with God.

Psalm 25: 1 - 9

***Funeral of Tony Mayer:
February 22nd at 2.00 pm in
Wittersham Church.***

Some thoughts for prayer: From the Diocesan prayer diary this week. We pray for the Church of Madagascar, the Church of the Province of Central Africa, Ballarat (Victoria, Australia), Bangor (Wales), Banks and Torres (Melanesia) Bari (Nigeria), Barisal (Bangladesh) and Barrackpore (North India).

Lord help us this Lent so we may observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline.

We pray for all who are suffering, those who are cold, hungry or alone and for the many homeless in our own country. We remember all who have had to leave their homes for whatever reason and for all refugees as we give thanks for the many charities and societies who care for them.

We pray for the nine parish churches in our Benefice, this week remembering especially the church at St Mildred's Tenterden. We remember all Christians across the world who suffer for their faith and especially those who cannot worship openly. We pray for our leaders Archbishops Justin and John and for our diocesan Bishop Trevor.

We pray for our country and the government. For good relationships with other countries and a strong sense of justice and integrity from our own politicians as they continue negotiations

In our churches this week we pray for the PCC and Standing Committee.

We pray for our school in Wittersham, the Children, Staff, Governors and Parents as they return from holiday.

We pray for those enduring suffering or anxiety. We remember those who are sick or lonely. We thank you for much healing and pray that you will bring comfort, wholeness and peace to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Especially we pray for **Gail, David, Tony, Elaine, Sue, Steve, Stuart, Lesley, Stephen, Elspeth, Gabby, Emma, John, Margaret and Valerie** and all who watch and wait. We remember all whom we have loved but see no longer. Especially this week we pray for the Mayer family as they come for Tony's funeral on Thursday. May we live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory.



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.

Services in the coming weeks.....

Sunday 25th February The Second Sunday of Lent

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP Wittersham
10.30 Parish Eucharist Wittersham

Sunday 4th March

9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) Ebony
10.30 Parish Eucharist Wittersham

Sunday 11th March Mothering Sunday

9.00 am Holy Communion BCP Wittersham
10.00 Active Church with breakfast rolls

Sunday 18th March

9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) Ebony
10.30 am Matins Wittersham

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

Lent Lunches

(All on a Wednesday)

Stone 21st Feb., 12 - 2pm

Appledore 28th Feb., 12 - 2pm

Rolvenden 7th March., 12 - 2pm

Ebony 14th March., 12 - 2pm

Wittersham 21st March., 12 - 2pm

Reserve the date!

**Choir Concert for the Friends of
Wittersham Church on
April 21st, 2018.**

