

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.

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

Sunday May 12th

**STITCH, CHAT AND CREATE.**

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

**We are here to help:**

**Priest: Rev'd Judy Darkins**

The Rectory, The Street, Wittersham, Tenterden,  
Kent TN30 7EA  
e-mail [judyrdarkins@gmail.com](mailto:judyrdarkins@gmail.com)  
Telephone 01797 270227

**Church Wardens:**

**Wittersham: Terry Kirby 270844**

**Vacancy**

**Deputy:**

**Felicite Sykes 270639**

**Ebony:**

**Vacancy**

**Deputy: Joyce Bates 270379**

**Organists:**

**Giles Ridley 270370**

**Jennifer Maynard 270804**

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

**Facebook: [fb.me/WittershamChurch](https://fb.me/WittershamChurch)**

**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  
10.00 am Active Church with breakfast rolls Wittersham

Collect and Readings for 9.00 am

*Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of my truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen*

Epistle: 1 Peter 2: 19 to end.  
Gospel John 10: 11 - 16

Reading and hymns for 10.00 am

Moses in the Bulrushes, Storyteller Bible.

NHWS 227 Morning has broken  
NHWS 309 Take my life, and let it be.  
NHWS 248 O Lord, my God

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**The funeral of David Pennyfather is on  
Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> at 11.20  
at Charing Crematorium.**

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

May 19th:-

Coffee: Wilma & Alan

Church Cleaning: Sue & Deirdre

Readers: Wilma Lloyd-Smith, Willy Everett

*Did you join the Smartie  
challenge?*

*Don't forget to bring your tube  
back!*

**Open Gardens**

**Tuesdays 11 – 12 noon**

**Start on Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**at**

**Wittersham Court.**

**Grand Plant Sale**

**2 – 5 pm**

**Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Wittersham Village Hall**

**Tea, coffee and cake will be served.**

*Thanks to all who helped  
at the Big Breakfast on  
Saturday.*

Some thoughts for prayer: From the Diocesan prayer diary this week. We pray for the Churches of Madagascar, Korea, Zanzibar (Tanzania) Ikwo, Zaria, Zonkwa, Aba, Aba Ngwa North, Ikwano, Abakaliki, Ilaje (Nigeria), Myanmar, Zululand, Nagpur (N. India), Nairobi and Nakuru (Kenya).

In the joy of Easter and our Lord's resurrection so we pray

We continue to pray for the plight of all people who have suffered recently, and all who continue to suffer because of war, violence and oppression. We pray for meaningful dialogues between nations as well as all who seek to do harm to others. Remembering that Jesus is the bread of life we pray for all who are hungry or thirsty. We remember those who are suffering famine, failure of crops and all who struggle to have the bare necessities for life. Lord help us to be generous with our plenty and, as we are nourished by your word may we support and give thanks for all aid agencies and the many volunteers who work for the good of all.

We pray for our country and especially those who lead us, may they be diligent in their tasks and true to their calling. We also remember our European colleagues and all who are involved in the Brexit process.

We pray for our families and the love we share. We pray for all who are preparing for marriage especially Tom and Claire, Owen and Laura and Danny and Beccy.

Jesus our way, our truth and our life we ask that you bless all our people. We pray for our leaders Archbishops Justin and John. Especially we pray for Bishop Trevor and Margaret as they move to a new home and new village this week.

In our own churches this week we pray for the organists and choir. We give you thanks for all that is good in our churches and for all who help in any way.

We pray for our nine parishes and this week we remember the work at Wittersham.

We pray for our school in Wittersham, for the staff, children, governors and parents. We remember before you all children taking exams at this time.

Heavenly Father we thank you for much healing in our community, but we remember those who are sick or lonely. We pray for your comfort, wholeness and peace for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We pray for a good recovery for those who have recently had an operation. **Especially we pray for those who have asked for our prayers: Amanda and her parents Penny and Rod, Terry, Andrew, Bob, Jenny F, and Caroline and all who watch and wait.** We pray with thanks for the work of all medical teams both here and abroad.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life we give you thanks for all who have lived and whom we see no more. We pray for all on their last journey on this earth. We remember the family of David Pennyfather and ask for consolation for his brother Ken and all those who mourn.

*Merciful father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### Services in the coming weeks.....

#### Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>

10.30 am Parish Eucharist Wittersham

#### Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

#### Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>

9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) Ebony  
10.00 am Active Church with breakfast rolls  
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

### Coming events:-

Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> Plant Sale and refreshments 2 – 5 pm in the Village Hall.

**Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>. Start of the Tuesday garden coffee mornings 11 – 12 noon, at Wittersham Court.**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Golf Day



**Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> BBQ in the Rectory Garden 12 – 5 with The Banned.**

Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup> Wittersham Church Strawberry Tea day 2 – 5.30 m at Black Barn, Wittersham. Cream Teas £4.50 Everyone Welcome.