

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, 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
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

Facebook: fb.me/WittershamChurch

From the rotas, a polite reminder for September 15th:

Coffee: Caro & Claire

Church Cleaning: Angela & Jennifer

Readers: Jane Neame & Tony Rawlins

Are you up for a challenge?

As a rural Parish we think more could be made of the Harvest celebrations so taking the idea from Battle and others, we would like to hold a scarecrow festival at Harvest time and challenge all the societies and individuals to make a scarecrow. This is how it goes

All Scarecrows Welcome!

Scarecrows must be registered at the Rectory before Monday 23d September with a small donation for the Servedy Fund. Each entrant will be given a number which must be displayed with their scarecrow display along with the title of the Scarecrow.

There are no rules of type of scarecrow but please keep it tasteful.

Scarecrows should be displayed where they can be easily seen without blocking public footpaths. Voting for your favourite scarecrow will open at 10 am Saturday 28th September and an online map with all the entrants, names and locations will be published on the church website and a paper version can be collected from the Rectory.

Happy Scarecrowing!!

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

Sunday September 8th, 2019

Twelfth 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 Wittersham
10.00 am Active Church with breakfast rolls and
Baptism of Florence.

Readings, Collect and Hymns for 9.00 am

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3: 4 – 9

Gospel: Mark 7: 31 - 37

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire, or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy; forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and give us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

10.00 am Active Church and Baptism of Florence.

Reading John 15:5

NHWS 78 For the fruits of His creation
NHWS 121 Have you heard the raindrops
NHWS 113 Great is thy faithfulness.

*Sunday 29th
September
10.30 am Harvest
Service
with speaker
Neil Davy,
local Olive Farm
farmer*



There is a rota at the back of the church if you can offer a pudding for the Harvest Supper, thank you.

Some thoughts for prayer: From the Diocesan prayer diary this week. We pray for the Churches of Madagascar; the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan, Osaka (Japan), Canterbury (England), Osun, Otukpo (Nigeria), Cape Coast (West Africa), Cape Town (Southern Africa), Carlisle (England), Cashel & Ossory (Ireland), Ottawa (Canada), Central Buganda, Central Busoga (Uganda) and Kisangani (Congo).

We pray for our church family, for our families and the love we share. We pray for all who are preparing for marriage especially Andrew and Penny. We ask your blessing on all who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month. We pray for Florence as she is Baptised today.

We continue to pray for the harvest and all who help to bring it in. We remember those whose harvest has failed and we pray for fair sharing of the world's resources. We pray for the hungry or thirsty. We remember those who are suffering as they struggle to have the bare necessities for life.

We pray for all who have suffered the appalling destruction from the Hurricane in the Bahamas and for those in its path as it moves on.

We pray that there will be peace in all parts of the world. We continue to pray for those people who suffer because of war, violence of many sorts and oppression. We pray for truth and understanding between nations and pray for a change of heart for all who seek to do harm to others.

We pray for our country and its future. May the divisions be repaired between MP's and especially with those who are put in positions of leadership, may they be honest, truthful and diligent in what they do and say and work for the good of all. We also remember our European colleagues at this time of change.

We ask that you bless all Christian people. We pray for our leaders Archbishops Justin and John. Especially we pray for Rose our new Diocesan Bishop and our Archdeacons Darren, Stephen and Jo. We pray for all church leaders.

In our own churches this week we pray for our church cleaners, coffee rota and intercessors. We give you thanks for all that is good in our churches and for all who help in any way. We pray Lord that you will bless us as we seek to keep your churches open and welcoming places for all who come. We pray for our nine parishes and all who support them in many ways. This week we remember the work at Appledore, for Tricia and her team and for all who worship there.

We pray for our school in Wittersham, for the staff, children, governors and parents. We also remember those who are starting school for the first time and also those who have moved on to Secondary School.

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, Bob, Trevor, Michael, Steve and Ruth**, for those known privately to us and all who watch and wait.

We give thanks for all whom we see no more remembering Phyllis Catt and her family. We pray for all who have been bereaved recently. As we remember the promise of Jesus we pray for those on their last journey on this earth today.

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen .

Services in the coming weeks.....

Sunday September 15th Trinity 13

9.00 am Holy Communion Ebony (BCP)

10.30 am Matins Wittersham BCP

Sunday September 22nd

10.30 am Parish Eucharist (Wittersham)

The funeral of Phyllis Catt will be at Charing Crematorium on Friday 27th September at 11.00 am.

The Macmillan Coffee Morning on 27th is cancelled due to Phyllis Catt's funeral.

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:-

Tuesday 10th September. Open garden coffee morning 11 – 12 noon Alan and Wilma Lloyd-Smith's garden at Potman's Heath.

September 7th & 8th, Friends Art Exhibition and sale of works in church.

Saturday 14th September, Ride and Stride. Sponsored bike ride or walking around local churches.

Saturday 14th September. Kent Police Choir Concert 7.30 pm . Tickets £8 each available from Judy. *Offers of wine or nibbles for this would be welcome – please let Judy know.*

Saturday 21st September. Jean Elliott is walking the London Marathon route for Cancer Research. If you would like to sponsor her please ring 270656.

Thursday 26th September, 10.45 am. Blessing of new names on the War Memorial.

Saturday 28th September Harvest Supper and Marsh Warblers 7pm in the Village Hall. Tickets £6 each available from Rev. Judy, 01797 270227.