



St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield
Part of the Rural North West Kent Group of Churches

NOTICES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 2nd June 2019

RNWK Group Clergy: Revd. Dylan Turner, Revd. Helen Reeves, Revd. Elizabeth Robertson

Sunday 2 nd June 2019	8.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash 9.00 am Holy Communion Service at All Saints' Church, Hartley 9.00 am Morning Worship Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley 10.30 am Family Service at the Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre 10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield 10.30 am Family Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash
Wednesday 5 th June 2019	10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints' Church, Hartley
Sunday 9 th June 2019	8.00 am Morning Prayer Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash 8.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield 9.00 am Morning Worship Service at All Saints' Church, Hartley 9.00 am Morning Worship Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley 10.30 am Holy Communion Service at Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre 10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield 10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash 6.30 pm Thy Kingdom Come Service at St. Mary's Church, Fawkham

(Please note that tea and coffee will be available in the Jubilee Hall after most of our services, please feel free to join us)

THY KINGDOM COME DAILY SERVICES FROM – Friday 31st May to Saturday 8th June – on Sundays normal Sunday worship.

Morning Prayer, 9.00 am Ash Church
Novena Prayer, 12.00 noon Longfield Church
Evening Prayer, 5.00 pm Ridley Church

Tuesday 4th June (RNWK Time Slot)
24hr Prayer-24 hours, starting 8.00am at St. Mary's Prayer Room, Sole Street

Sunday 9th June – Pentecost Service, 6.30pm at St. Mary's Church, Fawkham

BIBLE, BREW AND BISCUITS – There will be a relaxed and informal get together at Ruby Wheal's house at 3 Hartley Road, Longfield to have a brew of your choice with some biscuits in the warm glow of the Bible. If you would like a light hearted chat through some of the familiar Bible passages then please do come along. **For further information and the date of the next meeting please speak to Ruby or Steph.**

OPEN CHURCH WEDNESDAYS FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER – MORNINGS 10.00-12.00 - Thank you to everyone who has agreed to help open our church to visitors for just 2 hours each Wednesday morning during the spring and summer months. Stewards operate in pairs and the time passes quickly. Although we have already had to put a rota in place we would be very grateful for more volunteers as it would lessen the load on those who have already agreed to help. If you would like more information please speak to Gill Horner. **The stewards for Wednesday 5th June will be Wendy Smith and Susan Rogers**

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – The next session resumes on Monday 3rd June starting at 8.00pm in the Jubilee Hall, the subject will be a study of the church at Colossae led by Lawrie, this is a change to the scheduled session, all are welcome to attend.

YARN AND YAP – The next meeting will be on the **7th June starting at 12.30pm until 2.30pm** in the Jubilee Hall. Light lunch and drinks/cakes are all provided. Donations of wool or a contribution towards its purchase is very much appreciated.

MESSY CHURCH – Messy Church meets again at the Fawkham and Hartley Fete on **Saturday 8th June 2019** at 12 noon at Fawkham Meadow behind St. Mary's Church, Fawkham, please come and join us. There is also a Facebook group to follow which is at: <https://m.facebook.com/RNWKmessychurch/>

'DEMENTIA – HOW CAN WE HELP?' - Find out how we can provide spiritual and practical help for those suffering from dementia and their families at the next Deanery Synod meeting on **Thursday 13 June** at St. Peter & St. Paul Ash, 7.45pm for 8pm, when Julia Burton-Jones (Anna Chaplaincy Lead and Dementia Specialist) and her team will be our speakers. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome. Speak to Revd. Elizabeth Robertson if you would like to know more.

COFFEE MORNING – This will be on Saturday **22nd June** in the Jubilee Hall starting at 10.00am until 12.00noon. All are welcome. There will also be a churchyard working party that day so please do come and assist Paul T and others helping to keep our church grounds looking nice.

TESS SUMMER SALE – The annual Tess summer sale will take place on **Saturday 22nd June from 9.30am to 5.30pm** at Anne Philpott's house at 5 Spring Vale Close (off Egerton Avenue) Hextable, BR8 7LR. There will also be coffee mornings on **Monday 24th June and Tuesday 25th June from 9.30am to 12.30pm**. All funds raised go in aid of the Teso Educational Support Services for sponsorship in Teso, Uganda. All are welcome to attend this event at Anne's house for a truly wonderful cause.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM - If anyone would like to be a part of this ministry through prayer or visiting could they let either Steph, Wendy or Val know and speak to us for more information.

COFFEE AND COMMUNION – This will be held on **Wednesday 26th June** starting at 10.00am in St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield

GROUP MEN'S FELLASHIP BRUNCH – This first of our brunches will take place on **Saturday 13th July** in the Jubilee Hall Longfield starting at 10.30am until 12.30pm. All you men of the group come with a friend or neighbour and join us for tea, coffee, bacon butties, good manly social chat and a talk by the Revd. Chris Stone, on his time before the priesthood, working at the BBC. A splendid time is guaranteed for all. Please contact Alan Strachan for further details. (See Poster attached).

SIDESMEN, SOUND AND READING:- Sunday 2nd June services: For the 10.30am service the sidesmen will be Susan Rogers and Terry Dumbrell. The reader will be Pauline Foster and prayers by Marion Strachan. Sound by Gary Mitton.

Sunday 9th June services: For the 8.00am service the sidesperson and reader will be Elaine Thurtle. For the 10.30am service the Sidespeople will be Val Choules and Marion Stubbs, the reader will be Marion Asplin and prayers by Stephanie Perfitt with Sound by Peter Garrod. Thank you to everyone for your time and assistance.

*If you have anything to add to the notices for next week, please contact: Alan Strachan on 01474 704602
or at a.m.strachan@btinternet.com Parish website: www.longfieldchurch.org Twitter: @RNWK_Group*

CALLED TOGETHER FOR A NEW VISION

'CALLED TOGETHER' - WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR YOUR T FOR 2-500 PLUS CHALLENGE? - 'CALLED TOGETHER'

WE HAVE SO FAR REACHED OUT AS A GROUP TO **370** PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR OUR T FOR 2 500 PLUS CHALLENGE, WE STILL HAVE **130** PEOPLE TO REACH BEFORE THE SUMMER. WHAT'S YOUR CHALLENGE? PLEASE LET THE MINISTRY TEAM KNOW, WE ARE CALLED TOGETHER, TO WORK TOGETHER FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

Just a thought

Easter Sunday is only the beginning!

Easter is the high point of the Church Year so it makes sense that we would party for so long. After all, the main point of the whole gospel is to prepare us for an eternal celebration and feast. This is reflected in the fact that our Lenten fast only lasts forty days (not including Sundays), while Easter is fifty days. Fasting will pass away, as Jesus said, but the Great Feast of the Lamb will last for ages and ages (a Hebrew into Greek idiom for eternity!).

So let the feasting begin! Why fifty days of Easter Time?

It's actually quite simple. After the resurrection, Jesus spent forty days on earth before he ascended into heaven, and then there were ten more days after that before the Day of Pentecost. Luke writes in the first chapter of Acts that Jesus "presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God." In chapter two, we find the followers of Jesus gathered for the Day of Pentecost, which actually means "fifty." It happened during the Hebrew feast of *Shavuot*, which is why the followers of Jesus were gathering. The Hebrew festival was originally a harvest first fruits celebration, and later it had evolved into a commemoration of the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt. Sinai. So the Great Fifty Days are a celebration of the Resurrection of Christ and all that means for us, leading to the launching of the Christian Church and its mission on Pentecost.

How do Christians Celebrate the Easter Season?

Easter Vigil, held sometime after dark on Holy Saturday evening, kicks off Easter. Easter Day Celebrations take place on Easter Sunday. The Lectionary readings during the following Sundays of Easter explore the post-resurrection appearances of Christ, and also the promise of a future resurrection.

We go back to a closed room in which Jesus suddenly appears...but Thomas isn't there. He doubts. Jesus later appears to him. Poor Thomas, forever cast as "doubting" even though his doubts were a helpful thing that eventually led him to worship Jesus and say, "My Lord, and My God." Then we have breakfast with Jesus and Peter. Peter had denied Jesus three times and, after the Resurrection, had returned to fishing. Jesus restores him and gives him a mission: "Feed my Sheep" and "Follow me." Jesus also prophecies that Peter will be arrested and martyred, that's a tough breakfast conversation!!

We revisit Jesus' teaching on himself and his mission, he is preparing his disciples, and us, to take the power of his Resurrection to the world. Ascension Day falls on the 40th day, which always falls on a Thursday. Because this is a weekday, some churches observe or focus on the Ascension that following Sunday, the Seventh Sunday of Easter. In this we hear Jesus give us the Great Commission, our true Mission Statement to spread the word of God to the world to all people.

Just a thought