



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

NOTICES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 16th June 2019

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

Sunday 16th June 2019
Trinity Sunday

8.00 am Morning Prayer Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash
9.00 am Holy Communion Service at All Saints' Church, Hartley
9.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley
10.30 am Morning Worship Service at the Fawkham and Hartley Church Centre
10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield
10.30 am Morning Prayer Service (CW) at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash

Wednesday 19th June 2019

10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints' Church, Hartley

Sunday 23rd June 2019

8.00 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash
8.00 am Mattins Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield
9.00 am Holy Communion Patronal Service at St. Peter's Church, Ridley
10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary's Church Fawkham
10.30 am All Age Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield
10.30 am Holy Communion Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Ash
6.30 pm Evening Prayer Service at St. Peter's Church Ridley

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

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.**

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH CHOIR - Thursday 7.30-8.30pm is choir practice in the church. A special welcome is guaranteed to anyone who might be curious about joining us for an hour this Thursday evening or any Thursday evening to find out what it's like to sing with the choir. Why not give it a try?!

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 19th June will be Marion Stubbs and Stephanie Perfitt**

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – The next session resumes on **Monday 17th June** starting at 8.00pm in the Jubilee Hall all are welcome to attend.

MESSY CHURCH – Messy church will be at NEW ASH GREEN VILLAGE DAY FETE **Saturday 22nd June** at the Pavilion Sports Field. Also at the Longfield Jazz Festival on the field behind Long Valley Hall **Sunday 7th July** - ALL WELCOME. Messy Church will be at both events! Go and join in the fun. There is also a Facebook group to follow which is at: <https://m.facebook.com/RNWKmessychurch/>

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.

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

YARN AND YAP – The next meeting will be on the **5th July 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.

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.

Environmental Group Service – Caring for God's Creation – There will be a special service on **Wednesday evening of the 24th July at St. Peter's Church Ridley** on Caring for God's creation, starting at **7.30pm**. As Christians we should have a particular care of our environment, how can we help in protecting the very earth that God gave his son Jesus Christ who in turn asked us to care and protect it for him and humanity? This is a special **outdoor service (weather permitting – if not inside the church)** where we can take in the beauty of nature and praise God for it at the same time. Please do come along and bring a friend or family member.

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.

SIDESMEN, SOUND AND READING:- Sunday 16th June services: For the 10.30am service the sidesmen will be Gary and Sally Mitton. The reader will be Yikai Wang and prayers by Susan Rogers. Sound by Lesley White.

Sunday 23rd June services: For the 8.00am service the sidesperson and reader will be Sylvia Partridge. For the 10.30am service the Sidespeople will be Hilary and Bob Patten, the reader will be Hazel Cotteril and prayers by Wendy Smith with Sound by Peter Darvill. 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

Most of us have no doubt heard, at one time or another, the quaint story recalling how St. Patrick converted the Irish to Christianity. According to this story, Patrick was trying to persuade the Irish High King to adopt the Christian faith, when the King asked him how it was possible that the Christian God could be three Persons in one being, surely that was crazy. Feeling rather deflated, Patrick lowered his eyes; and there, on the ground at his feet, he saw the now-famous three-leafed Irish clover. Plucking off a stem, he showed it to the King, explaining that just as the three leaves made up one whole clover, so the three Persons of the Trinity made up the unity of God. The King was said to be so impressed that he allowed Patrick and his monks to continue their mission, and eventually himself became a Christian.

As I said, it's a quaint story. None of which makes the doctrine of the Trinity any easier to understand. Many peoples' view are that this is as it should be. Not because they think God derives some perverse delight from our confusion; rather, that an important part of the way into a relationship with God is our very grappling with these difficult issues. I think that every time we try to deconstruct the mystery, every time we try to make it "make sense", the further from God we get, the more tenuous our relationship becomes. So any rejection of the Trinity on the basis that it "doesn't make sense" actually misses the point; the doctrine of the Trinity isn't meant to "make sense" in the superficial sense that it facilitates our demand for easy, neat answers. Rather, by presenting us with a mystery that needs to be grappled with, it enables us to enter into a relationship with God. If you are struggling, then so am I; and so are many others. This is an occasion, not for despair, but for joy; and as such, for recognising that we now have an opportunity to build a community of those who struggle along together, unified, not by our assumptions of what we know or understand, but by our common desire for relationship with God.

Just a thought