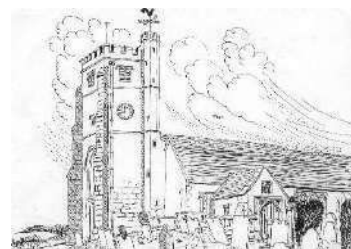


St Peter & St Paul, Seal

August 2024



Church Services this month

August 4 Trinity 10

10 am: Holy Communion

Rev Adie McCall

6.30: Evensong

August 11 Trinity 11

10am: All Age Worship

Kevin Bright

6.30: Evensong

August 18 Trinity 12

10am: Holy Communion

Rev Adie McCall

6.30: Evensong

August 25 Trinity 13

10 am: Holy Communion

Rev Adie McCall

6.30 Evensong

Welcome to any who are visiting us today.

RECEIVING COMMUNION Everyone who comes up to receive communion will be given a wafer dipped briefly in wine by the priest. If you would like to drink from the shared chalice as well, please indicate this when you are given the wafer and remain at the altar rail. The priest will also be happy to bring communion to people where they are sitting if they can't come up to the front of the church. Please let us know if you need this.

Events in August

Regular weekly events

- Mon : 1.45-2.45pm Talking Village at Deniz Café, Seal High Street
- Fri: 10.15 -11.15 Friday Group Talking Village in the hall
- Fri: 9am Morning Prayer (~1/2 hour) in the Lady Chapel. All warmly welcome.

Other events

- **3rd August** 10.15-11.15 am: Saturday Talking Village in the library (free refreshments provided) This is held regularly on the first Saturday of every month.
- **5th to 8th August:** Tea for 2 at No 1. 1 Church Road, TN14 0AU – Come and enjoy Tea for 2 in a small courtyard garden. Please contact Sue on 01732 760990 or 07737 026701 to book. Donations to Seal Church. All welcome!
- **August 21st 10.30am** Holy Communion at Lavender Fields led by Alison Bull.

Forthcoming Events

- **14th September Ride & Stride** – The church will be open all day for visitors, with refreshments available and the toilets open. There will also be a guided churches walk from Borough Green to West Malling. More details of this guided walk to come (or ask Lise Michaelides in the meantime).
- **Eco Church news & appeal-** Our request for positioning a **double + cycle rack and herbs planter has now happily been agreed by Archdeacon Sharon!** Please look out for a couple of upcoming dates for our churchyard Working Party sessions for our cycle racks & planter placement! **Please keep an eye on the Eco Church display board - we need your help, please!** [We'll need to clear an area to the left of the lychgate (between the path to the belltower and North wall, and Eddie's bench), close to the path, ideally ahead of delivery, then cement the planter/rack in (as preferred by Rochester Diocese) on/after delivery]. Although we sadly didn't have this granted for our June pollinator and 7th July "Farewell" events, we aim to have it planted up with involvement of our families, for Ride & Stride! Do give dates on which you could help to Babs or Lise, in the meantime, thanks.

Other News

Church Clock - the repairers are due to remove the clock later this month and take it to their workshop to get it running again. Hopefully it will be back in place by the end of September.

WHO'S WHO Vicar: Vacant

While we have no vicar, enquiries will be dealt with by volunteers from the church.

Contact: sealpandp@gmail.com 07510 522292

Reader: Kevin Bright 01732 458849

Churchwardens: vacant

Finance Team: financesealpandp@gmail.com

Parish Safeguarding officer: Marshall Kent:

safeguardingsealpandp@gmail.com

PCC secretary: Babs Bartholomew

Church website: www.sealpeterandpaul.com

GIVING TO SEAL CHURCH

IN CASH in the plate at the back of church.

ONLINE: by scanning the QR code on the right

TEXT SEALCHURCH to 70085 to donate £5. Other amounts can be donated up to £20 by adding the number of pounds after the word. (5% commission charged)

DIRECTLY FROM YOUR BANK: Ac name: Seal PCC, Sort code: 30-97-49 Ac no: 01377463

BY CARD using the contactless device at the back of church, available during services (1.69 % commission charged)

STANDING ORDER search for Seal Church by entering the postcode TN15 0AT at <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>



THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

The Rt Rev Dr Jonathan Gibbs



A pastoral message from Bishop Jonathan at this time of unrest.

Sent on behalf also of the Bishop of Tonbridge, the Dean of Rochester and the Archdeacons of Bromley & Bexley, Rochester and Tonbridge to all Licensed Clergy, Lay Ministers, Churchwardens and PCC Secretaries.

7 August 2024

Dear sisters and brothers,

Like so many, I have been shocked and horrified by the violence and disorder that has been spreading across our nation.

The opportunistic and appalling criminality that has used the tragic deaths of three young girls in Southport – Alice, Bebe and Elsie - to perpetrate division and violence is abhorrent. My heart breaks for their families and their friends, and I continue to pray for them in their loss and for all those who have been affected by what has happened.

There is absolutely no place in our society for the violence we have seen and for the racist targeting of minority communities and those of other faiths. The events that have been taking place are to be condemned and deplored, and I stand with all those of faith and none who are working for peace in our communities.

Those whipping up hatred do not represent the true nature of the communities in Medway, Kent, and Bromley or Bexley. Indeed, one of the things that struck me most when I first became Bishop, and which I continue to cherish, is the wonderful diversity and energy of the people in this place.

I know many will be afraid as we learn of the possibility of events being planned locally. Therefore, I urge calm and peace, and for us to all focus on what unites us. Jesus teaches us to love our neighbour as ourselves and shares a vision of the kingdom of God in which we are all valued and respected for our individual humanity.

I am praying therefore for those who are working to hold our communities together, for our emergency services, for our local government, community and faith leaders. I pray comfort and peace too for all those who have been left injured, afraid, or anxious.

For all clergy and those in local church leadership, I give thanks for all you will be doing at this time to promote cohesion and unity in your areas.

Please do what you can to keep yourselves and others safe - and please don't hesitate to get in touch with your Area Dean, Archdeacon or members of the Diocesan Office team if you need additional support.

Reporting hate crime is an important way to bring perpetrators to justice - if you have witnessed or experienced hate crime of any kind, you can report it immediately by speaking to an officer or contacting police via 101. In an emergency, always dial 999.

May we all know peace and wisdom in the coming days, as united together, we come through these times.

With my prayers and blessings

Jonathan, Bishop of Rochester