

Notices

John Richardson leads a Study Group at 10:00am for 10:30am on Tuesdays at St Philips - January 14th and 21st on Rest in Peace when we look together at issues surrounding a good death. As a society we are not good at talking about death and as individuals we may try and avoid thinking about it. Yet death is the only certainty in life for all of us and we must eventually face it. For Christians dying and each are not the end but a transition point in the story of life that continues. Reflecting well on our own mortality can help us to make peace with the prospect of death and to live more fully in the here and now. As we reflect together, we are enabling each other to prepare where we are now practically, emotionally and spiritually for our last times on earth be it days, months or years. We will tackle some life stories and legal practicalities, funeral planning as well as the physical and spiritual aspects of dying in the light of things to come and even look at relevant Scriptural passages.

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN RICHARDSON
AND THE CHURCH WARDENS DENISE
JOY AND ROBERT PHILO WITH THE FULL
SUPPORT OF THE PCC.

From January 1st, 2025, All enquiries for
Baptisms and Weddings for both churches
are now to be made with the Parish
Administrator Kerry Blair

Terri Vardi was appointed Honorary
Treasurer of the PCC at the APCM in April
2024

From January 1st, 2025, Terri will be dealing
with ALL financial transactions and all items
of business should now be sent to her. The
transition has been made with end of year
financial accounts on December 31st, 2024.
Terri' Vardi email: tcoltman@sky.com

We have thanked Lionel on several
occasions in the past few months for the
grateful and loyal service he has given over
many years with regards to finance,
administration, and music but now the
transitions have been made for the next
stages of the journey as we move forward
and onwards into 2025 as an incorporated
single parish of All Saints with St. Philip's and
St. Stephen's Tovil.

The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil

Sunday 12th January 2025
The First Sunday after the Epiphany



***10:00am Parish Eucharist with the
Renewal of Vows at St Philips***

*We celebrate the Baptism and
Commissioning of Jesus for His Public
ministry of teaching, preaching, and healing.*

Next Week's Service

Sunday 19th January 2025

***10am Parish Eucharist at All Saints
Church***

Collect

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to
be your Son, anointing him with the Holy
Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by
water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to
our calling as your adopted children; through
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be
with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not
overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be
burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,

and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold';
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the
earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Post Communion

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed
yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus
your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Additional Notices

Just a quick note to remind you that The Willington Players' next production at The Hazlitt is Calendar Girls, a heartwarming and hilarious play by Tim Firth. We will be performing it from **Tuesday 29th April until Saturday 3rd May.**

Tickets via Di Daniels

A proportion of the ticket price comes back to church funds.

January Church Services as follows.

- **26th 10am Parish Eucharist at St. Philip's**

Special prayers

*Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'*

*Daphne Holland, Mary Wheeler, Jane Sadler,
Pamela Hocking, Paul Crease, Joan Bull,
Rose Jarvis, Lionel Marchant*

Vicar: All saints, Maidstone with St. Philip's, and St. Stephen's Tovil

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson
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Landline Number – 01303 980027

**Please note Revd John will be on Leave
on Wednesdays of each week.**

Church Wardens:

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