

Spirituality and mindfulness: Community and practice

Panel Discussion at St Peter's Church, Whitstable, 2.30 - 4pm, Saturday 26th January 2019.

The afternoon will include presentations from local mindfulness and yoga practitioners and visiting guest speakers Prof Peter Tyler, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Spirituality, St Mary's University, Twickenham and Andrea Campanale from Sacred Space, Kingston, a project that uses the arts to explore spirituality.

All welcome – free of charge

For any inquiries about this event please contact Geoff Court at PioneerMinister@gmail.com

GENERAL NOTICES

Team Evening Prayer Mondays 5 - 5.30pm. This month at All Saints Church. All warmly welcome!

Please pray for your PCC as we meet on Mon 14th January at 7.30pm at St Alphege Church, Whitstable.

18 - 24th Jan Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Please see your own church newsletters for full details of meeting places and times. As part of this please come on Sun 20th Jan 6.30pm to the CTiW Worship service for Christian Unity at Whitstable Baptist Church

While Rev Rachel is on sabbatical Contact churchwardens sueparkerbowles@gmail.com and jayne.bale@hotmail.com

Please note all St John's Sunday morning services are now held at St John's church

St Alphege Whitstable

Sun 6th Jan 4.30pm at St Andrew's Church: Cafe Church. All ages welcome to this friendly, informal worship. Pizza and refreshments.

UNITY UPDATE

JANUARY 2018

SABBATICAL NEWS

Where has the Team Rector gone?

From 1st Jan until 31st March 2019 I will be taking a sabbatical – time out of the parish to rest, renew and refresh. It is rooted in the practice of Sabbath, time set apart that God consecrates and makes holy, drawing us deeper into the Life in all its fulness that Jesus brings. Sabbatical is essential for the long-term health of ministers, and is often a time of growth for parishes, stretching different 'muscles' for a short time without the familiar leader.

During these three months, my family and I will travel to New Zealand for some holiday and a placement in a parish outside Auckland. In the final couple of weeks when we are back in England, I will return to a religious community. We will live on a small-holding, helping with the animals and crops. My reading will be about Benedictine spirituality and Bonhoeffer's life. I'm excited to be in the New Zealand church which has integrated Maori and European cultures.

In terms of practicalities here, all our services will be covered by local or senior colleagues. The St Alphege community will be supported by the clergy team.



So it will be business as usual on the High St. At St Andrew's the management team will keep an eye on operations. Our PCC Vice Chair, Amanda Boucherat, is kindly chairing the PCC, and the Standing Committee will support her. I will take a break from Facebook and emails and our kind neighbour is house-sitting for us – she already knows our cat!

I am so grateful for your good wishes and prayers: for safe travelling, and a refreshing time of blessing for us a family. Rest assured, I will be back in plenty of time before Holy Week. God bless you all. Rev Rachel Webbley



THE ST ALPHEGE sponsored Race

7.8m RUN or CYCLE
SUNDAY 24th FEBRUARY 11.30am
 Registration from 11am at St Alphege Church
WHITSTABLE - CRAB & WINKLE - CANTERBURY

ENTRY & SPONSORSHIP - £10 donation or please aim to raise sponsorship by collecting cash, cheques (payable to 'St Alphege Church').
 Tickets and online donations at www.stalphege.org.uk
 Contact: Jayne Bale, Race Director at jayne.bale@hotmail.com

The Gate of the Year

And I said to the man
 who stood at the gate of the year:
 "Give me a light that I may tread
 safely into the unknown."

And he replied:
 "Go out into the darkness and
 put your hand into the hand of God.
 That shall be to you better than a
 light and safer than a known way."

Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957), England



A group for bumps,
 babies, toddlers and
 pre-schoolers along with
 their parents/carers.

each week there are a variety of games, toys,
 crafts, songs and refreshments to enjoy.

Every Tuesday in term time
 10-11.30am / £1 per family
 Seasalter Christian Centre

Tea, Coffee, Cakes and Company

The St Alphege Town
 Church café is open every
 morning Monday to Friday
 (not just Tuesday and
 Thursdays!)

Usual opening hours are:

Monday: 9 – 12 tea & biscuits
 Tuesday: 9 – 1:30 cakes and lunches
 Wednesday: 9-12 tea & biscuits
 Thursday: 9 – 1:30 cakes and
 lunches
 Friday: 9:30 -12 crumpets & teacakes

St Alphege Seasalter events

Flying Club (for indoor flying enthusiasts) 7.30
 – 9.30 January 7th and January 21st

The Forge craft club 7.30 – 9.30 January 14th
 and 28th

Friday 11th January Reverb youth restarts from
 6pm to 7.30pm.

Y youth service restarts after Christmas on
 January 13th 6pm

All Saints Whitstable events

Cameo (Come and Meet Each Other) Mondays
 from 2pm to 3.30pm

Singing for Fun and Health, 3rd Wednesday from
 2.30pm to 4pm

Film Club Thursdays from 11.15am to 1.30pm
 Tiny Singers parents and toddlers Wednesdays
 from 9.15am to 10.45am

Holyballoo children and parents after school
 club Thursdays from 3.15pm to 4.30pm

ST JOHN'S SWALECLIFFE

CHATTERBOX BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Every Friday morning (during term-time),
 9.30am - 11.30am at St John's Centre,
 Swalecliffe. Lots of toys to play with,
 music and singing, a craft area, books,
 wooden shape sorters, etc. £1 per adult,
 50p per child (includes hot and cold
 drinks and a snack for all).

Coffee Break, every Tuesday 10.00am -
 12.00pm at St John's Centre, Swalecliffe.
 Lots of chatter over good coffee, tea and
 cake. No charge is made but small
 donations towards our costs are very
 welcome.

MOTHERS UNION IN JANUARY

Tuesday 8th January
 10am Seasalter Christian
 Centre "MULOA"
 Speaker from Mothers
 Union

Thursday 17th January
 2.15pm Thorpe Room,, All
 Saints Church Hall
 Christmas Anagrams —
 for Fun.