



### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Advert Sunday

#### This Week's Services & Events

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b> <i>Advent Sunday</i>	<b>8am BCP Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Ash</b>
	<b>9am Service of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Ridley</b>
	<b>10am Morning Worship</b>	<b>Ash</b>
	<i>Zoom link available to join this service – see email</i>	
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>9am Holy Communion</b>	<b>All Saints Hartley</b>
	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>	<b>St Mary Magdalene Longfield</b>
	<b>2.30pm – 4.30pm Chat &amp; Craft</b>	<b>Fawkham &amp; Hartley Church Centre</b>
	<i>Bring a craft or hobby &amp; join together for a chat and refreshments</i>	
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	<b>9am Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
		<i>To join please use the link shown on the Notes and News email</i>
	<b>10.30am Bible Study Group</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
	<i>Please contact Susan Heads for more info/link (susan@rnwkgroup.org.uk)</i>	
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>3pm Funeral Service for Ray Viney</b>	<b>Thames View Crematorium</b>
	<b>10.15am Service of Holy Communion</b>	<b>St Mary Magdalene Longfield</b>
	<b>10.15 – 11.45am Coffee &amp; Chat</b>	<b>St Mary Magdalene Longfield</b>
	<b>8pm Advent Taize Service</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
	<i>To join please use the link shown on the Notes and News email</i>	
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9am Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Ash</b>
	<b>10.15am Ash Saplings</b>	<b>Ash</b>
	<b>10am Pop In</b>	<b>Fawkham &amp; Hartley Church Centre</b>
	<b>2pm – 4.30pm The Space</b>	<b>Youth &amp; Community Centre, NAG</b>
	<i>Free and welcome to all refreshments, chat, games, or some peace!</i>	
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9am Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
	<i>To join please use the link shown on the Notes and News email</i>	
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9am Christmas Big Breakfast</b>	<b>Hodsoll Street Village Hall</b>

#### Sunday's Readings & Prayers

##### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of  
darkness and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in  
great humility;  
that on the last day, when he shall come again  
in his glorious majesty to judge the living and  
the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

##### **Old Testament reading:**

###### **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will fulfil the promise I made to the  
house of Israel and the house of Judah. In  
those days and at that time I will cause a  
righteous Branch to spring up for David; and  
he shall execute justice and righteousness in  
the land. In those days Judah will be saved and  
Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the  
name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is  
our righteousness.'

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – [helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk](mailto:helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk)

*God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you*

***Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom***



Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Advert Sunday

### **Gospel reading: Luke 21:25-36**

Jesus said 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

**Other readings: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 and Psalm 25:1-9**

### **Post Communion prayer**

O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin  
but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Parish Safeguarding Vacancies**

We remain without a PSO or lead recruiter for Ash and Ridley. This is a vital role in the life of our church and we are not properly equipped for our mission and ministry without one.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is the key link between the diocese and the parish/s, concerning safeguarding matters. They have an overview of all church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults, and will seek to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy. The role can be taken by one person or shared, for example with one person covering children the other, for vulnerable adults.

The lead recruiter looks after the administration of DBS checks.

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will stir up the right person for these roles – ***if that might be you and you would like more information please drop me an email or speak with Rhian.***

### **Funeral Service for Ray Viney**

Ray's funeral service will be held at **Thames View Crematorium on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 3pm**. You are invited after the service for refreshments at Redlibbets golf club – ***please let Helen know if you will be attending the golf club for catering purposes.***

An obituary page has been set up here <https://www.funeralguide.co.uk/obituaries/128514> which includes details of the funeral and an area where you can leave memories and make a donation to The Community Cupboard rather than buying flowers.

Please continue to hold Enid and the whole family in your prayers at this sad time.

### **Advent Zoom Services**

**On 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm we will be holding a Zoom Taize Advent Service.** An opportunity to rest and spend some time with God during the busy Christmas preparation period. We will be focusing on Hope, Peace and Joy.

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – [helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk](mailto:helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk)

*God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you*

***Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom***



### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Advert Sunday

The Zoom link is shown on this week's Notes and News and the church website. I do hope you can be there and please invite others. – *poster attached*

#### **Advent Retreat from St Augustine's**

To celebrate the season of Advent, St Augustine's College of Theology is delighted to announce their new Advent Audio Retreat for 2024. Over four weeks, they invite you to join them in listening along to our brand-new series on each of the four Sundays of Advent.

**Episode 1: Longing and Hope, on Sunday 1st December** will be found on their YouTube Channel;

<https://www.youtube.com/@staugustinescollegeoftheol9801>

#### **Volunteer Carol Singers**

Would you be willing to volunteer as a Carol Singer, joining the Choir at **Woodlands Garden Centre on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December.**

We sing between 12:00 and 13:00, raising money for the Ellenor Hospice, song sheets will be provided. Come along for an enjoyable fundraising event.

#### **Christmas Tree Festival**

This annual fundraising event will be held at Ash church on **14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December** this year and we are looking forward to seeing the wonderful imaginative trees. It's not too late to enter your own tree – please see Jean Bentley for details and do encourage your friends and family to come along. – *poster attached*

#### **Ash Christmas Post**

With thanks to the Clark family who have offered to run the ever popular Ash Christmas Post this year.

Collection points for cards are Hartley Estates, and at church, with delivery remaining amazing value at just 20p per card.

Last collections will be Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of December in church and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December in Hartley Estates.

If you are willing to help out as a delivery elf they would be very pleased to hear from you; please do get in touch with Cameron. ([cameron@cclark.me.uk](mailto:cameron@cclark.me.uk))

**Next Sunday's Readings**  
**Malachi 3:1-4 / Luke 3:1-6**

Please be in touch if you are in need of any help or support – [helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk](mailto:helen@rnwkgroup.org.uk)

*God Bless you and keep you and may his face shine upon you*

**Changing, Serving & Growing in God's Upside Down Kingdom**