

# Keeping Contact

## The Benefice of Faversham



May 2023

### Revd. Simon writes

Within the Anglican calendar we remember on the 8th of May, Julian of Norwich, an anchoress who was attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich. We know little detail of her actual life, she is known by the churches dedication to which she is associated, Julian was not her given name. Her year of birth was possibly 1342 and her death was unrecorded. We do know according to the British Library from one surviving document, a manuscript, dated 1413, describes her as a 'Julyan that is recluse ate Norwyche and zitt on lyfe' (Julian, who is a recluse in Norwich and is alive).

Julian of Norwich wrote the first work in the English language which we can be sure was authored by a woman. This remarkable achievement sets her apart in the medieval period. Her writing, *The Revelation of Divine Love*, is today considered a theological and spiritual classic based upon the mystical revelations she received. It has the central theme of the assurance of God's love.

Living in a time of extreme uncertainty including the plague she writes, "Here I was taught by the grace of God that I should steadfastly hold me in the Faith ... and that ... I should take my stand on and earnestly believe in ... that 'all manner of thing shall be well'" (*The Revelations of Divine Love*, Chapter 32).

Here was a Christian person totally assured by God's love for her and humanity. In our unsettled times, and I write after three APCM's where it has become increasingly difficult to find volunteers to take on responsibilities. We find congregations growing more mature in years, and in the midst of this we need to be reminded that we exist in God's time and economy of grace.



The text from Ecclesiastes 3.1-8 of times and season comes immediately to mind. Have trust in God and awaiting in his grace with faith and hope is both the Old Testament writers and Julian's message. When we sit and worry about change in church and society, we need to remember we trust in an eternal God. Easy to say but harder to live in such faith.

As the new church lived amid the death and resurrection of Christ, they awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit. Like them as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost let us pray for a spirit of renewal and disruption to comfortable lives that the Spirit of God may motivate us to new and different lives in Christ.

Julian had a deep faith and trust in God and would speak to us across time and say, "in God all will be well". Yours in Christ

Simon.



### In this edition

- From Rev. Simon
- May Services
- June Services
- Up coming events
- Coronation Events
- Rev. Dan
- Contact details

## Services in MAY— The Benefice of Faversham

	Fifth Sunday in Easter 7 May	Sixth Sunday in Easter 14 May	Ascension Day Thursday, 18 May	Seventh Sunday in Easter 21 May	Pentecost 28 May
Church	Genesis 8:1-19; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Acts 7:55-end; John 14:1-	Genesis 8:20 – 9:17; Psalm 66:7-18; Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21	Daniel 7:9-14; Psalm 47 or Psalm 93; Acts 1-11; Luke 24:44-53	Ezekiel 36:24-28; Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35; Acts 1:6-14; John 17:1-11	Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:22-36, 37b; Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23
Davington					
10am	Eucharist	Eucharist	7.30pm Ascension Day service at Davington	Eucharist	Eucharist
Baptism:					TBC Recreation Ground service + picnic PETS' SERVICE
	4pm I wonder...	4pm I wonder...			4pm I wonder...
Faversham					
10am	Morning Worship	Eucharist with baptism	Benefice Ascension Day service at Davington	Eucharist	Eucharist
Baptism:	2pm BAPTISM				TBC Recreation Ground service + picnic PETS' SERVICE
5pm	Civic Service Songs of Praise (rehearsing from 4pm)				
Ospringe					
11am	Eucharist	Morning Praise	Benefice Ascension Day service at Davington	Eucharist	Morning Praise
Baptism:	2pm BAPTISM				2pm BAPTISM
					TBC Recreation Ground service + picnic PETS' SERVICE
Preston					
10am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Benefice Ascension Day service at Davington	Morning Prayer	Eucharist
Baptism:		11.30am APCM			TBC Recreation Ground service + picnic PETS' SERVICE
		6.30pm Evening Prayer			

Midweek services - all services at 10am

Date	Preston	Faversham
Tuesday, 2 May	Eucharist	
Wednesday, 3 May		Morning Prayer
Tuesday, 9 May	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday, 10 May		Eucharist
Tuesday, 16 May	Eucharist	
Wednesday, 17 May (followed by Parish Lunch)		Morning Prayer
Tuesday, 23 May	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday, 24 May		Eucharist
Tuesday, 31 May	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday		

## Services in June — The Benefice of Faversham

	Trinity Sunday 4 June	First Sunday after Trinity 11 June	Second Sunday after Trinity 18 June	Third Sunday after Trinity 25 June
Church	<i>Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31; Psalm 8; 2 Cor 13:11-13; Matthew</i>	<i>Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33:1-12; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13,</i>	<i>Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7; Psalm 116:1, 10-17; Romans 5:1-8;</i>	<i>Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1b-11;</i>
Davington				
10am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist	Morning Prayer
Baptism:				
	4pm I wonder...	4pm I wonder...	4pm I wonder...	4pm I wonder...
Faversham				
10am	Morning Worship	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist
Baptism:		2pm BAPTISM		2pm BAPTISM
6pm	Choral Evensong (rehearsing from 5pm)			
Ospringe				Patronal Festival
11am	Eucharist	Morning Praise	Eucharist	Eucharist
Baptism:				
Preston				
10am	Eucharist	Eucharist	Morning Prayer	Eucharist
Baptism:		Afternoon: Tulip Tree Fete		
		6.30pm Evening Prayer		

Midweek services - all services at 10am

Date	Preston	Faversham
Tuesday, 6 June	Eucharist	
Wednesday, 7 June		Morning Prayer
Tuesday, 13 June	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday, 14 June		Eucharist
Tuesday, 20 June	Eucharist	
Wednesday, 21 June (followed by Parish Lunch)		Morning Prayer
Tuesday, 27 June	Morning Prayer	
Wednesday, 28 June		Eucharist
Tuesday,		
Wednesday		

# SARAH McQUAID

Lifetime Achievement Award Winner,  
Ards International Guitar Festival

'One of the most instantly  
recognisable voices in  
current music ...

Shades of Joni Mitchell in a  
jam with Karen Carpenter  
and Lana Del Rey.'

Trust The Doc

'Her subtle mastery  
onstage launches  
her straight into my  
fave shows ever.'

Huffington Post

St Mary of Charity Church, Faversham  
Church Road, Faversham ME13 8GZ

Sarah McQuaid  
7.30pm, Monday, 29 May 2023

Doors open at 7pm

Tickets £12, available from Eventbrite or at the door.

Photo by Phil Nicholls



sarahmcquaid.com



sarahmcquaidmusic



sarahmcquaid



@sarahmcquaidmusic



@sarahmcquaid

## Upcoming events

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### ☼ Davington—Coffee @ Blossoms

First Saturday of the month 10:30 to 12 Coffee morning

Every Wednesday 7 till 8 "Space to Be"

Every Friday in school term time Blossoms Community Cafe 2 till 4

### ☼ St Catherine's — Organ Concert

13th May, 7.30pm Keith Moxon will be in concert with a programme of Ceremonial Occasions. Programmes £5 on the door. Proceeds in aid of the Organ Fund.

☼ **St Catherine's** — Duck Race, Preston School Room – 20th May, 7.00pm - A fun evening involving wooden ducks and dice including a fish and chip supper. Just £10.00 per person. Bookings by Saturday May 13th by telephoning Francoise on 07926 168004

☼ **St Catherine's** — Tulip Tree fete – 11th June in the old Vicarage Garden. Various stalls, live music, BBQ, teas & refreshments - everyone is welcome!

### ☼ St Mary of Charity Music Events

7th May, 5:00pm: Come-and-sing Songs of Praise civic service in honour of the coronation of King Charles III, including a selection of choral music from past coronations.

The Mayor and Councillors will be attending, and there will be cake! Rehearsal 3:45 for singers; robes and music provided. To sign up for regular emails about come-and-sing events, please contact [pattihickswhaley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pattihickswhaley@yahoo.co.uk)

27 May, 7:30pm: Organ recital by Jeremy Lloyd FRCO, Assistant Director of Music, Rochester Cathedral, featuring works by Elgar, Bach, Wesley, Howells, Mozart and Lanquetuit. Free with retiring collection for the organ fund.

29th May 7:30 pm: Sarah McQuaid in concert

Tickets £12 at the door or from Eventbrite

("Shades of Joni Mitchell in a jam with Karen carpenter and Lana del Rey")

3 June, Saturday, Faversham Voices at St Mary of Charity

Keep the date free in your diary for a performance from a group which never disappoints!

More information to follow...

Every Saturday morning, 10:45: Classical Coffee Concerts, and every week is a surprise! Free coffee and free, excellent music with a retiring collection. For advance details of programmes and performers, sign up as a patron (£3 a month + VAT) at [www.patreon.com/classicalcoffeeconcerts](http://www.patreon.com/classicalcoffeeconcerts)

Looking ahead: please mark your diaries for our summer organ recital series:

24 June: Hilary Punnett FRCO, Concert recitalist

29 July: John Ross FRCO, Concert recitalist

26 August: Eric Cordé, Organiste titulaire, Cathedral of Dol-de-Bretagne

## Little Fishes

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Little Fishes – 10am Thursday mornings during school term time at St Mary of Charity

There is no Little Fishes during half term, or between terms.

This term (spring/summer 2023):

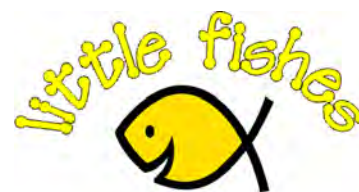
APRIL 20 Playdough  
27 Flags

MAY 4 May Day Maypole and Coronation Party  
11 God made birds  
18 Little Fish craft  
25 Painting (please bring an apron or old clothes)

JUNE 8 God made plants  
15 Fathers' Day crafts  
22 Decorating biscuits  
29 Sports Day

JULY 6 Visit to the Recreation Ground  
13 End of term party – bring your teddies!

Our term ends on 13 July 2023.



## HOPE—Churches Together in Faversham

Our Mission is to be a youth group  
that shows the hope of Jesus  
to bring life-giving change.

We had an excellent weekend away in March with the Barton Church youth group at Carroty Wood, near Tonbridge. Fourteen of our group, and all our leaders attended.

*We are looking forward to two of our leaders getting married to each other. Congratulations and best wishes to Stephano Gould and Hannah Daugherty who will be married on 17th June. Ross Lusby will be taking a Sabbatical in May and June so we will need leadership support in the coming term.*

*Also Stef and Hannah will be away for June. We also need to plan for more leaders in 2023/4 as Staf and Hannah are planning to be in Italy for the year.*

*In the coming term we plan to use Open Doors' material, and then Meeting Church Members. Please do be praying for us.*

Sarah Williams

## Coronation Events at Canterbury Cathedral



### ☀ **Friday 5 May, 18.00**

The FRIENDLY Coronation Prom

The Central Band of the Royal British Legion returns to Canterbury Cathedral for a right royal celebration of regal music both classic and contemporary!

This is a concert for all ages to enjoy – come ready to wave your flags and raise the roof in celebration of our new King!

Adults £21.50, Children £11.50 (Incl. £1.50 booking fee per ticket).

Tickets are available from the Canterbury Festival Box Office (<https://canterburyfestival.co.uk/whats-on/friendly-coronation-prom/>).

*This concert is a charity fundraising event in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.*

*Registered Charity No 256575*

### ☀ **Saturday 6 May, from 10:30**

Coronation live screening

Watch the Coronation ceremony live on a giant screen within the Cathedral's magnificent Gothic Nave.

*Free screening but usual Precincts entry charges apply. No booking needed.*

### ☀ **Saturday 6 May, 13.30-17.00**

'Ring for the King' Bell Peal

Our Bell Ringers will mark the Coronation of King Charles III with a 'Ring for the King' Bell Peal from 13.30-17.00.

*Usual Precincts entry charges apply.*

### ☀ **Sunday 7 May, 12.30-16.30**

Big Coronation Lunch

Brush off the picnic blanket, and grab your drinks and snacks! As part of the national Big Coronation Lunch, there will be free entry to the Cathedral's Precincts\* so that anyone can come and picnic in the beautiful grounds.

The Salvation Army Band will play in the Precincts from 12.30 – 13.30.

*\*Usual charges apply for visitor entry to the Cathedral building*

### ☀ **Sunday 7 May, 17.30-18.15**

Coronation Evensong

Join us in person or live online for a special Evensong service celebrating King Charles III's Coronation.

### ☀ **Canterbury Cathedral: Reflections on the Coronation**

Sunday 7 May, 7pm | Canterbury Cathedral Nave

Tickets £21.50 Adults, Children under 12 £11.50 (Includes £1.50 booking fee)

This event is organised, managed, and delivered by Canterbury Cathedral

In the unique setting of the Nave of Canterbury Cathedral, join Archbishop Justin in conversation with Dean David, as he details his personal experience of officiating at the Coronation of King Charles III, and hear first-hand his thoughts on crowning the new king. Your ticket includes a coronation goodie bag featuring a drink, snack, and coronation memento (please specify drink selection at time of booking). Book via the Canterbury Festival website.

## Rev. Dan writes,

Our new Benefice website – launching soon:

We're nearly ready to launch our new Faversham Benefice website. Here's a bit about it.

- What will it look like?

It's a bright, friendly and helpful addition in our mission and ministry toolbox with pages for the four churches and links to/from each church's social media and *achurchnearyou.com* accounts. All gathered under one banner, "The Church of England in Faversham".

From the home page one can easily see church location, happy congregation, service pattern and where the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Benefice services are (although the website won't be able to cater for those who turn up to a locked door of the other churches that morning.)

Each church's link will take you to the church's page where you'll find details of the church's team, regular services, open church times, activities and a link to the Parish Giving Scheme. These are also displayed on a separate benefice "what's on" page.

As with *Keeping Contact*, event organisers will submit details about events to be advertised. There will be a history page for each church and each congregation will be able to suggest further pages for their church page (which may then become a prototype for the other churches!)

- Links

We have many links from our website for instance, the Church of England Daily Prayer services and app, our church schools, Church of England pages about baptism, confirmation, weddings, funerals, our children's and families mission and ministry etc - all within easy reach of benefice contact details which, unlike many webpages, are clearly found on every page.

There will also be an easy-to-use contact form.

Parish safeguarding information is one click away as is the requirement of all Church of England churches.

We even have an archive page with past issues of *Keeping Contact* and all our online ministry such as *Contemplating Easter* and *Contemplating Christmas* and online services.

- Maximum flexibility

The website has been designed for maximum versatility and more pages can easily be added. We will be found in searches and we have a website for laptops/desktops and another for mobile use.

- **Why can't we launch right now?**

First, there are certain details which *must* appear before we go live. Second, church websites which have lots of photos of people make those churches much more approachable and accessible.

Each congregation is being photographed **waving at the camera so that the church isn't only seen to be a building.** It is hoped that those who hold responsibility in the churches will have a photo online. Such a website involving a lot of people will also have to be approved through the correct channels and all this takes time. The web address will be publicised widely.

Look out for our new 24/7 mission and ministry online soon.

Dan





**Sing with Songs of Praise at  
Canterbury Cathedral**

**Monday 12th June**

**18:30 - 21:30**

**BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW:**

**[SOPCongregations@afantimedia.tv](mailto:SOPCongregations@afantimedia.tv)**

**07734 030 888**



**The Precincts  
Canterbury  
CT1 2EH**



## Cathedral Passes 2023

Those of us who have held Precincts Passes for Canterbury Cathedral over the past few years (or decades) may be sorry to hear that as of February this year, the passes are no longer valid.

The cathedral has relaunched the scheme, now with charges, as Cathedral Passes.

The criteria for passes is anyone who:

- \* works in the old city of Canterbury;
- \* lives within four miles of Bell Harry tower, including within The Precincts;
- \* is a member of the cathedral congregation;
- \* is immediate family of a cathedral staff member;
- \* is a cathedral volunteer; or
- \* is a member of any church in the diocese (on the parish electoral roll or similar)

The last qualification is how most of us will have obtained our passes in the first place. The new passes are valid for five years and will cost £6 (the equivalent of 10p a month). As well as a physical pass you will also get a digital pass (how very 21st Century!) If you wish to apply for a pass you need to go to [www.canterbury-cathedral.org/visit](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/visit).

You will need to have proof of your eligibility in order to complete your application. You can also email the Cathedral on [passes@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:passes@canterbury-cathedral.org) or telephone 01227 762862. There are no discounts!

## Christian Aid



Christian Aid coffee morning/cake sale  
10am – 1pm, Friday, 12 May 2023

Come and have a coffee (or tea) along with a cake (or savoury) and some lovely company; or come and buy something to enjoy later. *Or both!* All in aid of an excellent charity...

## Madagascar

There's a lot more to Madagascar than David Attenborough warbling on and the vanilla in your ice cream.

Please can you be encouraged to go to a site run locally to share news of this wonderful island. Since visiting there some years ago I have maintained connections.

For example what it costs for us to have battery powered cars! This in a country that does not have a road system worthy of the name.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/04/after-150-years-of-damage-to-people-and-planet-rio-tinto-must-be-held-to-account-commentary/>

If you would like to receive a regular news letter then contact Mike Swain at [mike.swain@talk21.com](mailto:mike.swain@talk21.com)

## Coffee mornings

☼ St Catherines, Preston next Faversham, ME13 8LG

Includes a book stall. First Saturday in every month.

Except 6 May due to Coronation

☼ St Mary Magdalene, ME13 7EJ

First Saturday of the month 10:30 to 12



## A cause for reflection



'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not *perish* but have *eternal life*.' (John 3 v 16) appears at the top of this embroidery.

Below which is a copy of the face of Christ (with the crown of thorns) from a late fifteenth century German painting on papier-mache. Underneath you can view lists of sins expressed in red stitching. These sins begin to disappear as they near the bottom of the screen. The threads have been snipped, some pulled out. Eventually there are no words but simply holes where the threads have been removed.

And look below in white stitching are words from the prophet Isaiah 'Though your sins are as scarlet they shall be as white as snow.' (Isaiah 1 verse 18)

We visited Spratton Church during Holy week where they had 10 embroidery's based on the Stations of the Cross. These embroideries by Jacqui Parkinson were profoundly moving and I am sure I would get something different whenever I view them.

The one to the left I found very thought provoking as I contemplated the effect that sins have on our world and the people within it. The concept that although our hurtful actions are forgiven their effect is still left behind. I was reminded of the meeting between Jesus and Thomas where Jesus says to Thomas place your hands in my wounds.

He is Risen but still bears the scars of His ordeal as we, and the people we hurt, do. Our hope is in the forgiveness we give and receive and our commitment to follow Him in Spirit and Truth, renewed as we are by the broken bread and wine, healing the sick and caring for the broken hearted.

Patrick Mulcahy.



## Four Churches, One Benefice, One Town

### Contact details for Benefice Clergy

Vicar	Rev Simon Rowlands	0179 553 0553 happyvicar@gmail.com
Community & Mission Priest	Rev Dan Corcoran	0796 333 2221 danchadc@gmail.com

For details, fees and arrangements of baptisms, weddings and funerals please contact

Catriona Cuthbert—Parish Administrator, the Benefice of Faversham

(Core working times 9am - 2pm Monday to Wednesday)

The Benefice Office is located at St Mary of Charity Church of England Primary School, Orchard Place, Faversham, ME13 8AP

\* [FavershamChurches@gmail.com](mailto:FavershamChurches@gmail.com) or 01795 227600

### Contacts for individual churches in the Benefice of Faversham

St Catherine, Preston next Faversham		<a href="https://fb.me/4favstc">fb.me/4favstc</a>
Wardens	Hilary Tulett Rodney Foord	
St Mary Magdalene w St Lawrence, Davington		<a href="https://fb.me/4favstmml">fb.me/4favstmml</a>
Wardens	Maureen Gregory Frances Worthington* Iris Neel*	
St Mary of Charity, Faversham		<a href="https://fb.me/4favstmoc">fb.me/4favstmoc</a>
Wardens	Kevin Swinney Keith Tyler	
St Peter & St Paul, Ospringe		<a href="https://fb.me/4favstpp">fb.me/4favstpp</a>
Wardens	Patrick Mulcahy Vacant	

Keeping Contact is the News Sheet of the Benefice of Faversham. It shares details of services, news and activities of the member churches of the Benefice of Faversham and around the town of Faversham.

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- Assistant Warden

Contact

Curator at [BeneficeofFaversham@gmail.com](mailto:BeneficeofFaversham@gmail.com)

