



Diocese of
Rochester



The Newsletter for The
Benefice of East Malling,
Watringbury & Teston

Dec 18/Jan 19
No: 96

Beneficial News

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, by the time you read this message we will have started the season of Advent and I will have begun my third year as your Vicar. This is in many ways a strange time of the Church year. On the one hand it invites us to look back over the year we have left behind, and to reflect on the experiences and events that have occurred and how they have contributed to our lives. On the other hand it also invites us to look forward to the future and our hopes for things to come, symbolised by the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ which we commemorate on 25th December and the joy and hope that He brings to the world.

2018 has been an interesting, and in some ways challenging, year for this Benefice, and the year ahead looks to be continuing in that vein. As you may be aware the process of breaking up the current Benefice and forming a new one with all the opportunities and challenges that offers us is moving ahead slowly. It is entirely possible that we will see some tangible progress one way or the other in 2019 but I concede I seem to have been saying something similar every month for the past year. This is not to say that the whole process is fixed in stone. As I have said on many occasions, ultimately the choice of what to do lies with you the worshipping members of the Church and it is for you to make your voices heard to those who represent you on the various PCC's and synods involved in the process. That is the only way you will end the process with a structure that meets your needs and furthers the work of the Kingdom of God in this place.

I feel I need to say a few words about baptism as I have been overwhelmed by the number of children being brought forward for baptism over the last year. The revised baptism service we introduced at the beginning of 2018 has proven immensely popular and we are carrying out baptisms in one of our churches most Sundays and are currently taking bookings into March 2019. Similarly wedding bookings are proving popular and whilst there is still room in 2019 we are already booking weddings for 2020 and even 2021.

What this shows us is that the Church is still relevant for the people who live in this Benefice. In the coming year we need to work together to build on the foundation of those who come to us to be married and baptised, and through our welcome and willingness to work together, to encourage them to return and enjoy our worship wherever and whenever that may be taking place.

Yours in Christ

Fr Nick

Christmas around the Parishes

Carols on the Green

Sunday 2nd December, 3.3.0pm, East Malling



Angels & Cribs

Saturday 8th December, 10.30am to 4.30pm

in Watringbury Church

Come along to enjoy the displays
and have some tea and cake!



Tea at Three - Carols & Cake

will take place at 3pm in Teston Church
on Tuesday 11th December

Teston's Nativity Play

Sunday 16th December, 6.30pm, in the Church

Performed by the Children's Church family

Please bring a torch

Nine Lessons & Carols

Watringbury Church, 8pm, on Thursday 20th December
East Malling, 6pm, & Teston, 6.30pm, on Sunday 23rd December

Christmas Eve

Monday 24th December

Crib Service - 3.30pm - Teston

Christingle & Crib Service - 4pm - East Malling

Crib Service - 5pm - Watringbury

Christmas Eve Communion - 9pm - Teston

Midnight Mass - 11pm - Watringbury

Midnight Mass - 11.30pm - East Malling

Christmas Day

Tuesday 25th December

Family Communion - 9.30am - Teston

Family Communion - 9.45am - East Malling

Family Communion - 10am - Watringbury



For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, and other arrangements, please
contact the Vicar

01732 843282 / email father.nick@btinternet.com

For all other enquiries, please contact the Parish Office Administrator
parishofficeemwt@gmail.com

Parish Office hours are **now** Weds 9.30am-3pm & Thurs 9.30am-Noon

Armistice Commemorations

Our three parishes marked the 100 Years Armistice in their own
unique way, involving parishioners, local groups/societies,
and war veterans.



Sunday Services

Sunday 2nd December - The First Sunday of Advent

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - EM
 9.45am Family Service - EM
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 3.30pm Carols on the Green - EM
 6.30pm Advent Carols & Readings - Teston

Sunday 9th December - The Second Sunday of Advent

9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 10am Morning Praise - Wateringbury
 2.30pm Nativity Dress Rehearsal - Teston
 6.30pm Evening Praise - Teston

Sunday 16th December - The Third Sunday of Advent

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - Wateringbury
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 9.45am Parish Communion - Teston
 10am Sundays Cool Nativity Family Service - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Children's Church Nativity Play - Teston (*bring a torch*)

Sunday 23rd December - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Morning Praise - East Malling
 9.45am Children's Church - Teston
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6pm Nine Lessons & Carols - EM
 6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols - Teston

Sunday 30th December - The First Sunday of Christmas

10am Benefice Service - Teston

Sunday 6th January 2019 - Epiphany

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Family Service - East Malling
 9.45am Family Service - Teston
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Epiphany Eucharist - Teston

Sunday 13th January - Baptism of Christ

9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 9.45am Children's Church - Teston
 10am Matins - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Evensong - Teston

Sunday 20th January - The Third Sunday of Epiphany

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - Wateringbury
 9.45am Eucharist - East Malling
 9.45am Parish Communion - Teston
 10am Family Service - Wateringbury

Sunday 27th January - The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

8.30am BCP Holy Communion - East Malling
 9.45am Morning Praise - East Malling
 9.45am Children's Church - Teston
 10am Eucharist - Wateringbury
 6.30pm Parish Communion - Teston

Who's who in the Benefice?

(Details of Wardens and Ministers for your quick reference)

Vicar	Rev Nicholas Williams	01732 843282
Hon Asst Priest	Canon Derek Carpenter	01732 874420
Benefice Readers	Alan Bramley (EM) Alastair Byron (W) Barry Fisher (W) Dawn Page (T)	
Administrator	Sandra Corby	parishofficeemwt@gmail.com
East Malling		
Churchwarden	David Chambers	01732 842582
Reader	Alan Bramley	01732 846800
Parish Children & Vulnerable Adults Rep.	Michala Neaves	01732 321473
Wateringbury		
Churchwardens	Peter Bond Liz Gummer	01622 814793 01622 813852
Evangelist	Pauline Welch	01622 814673
Readers	Alastair Byron Barry Fisher	01622 812023 01622 813206
Pastoral Assistants	Edna Craig Becky Bowie	01622 812922 01622 813396
Parish Children & Vulnerable Adults Rep.	Debbie Bond	01622 814793
Teston		
Churchwarden	Ros Hutchins	01622 297340
Churchwarden & Reader	Dawn Page	01622 812691
Parish Children & Vulnerable Adults Rep.	Linda Hoskins	01622 812738

THERE ARE SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION
 at St James the Great, East Malling, at 9am every Thursday
Please note, the service on Thursday 27th December has been cancelled

Further Dates for your Diary

2nd Feb - FoSJG Coffee Morning - 10.30am
 Messy Church - 3pm - Wateringbury
3rd & 17th Feb - WATCH Club 4pm-6pm - W'bury Village Hall
4th Feb - Deanery Synod Meeting - 8pm - Wateringbury
16th Feb - FoSJG Valentine's Dance - 7.30pm - EM Village Hall
19th Feb - Tea at Three - 3pm - Teston
2nd Mar - FoSJG Coffee Morning - 10.30am
 Messy Church - 3pm - Wateringbury
3rd & 17th Mar - WATCH Club - 4pm-6pm - W'bury Village Hall
19th Mar - Tea at Three - 3pm - Teston
30th Mar - East Malling Singers Concert - 7.30pm - EM

Please note - there will be no Benefice service in March 2019 because Mothering Sunday services will be held in each Church

Events

St John the Baptist Church

Wateringbury, 3pm - 5pm
 on Saturday 1st December
 & Saturday 5th January 2019
 For more details speak to Ruth Dunn
 on 01622 812342



WATCH Club Youth Group

(for ages 10-18yrs) meet Sundays
 4pm - 6pm (winter time)
 2nd December in Wateringbury church
 13th January 2019 in Wateringbury church



East Malling Singers

Christmas Concert

Saturday 15th December
 7.30pm East Malling Church
 Tickets £10 (concessions £8, School children FREE)
 are available from Sue Greenham.
 Ring 01622 750943 or email boxoffice@eastmallingsingers.co.uk
 Tickets can also be purchased on the door subject to availability.



Wateringbury's famous
Twelfth Night Quiz
 is available from Jan Pursey (01622 814324)
 Only £1 per copy!



"Epifest"

at Teston Church
 Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th January 2019
 3.30pm to 5pm
 Beautiful displays depicting
 the Wise Men's journey
 to see Jesus, the new born King.



Tea at Three

will be served in Teston Church
 on
 Tuesday 15th January 2019



"The Bible In 20 Minutes"

A short overview of the Bible now available at www.easybible.net
 The purpose of EasyBible is to provide a relatively quick means of
 becoming familiar with all the Bible's content.
 For further information, email mike.whiting@btinternet.com or take a
 look at <https://www.facebook.com/Bibleprecis/>