



# TONBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH

## WEEKLY NEWS - SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2024

### THIS SUNDAY

<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul</b> 8am Communion Service: Health food: 1 Corin 11:17-32, 2 Corin 3: 17-18  10.45 Morning Service: Health food: 1 Corin 11:17-32, 2 Corin 3: 17-18  6pm Evening Service: The sower: Matthew 13: 1-9; 18-23	<b>St Philip</b> 10.45 Morning Service: Health food: 1 Corin 11:17-32, 2 Corin 3: 17-18	<b>St Saviour</b> 9.15 Morning Service: Health food: 1 Corin 11:17-32, 2 Corin 3: 17-18	<b>St Andrew</b> 9.45 Communion Service: Health food: 1 Corin 11:17-32, 2 Corin 3: 17-18
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### CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

- **NEW There's always good news with Jesus...!** Join in praising God for the 27 people involved in Christianity Explored this week as we thought about the good news of Jesus together. We are looking at Mark's Gospel and thinking about three questions: Who is Jesus? Why did He come? What does it mean to follow Him? It could just be the best news someone has ever heard that changes their lives forever! Pray that God would do His transforming work in all our hearts through the course. *Ben*

- **Parish Review - John Truscott report.** The PCC have now received the report on our Parish Review and will be meeting with John Truscott on Saturday 18 January. Do pray on for the PCC as they review the report, its recommendations and meet with John. An update to church family will follow as soon as possible after this meeting. Whilst waiting is hard for all of us, this is a moment God has given us to be prayerfully patient, showing our trust in His plans and timing, which are always perfect. So, please **pray that the PCC would unite around the report, and that we might be prayerfully patient as we wait.**

- **NEW Parents and anyone connected with children & young people:** Do come with us to 'Raising Kids in a Confusing World', where author and children's worker Ed Drew will be speaking about some of the messages children are hearing about bodies, gender, sexuality and their sense of self. **Wednesday 5 March 7.45-9.30pm in Maidstone, £5 or £3.**

*'This evening is to inspire parents and carers that they are God's 'Plan A' for showing their children the Bible's better answers on these topics, which are neither surprising nor confusing to our creator God. Ed will serve up an evening of Biblical truth and practical wisdom, presented with a side order of real-life stories and a generous sprinkling of humour. It is perfect for parents at every stage of family life, from birth through to the teenage years, as well as for grandparents, leaders and anyone else who wants to be part of the wonderful challenge of raising children to lead flourishing lives for Christ.'*

**Book here:** [Buy tickets - Raising Confident Kids in a Confusing World \(Maidstone\) - St Luke's, Foley St, Maidstone](#) and let Alyson know so that we might co-ordinate lifts: [Alyson.bleakley@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:Alyson.bleakley@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)

- **New group 'CONNECT' for School Years 6-9 starting THIS Thurs 23 Jan!** Like food? Like fun? Come along to our midweek Connect group! You'll find an array of games on offer, or just chill out with friends. Have some great food and listen to some great talks that help us think about what God means for our lives. Why not bring a friend, or seven! We'd love to see you all! Link to sign up - [HERE](#)
- **Opportunity for all ages and stages!** Interested in helping with Connect? (see above!) Particularly with cooking/ serving tea? We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in serving this way. Do contact Ed or Alyson.
- **Upcoming Families Breakfasts:** **Sunday Club: THIS SUNDAY 19 Jan** SOS: 2 Feb Creche: 16 March All Families: 30 March for special Mothers' Day Breakfast
- **Burns' Night Ceilidh** Fri 7 Feb 2025 at St Peter & St Paul: An evening with haggis supper and dancing and a short message about the Christian faith. Great to bring a non-Christian friend. **TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE - [HERE](#)** or via website or Parish Office.
- **Book group has just started reading a new book - not too late to join!** Meeting for an hour and a half in the prayer room from 10.15am on Monday mornings. All welcome.
- **NEW** The total of our **Christmas donations** came to £2210.16 to be split evenly between Rock UK and Christian Aid (disaster relief). Many thanks for everyone's generous support.
- **NEW Car parking permits** for the new year are now available—do pop into the Parish office during opening hours to collect.



- The British Museum contains many items linked to the Bible. St Peter & St Paul Leadership Team are exploring the possibility of **arranging a tour in 2025** led by DayOne, a Christian organisation, of Biblically related exhibits in the Museum. We would like to assess the extent of interest before making a firm booking. The tour would most likely be during term time on a weekday. If you would be interested, please let Robert Kidson know at [robertkidson@aol.com](mailto:robertkidson@aol.com)

## OTHER NEWS

- Kent Men's convention:** Sat 1 March, 10am-3pm, St Nicholas' Church Sevenoaks. 'Real Strength: Depending on God and His word through life's highs and lows'. Click [HERE](#) to find out more and book tickets. *If you are thinking of going and would be happy to coordinate lifts, please do contact the Parish Office.*
- Celtic Spirituality—Relevant for today?** Peter Ruxton (who some will remember as part of our church family a few years ago) is leading this one day retreat at West Malling on 25Jan. For more info and to book, please contact [bookings@stbenedictscentre.org](mailto:bookings@stbenedictscentre.org)
- As from 2 Jan, **Park and Ride schemes** are in operation for Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone hospitals. More info found [HERE](#)
- NEW Tonbridge School Community Concert, Tues 4th March 7-9.15pm:** A concert intended for senior citizens - to request a place or for more information contact the Parish office.

## REGULAR GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Day	Group	Meet at...	Contact
<b>Mon 20th</b>	Book Club	10.15-11.45am, St Peter & St Paul	Wendy Carr / <a href="mailto:wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a>
	<b>Coffee lounge</b>	<b>10am-12pm</b>	<b>Parish Office / <a href="mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a></b>
	Merry Makers	10am-12pm, St Peter & St Paul	Yvonne Burgess / <a href="mailto:bidburgess@gmail.com">bidburgess@gmail.com</a>
	<b>Coffee Break (inc. Thought for the Day)</b>	<b>10:30-11.30am, St Saviour</b>	<b>Alison Wise / <a href="mailto:a.wise.7@btinternet.com">a.wise.7@btinternet.com</a></b>
<b>Tues 21st</b>	<b>Teddies (Toddler Group for parents / carers)</b>	<b>9.30-11am, St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>	<b><a href="mailto:teddies@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">teddies@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a></b>
<b>Wed 22nd</b>	Tiny Acorns (parent & carer under-1's)	10:30am- 12pm, St Peter & St Paul	Sara Thomson / <a href="mailto:sarajthomson44@gmail.com">sarajthomson44@gmail.com</a>
	<b>Coffee lounge</b>	<b>10am-12pm, St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>	<b>Parish Office / <a href="mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a></b>
<b>Thurs 23rd</b>	<b>Stepping Stones (Women's Bible Study with creche)</b>	<b>10-11.30am, St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>	<b>Josephine Sinclair / <a href="mailto:josephinedb@yahoo.co.uk">josephinedb@yahoo.co.uk</a></b>
	Craft Workshop	1.30-4pm, St Peter & St Paul	Yvonne Burgess / <a href="mailto:bidburgess@gmail.com">bidburgess@gmail.com</a>
	<b>St Andrew Open Door</b>	<b>2-4pm, St Andrew</b>	<b>Parish Office / <a href="mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a></b>
<b>Fri 24th</b>	Church Family Prayers	9.30-9.50am on Zoom (853 4454 9144)	Parish Office / <a href="mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a>
	<b>Coffee lounge</b>	<b>10am-12pm, St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>	<b>Parish Office / <a href="mailto:parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a></b>
	Women's Fellowship	7.30pm, St Philip	Marion Evans / <a href="mailto:marionevans244@gmail.com">marionevans244@gmail.com</a>
<b>Sat 25th</b>	<b>Prayer meeting</b>	<b>9-10am , St Peter &amp; St Paul</b>	<b>Richard Roberts / <a href="mailto:richardbproberts2003@gmail.com">richardbproberts2003@gmail.com</a></b>
	Open House	10am-12pm, St Philip	Wendy Carr / <a href="mailto:wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk">wendy.carr@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk</a>
<b>Various</b>	<b>Home Groups (for all Christians who are part of our church family across any of our four churches)</b>	<b>Various locations and times</b>	<b>John Schluter / <a href="mailto:john@schluter.ch">john@schluter.ch</a></b>

## SUNDAY 26 JANUARY

<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul</b> 8am Communion Service: A healthy body: Col 3: 1-17  10.45 Morning Service: A healthy body: Col 3: 1-17  6pm Communion Service: The weeds: Matthew 13: 24-30; 36-43	<b>St Philip</b> 10.45 Morning Service: A healthy body: Col 3: 1-17	<b>St Saviour</b> 9.15 Communion Service: A healthy body: Col 3: 1-17	<b>St Andrew</b> 9.45 Morning Service: A healthy body: Col 3: 1-17
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**Newsletter info: Tel 01732 770962 ext. 24 / email [jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:jane.thorndike@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)**

**Parish Office opening hours: Mon (10am-1pm), Wed (9am-12pm) & Fri (10am-1pm)**