



## **Benefice of Tunstall and Bredgar**

**Rector:** Rev. Alan Pinnegar, Tunstall Rectory, ME9 8DU

01795 471483; 07402 717325 [aepinnegar@gmail.com](mailto:aepinnegar@gmail.com)

**Curate:** Paula Jardine-Rose 01795 886165; [curatepaulajr@gmail.com](mailto:curatepaulajr@gmail.com)

(Paula is normally available on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays)

**Readers:** Pat Tatchell 01795 471956 John Vaughan 01795 425123

**Administrator:** Brian Evans 07783 662057

email: [beneficetunstallandbredgar@gmail.com](mailto:beneficetunstallandbredgar@gmail.com)

### **Sunday 18th October - 19th after Trinity**

**Our Sunday morning services are now taking place at Bredgar Church at 9:45.**

Social distancing must be maintained and collective singing is not allowed. We will also request contact information from those who attend in person - this is part of the government's Test and Trace programme and will be kept for 3 weeks and then destroyed.

We are now required by law to wear face coverings in church.

Holy Communion, when celebrated, will be in the form of bread alone.

If you would like to attend in person it will be a great help if you could let us know so we can plan seating.

**The service will continue to be accessible via Zoom and the link will be circulated by email every week. All are welcome, whether you attend in person or online.**

3 of our church buildings are currently open for individual private prayer from 10.00am until 5.00pm on particular days and subject to safety precautions: Tunstall Church is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday [*closed between 11:30 and 1:30 if there's a Baptism taking place*]; Bredgar and Milstead\* are open on Wednesdays and Fridays respectively.

*\*Please note that Milstead Church will not be open for private prayer on 9th or 16th October. From 23rd October it is planned to open every Friday except where a service follows on the Sunday.*

From 10th October, Frinsted Church will also be open during the day every Saturday, with the exception of 1st Saturday of the month.

In the meantime we do our best to keep in contact with people but inevitably some will fall through the cracks. Please let us know if you are aware of anyone who is lonely or fearful and who would appreciate a call - we encourage people to keep in touch with each other and we in the ministry team are very happy to contact people by phone, whether they are church members or not.

The church continues to pray for and to be active in our communities; in addition to our Sunday morning services, we have Morning Prayer online every weekday at 9:30am. Wednesday evening services will continue online at 7:00pm each week - these vary in style from week to week and if you would like to join us, please let the Vicar or the Administrator know and we'll send you the link.

## Online Services

**Morning Prayer** is said online every week day at 9:30am.

**Sunday morning** at 9:45 - Sunday School will take place online during September

**Wednesday evenings** at 7:00pm - we are hosting an online service: 1st

Wednesday of the month will be Taize; 2nd Wednesday Worship 67

(contemporary worship music); then Celtic Evening Prayer; and Evensong on 4th Wednesday of the month.

If you would like to join us for any of these, please email Alan Pinnegar or Brian Evans and we will send you the link.

The Church of England Daily Office for different times of the day can be accessed online at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

## Sunday Evening services

Since the start of September we have held a service of Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer in each of the churches in our benefice in turn, each starting at 6:00pm. We plan to continue this through October. These will not be accessible online.

**The schedule of evening services is as follows:-**

1st Sunday - Frinsted: 4th October HARvest Evensong

2nd Sunday - Rodmersham: 11th October Harvest Evensong

3rd Sunday - Milstead: 18th October Harvest Evensong

4th Sunday - Tunstall: 25th October Harvest Evensong

## Other services

**1st Sunday of the month:**

4.00pm: **Cafe Tunstall** - now meeting at Tunstall Church

## A Prayer for all those affected by Coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick and lift up all who are brought low, that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord

### Readings

Isaiah 35: 3-6	
Luke 15: 11-32	

The readings can be accessed via [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com): enter the passage in the following format: [e.g.] John 14: 1-6; from the drop-down box to the right select "New Revised Standard Version", then click <Search>.

**Collect** "O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts".

### Notices

#### Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Please be advised that these will take place as follows:

**Frinted:** 20th October at 7:00pm

**Tunstall:** 22nd October at 7:00pm

#### Tunstall Electoral Roll 2020

Although this year's electoral roll was revised in March, it was not possible for it to be presented at the APCM as this had to be cancelled due to Covid. We have therefore been asked to carry out a further revision before the scheduled Tunstall APCM on 22nd October.

If anyone wishes to join the electoral roll, there are some application forms in Church or you can contact me and I will send you one. If you would like any more information about joining the electoral roll please speak to one of the ministry team or a Churchwarden

If you are aware of any changes that will affect the electoral roll and which have taken place since the revision in March, please let me know. Thank you.

Joanne Williams, Electoral Roll Officer 07889 583272

email: [joanne.williams@yahoo.com](mailto:joanne.williams@yahoo.com)

## **Tunstall PCC Nominations**

If any member of Tunstall church wishes to be nominated for membership of the Parochial Church Council, please contact Brian Evans for the necessary form.

## **Food Bank**

Swale Food Bank has been getting increasingly busy in the last few weeks, putting more and more pressure on our stock levels.. If you are able to donate food or household items, please either drop them off at Tunstall Church between 10.00am and 5.00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Saturdays, Bredgar Church during the same hours on Wednesdays or if you come to the Sunday morning service.

Alternatively you can contact Alan or Kerry ([aepinnegar@gmail.com](mailto:aepinnegar@gmail.com); 01795 471483) and we will arrange to collect.

There are also drop-off points in Asda and Sainsbury's.

### **Items we are currently short of:**

**Cash donations** are also gratefully received.

**Huge thanks** as always to our regular supporters - we literally couldn't do what we do without you!

**Mothers' Union** Milton Regis Mothers' Union will be organising the shoe box appeal this year. If anyone would like to fill a Christmas shoe box please contact me for details or these can be downloaded from [blythswood.org](http://blythswood.org) Filled shoe boxes need to be delivered to me by the end of October. **Sue Thomas**

**'Holiday at Home'**: DailyHOPE, the Church's freephone line, offers hymns, the daily office, reflections and prayers. In addition to this there is now a new offering called 'Holiday at Home' - the intention is to enable those who don't access things online and who rarely leave their houses to be 'transported' on a holiday - with prayers of thanks for times past, a poem recollecting holidays and even a soundscape to evoke those memories of past holidays.

Since its launch at the beginning of May the DailyHOPE line has received more than 215,000 calls. That accounts for over 2.5 million minutes of listening to prayers, hymns and reflections. The freephone line seems to have been a wonderful help and encouragement to tens of thousands.

**DailyHOPE (0800 804 8044)**

**Tunstall Church Grand Christmas Raffle.** The Christmas raffle will be taking place again this year. Two books of tickets will be distributed with each magazine. Further tickets can be obtained us at 3 Woodstock Road or by telephoning 01795 422810 and we will deliver. Please try and sell as many tickets as possible to your friends and family. We would also appreciate donations of raffle prizes and items for inclusion in hampers. Prizes can be delivered to the above address or can be collected. Martin and Sue Thomas

**Tunstall Church Christmas Tree Festival (CTF) Wed 2nd - Sun 6th December, 2020** It is with great sadness that we have decided to cancel the Christmas Tree Festival this year. With Covid-19 infections increasing and additional restrictions being introduced, we felt that we had no alternative.

Instead, we will be holding a virtual Festival where people can upload onto the Church website pictures or videos of their trees. We will also try to arrange the raffle which will be in support of our chosen charity, The Swale Stroke Group, and Church Funds. Further details will be issued shortly.

We will also decorate trees in the Churchyard to make it welcoming over the Christmas period.

This is a great shame as the Festival has gone from strength to strength over the last few years, but, hopefully, we will be able to get back to something like normality next year. John Slate

**United Benefice Weekend - Ashburnham Place  
19th - 21st Feb 2021 An Update "Getting into Shape"**

Due to the challenges that we are currently facing with the impact of the Corona Virus and the potentially long lasting effects, it has been decided to postpone the United Benefice weekend away until 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021. With so many groups altering their plans for this year into next year, we had no choice over the actual date. The new date is the first weekend in Lent next year which seemed appropriate to provide us with an opportunity to go away together and focus on our faith. It also gives us a period of reflection after the distress and immense anxiety that we have all been experiencing this year. The theme is "Getting into Shape", an opportunity to take stock and prepare ourselves to live in a new and changed world. I have contacted all those already booked to advise them of the new date and we hope they will be able to transfer their booking and still join us. If you are interested in joining us on this new date and would like further information or a booking form please contact me on 01795 428300. Tricia

## Church finances

The church relies solely on donations and occasional fees in order to keep going and we are very grateful to all those who make donations to each of the churches in our benefice. While many in our congregations give by Standing Order, we know that some like to make cash donations via the collection bag during a service.

During these times when our buildings are closed, we are losing some of our regular income through cash collections, wedding fees, etc.

We understand that the current situation is causing all kinds of difficulties for many people and we do not want to put pressure on anyone who has concerns over their finances during the lockdown, or indeed at any other time.

However, if you would like to and are in a position to make a donation, whatever the amount and whether regular or as a one-off, please contact the Treasurer of your local church and they will give you the bank details to enable you to set up a Standing Order or make a direct transfer. Thank you!

Tunstall: Peter Barton [peterbartonfca@gmail.com](mailto:peterbartonfca@gmail.com); 01795 479816

Bredgar: Alice Quarry [amquarry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:amquarry@yahoo.co.uk); 07957 338316

Milstead: Janice Hook [3j@jhook.co.uk](mailto:3j@jhook.co.uk); 01795 830292

Frinted: Maurice Sherreard 01622 884333

Rodmersham: Tony Pardoe [rivendell.tonge@googlemail.com](mailto:rivendell.tonge@googlemail.com); 01795 472575

Wormshill: Ian Phillips [dreyfs@yahoo.com](mailto:dreyfs@yahoo.com); 01622 884425

## Overseas Link Rwanda

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who sent donations to Bishop Ken and Jill Barham - it was gracious of you and very much appreciated. It was sad that we missed seeing Ken and Jill and everyone at the fund raising and social events. Should you have missed Kens newsletter and video of the workmen taking away rubble at the school after the landslide you could contact Bishop Ken for more information and the new way of giving, the Christen Charity with which we are being welcomed is: [linksinternational.org.uk](http://linksinternational.org.uk) based in Littlehampton, West Sussex. Cheques can be made out to Links International and marked "Barham Rwanda". The funds will be "ring fenced" with quarterly reports to Bishop Ken and Jill. Pat Hobday

**(Computer) Virus alert** If you receive an email from anyone (Rev Alan for example) using an email address you do not recognise, please **delete** immediately

## General Information

**Baptisms and Weddings** are by arrangement. Please contact Rev Alan Pinnegar on 01795 471483 email: [aepinnegar@gmail.com](mailto:aepinnegar@gmail.com)

**Facebook: We now have one Facebook page to cover the whole benefice.**

The page relating to Tunstall Church has been renamed as follows:

**Benefice Tunstall & Bredgar: Bicknor Frinsted Milstead Rodmersham Wormshill.**

*Current users of the Tunstall page need take no action: for users of St Mary and the Holy Cross Church, Milstead; St Giles Church, Wormshill and Bredgar with Bicknor Churches, please 'Like' or 'Follow' the benefice page to receive regular updates*

**Benefice website:** [beneficeoftunstallandbredgar.org.uk](http://beneficeoftunstallandbredgar.org.uk)

**Parish Councils: Seven Parishes Website** [www.sevenparishes.co.uk](http://www.sevenparishes.co.uk)