



Benefice of Tunstall and Bredgar

Rector: Rev. Alan Pinnegar, 01795 471483; 07402 717325 aepinnegar@gmail.com

Associate Priest: Rev. Karen Burgess, 07394 980673 revburgess2021@gmail.com

Licensed Readers: Pat Tatchell 01795 471956; Clive Jacobs 07951 439943

Administrator: Charlotte Hayes beneficetunstallandbredgar@gmail.com

Services on 30th November 2025 ****1st Sunday of Advent****

Tunstall - 09:45am - Communion & Sunday School

Readings for Sunday

Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13.11-14
Matthew 24.36-44

Collect: Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

On occasion, the readings and/or Collect used may vary from those shown.

Online services

Online - Wednesday 26th November - 7pm - Evening Prayer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86997690696?pwd=Q3BJTHhNZkhOQVNWZjdkYnhPMnprZz09> Meeting ID: 869 9769 0696; Passcode: Church

Morning Prayer is said online every weekday at **9:30am**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87809800088?pwd=eWxzbnpmUFpRcFM4dEFRTzB1ZGpSUT09> Meeting ID: 878 0980 0088; Passcode: Church

Church opening times

Our churches are normally open on the following days, from 10:00 - 5:00:

- **Tunstall:** Every day from 10:00am until 5:00pm
'Open Office' has now moved - Tuesdays from 6:00 until 7:00pm
 - **Bredgar:** - Wednesdays and Fridays
- Rev Alan is normally based at Bredgar church from 10:30 until 1:30 on Fridays. Please feel free to drop in but if you need to speak to Alan it's worth calling first: 07402 717325
- **Bicknor:** from 10:00am until 3:00pm on Saturdays and Sundays
- **Milstead:** Fridays from around 10am - 4pm in the winter months!

We encourage members of our local communities to drop in to our church buildings from time to time when they are open!

Thought for the Day - SFM 106.9

Every Sunday a local minister offers a 'Thought for the Day' at 8:30am.

Notices

Shirley Bedelle: Many of you will have heard that Shirley sadly passed away on 21st October. Her funeral will take place at Tunstall Church on 27th November at 1:00pm, followed by a private cremation. The wake will take place at Hempstead House, Baptchild. All are welcome - for catering purposes, if you plan to come to the wake, please let Alan Pinnegar or Charlotte Hayes know (contact details above)

Tunstall Christmas Fayre - Raffle tickets are now available at the back of Tunstall church and please note that the raffle will be drawn on the day at 1pm. Boxes are now at the back of church also for donations please. There will also be Tombola, Food, Toys, Crafts, Cakes and more! Everyone is welcome to join us!!

St Nicholas Christmas Fair - *Saturday 29th November* in Rodmersham Village Hall from 2pm until 4pm. Admission is free - there will be the usual attractions and refreshments.

Bicknor Wreath Making - The friends of Bicknor Church are hosting a wreath making event at our candlelit village church on ***Thursday 4th December, 6.30 for 7pm*** if you would like to get into the festive spirit while enjoying mince pies and refreshments, chatting whilst creating your own wreath we would love your company 🧑🏻‍🎄 🌲 £20 per head, & £10 deposit to secure a place. Please bring your own apron and gardening gloves. There are no toilet facilities at the church. Deposit of £10 can be made to:

Friends of Bicknor Church - Sort code: 51-70-55, A/C No: 81855893 - Please use your forename as reference. Balance to be paid on the night.

Tunstall Christmas Tree Festival this year is between - *Thursday 4th December - Sunday 7th December 2025.*

Opening times are below:

- Thursday 4th December and Friday 5th December - 10am - 8pm
- Saturday 6th December - 10am - 5pm
- Sunday 7th December - 10am - 4pm

Free Admission, Seasonal refreshments are all available and all donations go to Church Funds and KSS Air Ambulance. Come and enjoy a wonderful festive event! For any enquires please contact John Slate on john.slate49@hotmail.com

Rodmersham Carols - In Rodmersham, Carols on the Green will be on Saturday 6th December from 5pm and afterwards in the village hall for warming refreshments. Everyone is warmly welcome. In the event of bad weather we will sing carols in the

village hall. John Fisher 01785 424952

Bredgar Carol Service - Join us for our Carol Service Sunday 14th December 2025 at 6.30pm - Bredgar Church. Music led by Bredgar Community Choir and featuring Bredgar School. Refreshments will be served after the service, A collection will be taken in aid of the Red Cross helping people in crisis wherever and wherever they are. <http://www.redcross.org.uk/>

Friends of Bredgar Church — Winter Warmer - Join us on 8 February for the next fundraiser in support of our lovely church, St. John the Baptist. Enjoy a delicious two-course meal at Bredgar Village Hall with friends and neighbours.

Tickets:

- £16 per adult
- £5 for children aged 6–11
- Children under 6: Free

Doors open at 12:30pm **To book your tickets or reserve a table, please contact Paul Charman:** 07832 168789 or paulcharman99@hotmail.com - And here's another date for your diary:**Maytime Lunch - Sunday, 10 May.**

Courses

Science and the Christian faith - are they compatible? We will be exploring the relationship between the two using material provided by the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, along with other resources. The sessions will run from 7:00 until 8:30 pm on Mondays 17th and 24th November and 1st December in the Midwinter Room at Tunstall Church.

Come and See (Exploring Reader Ministry)

Saturday 7th February 2026, 10.45am-1pm

Diocesan House, Lady Wootton's Green, Canterbury CT1 1NQ

A session for anyone wanting to find out about the ministry of Readers as licensed lay ministers:

What is Reader ministry? (a brief presentation)

What does Reader ministry look like? (hearing from some Readers)

What does the training look like?

Question Time! (ask any question you like)

To book a place, please email Nigel Collins, Diocesan Lay Ministries Advisor

Food Bank

We are extremely grateful for the donations of cash, food and household items - we couldn't offer this increasingly vital service to local people without your help. There are collection bins for food, etc at Tunstall and Bredgar churches and also at The Red Lion, Milstead and outside the Coffee Shop at Rodmersham. Cash may be donated either via Alan & Kerry (Tunstall Rectory) or direct to Swale Food Bank by clicking on the following link: <https://swale.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Tunstall School Community Lunch

Tunstall School are holding community lunches on the second Wednesday of each month **during term time only**. Please contact the school office if you would like to come along: 01795 472895. Lunch is served at 1pm, arrival from 12.45pm. The cost is £5 per person, payable in cash on the day.

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. We understand that the current economic situation has caused all kinds of difficulties for many people and we do not want to put pressure on anyone who has concerns over their finances. However, if you would like to and are in a position to make a donation, whether regular or as a one-off, 4 of our parishes now have an online donation facility, you can click on any link below:-

Tunstall:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/1f52bc3b-03b8-4a87-be9b-a4dc14b84939>

Bredgar with Bicknor:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/3409e6a9-73c7-4015-8d89-2eb851773478>

Milstead:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/e4cba7ed-7e38-4e53-96f4-2bace2c7582e>

Wormshill:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/957a8e56-db6d-4df6-9167-6b72584473ea>

If you wish to make a donation to Frinsted or Rodmersham churches, please contact the Treasurer as follows:-

Frinsted: Tony Brown tintinhaddock@yahoo.co.uk

Rodmersham: Graham Haggar graham.haggar@gmail.com

Community

Scammers - for advice on identifying and dealing with scammers and spoof emails, please consult our website

General Information

Baptisms and Weddings are by arrangement. Please contact Rev Alan Pinnegar on 01795 471483 email: aepinnegar@gmail.com

Tunstall Midwinter Room Bookings should be made through via email: beneficetunstallandbredgar@gmail.com

Benefice website: beneficeoftunstallandbredgar.org.uk

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

Ministers' availability: Alan's day off is normally Thursday

Safeguarding

Each parish in the benefice has adopted the safeguarding policies of the Church of England. If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers - contact details are in our website: <http://beneficeoftunstallandbredgar.org.uk/>, or the Diocesan Safeguarding team via the following link:- <https://www.canterburydiocese.org/safeguarding/>