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 Sunday 15th March 2026
4th Sunday of Lent/Mothering Sunday

Frinsted - 08:45am - Communion
Tunstall - 09:45am - Mothering Sunday (All Age)
Wormshill - 10:00am - Mothering Sunday
Rodmersham - 11:15am - Mothering Sunday Service
Milstead - 4:00pm - Evensong

Readings for Sunday

1Samuel 1:20-28
2Corinthians 1:3-7
John 19:25-27

Collect: Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you: when it spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts, come to our aid and turn us back to you again; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Online services

Wednesday 11th March - Taize - 7pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83372536038?pwd=ICN5dU9FXgDlViJcAPQhPQr68sCfED.1

Password: Church / Meeting ID: 833 7253 6038

Morning Prayer is said online every weekday at **9:30am:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87809800088?pwd=eWxzbnpmUFpRcFM4dEFRTzB1Z GpSUT09 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
- **Tunstall Open Office** - Every Tuesday in the midwinter room 6-7pm - Pop in to see Alan / Charlotte about any enquiries.
- **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

Tunstall Bereavement Cafe - Saturday 14th March - between 10:30am-12:30pm in the Midwinter Room - The Cafe is a drop in centre offering support to those who have been bereaved. The focus is on helping through a difficult and lonely period in their lives and with the chance to engage over a cup of tea/coffee and meet others who have been through similar experiences. Come and join us, everyone is welcome!

Tunstall Open Office - Tuesdays - Open office will be back up and

running as of 17th March. If anyone would like to drop in and see Alan / Charlotte for a chat about any enquiries they have.

Mothering Sunday posies - Tunstall - On **Saturday morning** - we will be meeting in church at 10:00am to make posies for Mothering Sunday. Please join us if you can help and if you have any flowers, foliage, etc that would be a great help too. If you can't make it on Saturday morning but can leave flowers, etc there will be a bucket of water at the back of church from Friday morning. Thank you!

Tunstall Mothers Union - Songs of Praise will come from Liverpool Cathedral on 15th March and will be featuring the Mothers Union 150 Anniversary.

The Tunstall Mothers Union - They Will be holding their annual Wave of Prayer on Wednesday 18th March at 10.15 am. This will take place in the church and will be followed by refreshments in the Midwinter room.

Lent Course: an exploration of the **Gospel According to Matthew**, led over 5 weekly sessions by Aleksey Kolesnikov, who is currently in training for ordination and is on placement with us. **Starting Wednesday 25th February at 4:00pm**, then at the same time every Wednesday until 25th March, in the Midwinter Room, Tunstall. All are welcome, teatime refreshments provided!

Rodmersham Church Spring Coffee Morning and Plant Sale - *Thursday April 30th 2026, 10.30 — 12.30* in the Churchyard Plant Sale, Teas and Coffees, Raffle, Cake Stall, Bric-a-brac, Books, Local Honey. Please come along and support us.

Friends of Bredgar Church — A UNIQUE WALKING PILGRIMAGE – TALK & PRESENTATION - Sunday 29 March. 2pm, Wesley Cottage, Silver Street. Free admission. FOBC is hosting a fascinating talk on the Augustine Camino Pilgrimage, presented by its Director, Andrew Kelly.
Hot drinks and nibbles will be available, and all parishioners are very welcome.Find out more about the pilgrimage see:

http://www.augustinecamino.co.uk

- Spaces are limited, so please secure yours by contacting: Siân - sian_davies36@yahoo.com or 07595 333 686

Maytime - Friends of Bredgar Church Lunch - Our next fundraising social will be the Maytime Lunch, taking place at 1pm on Sunday 10 May in Bredgar Village Hall. More details to come.

Tunstall Church Rock Choir Concert - Saturday 16th May at 7pm - An evening of musical voices performed by a local Rock Choir, back by popular demand after their performance at Tunstall Church Tree Festival Light refreshments and a glass of wine included in the ticket price. Raffle tickets will be available on the night. Tickets available from Liz Stevens 01795 474242 07979 250625 John Slate 47717295376. All money raised will be for the restoration of the lime plaster and lime wash painting to the interior of the church walls. Any further information and notification of any food allergies to Liz Stevens.

Confirmation in 2026 - we have had some people express interest in being confirmed this year. If you are interested in confirmation, please let me or another member of the ministry team know. **Rev Alan.**

Dates for the diary - Upcoming events below:

- 25th April - lunchtime event at the Torry Hill railway, in conjunction with Frinsted Church
- 6th June - Afternoon event at Milstead Manor Farm

Details of timings and tickets will be announced on the members' WhatsApp group, in Parish News and available from Tracey Gooding nearer the time.

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/