



Benefice of Tunstall and Bredgar

Rector: Rev Alan Pinnegar, 01795 482367; 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: beneficetunstallandbredgar@gmail.com

13th September 2026 - 15th after Trinity
****The Holy Cross****

8:00am - Tunstall - Communion

9:45am - Tunstall - Communion & Sunday School

10:00am - Bredgar - Communion

Readings for Sunday

Psalm 22:22-28

Numbers 21:4-9

Philippians 2:6-11

John 3:13-17

Collect: Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

(The readings and/or Collect used may vary from those shown).

Midweek services

Wednesday 9th September - Taize

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83372536038?pwd=ICN5dU9FXgDIVjCkAPQhPQr68sCfE>

D.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=eWxzbnpmUFpRcFM4dEFRTzB1ZGpSUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 0980 0088; Passcode: Church

Notices

Vicar's retirement: after a lot of thought and prayer, I've decided that the time is right to give notice that I'll be retiring in the Spring, 2027. My last Sunday in the benefice will be on 4th April, the Sunday after Easter. It has been a great joy and privilege to walk alongside you all in faith, through life's highs and lows. Kerry and I are deeply grateful for your love, support, and the many memories we've made in our parishes and in the wider community.

Though I'll be stepping back from this role, I'll always be taking an interest in the benefice and praying for all of you.

In the meantime, there's plenty to do and I look forward to working with you all over the next several months. With love and best wishes, Alan

Ride 'n' Stride 12th September: raising money for the Friends of Kent Churches which offers financial support to help with the upkeep of church buildings around the country.

All the churches in our benefice are taking part as usual, please contact the local co-ordinator for further details:-

Tunstall - Sue Thomas *

Milstead - Phebe Chamberlain

Rodmersham - John Fisher

Wormshill - Nigel Field

Frinted - Tony Brown

Bredgar and Bicknor - Tim Ford

** if you are able to church sit for an afternoon session at Tunstall, please contact susanthomas2609@hotmail.co.uk*

Rodmersham Church - 12th September: as well as taking part in Ride 'n' Stride, we will be serving **afternoon tea** with a selection of savouries, scones, cakes etc from 2:00 until 4:00pm. **Sittingbourne Rock Choir** will be performing at around 3:00. This is the latest in our series of fund raising events to replace flaking lime plaster on the south wall and in the porch. We look forward to seeing you!

Mothers Union Communion service -16th September 10.15am
all are welcome.

An Invitation to a fundraiser for L'ARCHE Kent - Thursday 24th September Noon to 2pm. Liz and Phil Cox's home 36 Windsor Drive ME10 1UN. Delicious refreshments available & also crafts will be available to buy. L'arche community provides learning disability support.

Milstead Church, 9th October, 7:00 for 7:30pm -
Sittingbourne Rock Choir Tickets £15 include glass of wine and nibbles. Under 16s £5. Parking & toilets at the Village Hall. Phebe 07551 161217

Harvest celebrations in the benefice:-

Bicknor:

27th Sept: 4:00pm - refreshments & cakes in church, followed by 4:30pm - Harvest Service

Tunstall:

4th Oct: 10:30am - Harvest Service, followed by 12:00pm - Ploughman's lunch in church. No charge, donations welcome!

Wormshill:

4th Oct: 11:30 - Harvest Service in church, followed by 12:30 - Lunch in the village hall. Details to follow

Rodmersham:

16th Oct: 7:00pm - Harvest Supper in the village hall - tickets £20 each, please contact John or Barbara Fisher 01795 424952

18th Oct: 11:15 - Harvest Service in church

Bredgar:

11th Oct: 10:00am - Harvest Communion in church

18th Oct: 12:00pm - Harvest lunch in church. No charge, donations welcome!

Please contact Alice Quarry amquarry@yahoo.co.uk

Safeguarding Survey:

Every diocese in the Church of England either has or will be taking part in a [safeguarding audit programme](#). These independent audits are conducted by the INEQE Safeguarding Group and the site visit for the Diocese of Canterbury will take place in **November 2026**.

The audits are an important part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and accountability.

The auditors would like to hear from as many people as possible, as your views matter. Please complete the survey(s) [on the INEQE website](#) which are relevant to your role.

All the surveys close on **Wednesday 9 September**, other than the Children and Young People (CYP) survey. INEQE have **extended the CYP survey deadline to Wednesday 16 September** to allow people to complete it after the summer holidays.

For more information, go to our [Safeguarding Audit webpage](#).

Tunstall Church Shoebox Appeal: leaflets for this year's appeal are available at the back of the church. Filled shoeboxes are needed by the last week in October.

Have you considered exploring Christian faith more deeply, or even going into ministry? If so, one of the following courses run by the Diocese of Canterbury might be for you:-

Deepening Discipleship Courses (Courses exploring faith, discipleship and lay ministry) - Autumn 2026 - Explore your journey of discipleship and unique calling and gifts, identify key gospel discipleship practices as a basis of service and reflect on

the growth and development of Christian communities.

October - December 2026 - Thursdays (Canterbury) between 7-8:30pm. **Closing date for applications: 17th September**

Lay Funeral Ministry – Closing Date for applications: 14th September

A course for Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) and experienced worship leaders on the recommendation of their incumbents and with PCC support. Successful completion will lead to diocesan authorisation with local recognition and support. Applicants will be interviewed prior to acceptance on the course.

24 October from 10am-4pm

6th March 2027 from 10am - 4pm

8th May 2027 from 10am - 4pm

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

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
- **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.

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: Peter Barton peterbartonfca@gmail.com

Community

SCAM ALERTS

There are all kinds of scams going round: callers impersonating banks or the Police; online contractors offering services and putting pressure on householders to pay extra costs upfront; a certificate renewal scam for work carried out more than 10 years ago.

Before you agree to any home improvement work:

- ✓ check independent reviews from more than one source
- ✓ get a written quote before work starts
- ✓ be cautious if costs increase unexpectedly
- ✓ never feel pressured to pay more than originally agreed

Don't agree to appointments during an unexpected call

- Verify any claims by contacting the original installer directly using a trusted phone number
- Be wary of traders who only provide a mobile number or are difficult to contact
- Never feel pressured into allowing someone into your home

Report to Kent Police and receive advice from the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.

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/>