

**Parish Church of
St Mary of Charity, Faversham
Fourth Sunday before Lent
5 February 2017**

Welcome to the beautiful church of St Mary of Charity. Please do stay for a drink and fellowship. If you are here for the first time, please make yourself known to one of the clergy.

For our prayers:

- the St Mary of Charity clergy team and lay ministry and all whose ministry is in Faversham;
- those who help with Mission within the Church worldwide;
- those who provide hospitality;
- those receiving medical treatment and those who care for them;
- the people of Aleppo and surrounding areas;
- the people of Québec City;
- those affected by violence;
- refugees throughout the world;
- the people of Europe experiencing extreme weather;
- the homeless;
- those who are grieving;
- those experiencing financial hardship;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, the Yemen and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

**9 am Eucharist (BCP)
10.30 am Morning Praise
6 pm Choral Evensong**

Readings:

**Isaiah 58:1-9 (6 pm only)
1 Corinthians 1:1-12(13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20**

COLLECT:

O God,
you know us to be set
in the midst of so many and great dangers,
that by reason of the frailty of our nature
we cannot always stand upright:
grant to us such strength and protection
as may support us in all dangers
and carry us through all temptations;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

**Next Sunday:
Third before Lent
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37**



9 am Eucharist (CW) with hymns

Opening:	Love divine, all loves excelling
Offertory:	At the name of Jesus
Closing:	Faithful vigil ended



6 pm Choral Evensong

Introit:	Hodie beata virgo; Sheppard
Responses	Ayleward
Psalm and Setting	24; Sumison in G
Anthem	Let us light a candle; Sheppard
Hymn	Love divine, all loves excelling



Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

At the name of Jesus

every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now:
'tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

At his voice creation
sprang at once to sight,
all the angel faces,
all the hosts of light,
thrones and dominations,
stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders,
in their great array.

Humbled for a season,
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed:

Bore it up triumphant
with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures,
to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead,
to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory,
of that perfect rest.

Name him, Christians, name him,
with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder
and with bated breath:
he is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted, and adored.

Surely, this Lord Jesus
shall return again,
with his Father's glory,
with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

Faithful vigil ended,
watching, waiting cease;
Master, grant your servant
his discharge in peace.

All the Spirit promised,
all the Father willed,
now these eyes behold it
perfectly fulfilled.

This your great deliverance
sets your people free;
Christ their light uplifted
all the nations see.

Christ, your people's glory!
Watching, doubting cease:
grant to us your servants
our discharge in peace.



Old Testament (6 pm only)

Isaiah 58:1-9

Shout out, do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Epistle:

1 Corinthians 2:1-12(13-16)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him” -

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13-20

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

This weekend Gemma flew out to Manilla with her YWAM outreach team. She will be there for four weeks.

Gemma's team will be one of the first teams to go, and primarily this trip will be used to:

- * research the area;
- * meet with contacts and build relationships;
- * evangelise through sports;
- * visit churches and schools; and
- * organise tournaments/games with locals.

Gemma would like to thank everyone at St Mary of Charity (and in the wider community) who has donated to her outreach and to all those who have prayed for her and continue to pray for her.

If you want to find out more please don't hesitate to contact her, either through Facebook or email (gemmaehambrook@aol.com).

Enjoying God

A quiet day led by Roz Graham.

10.00 am - 3.30 pm

Thursday, 16 March 2017

All Saints, Graveney

Booking Roz Graham 01795 538079

or Rev Gill Read 01795 534059

£5.00

Bring your own lunch. Beverages provided.

Open to all

Val and Keith Tyler would like to invite their friends in the church to join them for cake and a beverage after the 10.30 am service on Sunday, 19 February 2017 as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.



**Little Fishes is back in action again;
singing and praying,
laughing and playing ...**

in the south transept on Thursday mornings.

If you are able to spare up to two and a half hours on a Thursday morning in term time, would you be happy to join us? We need people to help set up, organise snacks, ensure a steady supply of hot water for tea and coffee, help with the crafts, help clear up, chat with big and little fishes, help sing *and* do the actions, help clear away at the end. Please speak to Dennis Parrett, Val Tyler or Catriona Cuthbert if you are interested. Any volunteers will need to have a DBS check (which is done by the Diocese, free of charge!)

If you have pre-school children and would like to join us, you are very welcome to come along between
10 and 11.30 am.

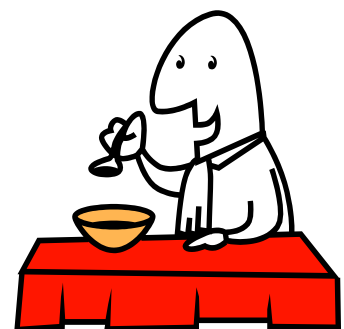
We have a whale of a time!

Lent talks - our clergy team are planning a series of Lent talks in the church for the first Monday in Lent up to Holy Week. Please keep these dates free in your diaries:
6, 13, 20, 27 March and 6 April 2017.

February's Parish Lunch will be on

Wednesday, 15 February!

All are welcome to enjoy good, home-cooked food and fellowship - the sign-up sheet is at the back of the church!



At 12.30 pm on 18 February St Mary of Charity will have a visit from the Mayor of Poole, High Sheriff of Poole and the Pirates of Poole along with the Mayor of Faversham to unveil the new Harry Paye facsimile brass.

Please join us! Dressing as a pirate (any era) and swaggering are optional *but* encouraged.

Harry Paye was a 'privateer' in the 14th century (born around 1360), originally from Poole in Dorset, who once 'acquired' enough wine from captured French ships to keep the town of Poole drunk for a week! Harry married the daughter of Seman Tang, a local businessman, and ended his days in Faversham as a commander in the Cinque Port fleet.



Who's missing?

Have you notice one of our church family who you normally see on Sundays is no longer attending church?

Is there someone you know who has had to stop coming to church because of ill health but would like to remain in contact?

We have a group of volunteers who can visit people in their homes to be a link to the church and provide spiritual support. Home Communion can also be given.

If you there is someone you think would benefit from such a visit please contact the Pastoral Visitors' Co-ordinator Kevin Swinney (kevin.swinney@outlook.com) or a member of the Clergy team.

Women's World Day of Prayer

(International and Interdenominational)

Faversham Baptist Church

2 pm, Friday, 3 March 2017

followed by tea and biscuits



On Women's World Day of Prayer this year over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of 'Am I being unfair to you?' The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects to be used through the whole world on 3 March from sunrise over Samoa to sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

The Day of Prayer is not just for women - everyone is welcome to attend.

Swap Shop in aid of Faversham Foodbank

9.30 am – 12 noon

Saturday, 25 February 2017

United Church, Preston Street, Faversham

Please see poster by the Foodbank collection box for details!

Notices to Catriona by noon Wednesday, latest!

admin@stmaryofcharity.org

01795 530553

All worship songs reproduced under CCL 89147

The Coming Week at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Tuesday, 7 February 2017

10-10.45 am Mustard Seed Music *with Naomi Smith*

Wednesday, 8 February 2017

8.15 am Deanery Chapter

10.30 am Eucharist

Thursday, 9 February 2017

10-11.30 am Little Fishes - *visit to Tesco/colouring*

Friday, 10 February 2017

10.30 am Prayers in The Trinity Chapel

Saturday, 11 February 2017

8-9 am Early Morning Prayers in the Trinity Chapel *(followed by coffee)*

10 am to noon Church Cafe

10.30 am Canterbury District Bell Ringers training session *(2 hours)*

Sunday, 12 February 2017, Third before Lent

9 am Eucharist

10.30 am Parish Eucharist



The St Mary of Charity monthly pattern of services:

First Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (CW with hymns)	10.30 am	Morning Praise <i>Family-friendly service</i>	6 pm	Choral Evensong
Second Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist CW		
Third Sunday	9 am	Matins	10.30 am	Family Eucharist CW <i>Family-friendly service</i>		
Fourth Sunday	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist CW		
Fifth Sunday (if applicable)	9 am	Eucharist (BCP said)	10.30 am	Benefice Eucharist CW <i>Please check for details on which church this will be held at</i>		