

**Parish Church of
St Mary of Charity, Faversham
Feast of the Three Kings
Epiphany
8 January 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;
- the people of Aleppo and surrounding areas;
- those who were in The Jungle and those who work with them;
- refugees throughout the world;
- the people of Istanbul;
- the family and friends Jill Saward and those whose lives have been affected by her;
- those who are grieving;
- those receiving medical treatment and those who care for them;
- those experiencing financial hardship;
- the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan; and
- all who live in fear of violence and aggression.

9 am Eucharist (BCP)
10.30 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
3/3.30 pm Almshouses Service,
Almshouses Chapel, Napleton Rd

Readings:

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

COLLECT:

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested Your only Son to the
peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know You now by faith,
may at last behold Your glory
face to face;
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:
Second in Epiphany
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42**



Epistle:**Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:**Matthew 2:1-12**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,

“Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Thank you - everyone at St Mary of Charity

Rev Simon Rowlands would like to thank everyone for the Christmas hamper he and Gail received on Christmas Eve - and for the many gifts received from parishioners - and sends best wishes for 2017.

Dear all - on behalf of myself, Marcia, Robert and Lucy, I'd like to thank you very much for the Christmas hamper with treats in it for all of us! Best wishes and blessings for 2017. Rev Simon Young

*Dear Friends at St Mary of Charity,
thank you so much for the most generous Christmas Present;
beautifully wrapped and full of lovely treats. It is much appreciated.
Every Blessing for the New Year. Rev Ros Parrett*

Dear All at St Mary of Charity

Thank you very much for the lovely gift received on Christmas Eve.

*Angela and I would like to wish you a happy New Year and all the best
for 2017*

Rev Allan Norris

*Very many thanks to St Mary of Charity for your
very kind Christmas Gift. Happy New Year!*

Rev Sharran Ireland

*Thank you, everyone at St Mary of Charity, for the thoughtful Christmas gift. I
hope you all had a peaceful Christmas and have a good new year ahead in 2017.*

Best wishes, Rev Douglas Turton

*Struan and Sylvia would like to thank the Church Family of SMOc for the very kind gift of a
hamper crammed full of 'goodies' that arrived on their doorstep just before Christmas Day.
This generosity was very much appreciated.*

With much love and best wishes for the New Year

Rev Struan Dunn

Please join us for Choral Evensong,
led by Bishop Trevor,
at 6 pm next Sunday - 15 January 2017,
to give thanks for the building works
completed in the past year on the South Porch
giving everyone coming to the church
improved access.

**Thank you for your
generous donations
over the past few years
and over Christmas; the
foodbank is very low on
the following:**



**Long life milk (whole, semi and skimmed)
Long life fruit juice
Squash (urgent!)
Cooking oil
Toilet rolls
Egg Noodles (not super noodles)
Laundry powder/liquid (non bio)**

**If you are able to donate toiletries
(especially shower gel/shampoo) and any
feminine hygiene products, this would also
be greatly appreciated.**

Thank you

In February Gemma will be participating in an outreach with the Sports Ministry of Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Perth, to the capital of the Philippines, Manila.

Manila is YWAM Perth's next Megacity. For 2017 all outreach teams will be sent here. Many modern cities have lost their way with little acknowledgement of God; but God designed cities as gathering places for His people where they could glorify Him and disciple surrounding nations to do the same.

Manila has 12.5 million residents, increasing to around 20 million by day, plus it has the largest homeless population of any city in the world.

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.

Please consider partnering with her in prayer and finances for a four week outreach to Manila. She is trusting for £600 for this outreach. Donations can be made through her website... www.gemmahambrook.com/donate-contact/

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

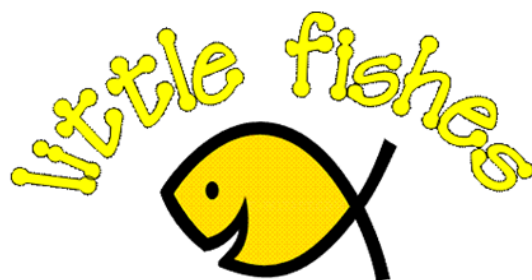


Little Fishes is back in action again;
singing and praying, laughing and playing ...
in the south transept on Thursday mornings.
If you are able to spare up to two and a half
hours on a Thursday morning in term time,
would you be happy to join us? We need
people to help set up, organise snacks, ensure
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!



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.

In 2013 Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippine islands in the Western Pacific ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear the stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman, recounting their situations, hopes and fears. The service focuses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 v 1-16.

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

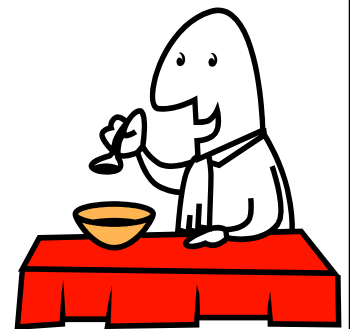
Little Bags of Hope

Faversham and Villages Refugee Solidarity Group thanks the congregation and friends for their generous donations at the Christmas Fair and since, which has enabled us to make up 42 "Little Bags" for young men who are now refugees in Dunkirk, around Calais, or homeless in Paris. Besides the seven requested items, cash was also given so we were able to buy more as required to complete each bag with:- socks (2 pairs in most cases), hat, scarf or gloves, deodorant, bag of nuts/dried fruit, and a wind-up torch. They will be delivered to Seeking Sanctuary this week, as recommended by our Diocese.

Val Jeffries

January's Parish Lunch will be on
Wednesday, 18 January!

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



***Save the date!* 2017 Candlemas Supper at
West Faversham Community Centre
Saturday, 4 February 2017**



7 pm

Saturday, 14 January 2017

**Quiz at Ospringe School
for the four Anglican
Churches of Faversham**

An opportunity to get to know each
other across the Benefice *and*
to dust off those brain cells.

Teams of six

(teams can be made on the night).

Team entry £5 (all profits to Crisis).

Nibbles provided but please bring your own drinks.

Notices to Catriona by noon Wednesday, latest!

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All worship songs reproduced under CCL 89147

The Coming Week at St Mary of Charity, Faversham

Tuesday, 10 January 2017

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

Wednesday, 11 January 2017

8.15 am Deanery Chapter

10.30 am Eucharist

Thursday, 12 January 2017

10-11.30 am Little Fishes

Friday, 13 January 2017

10.30 am Prayers in The Trinity Chapel

Saturday, 14 January 2017

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

7 pm 'Getting to know you' Quiz Night, Ospringe School (see inside for details)

Sunday, 15 January 2017, Second Sunday in Epiphany

9 am Matins

10.30 am Family Eucharist (CW)

6 pm Choral Evensong with Bishop Trevor

The Churches Together in Faversham Unity Service will take place in St Mary of Charity at 10.30 am on 29 January 2017.



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>		