

# Dover Town Team Ministry

## News from across our churches

### January 2026

#### Happy New Year

As the calendar turns to 2026 it's natural to reflect, resolve, and look ahead.

But before we chart a course for the future, let's pause in gratitude for the past year.

Every breath, every blessing, and every challenge overcome has been a gift from our faithful God. His steadfast love and mercies are new every morning, and His presence is the anchor for all our tomorrows.



With hearts full of thanksgiving, we step into this new season, not with a sense of duty, but with the joy of renewed purpose and a renewed sense of honouring God with our whole lives and working out what that looks like.

The Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30 reminds us that everything we possess is entrusted to us by the Master (God).

For the last three Sundays this month we will explore what it means to be faithful stewards of these divine gifts: of our time, our talents (the things we're good at) and our treasures (the financial stuff).

This is a challenge to align our whole selves—our schedules, our skills, and our resources—with God's ultimate plan.

Join us this year with the desire to seek to live intentionally, hear the words "Well done, good and faithful servant," and be motivated to seek to follow God in the year ahead in all that we do, bringing honour to Him.

*Claire* Rev Claire Coleman, Team Vicar

Enjoyed our Christmas services?

Want to find out more about the Christian faith?



Hope Explored is a three week course exploring how Christianity offers real hope, peace and purpose.

All welcome to join Rev Melissa and Rev Claire

339 Folkestone Road CT17 9JG  
13th and 27th January 2026 and  
10th February 2026  
from 7-9pm

## Through the week across our Churches

#### MONDAYS:

**Morning Prayer** 9.30am at **St Martin's church** meeting in the vestry.

**Home Group** 7-8.30pm at **Melissa's Vicarage** (St Andrew's vicarage, 3 Crabble Meadows, Dover CT17 0FL) a discussion group looking at various life and faith topics. *See below for details of other weekly home groups.*

#### TUESDAYS:

**Meditation & Taizé Chanting** 9am-10am at **St Andrew's Buckland**

**Little Adventurers** 9am-12noon at **St Martin's Dover** come & go whenever suits with the little ones (term time)

**CAMEO** 2.30-3.30pm at **St Martin's Dover Come And Meet Each Other!** weekly except the 1<sup>st</sup> Tues of the month.

#### WEDNESDAYS:

**Holy Communion** – 10am at **St Mary's** with chat & refreshments afterwards

**Paws for Thought** 4-5pm at **St Andrew's Buckland**, church is open for anyone to pop in for a chat or to have a quiet moment to rest and reflect.

**THURSDAYS: Said Eucharist** – 9.30am at **Charlton** (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)

## FRIDAYS:

**Service of the Litany** - 9.30am at **Charlton Church**, prayers and discussion on bible passage

**Little Lambs** – 9.30-11.45am (term time) at **St Mary's**– age range is from birth up to starting primary school age

**SATURDAYS: Compline** – 9pm on Zoom, a night prayer service (please contact Rev Melissa to get a joining link)

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**HOME GROUPS: St Martin's** host 3 weekly home groups (Mondays 10am, Wednesdays 2pm, Thursdays 7.30pm) – please contact Rev Claire for more details.

**The BENEFICE FORUM in 2026:** each of our PCCs meet to consider local ministry & mission, it's intended for the forum to broaden our focus on benefice-wide mission. There will be 4 meetings over the year rotating between our parishes – provisional dates/times for 2026 are: Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Feb (evening) at St Marys; Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Apr (evening) at St Martins; Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Jun (lunchtime picnic) at SS Peter & Pauls; and Tue 29<sup>th</sup> Sep (evening) at St Andrews. These are provisional dates and details will be confirmed and discussed with PCCs in the New Year.

God of life,  
As we see the power of your love in creation to reconcile and restore, help us listen to your plans for us and to desire growth in numbers and faithfulness.  
By the power of your Holy Spirit remove our apathy and increase our trust in you to build your church.  
As a Benefice may we: come together in unity, deepen our faith, and grow in understanding of one another.  
As your church may we be emboldened to reach out together, through words and actions. Help us continue to serve those around us, share the joy of knowing you and the hope of eternal life. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Amen  
*Benefice Prayer for Growth*

## Sunday Services across our Churches

|  | <b>St Mary the Virgin,<br/>Dover</b><br>10.45am         | <b>St Peter &amp; St Paul<br/>Charlton</b><br>8am (HC) & 9.30am                  | <b>St Martin, Dover</b><br>10.30am                               | <b>St Andrew Buckland-in-<br/>Dover</b><br>10.30am |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| 4 <sup>th</sup><br>*   | Holy Communion (Rev Trish)                              | 8am (Rev Melissa w Richard Harman preaching)<br>Parish Mass (Rev Richard Woods)  | Morning Worship (Local team)<br>6pm Connect (Local team)         | Parish Eucharist (Rev Melissa)                     |
| 11 <sup>th</sup><br>*  | Matins (Ant Shilson)                                    | 8am & 9.30am Parish Mass (Rev Melissa)   | Holy Communion (Rev Claire)<br>4pm Bubble Church (Benefice Team) | Andy's Invite (Nigel Collins)                      |
| 18 <sup>th</sup><br>*  | Holy Communion (Rev Richard le Rossignol)               | 8am & 9.30am Parish Mass (Rev Claire)  | Morning Worship (Local team)                                     | Parish Eucharist (Rev Melissa)                     |
| 25 <sup>th</sup><br>*  | Family Communion (Revs Melissa & Trish)<br>6pm Evensong | 8am & 9.30am Parish Mass (Rev Melissa)<br>4pm Bubble Church (Rev Melissa & Team) | Holy Communion (Rev Claire w team)                               | Morning Worship (Anne & Nigel Collins)             |
| * On these Sundays preachers will use the prepared sermon on the theme of Generosity |   |  |  |  |

**Panto at Charlton: "Seven Days to Save Christmas"**, a hilarious family show. **Sunday January 4th at 4pm.** Presented by LolBear. £7 adults, £2 children. Booking recommended. More info: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peter-and-st-pauls-charlton-church-dover>

### Contacts (Team clergy & parishes) Clergy day off: Friday

**Revd Melissa Carter – Team Rector** (Buckland & Charlton, Children & Schools) 07825 910116

[rev.melissa.carter@gmail.com](mailto:rev.melissa.carter@gmail.com)

**Revd Claire Coleman – Team Vicar** (St Martins, Mission) 07530 719517

[revclcoleman@gmail.com](mailto:revclcoleman@gmail.com)

**Revd Graham Snellin – Assistant curate**

### Parish Point of Contact (Communications)

**Buckland – Nigel Collins** [bucklandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bucklandchurch@gmail.com)

**Charlton – Camilla Otaki** [charltonchurchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:charltonchurchwarden@gmail.com)

**St Martins – Malcolm Gavin** [malcolm.gavin@talktalk.net](mailto:malcolm.gavin@talktalk.net) OR **Joanne Terry** [joanneterry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:joanneterry@yahoo.co.uk)

**St Marys – Lindsay Powell-Williams** [lindsaypowellwilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsaypowellwilliams@btinternet.com)

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION: SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**