

Dover Town Team Ministry

Benefice News

June 2026

**Bishop Rose is to licence
Revd Seb Lundberg as a
Team Vicar**

**Monday 29th June at St
Mary's church, 7pm**

ALL WELCOME

Our Team Vicar Rev Claire writes...



In April I had the joy of going on a retreat and I started reading a book by Don Whitney - Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life. Although the title of this book may sound a bit stuffy - I am finding it really uplifting.

Sometimes maybe we balk at the word discipline. I don't mind it, but maybe practices has a more comfortable tone. Some of the Spiritual Practises Whitney suggests we

need are: Hearing and reading God's word - bible intake, Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Serving, Stewardship, Fasting, Silence and solitude.

Whether it's because of my Benefice wide mission enabler role I've been challenged about the practise of evangelism. Evangelism might be a terrifying thought to some of us. Maybe we treat evangelism like an unwanted chore or a terrifying talent we don't possess. Maybe we think evangelism is done in a certain way by certain people and that's just not us. Maybe we've seen it done a certain way that can feel forced and uncomfortable. In reality evangelism is sharing Jesus with others. That can be done in a variety of ways - but it is something as the church we are called to do. (Matthew 28:20)

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 is a really encouraging passage. Paul tells us that "we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord." We just have to shine/show Jesus. It may look different to each of us, because we are different; yet in our own ways it's something we can all practise.

I wonder how we might learn from each other through the different ways we share Jesus in our community?

As a Benefice one way we are going to be practising evangelism is by running another Christianity explored course. This time it will be hosted in the downstairs room of St. Martin's Church, accessed through the peace garden. **It's going to be running from 4th June to 16th July - Thursday nights arriving from 7pm, starting at 7:30 and finishing at 9pm.**

It's an opportunity to invite a friend or family member or someone you know who has questions - you can come with them and journey together. It's not about forcing anything - it's about showing people Jesus and God being the one to work in our lives.

So let's be praying for this opportunity to share with people in our community. Pray for someone God might be leading you to invite or for people with questions to come across the adverts for it. Maybe you can volunteer in circulating posters and spreading the word, maybe you want to attend yourself.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Our Benefice Forum is on
Sunday 14th June,**

12/12.30pm at Charlton -
visiting speaker Lyndall Bywater
on prayer; bring a packed lunch.

ALL WELCOME

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED 4TH

June – 16th July - Thursday
nights arriving from 7pm,
starting at 7:30 and finishing at
9pm at St Martin's church –
contact Rev Claire

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB

27th-31st July contact Revs
Melissa or Claire

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

Evangelism isn't about our ability to persuade; it's about God's power to illuminate. Just as He once spoke light into a dark world, He is the one who shines into people's hearts to show them the beauty of Christ. We carry the light, but He's the one who opens their eyes to see it.

Claire, Team Vicar

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.

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 1st 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.

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)

Sunday Services across our Churches

	St Mary the Virgin, Dover 10.45am	St Peter & St Paul Charlton 8am (HC) & 9.30am	St Martin, Dover 10.30am	St Andrew Buckland-in- Dover 10.30am
7 th	Holy Communion (Rev Trish)	8am (Rev Melissa) 9.30am (Rev Richard Woods)	Morning Worship (Malcolm Gavin w Rev Graham) 6pm Connect (Local team)	Parish Eucharist (Rev Claire)
14 th	Matins (Chris)	8am & 9.30am (Rev Melissa)	Holy Communion (Rev Claire) 4pm Bubble Church (Team)	Andy's Invite (Nigel)
21 st	Holy Communion (Rev Richard le Rossignol)	8am & 9.30am Parish Mass (Rev Angie)	Morning Worship (Rev Graham w Ben Harding)	Parish Eucharist (Rev Melissa)
28 ^h	Family Communion (Rev Trish w Chris children) 6pm Evensong (Rev Melissa)	8am (Rev Melissa) 9.30am The Well (Rev Melissa, Chris, Richard & Alistair)	Holy Communion (Rev Melissa) 4pm Bubble Church (Team)	Morning Prayer (Anne & Nigel)

Bubble Church is now twice a month at St Martin's church – 2nd & 4th Sundays at 4pm

Charlton events: Sunday 14th June, 3pm – Piano Recital by Max Mostovetsku: Great Composers of Leipzig / Sunday 21st June, 5pm – Family friendly Concert: Music for Stories 2

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

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

rev.melissa.carter@gmail.com **Revd Claire Coleman – Team Vicar** (St Martins, Mission) 07530 719517

revclcoleman@gmail.com **Revd Graham Snellin – Assistant curate**

Parish Point of Contact (Communications)

Buckland – Nigel Collins bucklandchurch@gmail.com

Charlton – Camilla Otaki charltonchurchwarden@gmail.com

St Martins – Malcolm Gavin malcolm.gavin@talktalk.net OR **Joeanne Terry** joanneterry@yahoo.co.uk

St Marys – Lindsay Powell-Williams lindsaypowellwilliams@btinternet.com

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION: SUNDAY 14th JUNE