

Church pews for sale

Sometime in the New Year, St. Michael's expects to have 4 redundant pews to dispose of. They are pine and of traditional Victorian design and about 3 metres long. Any offers to Raymond Crawford (762967) or Lindsay Roberts (762326)

Real Easter Eggs!

It's hard to believe that, out of the whopping 80 million Easter Eggs sold each year, not one of them mentions Jesus on the box. Until now, that is. The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter Egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter on the box. It also supports charity and development projects.

The good news is that you have to do almost nothing to get hold of a Real Easter Egg. That's because we've ordered 108 Real Easter Eggs (a funny number, but they come in boxes of a dozen) for you to buy in church. Each Real Easter Egg will cost £3.99 and this will include a free eight-page story book for children to keep and parents to share.

We'll let you know when the Real Easter Eggs arrive. This is a great idea and something that we can all support. And because we're going to sell every single Real Easter Egg, next year we shall be able to increase our order! Fantastic!

Annette Parkin & Lindsay Hammond

WHO TO CONTACT

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN TENTERDEN

Tenterden ~ St Michael's ~ Smallhythe



SUNDAY 29th JANUARY 2012 EPIPHANY 4 - CANDLEMAS

WELCOME

We wish you a very warm welcome to our services today, especially if you are a newcomer or a visitor.

TODAY'S READINGS

In our worship today we use one or more of the following passages.

Malachi 3: 1-5 (p.961)

Hebrews 2: 14 – end (p.1202)

Luke 2: 22 – 40 (p.1028)

Page numbers refer to the pew bibles in St Mildred's

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

At St Mildred, Tenterden

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Sunday Morning Praise

At St Michael and All Angels

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist

At St John the Baptist, Smallhythe

11.15am Mattins

Benefice Sunday Lunch

The first of these will take place on Sunday 5th February. If you would normally spend Sunday on your own and would like to join others for some delicious home-cooked hot food, please sign the sheet in your church by the end of the month. The cost will be £5 for a two-course meal and will be held in St Mildred's Church Hall.

Children's Breakfast

There will be a Children's Breakfast on Saturday 18th February between 8.30am-10.30am in St Mildred's Church Hall. Our theme is 'Love'. The cost will be £2 to include breakfast and crafts. If you would like to come please contact Shirley Docker 762492 or e mail: shirleydocker@aol.com

Lunch Club

The next Lunch Club will be on Weds 21st February at 12.30pm in St Mildred's Church Hall. All are welcome! Any queries, please contact Mary Monckton 01580 240767

Women's Breakfast – Saturday 25 Feb

The first Tenterden Women's Breakfast for 2012 will be held from 8.30 - 10.00am on Saturday 25 February at The Rare Breeds Centre, Woodchurch. Guest speaker is Wendy Billington who will talk about '*Growing a Caring Church*'. Places are £10 each and can be booked in advance by contacting Stephanie Marshall (07866 146464) or Eleanor Bliss (01233 770082). Printed copies of the full 2012 programme are now available.

Welcome: Lent 2012

This year's Lent course will focus on the theme of welcome and how we demonstrate God's hospitality. The statistics tell us that less than ten per cent of the people who try us out will actually join us. In an attempt to do something about that, we shall be following a course entitled '*Everybody Welcome*'. It's a course that will remind us that we all have a part to play in growing our churches. The four sessions of the course will be held in St Mildred's Church Hall on the following Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm: 29th February; 7th March; 14th March; 21st March. So put the dates in your diary.

Reminder – Annual Reports

To all those who normally submit an annual report for the forthcoming APCM, please start drafting now! Reports for the year ended 31st December 2011 should be submitted to Mike Boughton, Parish Administrator by 29th February. Ideally they should be typed ready to be 'cut and pasted' into the report but clear handwritten copy will be acceptable.

Away With The Manger?

Why is the crib still in place in St Mildred's? We've not forgotten to put it away. Traditionally the Christmas season is celebrated for twelve days, ending with the Epiphany. But there is an alternative, contemporary, practice, in which Christmas lasts for a full forty days, embracing the season of Epiphany, and ending with the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) on the 2nd February. The presence of the crib reflects this latter practice. The Feast of Candlemas is thus a 'hinge' in the Christian year – through the words of Simeon, we take one last look back at Christmas, and then look forward to Holy Week and Easter.

Smallhythe Foundation Trust

The Smallhythe Foundation Trust, a local educational charity, is seeking a secretary. The post is unpaid and far from onerous, but very necessary to enable the charity to do its work. Please let Lindsay know if you can help.

TAPES are available of the 9.30 services, for the housebound. The 9.30 and 6pm **sermons** can be found on our website: (www.stmildreds.org).