

Church Chimes

1st May 2026



SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN CONSTABLE COUNTRY AND THE TENDRING HUNDRED

Our monthly news sheet with details of upcoming services and events in our nine rural churches.

**Full details can be found on our website:
www.tendringdedhamparishes.org.uk**

Message from the Parishes Administrator

WE have a request for volunteers to assist at the Praise in the Garden event on the 31st MAY.

WE require stewards to assist before and after the event.

We also need approximately 15 cakes to be donated, so if you are a whizz in the baking department we would really love to taste your yummy creations.

If you can assist with stewarding or baking please contact Nigel Dyson at nigel@garden-shows.com

A Message from our Minister

“My dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.” 1 Corinthians 15:58

Did anyone see a recent report that suggested a ‘quiet revival’ in the UK, especially amongst younger men and the those in later life? What about the subsequent retraction of the same report, as it seems the survey underlying the report employed a faulty methodology? So what are we to believe: Are things slowly picking up spiritually in our nation or are we stuck in terminal decline as many reports (particularly of the Church of England) suggest?

Well we are undoubtedly facing ‘headwinds’ as we seek to live for Jesus and share Him with those amongst whom we live and work, but there are signs ‘on the ground’ of ‘green shoots’. One of those I heard while ministering in one of our smaller villages recently. A long-standing member of the church there relayed a conversation they had had with a visitor - a young man and a courier of some sort - who had stopped at the parish church to enjoy a moment of peace and calm amidst a hectic schedule of deliveries. He had clearly been through some difficult and challenging times particularly during lockdown, but through that darkness had come to trust in Jesus who, when He came in to his life, “turned everything upside down” (his words!). He now worships and reads the Bible regularly and encourages his children to value what they have and not always to be wanting more of the material things in this world. He was convinced that more and more young people were, like him, coming to the faith.

I share this because God is not done with us. Even if at a macro level we seem to be facing many ‘headwinds’, God is still in the business of growing His Kingdom in our midst - one soul at a time. So let’s stand firm and crack on in service of our great God and Saviour in the strength He gives us by His Spirit!

Yours in Him,
Phillip





GROW



Home groups in the Tending and Dedham Parishes

Home groups are the places where we meet together regularly to get to know one another, to seek wisdom and guidance from God's Word together, to pray for and support one another and, in some cases, to share a meal together. If you'd like to **grow** in your Christian faith, get in touch with a home group that meets near you!

- Colchester: 20:00 on Wednesday, contact: Phillip Young harwichrmpPhillip@gmail.com
- Dedham: 11:00 on Tuesdays, contact: Ann Shaw ann.shaw0411@gmail.com
- Dedham: 19:30 on Wednesdays, contact: Adrian Beckingsale abeckingsale@aol.com
- Dedham: 9:15 on Fridays (Ladies group), contact: Sharon Sarson sharonsarson@hotmail.co.uk
- Dedham: 9:00 on the first Saturday of the month (Men's Breakfast), contact: David Jewell david.jewell@crown-consultancy.com
- Great Oakley: 10:30 on Thursdays, contact: John Saxon harwichrmjohn@gmail.com
- Wix: 19:00 on Mondays, contact: Tim Ball twbafb@gmail.com





2026

Harwich Deanery Retreats

Two Half Day Retreats - to support our own spiritual lives, perhaps a taster for people trying a retreat for the first time. Led by Revd Canon Ian Smith , Team Rector of the Parish of the Harwich Peninsula. Ian is a spiritual accompanier (Director) on the Chelmsford list of those authorized for this ministry and has been a retreat leader for many years. BOTH Retreats are FREE.

RETREAT 1 : AN OVERLOOKED SAINT

TUESDAY 12 MAY 9.30am – 12.30pm *

St Mary's, Church Road, LITTLE BENTLEY CO7 8SH

Three reflections using ST MATTHIAS (feast day 14 May or 24 Feb)-

Three sessions BEING CHOSEN, BEING PRESENT & BEING ACTIVE

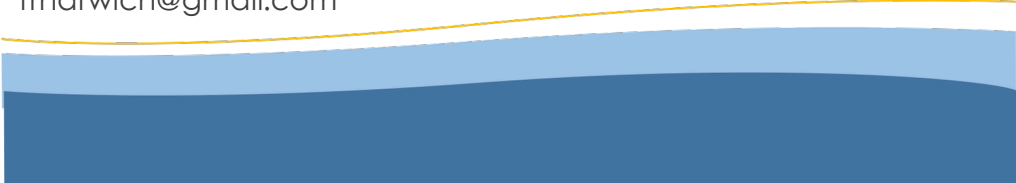
RETREAT 2 : CHRIST, COAST & CONCRETE

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 9.30am - 12.30pm

St Nicholas, Harwich & Esplanade Hall, HARWICH CO12 3ES

Time to walk and observe the old town and the beach and reflect on Christian places that are bustling, but also on the edge.

To Book please Text/email: Mobile 07818 855727
trharwich@gmail.com





Open Gardens this summer

AT THE VICARAGE (DEDHAM, CO7 6DE)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF JUNE, JULY & AUGUST, 2-4 O'CLOCK

**FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCH TRUST TOUR AND TALK
WITH MARTIN STUCHFIELD**

**at St. Mary's, Ardleigh
Wednesday, 6th May - 11am-Noon**

DEDHAM MISSION SALE & HORTICULTURAL SPRING SALE

**at St. Mary's, Dedham
Saturday, 9th May - 10am-Noon**



Thy Kingdom Come



Thy kingdom come is a prayer initiative organized by the Church of England and it encourages us to pray in new and creative ways. It starts on Ascension Thursday and finishes on Pentecost Sunday. (We will not walk on the 2 Sundays so that people can be in their home churches praying for their community as part of their regular intercessions.

This year I am organizing 9 prayer walks, over 9 days, starting in each church of our team. I will meet at each church at 11.45am, except Great Bromley where we will meet at the church at 10am, in order to greet people and brief them on what we do. We will then spend a short time praying the Lord's prayer together and then we will head out to pray for our town/village.

It will be very informal, no previous experience needed. Anyone can join in, those with pushchairs, walking sticks, or people could sit in church and pray for us who are out prayer walking.

For more information please call ANITA BALL on 07757671002



Thursday 14th May 2026, Ascension Day	St. Edmund King and Martyr, Tendring
Friday 15th May 2026	St. Mary the Virgin, Wix
Saturday 16th May 2026	St. Mary the Virgin, Little Bentley
Sunday 17th May 2026	Prayers for our community in our intercessions
Monday 18 th May 2026 (Starting at 10am)	St. George the Martyr, Great Bromley
Tuesday 19th May 2026	St. Leonard and St. Mary, Beaumont-cum-Moze
Wednesday 20th May 2026	All Saints, Wrabness
Thursday 21st May 2026	All Saints, Great Oakley
Friday 22nd May 2026	St. Mary the Virgin, Dedham
Saturday 23rd May 2026	St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh

St. George's Church Flower Festival

Join us for a wonderful community weekend celebrating creativity, hobbies, music and fellowship at St. George's Flower Festival, Great Bromley! Enjoy beautiful floral displays inspired by different hobbies, relax in our Hobby Café, and take part in a variety of performances and activities for all ages.



Friday 26th June 10am-5pm

Saturday 27th June 10am-8pm

Sunday 28th June 10am-5pm



Check out the event on Facebook for more information:
<https://www.facebook.com/share/1KYsnkCCaa/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

The Table Top Sale on Saturday the 23rd May at Tendring Village Hall has been cancelled

Benefice Announcements

From the Registers in April

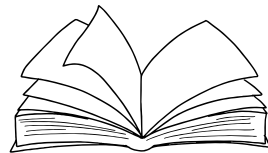
Funerals:

Dedham - David Thomas Hills

Wrabness - Julia Muriel Prigg

Wix - Janet Mary Bowley

Little Bentley - Susan Bird



Please ensure all events and advertising is sent to stmaryda@gmail.com by the 20th of the month for the following months edition. Please ensure all posters are in PNG or JPG format to be uploaded onto the websites.



May Services across the Benefice

	3rd May	10th May	14th May	17th May	24th May	31st May
All Saints Great Oakley		09:30 Morning Praise	18:00 Ascension Day Service	09:30 Holy Communion	09:30 Family Praise	
All Saints Wrabness	11:00 Morning Prayer	11:00 Holy Communion		11:00 Morning Priase	11:00 Holy Communion	
St Edmund King & Martyr Tendring		09:30 Holy Communion			09:30 Morning Prayer	
St. George the Martyr Great Bromley	11:00 Holy Communion (BCP)	11:00 Holy Communion		18:30 Evensong	11:00 Holy Communion	
St. Leonard & St. Mary Beaumont	11:00 Holy Communion			11:00 Morning Prayer	18:00 Evensong	
St. Mary the Virgin Ardleigh	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 09:30 Cafe Church	09:30 Holy Communion with KSO		09:30 Holy Communion with KSO	09:30 Morning Praise with KSO	09:30 Holy Communion with KSO
St. Mary the Virgin Dedham	09:30 Rise 'N' Shine 17:00 Evensong	11:00 Holy Communion	08:00 Ascension Day Service	09:30 Morning Praise 17:00 Revive@5	09:30 Holy Communion	
St. Mary the Virgin Little Bentley	15:00 Bluebell Service at Little Bentley Woods			11:00 Holy Communion		15:00 Praise in the Garden Bentley Manor
St. Mary the Virgin Wix		15:00 Cafe Church			11:00 Morning Prayer	