

**THE LABYRINTH – At All Saints – Saturday
December 9th**

12 noon to 3pm – led by Dr Martin Garsed

The labyrinth is an ancient symbol, metaphor and experience of prayer, holding, healing and renewal. It is one path, a journey into one's deeper self and into that which is beyond, God. This is an opportunity for spiritual renewal and encouragement on your journey. Do come and "walk the path". Come and go anytime during these three hours.

Contact Martin at berimart@gmail.com for more

**Special events at
St Alphege Whitstable**

**Saturday 9th December
9am to 12**

1st Whitstable Scout Group
Christmas Craft Fair
4pm Horsebridge Singers
Concert
5pm Church open for
refreshments
6pm to 7pm Candlelit Carols
at the forecourt

**Saturday 16th December
7.30pm Whitstable Choral
Society Carol Concert**

**There are other events as
well. See St Alphege
website for more events**

**Particularly hard prayer
this month please as
interviews are taking place!**

Friday 22nd December

**Family Fun Morning 10am to
midday at St Alphege Seasalter**

*A Prayer for the Vacancy at
Seasalter and in the Team*

**God our Father, you call us to be the
body of Christ here.
Send your Holy Spirit at this time
of change;
fill us with vision, energy and
faithfulness in prayer.**

**May this vacancy be a time of
deeper love and fellowship,
as you guide us with your
heavenly wisdom.**

**Help us to choose the one
who will share with us
in your perfect plans,
in the name of Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.**

UNITY UPDATE

Christmas 2017

Rev Ann Moreton writes:

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, please put a penny in the old man's hat."

A little verse that's been around for many years. Certainly during the last century it was a verse I heard every Christmas when I was a child. It reminds us of the state of the world then....and how little has changed. A goose replaced by the fattened supermarket turkeys, and ample food and drink easily available to those with money in their purses, those for whom Christmas is yet another holiday in which to over indulge. And as we walk through the streets of Canterbury, sadly, shockingly, the cry to put a penny in the old man's hat is also still with us. Disgracefully, in this country of plenty, there are still beggars on the streets of our towns, beggars of all ages and both sexes, young men and women, displaced persons, drug addicts, homeless teenagers, hungry ex-soldiers, all broken by life's experiences. We live in a country in what we call 'a welfare state' but find ourselves powerless to help our 'broken' brothers and sisters.

This Christmas, in the comfort of our warm homes, let's not forget the message that was brought into the world through the birth of a baby 2000 years ago. A message that tells us of a Father God who sent His son into this complicated, complex world into the poorest of circumstances with just one simple message. That we are to love one another, as He loves us.

He has given us the task of working out how that love can be given, by both rich and poor, in whatever way is appropriate, so that we can do something to alleviate the pain of the homeless and hungry, here and in many parts of the world. He said, 'Love one another'. Christmas is a special time for gift wrapping our love and giving it away.

*God's
Love*

May the incredible love of
Christ the Saviour
and the joy of His coming
bless you anew

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE WHITSTABLE TEAM MINISTRY

Please note - please check your notice sheets for full details of church services as not all services on each Sunday are listed here.



St John's Swalecliffe

Sunday 26th November 4pm Christingle service, St John's
Saturday 2nd December 5pm 6th Whitstable Carols, St John's
Wednesday 13th 7pm Chestfield Carols, St Joseph's
Sunday 17th 6.30pm Christmas Village Praise, W I Hall, Chestfield
Christmas Eve 10.30am Christmas Eve Holy Communion,
Church Centre

Then, all at St John's church, Crib services at 3pm and 4.30pm
on Christmas Eve followed by First Eucharist of Christmas at
11.30pm

Christmas Day 10.30am Family Holy Communion, St John's

St Peter's Whitstable

Sunday 17th December 10.45am Sung Eucharist
followed by 3.30pm Christingle service and nativity drama
Christmas Eve 10.45am Sung Eucharist, and then at
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 10am Sung Eucharist

St Alphege Seasalter

Sunday 17th December 10.30am The Nativity - retelling of the
Christmas Story
4pm Carols by Candlelight at the Old Church
Tuesday 19th December 6.30pm Carols in the car park with Whitstable
Brass followed by mince pies and spiced drinks
Christmas Eve 8.45am Holy Communion
10.30am Worship for everyone
4pm Crib Service
11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day 10am Holy Communion for everyone

All Saints' Whitstable

Saturday 16th December 4pm Christingle service
Wednesday 20th 7pm Carol Singing under the Yew Trees
with Whitstable Brass followed by mince pies and mulled wine/soft drinks
Christmas Eve Holy Communion at 8am and 10am
Crib Services at 3pm and 4.30pm
Then also, on Christmas Eve, Midnight Communion at 11.15pm
Christmas Day Holy Communion at 8am and 10am

St Alphege Whitstable

Saturday 16th December 4.30pm Christingle, St Andrew's
Sunday 17th 9.30am Christingle, St Alphege
Then, also on 17th, 4.30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols followed by
mulled Wine and mince pies
Christmas Eve 9.30am Communion followed by
4pm Crib Service and then later 11.30pm Midnight Communion
Christmas Day 8am Traditional Communion
10am Communion

*Please visit church websites or contact your local vicar or
churchwarden or church office for more activities and services
happening over the seasonal period and where information of times or
venues is missing.*

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