St Alphege, Seasalter

www.stalphegeseasalter.org.

Sunday 22 November 2026

Last Before Advent

8.45 am HC Service ,10.30 am All-age Service

Readings: Acts 2: 1–4 & vs. 14-21 & 40-41

Reminder! Next Sunday (29 November) is Community Sunday
One service here at 10 am



Advent Reflections - Sign up to receive

Frances Webster has very kindly been working on a wonderful series of daily scriptural reflections for Advent this year. With Paula Dean's editorial/tech support, these will be available to anyone who would like to receive them, sent out daily from the start of Advent. I think it's a huge blessing to have this resource as we go through this season of preparation before Christmas. If you can't access emails and need a paper version please let Paula Dean know at deaneves@msn.com. How to sign up: Contact Frances Webster at fewebster53@gmail.com

The Labyrinth at All Saints

There is much talk and challenging images of "Peoples Journeys". We are all on one, be it easy or difficult, unique to each person. The "Labyrinth" is an ancient universal symbolic path. A walk of meditation and contemplation connected to one's own experience in the here and now.

It is Advent, a special time and the start of a new exploration of our spiritual relationship with our loving God.

Do come and explore, experience walking the Labyrinth for yourself, at your own pace in your own time at All Saints Church on **Saturday December 12th** any time between **11 am and 3 pm.**

I invite you to come "To walk and pray for Peace" as we move closer to celebrating the birth of "The Child Christ, Prince of Peace" this Christmas.

Do drop in at any time.

Martin Garsed





Yay! and Pray

This week we are:

Celebrating: We give thanks for all our community connections – neighbours, SCC users, local businesses. We pray we might reflect the love of Christ well in all our interactions.

Praying for: those we know in our church community and beyond with long-term health issues at the moment, especially where it's taking time to diagnose or treat.

Pray with the DCC

We start our Church Council meetings with worship and reflection. Mike Barnett prepared these words to help us pray at our meeting on 17th, and I thought they are good prayers for all of us to be praying as a church and in our groups at the moment! Paulette

"Lord, Build Your Church Through Us"

Jesus said, "I will build my church."

Lord, as we meet to discuss plans, resources, challenges and opportunities, remind us that this is your church before it is ours. Give us wisdom, unity and courage to serve our communities well. Amen.

[Invite members to hold their hands open as a sign of offering and receiving.]

For our finances, funding and roof repairs.

For the resources we have, and the resources we still need.

Help us to be faithful stewards of all you have entrusted to us.

Lord, give us wisdom and trust

For safeguarding, for all children, young people and vulnerable adults in our care.

May every church be a place of safety, dignity and belonging.

Lord, help us to protect and nurture

For children, families and young people.

Thank you for the lives growing among us. Help us to listen, encourage and make room for them in the life of the Church.

Lord, help us to welcome and inspire

For growth in our congregations.

As numbers increase, save us from merely accommodating growth. Help us to deepen discipleship, extend welcome and build community.

Lord, help us to grow well together

For Eco Church work and plans for our garden area.

Teach us to care for your creation and to make our church spaces signs of hope, beauty and renewal.

Lord, help us to tend your world

For resilience in our churches and communities.

In a world facing climate change, insecurity, rising costs and uncertainty, make us people of faith, hope and practical love.

Lord, help us to serve with courage

God of abundance, protection, growth and renewal, take our discussions, decisions and disagreements, and use them for your kingdom. May our

churches become places where people find safety, belonging, purpose and the love of Christ. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

New Church Banner

Those of you who have been part of the church family at Seasalter for a number of years may remember adding your name to our 'Living Stones' banner that we occasionally have on display in the auditorium. This banner was made over 20 years ago. We thought it would be a good idea to have a second banner to go alongside this with the names of those in our church family now. Over the next few weeks there will be an opportunity on a Sunday morning for you to write your name on one of the 'stones' that will form part of the new banner. Special coloured fabric pens will be available for you do this and we invite you write your name only (nothing else please!) on one of the pieces of material that will be available.





Celebrating Evie's Progress

In April we met Steve and Lauren, who needed to use the space at SCC to help their daughter Evie to learn to use her walker. Evie-Grace is 3 and has Coffin-Siris syndrome, which affects her sight, hearing, muscle strength, and development. She can't walk or stand unaided, she is non-verbal and will eventually lose her sight.

Since those first steps we have shared their joy at seeing Evie's progress. The family have been a part of Open Door ever since and now bring Evie into the main auditorium on Thursday mornings as well as using the Oyster Bay Room and the Hub garden. Evie loves being outside, has an incredible turn of speed and when she sees an actual "open door" she heads right for it!

Steve, Lauren and Evie's sister, Scarlett, also bring Evie along to "All In", as you can see from these photographs.

Please pray for them as they care for Evie, and for Evie's ongoing progress.

Steve and Lauren would like to find a way for their family to visit Disneyland Paris while Evie can still see and experience it and so they can make some memories together. They have asked if we can share this with our church and the wider community.

If you'd like to donate, here's a link to their Go Fund Me page where you can find out more about the challenges and what they hope to do. **https://gofund.me/22f3ba838** Karen and Paulette

Overheads..

The roof of the Christian Centre is not in good condition. The last rainstorm we had a couple of weeks ago resulted in a large number of leaks in the auditorium, plus additional leaks in the kitchen and concourse. A full survey of the roof has established that it's due to a structural issue and that most of the roof will need re-doing in sections. This is going to be a significant task, and unfortunately, significantly expensive. On the plus side, we obtained a partial grant towards insulation of the building which will help keep our energy costs down. So expect to see some repair and building activity over the next few months in regard to these. Please speak to the Churchwardens if you'd like more information about this. We'll keep you posted.

Please Note

We livestream our 8.45 service and occasionally other services, uploading these to our church YouTube channel. The camera is focussed on the stage area (please be aware of this if you go up onto the stage during the service), and we don't film during the distribution of Holy Communion. Some backs of heads will appear in camera view. Please speak to a Church Warden when you arrive if you wish to avoid being in camera view.

Church Notices Please note that the deadline for the following Sunday is midnight on Tuesday. Paula. Email: paula.dean@stalphegeseasalter.org

THIS WEEK at St Alphege Seasalter.

We do our best to compile this so the info is in one place but we are a busy church – apologies if something is missed

All at SCC unless otherwise indicated

Mon 23	10 am Woodcarving Group 1.30 pm Forge Craft Group
Tues 24	9.30 am – 11.30 am Little Salties Toddler Group 4.30 – 6.30 pm Youth @ the Hub (school yrs 7-13)
Weds 25	8 am prayer on Zoom (ID 279 401 6881 Password V3pXbH) 2.30 pm Holy Communion Service at SCC
Thurs 26	10 am – 11.30 am Open Door Community Coffee Morning
Fri 27	10 am Advent Course 2 pm Social Games 6 pm Prayer Point at Rosemary's home (contact Paulette for details: 07305 611437) 6.30 pm – 8 pm Friday Night Club for Youth (school yrs 7-11) @ The Hub
Sun 29	8 am Prayer Meeting 10 am One Sunday service at SCC for Community Sunday - come ready to worship, stay and pray for our community or begin our community Christmas Card deliveries. All ages, cake and refreshments as we com back together again at the end. 11.15 am Old Church Traditional HC service

Safeguarding is the name for the way all of us help to keep each other safe and supported at St. Alphege Seasalter, especially those who might be particularly vulnerable to harm children and vulnerable adults. **If you see or experience something that worried you,** speak to Hilary Poulton our Safeguarding Coordinator

07375 535198, Paulette Stubbings our Vicar 07305 611437, Hannah Rogers our Youth Minister 07477 493874 or Mark Arnold our Church Warden 07545 775860. You can also contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team www.canteburydioces.org/safeguarding or the police if necessary

Prayer at the Heart

Please pray for:

Immediate needs 2 – 4 weeks

- Joyce Holland, following a fall; Joyce has had a hip replacement and is recovering in hospital.
- Andrew Crocombe, for good recovery following his operation.
- Wayne Burney, for good recovery following an operation on his arm.
- Lucy Stubbings, for healing and strength for upcoming surgery.
- Lisa Barnett and family on the loss of her dad Paul.
- Caroline (Wiles), please pray for her diagnosis, treatment and also for healing.
- Graeme and Janice (Allott).
- Val and Paul Browning's nephew, Jonathan, having treatment for cancer.
- The Burney family, that their house move would go through soon.

During November we will be praying for those living in Norview Road, Swallow Avenue and Linnet Avenue.

Long term needs – up to 3 months

- Katy Burney with ongoing health issues.
- Steve (Old Church member), for healing and strength as he recovers from cancer treatment and sepsis.
- Jo (Amanda's sister) that her stem cell transplant has been successful.
- Please pray for everyone in our church family living with long term illnesses or conditions including Brian (Evans), Dennis, Denise, Donald, Emma, Joan (Ann Shuttle's sister), Joyce Holland, Lenni, Katherine, Rosalind, Ruth Saleh, Stella (Masters).

If you would like someone to be added to the prayer needs, please contact Carol Judge 277752 or Lynda Kemp 272470.