

Services at St Margaret's Underriver during August 2009



Sunday	2 August	11:15	Family Service	
Sunday	9 August	08:00	Holy Communion (said)	BCP
		18:00	Evensong	BCP
Sunday	16 August	11:15	A Short Service for all God's Children	
Sunday	23 August	11:15	Parish Communion (with hymns)	CW
Sunday	30 August	11:15	Favourite Readings and Hymns	
Sunday	6 Sept	11:15	Family Service	

For details of joint services, bible study, prayer times, etc., please see Page 2

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AND VILLAGE CONTACTS

Priest in Charge - St Lawrence Church - Revd Dr Michael Cooke - 761766
Reader - St Lawrence Church - Mrs Gretel Wakeham - 761534

Be sure to make www.sealstlawrence.org.uk one of your favourite websites

Churchwardens	Hilary Denby-Jones	763883	St'oaks District Councillor	Cnclr Peter Coates	762129
	Celeste Davis-Watling	820190	Seal Parish Council		
PCC Hon Secretary	Richard Glencross	761202	Chairman	Robin Watson	833930
PCC Hon Treasurer	Tony Webb	xd	Vice-Chairman	Edward Oatley	465905
Electoral Roll	Clive McLintock	452964	Clerk	Lorna Talbot	763488
Covenant & Envelopes	John Morris	810227	Ward Councillors	Peter Granville	763832
Organist	Lizzie Veglio	01634 244700		Chris Sutton-Mattocks	762013
Choir Director	John Morris	810227	St Lawrence Village Association		
Bellringers Hon Secretary	Elspeth Cooke	761766	Chairman	Graham Moynes	760640
Sevenoaks Deanery Synod	Gretel Wakeham	761534	Secretary	Carol Smith	763561
	Hilary Denby-Jones	763883	St Lawrence Village Hall Management Committee		
Sunday School	Hilary Darque	453929	Chairman	Peter Granville	763832
	Elspeth Cooke	761766	Secretary	Peter Wharton	810388
Child Protection Rep	Carol McLintock	452964	Treasurer	Marie O'Connor	xd
deputy	Gretel Wakeham	761534	Bookings Secretary	Janice Brooker	760843
Church Flowers	Sheila Jackson	811422	Cricketer Club Contact	Graham Cook	761827
Memorial Flowers	Annie Scarsi	810864	Badm'ton Club Contact	Ian Lister	762416
St Lawrence CE Primary School			Bowls Club	Peter Granville	763832
Headteacher	Alison Saunders	761393	Tennis Club Contact	Gretel Wakeham	761534
Chairman of Governors	Sarah Hudson	810050	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators		
Clerk to the Governors	Sarah Brew	xd	Stone Street Contact	Janice Brooker	760843
St Lawrence Pre-School	Mandy McCracken	847990	Seal Chart Contact	Nicola Mitchell	764202
1 st St Lawrence Brownies	Janet Boswell	01959 523953			

St Lawrence, Seal Chart Parish Magazine August 2009



Priest in Charge
The Reverend Dr Michael Cooke
 St Lawrence Vicarage
 Stone Street
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0LQ
 01732 761766

Reader
Mrs Gretel Wakeham
 The White House
 Bitchet Green
 Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NA
 01732 761534

Church Wardens

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 01732 820190

Copy for the next issue should be sent to the editor (or e-mail to brian@bsutton0.wanadoo.co.uk)
to arrive by 08:00 on Wednesday 16 August 2009

The next issue of the Parish Magazine will be in Church on **Sunday 27 August 2009**

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Services at The Church of St Lawrence Seal Chart during August 2009



Sunday	2 August	Eighth Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) Ephesians 4: 1-16 John 6: 24-35 09:45 All Age Family Service (Children in Church) Ephesians 4: 1-16	BCP
Friday	7 August	Prayer Time for both parishes (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) 10:00 At Garden Cottage, Bitchet Green	
Sunday	9 August	Ninth Sunday after Trinity 09:45 Family Communion (with hymns) & Ministry of Healing and Wholeness Ephesians 4: 25 to 5: 2 John 6: 35, 41-51	CW
Sunday	16 August	Tenth Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) Ephesians 5: 15-20 John 6: 51-58 09:45 All Age Family Service (Children in Church) Proverbs 9: 1-6 John 6: 51-58	CW
Wednesday	19 August	Prayer Time for both parishes (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) 14:00 At The White House, Bitchet Green	
Sunday	23 August	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity 09:45 Morning Prayer Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18 Ephesians 6: 10-20	BCP
Sunday	30 August	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity 09:45 Favourite Readings and Hymns (see Page 5 for details of how to make your request)	
Thursday	3 Sept	Prayer Time for both parishes (Open to all - lasts about 60 mins) 10:00 At The Vicarage	
Sunday	6 Sept	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity 08:00 Holy Communion (said) James 2: 1-10, 14-17 Mark 7: 24-37 09:45 All Age Family Service (Children in Church) Mark 7: 24-37	BCP

BCP = Book of Common Prayer - a service using traditional (17th C) language and form;
CW = Common Worship - a service using contemporary (21st C) language and form

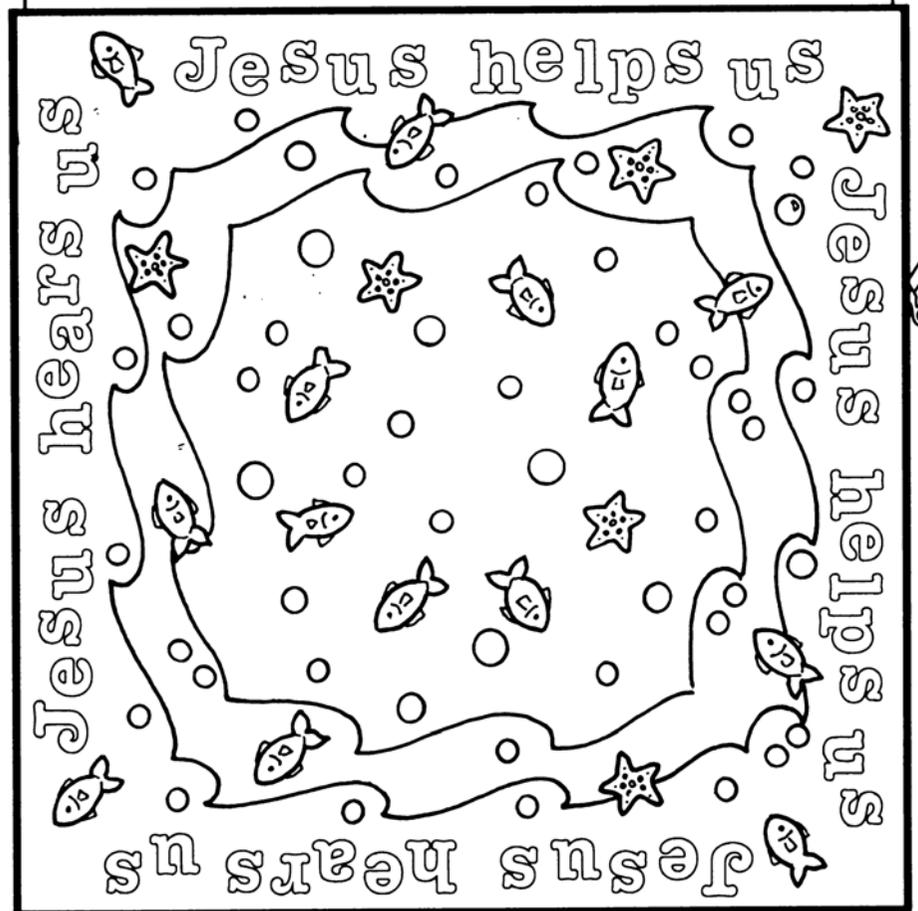
For the Children

Mouse Makes

The little boat was being tossed about in the storm. "Be still, be calm" said Jesus, and the wind and the waves obeyed him!
Read Mark 4:35-41

Cut out the square at the bottom of the page and follow these instructions to make your own little boat.

1. Fold in half.
2. Fold corners to bottom.
3. Fold up all sheets except the last, flip over, fold up last sheet.
4. Hold corners, push to flatten.
5. Turn.
6. Holding top points pull out into a boat.



Have you tried Britain's olive oil?

Do you get hay fever? Then those yellow fields of rapeseed that illuminate the English countryside each summer may seem a real nuisance. But if you like olive oil, here is some good news; you may at least enjoy the oil that comes from rapeseed.

Cold-pressed, rapeseed oil has a grassy 'green' taste. It contains Omegas 3, 6 and 9, essential fatty acids that reduce cholesterol, keep your heart healthy, your joints moving, and your brain functioning. Rapeseed oil is rich in vitamin E and high in mono-unsaturated fats. It has about half the saturated fat found in olive oil.

Rapeseed oil is one of the very few unblended oils that can be heated to deep-frying temperatures without spoiling its antioxidants, colour and flavour. It is also good for roasting and for use as a table condiment for dipping bread.

It costs about £3.99 for half a litre, and is the oil of choice in the House of Lords. It is not known if anyone in Parliament has yet claimed it on expenses...

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|  <p><b><i>Church Flowers</i></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr><td style="width: 150px;">Jill Beynon</td><td>Sunday 2 Aug</td></tr> <tr><td>Jill Beynon</td><td>Sunday 9 Aug</td></tr> <tr><td>Jill Beynon</td><td>Sunday 16 Aug</td></tr> <tr><td>Elsbeth Cooke</td><td>Sunday 23 Aug</td></tr> <tr><td>Elsbeth Cooke</td><td>Sunday 30 Aug</td></tr> <tr><td>Pat Edghill</td><td>Sunday 6 Sept</td></tr> </table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Jill Beynon          | Sunday 2 Aug                   | Jill Beynon      | Sunday 9 Aug                   | Jill Beynon | Sunday 16 Aug        | Elsbeth Cooke     | Sunday 23 Aug | Elsbeth Cooke    | Sunday 30 Aug | Pat Edghill | Sunday 6 Sept |  <p><b><i>Memorial Flowers</i></b></p> |
| Jill Beynon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Sunday 2 Aug         |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Jill Beynon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Sunday 9 Aug         |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Jill Beynon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Sunday 16 Aug        |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Elsbeth Cooke                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Sunday 23 Aug        |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Elsbeth Cooke                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Sunday 30 Aug        |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Pat Edghill                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Sunday 6 Sept        |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
|  <p><b><i>St Lawrence Sunday School</i></b></p>  <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr><td style="width: 100px;">Sun 10 Sept</td><td>PLANNING MEETING</td><td>At 21 St Edith's Road, Kemsing</td></tr> <tr><td>Sun 20 Sept</td><td>Parable of the Sower</td><td style="text-align: right;">Lesley and Hilary</td></tr> <tr><td>Sun 4 Oct</td><td>Harvest Festival</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our Sunday School meets in St Lawrence School at 09:45 on the dates shown</b><br/> <b>All children are welcome — Bring Mum or Dad as well!!!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>For further information, contact Hilary Darque (453929) or Elspeth Cooke (761766)</b></p> |                      | Sun 10 Sept                    | PLANNING MEETING | At 21 St Edith's Road, Kemsing | Sun 20 Sept | Parable of the Sower | Lesley and Hilary | Sun 4 Oct     | Harvest Festival |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
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| Sun 20 Sept                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Parable of the Sower | Lesley and Hilary              |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |
| Sun 4 Oct                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Harvest Festival     |                                |                  |                                |             |                      |                   |               |                  |               |             |               |                                                                                                                         |

***The Vicar's Page***

Where do you feel is your real home? We live in an area and in a society where greater numbers than ever before are privileged to have a full second home – though I would trust that any of our parishioners so endowed never engage in any of the dubious practices indulged in by many of our MPs and leaders of industry or local government: tax avoidance; claiming for non-existent second mortgages; house switching, .... Let's not go down that road, nor dwell on any other of the shenanigans which the media have been so fully reporting!

But for those who do have a real second home – or indeed a home away from home: what is it that draws us from one home to another, and makes the travel all worthwhile? Indeed, what determines which is one's true home? The place one spends most of one's time? The place where one feels most at home, where perhaps there is less stress and a return to that more orderly and secure pace of life which we long for but don't always find? For some children who live part of their time with Mum, part with Dad, part with grandparents, or part with Social Services knowing where true home is can be very confusing.

Recently I was speaking to a group of schoolchildren visiting our local school from an inner-London estate – and for some of these children seeing a solitary rider on horseback just strolling along the adjacent lane was a revelation – another world. Back home many of those children had never seen a horse – except on TV or DVD, and then perhaps being used by the police in crowd control. No doubt that day provided for many such children a vision of a new home in the future, full of new opportunities.

And what about the temporary second home that many of us enjoy at this time of the year? – the tent, caravan, gîte, hotel – or staying with good friends? How we can long for such a holiday break in a new location, with new food, smells and opportunities – and how good it is to be for a while in a different place. Sometimes, of course, when it's been too hot or the travel unbearably delayed, we return with fresh appreciation of our green and pleasant land – especially the part of Kent that is enjoyed in our parishes. Home, sweet home.

For some of us home is indeed where we want to stay – with fences and more to keep our castle-space as it has always been: familiar. By which I hope we would mean the best sense of that word where family – the widest family possible - is welcome and loved and shared.

The Bible – more strictly God – tells us that whatever we call home here is not to be treated as if it were our final home. Instead we are on a journey, like aliens restlessly longing for a new citizenship, a new country. There, home will be the equivalent of new mansions, rooms, even a new extended family. Home, it turns out, is where God is in glory. And all that is truly good in our present home, first, second or wherever, should be but preparation for the eternal homecoming.

With all blessings,

*Michael*

**Eco-Congregation**

Water saving tips for the garden.

You may ask if saving water is a ‘green issue’, well given all the water supplied by water companies is treated to high standards to conform to Drinking Water Inspectorate regulations, carbon emissions result from the energy-intensive treatment system. Predictions are for a hot dry summer, so here are some water-saving tips for the garden to help reduce water consumption.

Water the garden in the cool of the early morning or evening to reduce the amount of water evaporation Don’t over water, as plants and shrubs will not develop strong deep roots if they find water too easily, leave them until they show signs of wilting. Regularly weed and hoe to make sure the water helps the plants not the weeds.

Plant flowers and shrubs that thrive in hot dry conditions such as thyme, evening primrose, rock rose, Californian poppy, pinks, lavender and Budleia.

Collect rainwater in water butts; try [www.sew2u.com](http://www.sew2u.com) or [www.crocus.co.uk](http://www.crocus.co.uk) for a wider range. Bath, shower or laundry water can be used to water plants but only if it’s not too greasy or soapy. If you want to investigate a rainwater harvesting system go to [www.rainharvesting.co.uk](http://www.rainharvesting.co.uk)

Try to use a watering can instead of a hosepipe as we apparently use less when we water with them, or fit a trigger nozzle to the hosepipe to control the flow.

Mulches such as wood chips, bark and gravel help prevent water evaporation as well as suppressing weed growth.

Use a water-retaining gel for pots and hanging baskets. Lawns can survive long periods of dry weather if the grass is not cut too short, so try to maintain it at least 4cm in summer. Sprinklers use as much water in a hour as a family of 6 in a day. South East Water state on their website that houses using sprinklers must have a meter fitted. Happy gardening.

*The PCC*

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Wanted

A vacancy has arisen for a Treasurer to join the Village Hall Committee. The task is not complicated and requires only basic numeracy skills, occasional bank in payments and the even more occasional cheque drawing. Please consider joining our relaxed social Committee at the same time maintaining the running of the Hall. Please telephone Peter Granville (Chairman) on 01732 763832.

Peter

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There is sufficient in the world for everyone’s need but not sufficient for everyone’s greed. *Mahatma Ghandi*

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Ellen's ordination July 5th 2009

We may never have heard of St. James' Church, Grimsby, but for those of us who made the pilgrimage up from St. Lawrence's, it will remain in our memories! An impressive 13th century church, with cathedral like proportions, dominating the centre of the town. The sound of its 10 bells ringing out far and wide. The Bishop of Grimsby, Bishop David, ordained Ellen as deacon, along with three male colleagues. He spoke well of the need to reach out to our communities and to put our own comfort in church second to those who are not yet members.

Ellen's stole, so beautifully made for her by Ethelwyn Osborne, was greatly admired and stole the stole show! The Bishop even asked Ethelwyn if she took commissions! It was indeed a happy day and we went back to Ellen's new home in Scunthorpe for a celebratory lunch and a toast to her future. *Gretel*



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possible, we all came back slightly bronzed. One of the highlights of the week was our visit to St Lawrence Church - our sister church – where we were able to see for ourselves the plaque in memory of Mary Wilkinson and remind ourselves of the tragic story of her untimely death which and how this resulted in the building of our school.

On Friday we will have our Leavers’ Service when say goodbye to our oldest children. I am very proud of this year’s leavers, they are all growing into confident and well-rounded young people and I will miss them. We will celebrate the time they have had at St Lawrence but also look forward with excitement to the bigger things that they are moving on to next year. I always encourage them to grab every opportunity that is given to them and I have no doubt that they will.

*Alison*

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Blooming gone!

These are true stories: a woman went down to her local garden centre and bought 20 hardy fuschias. She spent an entire day carefully planting a fushia hedge across the front of her property. It looked great. Next morning she went down to make her breakfast tea and stared out the window in sheer disbelief: her brand new hedge was gone. Simply gone.

Another family spent two days laying a new lawn... on the morning of third day, it was gone.

Garden theft is on the increase. In the summer it soars by 63 per cent. Thieves these days help themselves to everything from your flowers, pots, shrubs, vegetables, turf, (and even lawns!) rockeries, tools, barbeques and furniture. They take olive trees, ornamental trees, huge garden ornaments, posh hoses, ride-on mowers, fish and flagstones. About the only thing they don’t bother with are the weeds and the water in your garden pond. Also, no one has yet reported any slugs stolen...

Now Daren Black, head of insurance at the financial comparison site Confused.com advises people to check their insurance policy very carefully indeed. “They vary very widely.” Churchill covers garden loss up to £250, while Lloyds TSB Options covers up to £2,000, but not the lawn. It always pays to check that the cover you have bought really does meet your needs.

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The head of a retreat house received a complaint about the bread that was served for supper. “People on retreat should not make a fuss about such trivial things,” he said. “St Benedict would have eaten it with delight.” “Yes, father, but it was fresh then.”

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Church Grounds

On Wednesday 1st July last (a very hot day!) a group from Tonbridge School came to join two “boys” at heart from the congregation to tidy up the Church grounds. There were 4 schoolboys and 1 teacher.

At about 9.30 a.m. we all set to with a variety of gardening implements to various jobs. Two boys cleared the long path (which some of you may not know exits) between the Vicarage and the Church.

Michael and Elspeth periodically use it. We edged the paths and some graves, cut back overgrowing shrubs from adjoining land and sprayed weed. We swept the steps down to the cellar of the Church (another unknown part perhaps) and when another “boy at heart” of the congregation/ bell ringer joined us later we swept down ALL the steps in the Church Tower. The latter steps are steep, narrow and difficult so we gave the task to one of the genuinely young boys.

The Tonbridge boys enjoyed the chance to see the Church bells and the view from the top of the tower.

Being so hot we had water breaks and a light lunch in the cool of the Church before finishing rather hot and tired at about 3p.m.

We are most grateful to Tonbridge School for their kindness in providing this help. The teacher in particular worked very hard equalling the efforts of the now leaner members of the congregation!

John L

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### ***Wanted ASAP! Your favourite readings and hymns***

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August** is a fifth Sunday in the month, and for which St Lawrence’s has no set format. The proposal is that we hold a service including readings and hymns chosen by yourselves! The Readings need not all be Biblical, so poetry, story, drama ... but they ought to be expressing some aspect of glory of thanks or reflection on God or his work in creation.

This is your opportunity to have some of your favourites included – don’t let it be said that “We never have my favourite ...” But you need to let me have your suggestions as soon as possible, and certainly **no later than Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August**. The only other request would be that you actually come on 30<sup>th</sup> to take part in what will be a specially crafted service in which your contribution matters even more than usual.

*Michael*

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Prayer Matters in our parish

Firstly, and perhaps most easily: **There’s a clipboard near the entrance of the church** where anyone can add a specific request for prayer in our Sunday services. Do also use this facility to ensure the person leading the service doesn’t

omit something you feel it is important the church should be praying about! Alternatively or in addition, do let Michael or Gretel know of specific requests you'd like them to be remembering in their separate daily prayers.

Secondly do remember that we hold a **special time of prayer** approximately once a fortnight in someone's home to pray together in more depth than is possible in a typical Sunday service. (The dates are included on page 2 of this magazine.) We'll spend some time just quietly thanking God for who he is, but we will also cover issues affecting the nation, individuals who have asked for prayers, and forthcoming events – including weddings, funerals and church services. Anybody is most welcome to join us – there is no obligation to say anything out loud. Lastly – and special to this month - on 9th August we hold our approximately quarterly **service with the ministry of healing and wholeness**, when in the context of a Communion service those who wish to receive individual prayer or the laying-on of hands can receive not only that but a more whole life too - God's work, of course. Here we look forward to welcoming back Revd Astrid Vaswani, Associate minister at Tonbridge Baptist Church, who will be our preacher and who will assist us in this special ministry of prayer.

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### ***Garden of Remembrance at St Lawrence's***

We are delighted to report that the Chancellor of the Diocese has received our representations favourably and has granted us a Faculty (i.e. permission) to provide at St Lawrence's a second Garden of Remembrance for those whose ashes are to be interred in the churchyard. (It is a second Garden because there is very little space left in the present one just outside the North wall of the church.) Most importantly, the Faculty is for what we requested – to be able to continue the present practice of individual memorial tablets.

Thank you so much to all those who contributed to the dossier of arguments which have persuaded the Chancellor to make the exception we requested; we are now considering the fine details of exactly where the Garden should be located, and how it should be differentiated from the rest of the graveyard.

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Prayer Points for this month

- **For all on holiday** – and for those who can't go away this year
- Those we know in our parishes whose **health is failing** – and all faced with issues of having to move from home.
- **Those who serve overseas** – and for their families back home praying for safety and a good homecoming.
- **Those preparing for marriage** later this month – including Nathan Pearce and Penny Taylor.

News from our School

As I write this we are coming to the end of an extraordinarily busy term. Over the past month we have had children participating in three Sevenoaks Festival concerts, our orchestra have performed in the Church Schools' Festival in Rochester Cathedral, we have had our own instrumental concert held in St Lawrence Church, a cricket tournament and a rugby tournament. However, the highlight was probably our summer show which was a performance of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. We are very grateful to the management of the STAG in Sevenoaks who allowed us to perform in the theatre - the evening was a real triumph! The large audience, made up of parents and friends, managed to create a great atmosphere and the children produced a performance which far exceeded expectations.



A couple of weeks ago the year 5 and 6 children returned happy and exhausted from the five day trip to the Isle of Wight. This is a biannual event which we arrange combined with Penshurst Primary School and as always, it was a great success. The hotel we stayed in was very comfortable and the proprietor commented on the outstanding behaviour of the children. The weather was lovely and although we tried to keep the children out of the midday sun as much as