

NEWS

The Parish of Rainham with Wennington
St Helen & St Giles with St Mary & St Peter

DATES FOR THE DIARY SERVICES & THEMES PRAYER KNIGHTS EVENTS

September 2016



Pastoral Letter

Revd Henry elaborates on a proposal for a Parish merger.

Pages 1 & 2

Soul Survivor 2016

Some feedback on our youth group's recent trip.

Page 3

Bulb Planting Day

Wennington Village clean up and spring bulb planting.

Page 5

Re-Envisioning Ministry

An invitation to prayerfully review your area of ministry.

Page 6

Rainham & Wennington: One Parish or Two?

A Pastoral Letter from Revd Henry Pradella.

THERE ARE MANY changes in the Church of England that are taking place at the moment. Statistically there are more clergy retiring than are coming forward for ordination, (though Chelmsford is bucking that trend). The implication of this will mean the church will increasingly be less able to place clergy in every parish. One way that our Diocese is addressing this issue is to promote and create more lay ministries coming to the forefront of leadership. In addition, the Church is creating more partnerships across parishes with the aim of sharing resources, support mechanisms and partnerships in mission and ministry.

The Archdeacon of Barking asked us to consider the possibility of combining Rainham with Wennington into one parish, so we become Rainham and Wennington Parish. This is not just for the PCCs to consider, but for both church communities, and will take time to evolve. It is about looking long-term. I will stress at this point that no decision

has been made and we are merely exploring such an option openly and prayerfully together. Be assured also, that such a merger would not in any way diminish the identity, make up or styles of worship in either parish. Each would retain their individual identity and continue to build on the vision that each is called to. In that respect nothing would change.

However, the idea of having a single parish would be to create greater strength, security and unity, and there would be practical options that come under consideration—one PCC with reps from both communities; one financial structure that embraces the needs of both churches and communities; more time for clergy and other





leaders to devote energies to mission and ministry rather than a duplication of administration meetings; greater support and encouragement across the board; greater ownership and partnership in mission and ministry together.

Nathan Whitehead, our Diocesan advisor on these matters, was invited to a joint PCC meeting last year to help explain the process and inform our discussions, should we wish to pursue this possibility and explore what this may mean. He went through the process which would be necessary before such a merger of parishes could be established. The Church of England has a legal structure and there would be many checks along the route to a merger.

There is no set timescale to this. Having met last year as joint PCCs to start the ball of discussion rolling, we decided to take it to the stage of inviting both congregations at Rainham and Wennington

to a joint meeting [date to be confirmed either for the Autumn or New Year] where together we can discuss this possible merger and explore any questions it might raise both for and against.

The scheme needs unanimous backing from both churches, but if necessary a majority of both PCCs and congregations would suffice. If there is then a desire from both parishes to pursue this further, then we will hold another joint PCC meeting to take the matter into the formal route with the Diocese. Nothing will be rushed and everyone will be part of the consultation and decision making process, whichever way we decide this should go. Once we have confirmed a date for meeting, I will issue more information to inform our discussion. Please pray for wisdom for our two parishes as we seek to discern the way forward under the Holy Spirit's guidance, remembering that we are His church.



Soul Survivor 2016

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE and leaders had a fantastic time at Soul Survivor 2016; the weather was amazing and we had a good journey getting there. We took 10 students who had lots of fun taking in the various things that were on offer, meeting other churches and getting to know other students. All the leaders hope that each of our students got something from it and have grown in their walk with Christ. We had the Big Top every morning and evening for worship

and teaching, there were lots of seminars on offer and other great evening events such as the Silent Disco, UV Party, sports, an outdoor cinema and late-night worship—as well as plenty of food trucks for sneaky evening treats! During the day there was the Colour Chaos dry paint party, a fun run and an absolutely amazing performance by the LIV Village South African Children's Choir. Overall it was a good experience for all who went.

Table Top Sale

There will be a Table Top Sale in aid of the Church Tower happening on Saturday 22nd October, 10am–2pm at St Helen's Church Hall. There will be a mix of stalls including the Rainham Horticultural Society, and plenty of cake and coffee. Please do come along and support.

Bishops Visiting RPC

We will be joined at RPC by Bishop Peter [Bishop of Barking] on Sunday 9th October at our morning service and by Bishop Stephen [Bishop of Chelmsford] on Sunday 15th January 2017 also at the morning Service. More details will follow nearer the time.

Welcome Invitation

HENRY & SHERYL would like to welcome you if you are new to the church or have been around a while and would like to discover more about the church; how to get involved, what's available etc...

All are welcome, including children. We really look forward to getting to know you more over a coffee/tea. The date for this invitation is Saturday 17th September from 10:30am to 12pm at 73 Lake Avenue. Please speak to either Henry or Sheryl to let them know if you are thinking of coming.

New RWPC Website Live!

It's been a long time coming, but our new website is finally here with new features and a new look.

THE NEW WEBSITE FOR Rainham and Wennington Parish Church is now up and running, with up-to-date information, and completely new look. On the website, going forward, you will be able to find our latest news and events, as well as download Newsletters, and listen to the latest teaching sermons. You will be able to find the most up-to-date information on many of our ministries and groups; The Ship,

Togetherness, Mothers' Union etc... New to the website is information on booking special occasions at RWPC, such as weddings and baptisms. Most importantly, the site will now be updated on a regular basis, something which wasn't possible with the old one. We encourage you all to have a look at the new site at www.rainhamparishchurch.org.uk

Splendour New Wine Women's Day



FOR WOMEN OF ALL AGES. The London gathering at Westminster Central Hall for 2016 will be on Saturday 8th October. The day will consist of worship, teaching, testimonies, and ministry based on Isaiah 61, we will consider how we are planting for display of God's splendour. Speakers are Christy Wimber, Debbie Wright and Hils Grew. Doors open at 9am and finish at 5:30pm. Tickets are £20 before 8th September and £25 thereafter. Sheryl's happy to book for anyone who wants to go, for friends, family etc... Depending on numbers there may be a possibility of a minibus.

Celebration of Lay Ministry

IN RECOGNITION OF our Parish becoming an accredited organisation for Youth Work, and Nick Pucenot becoming an accredited Youth Worker in the Diocese, there will be a Celebration of Lay Ministry Service on Saturday 8th October to which we are invited. The details and times are still to be confirmed.



The latest issue of The Month is available for you to take from the back of church.

It is also available to view or download as a PDF from the Diocese of Chelmsford website.

Rainham
foodbank

Please remember to buy an extra non-perishable item to put in the box at the back of church.

New Office Hours

A reminder that our Parish Office opening times have changed to Mondays & Wednesdays, 9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm.



The Ship is in urgent need of any new unwanted gifts for resale. If you have anything you would like to donate to The Ship that is in a new condition, please just pop by whenever you can. The Ship is open 10am–2:30pm Monday–Friday, and 10am–12pm Saturdays.



Open House London 2016

ON SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER Rainham Parish Church will once again be opening for visitors from 10am–1pm as part of Open City's Open House London 2016 showcase. Rainham Parish Church sits right at the very centre of our community, and being the oldest building in Havering, it is fantastic to be able welcome new visitors who've come for the history, and encourage them to stay for the fellowship!

Open House London is just one part of the work of Open-City, a charity set up over

20 years ago with a passion to open eyes and minds to the power of good design, and championing the value of well-designed places and spaces in making a livable and vibrant city, and the role everyone plays in it.

If you can spare any time from 10am–1pm to come to the church and support, it would be gratefully appreciated. Please see Valerie Hernes if you would like to help out.

Bulb Planting Day & Harvest Festival

WENNINGTON PARISH CHURCH and the WVA are working together to follow up the Clean for the Queen project with a further village clean up and Spring bulb planting morning on Saturday October 8th. This will be followed by a shared lunch in the church after which we will be decorating the church for the Harvest Festival service on Sunday 9th October.

All are welcome to join us for all or part of the day and donations to the church decorations

will be warmly appreciated. We want to celebrate the fullness of harvest in the produce of food and of our skills. Perhaps you would like to offer a floral arrangement, a poem, a painting or produce from your garden (or Tesco). There is no age or gift restriction—God gives us all in abundance, let us do likewise and truly celebrate His harvest. Contact Pauline Hills or Pat Sanders for full details.



Re-Envisioning Ministry

Revd Henry Pradella invites us to prayerfully review our areas of ministry.

AS THE BODY of Christ here at Rainham and Wennington, we will be exploring this month our areas of ministry. In both our teaching and our practical response, I am asking each of you to review and discern prayerfully what you are called to participate in as your ministry for the coming year. This is something

we have not done for a while and is overdue. We will all be starting with a blank ministries list and everyone has the equal opportunity of laying down, continuing or starting new ways of serving this church and this community.

How will this be done?

- There will be a number of lists on the notice boards in both churches, with various areas of ministry.
- We will shortly be sending out descriptions of what each area of ministry involves and there will be a hard copy of these pinned to the notice boards.
- After prayerful consideration, please add your name to whichever area(s) you want to serve in.
- There will be space to add other ministries/initiatives not mentioned that you may want to consider offering.
- This list will be up for the next two months (September & October) giving you plenty of time to explore and evaluate your input.
- Once the lists are completed we will then use these as the basis of our rotas and areas of serving.
- Training will be provided where necessary.

Three further things you need to be aware of:

- Until these new lists are compiled and activated (date TBC but hopefully November), we will remain with our current lists and rotas.
- If your name is not added to the new lists, we will assume you wish to step down from the area you are currently serving in.
- Key areas of ministry and leadership roles require you to be part of a Small Group. There are existing groups you can join, but we will also be launching three new ones this year.

If you have any questions concerning your ministry and want to speak to someone about it, please contact Henry.

/07.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>1</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>2</div>	<div>3</div>
<div>Sunday Services</div> <div>See Page</div> <div>4</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>Genesis</div> <div>3pm The Ship</div> <div>5</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>9:30am WPC</div> <div>6</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>10:30am RPC</div> <div>Mothers' Union</div> <div>2pm St Helen's Hall</div> <div>7</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>8</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>9</div>	<div>10</div>
<div>Sunday Services</div> <div>See Page</div> <div>11</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>Genesis</div> <div>3pm The Ship</div> <div>Prayer Knight</div> <div>7–9pm WPC</div> <div>12</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>9:30am WPC</div> <div>Togetherness</div> <div>12pm St Helen's Hall</div> <div>13</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>BCP Holy Communion</div> <div>10am RPC</div> <div>14</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>Rainham PCC Meeting</div> <div>6:45pm RPC</div> <div>15</div>	<div>Prayer Time</div> <div>9:30am The Ship</div> <div>16</div>	<div>Open House London</div> <div>10am–1pm RPC</div> <div>Welcome Invitation</div> <div>10:30am 73 Lake Ave</div> <div>17</div>

<p>Sunday Services See Page</p> <p>18</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Genesis 3pm The Ship</p> <p>Deanery Synod 7pm</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC</p> <p>20</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10:30am RPC</p> <p>21</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>22</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>23</p>	<p>MacMillan Coffee Morning 10:30am St Helen's Hall</p> <p>24</p>
<p>Sunday Services See Page</p> <p>25</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Genesis 3pm The Ship</p> <p>Wennington PCC Meeting 7pm WPC</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10:30am RPC</p> <p>28</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Regional Training Day 9:30am Woodford Wells</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Street Pastors Open Evening 7pm St Michael's Church Gidea Park</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>Sunday Services See Next Issue</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Genesis 3pm The Ship</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC</p> <p>4</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10:30am RPC</p> <p>Mothers' Union 2pm St Helen's Hall</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>6</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Splendour Day 9am Westminster Central Hall</p> <p>Bulb Planting Morning Wennington Village</p> <p>Celebration of Lay Ministry Service 1pm Chelmsford Cathedral</p>
<p>Sunday Services See Next Issue</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>Genesis 3pm The Ship</p> <p>Prayer Knight 7–9pm RPC</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC</p> <p>Togetherness 12pm St Helen's Hall</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC</p> <p>BCP Holy Communion</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship</p> <p>14</p>	<p>15</p>



Prayer Knights

Our upcoming evenings of corporate, sensory prayer.

This month's Prayer Knight is on Monday 12th September, 7–9pm at WPC.

This is again a sensory evening of prayer with zones for both worshipping communities. Please come for all or a part of the evening.

Our next Prayer Knights will be Mondays 10th October & 7th November 7–9pm at RPC.

Lord, Teach Me to Pray

I cannot pray **'Our'**, if my faith has no room for others and their needs.

I cannot pray **'Father'**, if I do not demonstrate this relationship to God in my daily living.

I cannot pray **'Who art in heaven'**, if all my interests and pursuits are in earthly things.

I cannot pray **'hallowed be Thy name'**, if I am not striving, with God's help, to be holy.

I cannot pray **'Thy kingdom come'**, if I am unwilling to accept God's rule in my life.

I cannot pray **'Thy will be done'**, if I am unwilling or resentful of having it in my life.

I cannot pray **'on earth as it is in heaven'**, unless I am truly ready to give myself to God's service, here and now.

I cannot pray **'give us this day our daily bread'**, without expending honest effort for it, or if I would withhold from my neighbour the bread I receive.

I cannot pray **'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'**, if I continue to harbour a grudge against anyone.

I cannot pray **'lead us not into temptation'**, if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot pray **'deliver us from evil'**, if I am not prepared to fight evil with my life and prayer.

I cannot pray **'Thine is the kingdom'**, if I am unwilling to obey the King.

I cannot pray **'Thine is the power and the glory'**, if I am seeking power for myself and my own glory first.

I cannot pray **'forever and ever'**, if I am anxious about each day's affairs.

I cannot pray **'Amen'**, unless I honestly say, 'Cost what it may, this is my prayer.'

Anon.

[from 'Creative Ideas for Evening Prayer' by Jan Brind and Tessa Wilkinson—Canterbury Press]



Welcome to the Family!

CLAIRE BROWN WAS baptised at WPC on Sunday 28th August—she was supported by her husband Rob, son Zachary and friend Brigit. It was a momentous day for both Claire, as she starts her new life on Christ's path; and for WPC, as Claire is our first adult Wennington resident to be baptised at St Mary & St Peter for many years.

Claire is the chairperson of the Wennington Village Association and works together with our church family to encourage a caring community.

Services and Themes for September

Sunday 4th

Called from the Place of Worship

1 Samuel 13:1–15 & John 4:19–24

10:00am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC Family Service

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 11th

What I am is What I Give

1 Corinthians 12:1–11 & Matthew 25:14–30

10:00am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC Holy Communion

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 18th

The Blessing of a Giving Heart

2 Corinthians 9:6–15 & Luke 18:18–30

10:00am WPC Holy Communion

10:30am RPC Family Service

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 25th

What's Mine is Yours

Romans 12:9–21 & Acts 4:32–37; 5:12–16

10:00am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC All Age Service

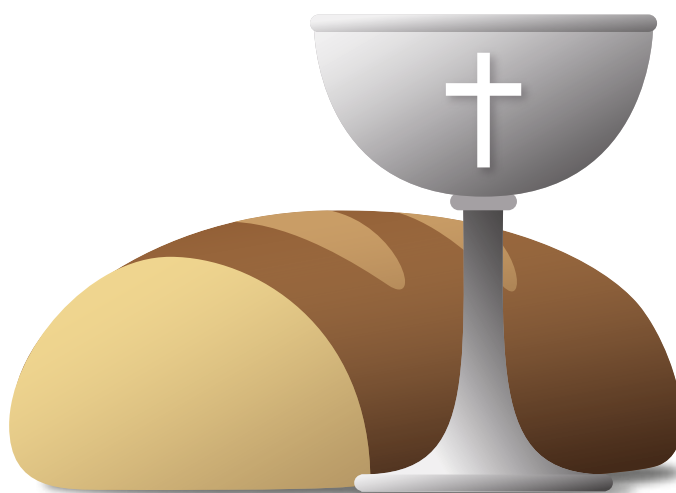
6:30pm RPC Holy Communion

Re-Envisioning Ministry

WE SAW LAST MONTH that we work from a place of abiding and rest. Ministry is what we are released into, because ministry is the outworking of vision. Vision is seeing what is ahead and bringing it into the present. It has been a while since we reviewed our ministries and all we have to offer, and as we continue to move forward, it is timely to be re-envisioned or reminded of our calling. This is what we are expecting this month.

You are here as part of this body because you are all called to be here, which in turn means what you have to offer is precious and invaluable. No one else can accomplish what God has called you to accomplish, however big or small. The ministry of the church is dependent on the ministry of each member. Our teaching here reflects this and provides a springboard for us to evaluate afresh the vital roles we each serve one another in, and offer this community.

Use this month's teaching to spend time with God and allow Him to show you what He wants to release you into and release into you.



September Birthdays

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

12th September
Pauline Hills

16th September
Everet Bailey

23rd September
Belinda Pavitt

And to all those who have not yet divulged their birthdays to us. Wishing you all of God's blessings for a special day.

If you would like a birthday mentioned in the Newsletter, please contact the Parish Office no later than the 3rd week of the month.

Family Matters

News from across our church family.

Thanks!

To all those who contributed to the collection for Rianna and Raeburn after their mother Lisa's funeral. Together we raised £568.

Family

If you would like to have a significant anniversary or event mentioned in the newsletter, please contact the Parish Office no later than the 3rd week of the month.

Epray

If there is anything that you would like the church family to pray for, please send your prayer request by email to the Parish Office.

If you don't have access to emails, feel free to call and leave a message so our Administrator can then email your prayer request to the church family.

For those at WPC without emails, remember to check the noticeboard at the back of church each week for updates. At RPC, check the prayer book.

We aim to include your prayer requests in at least one of the services on Sunday,

In order to develop our system further, can we ask that those with prayer requests also keep us up to date with any further information or developments. That way, your church family can be better equipped to know how to pray.

- Ongoing prayer for St John's, South Hornchurch during their interregnum.
- Claire Brown, recently baptised at WPC as she grows in her faith.
- Stephen & Katrina getting married at RPC on 3rd.

Prayer Points

News

Small Groups

RPC Small Groups:
Weeks Beginning the 4th & 18th September.

WPC Small Groups:
1st & 3rd week of every month.

HAVERING STREET PASTORS

OPEN EVENING



September 30th

Venue

St Michael's Church

**Main Road
Gidea Park
Romford
RM2 5EL**

**Good parking facilities &
transport connexions**

19:00 – 19:30

Networking & Refreshments

19:30 - 19:40

Welcome & Introductions

19:40 – 20:10

Street Pastors Presentation

20:10 - 20:20

Discussion

20:20 - 20:40

Deeper Lounge Presentation

20:40 - 20:50

Rev David Hague "Plug-in"

20:50 – 21:10

Q & A

Good News. Great Joy.



What goes into the box...



This year we will again be supporting the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal at Rainham and Wennington. Please consider contributing to this very worthwhile appeal. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in

Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child.

Sheryl Pradella will be contact at Rainham, and Marion Whitmarsh will be contact at Wennington. Please see them for more information.

WRITE YOUR LOCAL INFORMATION HERE

What comes out is... Eternal!



Every shoebox gift you pack helps Samaritan's Purse to reach children worldwide with the good news of God's love and the true meaning of Christmas.

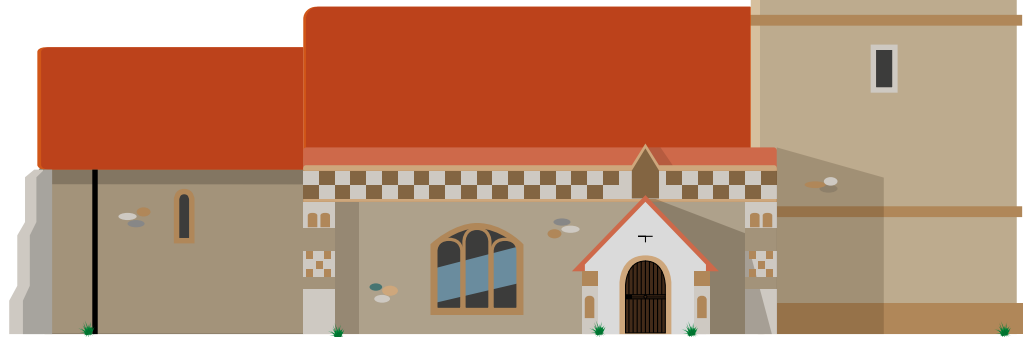
Learn how to pack a shoebox gift!

Visit www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk and learn how to bless a child overseas through a gift-filled shoebox, given in Jesus' Name.

Putting the Community in Touch with Jesus.



*Sharing
God's
Love in
Wennington.*



Staff Contact Times

Henry & Sheryl

Every day except Tuesdays

Nick

Every day except Saturdays

Alan

Office hours only

Shirley

At The Ship Centre only

David & Jan

Fridays & Sundays only

Kingsley & Sophia

Every day except Thursdays [see
Parish Office for contact details]

Please respect the worship times of
the staff, particularly Sundays.

Parish Office:

St Helens Hall,
St Helens Court,
Rainham,
RM13 9YU

Opening Hours:

Mondays & Wednesdays
9am–12pm & 1pm–4pm

Contact Us:

office@rainhamparishchurch.org.uk
01708 552752
www.rainhamparishchurch.org.uk

Vicar

Revd Henry Pradella

Associate Minister

Revd David Stainer

Curate

Revd Kingsley Yeboah

Youth Pastor

Nick Pucenot

Church Wardens:

Arthur Carter & Shirley Phillips [RPC]
Pat Sanders & Pauline Hills [WPC]