

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 2018



End of an Era

We say farewell to
Revd Henry & Sheryl as
they enter retirement.

Pages 1 & 11

Welcome!

St John's welcomes
Revd Kevin Browning
as their new vicar.

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Tithing for Mission

Outlining our new
direction for tithing
as a Church body.

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Open House

Rainham Church opens
for visitors as part of
Open House London.

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Farewell from Henry & Sheryl



IT'S TIME FOR US to say farewell, after spending twelve and a half precious years journeying with you. It has been a privilege to have experienced sharing together in fellowship and ministering in the wider community. What we have experienced together will always be. You shall forever be part of our story and we part of yours. We are so very pleased that the Lord brought us here but now it's time to go and although we know it's the Lord's timing, parting is never easy.

When we look back, what stands out most is how God's hand has been upon this community in so many wonderful ways. There are so many things to praise and thank Him for, both within the church family (Rainham and Wennington) and the wider community. Ministering to individuals and seeing lives transformed, engaging in and building relationships in our schools, amongst our police and other agencies, participating in our fayres, Ship Centre and Foodbank, birthing and developing new initiatives, releasing people into their gifting, growing One Church, corporate prayer meetings and prayer ministry...the list goes on. But in all of that, it has been such a joy seeing His church grow and working alongside so many of you.

Change and movement are never easy for any of us, but they are part of our discipleship and walk with Jesus. We follow a God who is always on the move and it's only when we look back and see how far we have come together, that we realise what an amazing God we are in relationship with. Those first disciples experienced the same mixed emotions when Jesus told them He was leaving and returning to His Father. But look what they went on to accomplish. You have often heard us say that this is His Church and He has done and will continue to do wonderful things here in this community and in this Church family. Our prayer is that you don't take your eyes off Him and continue to press in with anticipation and expectation.

The Bicycle Prophecy

Whilst meeting and praying with our Church Wardens, the Lord gave us a prophetic picture concerning our two Parishes:

A little girl in a frock was on a bike learning to ride. Her father was holding the seat she was on and running alongside as she precariously rode with handlebars wobbling and her swaying on the seat trying to keep her balance. There came a day when her father let go of the seat and said, 'Peddle. Don't stop peddling and you won't fall off. Keep peddling!' And she kept on riding with confidence.

The little girl is the church here. The bike is the Holy Spirit, taking His church into the future. The pedals are the prayer power that generates that movement and takes the church forward. 'Don't stop peddling' is His word for the church; i.e. 'don't stop praying'. It is your prayer power that will release you into all that God is directing you into. Keep peddling and you won't fall off.

Within days of Henry sharing this word with both churches I stumbled upon this clock. I had previously brought another clock for our new kitchen but it didn't feel right! We will obviously often look at the 'Bicycle Clock' and it will not only remind us of this prophetic word but also of all of you. When we glance at the time will we ask the Lord how/who he wants us to pray for at Rainham and Wennington. Hope you agree, that it was quite a find! With Our Love and Prayers,



Henry & Sheryl

Wennington Summer Party

ON SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST the Wennington Village Association (WVA) held their summer fete on the Green, Wennington Village.

The Mayor of Havering Dilip Patel attended and thanked villagers for the invite and commented on the “wonderful village atmosphere”. During proceedings he accepted a petition from Wennington Village resident Janet Hickey as part of the budget consultation on the future of the Chafford Sports Complex/swimming pool.


Janet said the council needed to keep the complex open in the interests of the health and wellbeing of all residents.

This time round the weather was fantastic and allowed residents and visitors to make the most of this celebration of community spirit. As always the church had

been very helpful in making this happen. The team at Rainham Hall helped children to create a wildflower meadow for next year and the Fire Brigade helped water it in.

A lovely day in Wennington with barbecue, cake stall, bouncy castle, tin can alley, drawing corner, seedbomb making and wildflower planting!

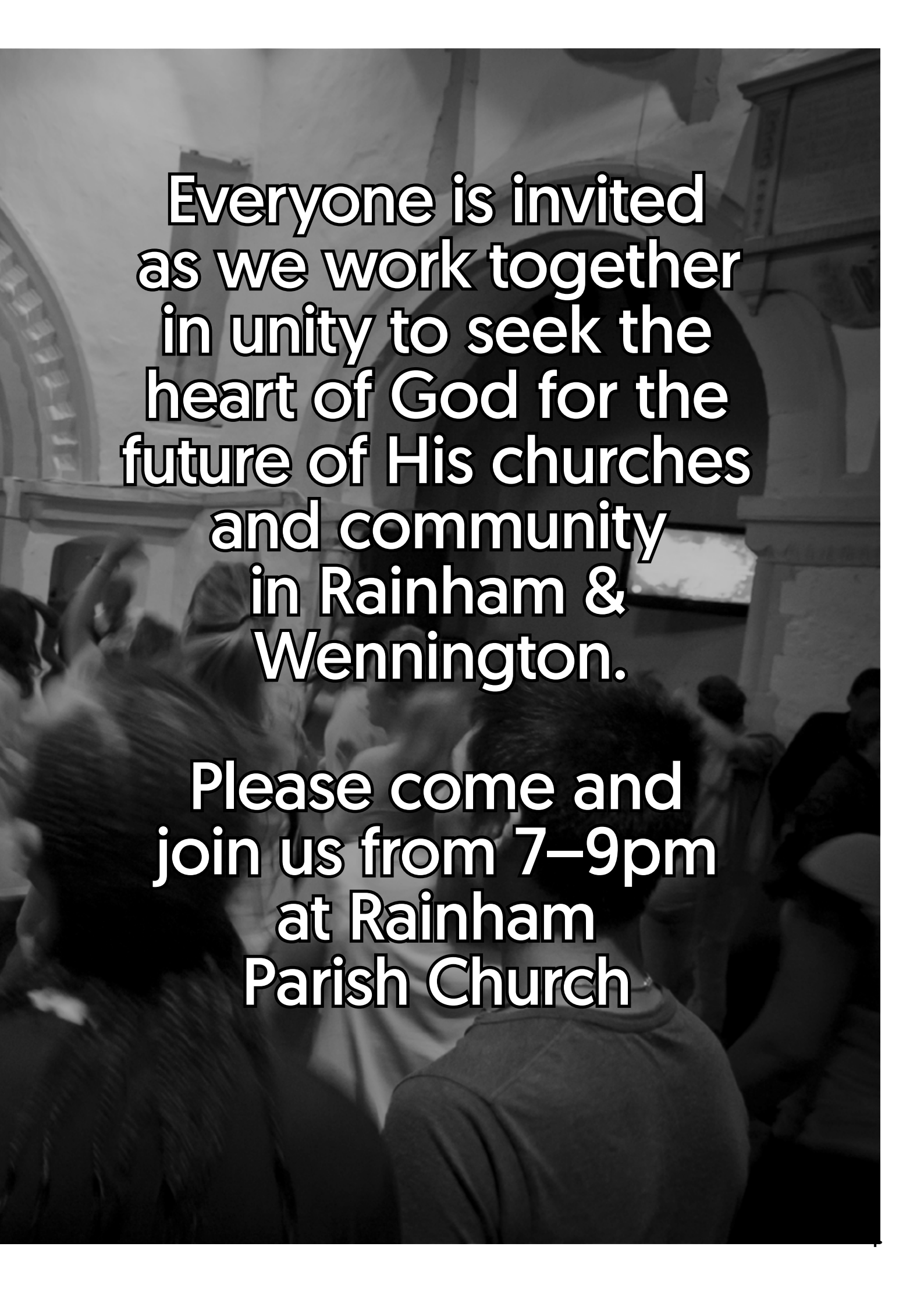




Lord
Lead us in the ways of Your love
To lead a broken world to Your cross
Lead us in the ways of Your love
Fusion TV

A Night of Prayer & Praise

**Prayer Knight
Monday 24th September**



**Everyone is invited
as we work together
in unity to seek the
heart of God for the
future of His churches
and community
in Rainham &
Wennington.**

**Please come and
join us from 7–9pm
at Rainham
Parish Church**



COFFEE MORNING TABLE-TOP SALE

Saturday 15th September, 10am-1pm
Join us for...



Christmas Cards

(including early offer half price charity cards)

Small Gifts

FairTrade

Tea & Coffee

Breakfast



Or just come for a chat!



1-3 Upminster Road South
Rainham
RM13 9YS

Welcome to Revd Kevin Browning

Jan Stainer gives us some feedback on Revd Kevin's installation as vicar of St John's, South Hornchurch.

ON 18TH JULY WE were privileged to be at a service to welcome Kevin and Annette Browning to St John & St Matthew South Hornchurch as we attend the Institution, Induction and Installation of Kevin as the new vicar. Due to some legal hiccoughs in the CofE systems, Kevin had waited several months for this to happen. We were pleased to be there along with many others; members of St Luke's & Moor Lane, where Kevin had been previously, friends and family, many from Wennington, Rainham and Elm Park; and, of course, members of St John's.

The service was led by Bishop Peter, the Bishop of Barking, and Revd David Hague, Havering Area Dean. During the service there were several acts of symbolism, many of which go back a long way. Kevin declared his commitment to the people of the parish and we committed to supporting and encouraging him. Kevin was presented with water as a sign of bringing new Christians to baptism; oil as a sign of working towards reconciliation and healing; a Bible as a sign of proclaiming the Word and exploring; a copy of Common Worship as a symbol of being a man of prayer; bread and wine as a sign of celebrating the Lord's death and resurrection. Kevin also had to swear oaths to the Church and the Queen, the head of the Church of England. During another part of the service Kevin is taken to the door and given the keys as a sign of being given

the possession of the parish then taken to his seat at the front as a sign of his installation as Vicar. The dismissal was also proclaimed at the main door, which had been opened wide as a symbol of declaring our beliefs to all who are in the parish. All if this is common to all services where someone is becoming vicar of a parish.

Several members of the local clergy, a local councillor and people from the church were invited to say a few words of welcome to Kevin and Annette. As we offered prayers for them during the service, we pledged to continue to do so as they minister in South Hornchurch. We were also led in musical worship by the Gospel Choir from St Luke's in Cranham. Bishop Peter spoke to us from Jeremiah 29—"I know the plans I have for you... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Kevin also spoke about God leading him here and his passion for geese. He even had a large metal sculpture of a goose in flight all constructed of cutlery!

The church was packed and we were made very welcome, including tea and coffee with a feast of cakes afterwards. We look forward to all that Kevin and Annette bring to the church and our Mission and Ministry Unit and are eager to see all that God will do amongst us as we work together for the Kingdom.

David & Jan Stainer



Dates for the Diary September/October

107.

Please make note of any diary entries that apply to you, and inform hosts if you're unable to attend.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Services See Page 12	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC Mothers' Union 2pm St Helen's Hall	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sunday Services See Page 12	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Togetherness 12pm St Helen's Hall	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC BCP Holy Communion	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship Ship Coffee Morning 10am The Ship
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Sunday Services See Page 12 16	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 17	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC 18	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC 19	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 20	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 21	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 22
Sunday Services See Page 12 23	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship Prayer Knight 7–9pm RPC 24	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC 25	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC 26	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 27	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 28	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship MacMillan Coffee Morning 10am–1pm St Helen's Hall 29
Joint Family Service 10:30am RPC Bring & Share Lunch for Henry & Sheryl 1pm St Helen's Hall 30	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 1	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC 2	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 10am RPC Mothers' Union 2pm St Helen's Hall 3	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 4	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 5	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 6
Sunday Services See Next Issue 7	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 8	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 9:30am WPC Togetherness 12pm St Helen's Hall 9	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship BCP Holy Communion 10am RPC 10	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 11	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 12	Prayer Time 9:30am The Ship 13

Tithing for Mission

WHAT COMES TO your mind with the phrase 'Giving to Mission'? We can often think of sending aid abroad through various charity organisations via local churches or aid agencies. Certainly, we have given our tithing in past years to such organisations and charities. But you will be increasingly aware that there are growing social needs in our own nation and even on our own doorstep here in Rainham and the surrounding areas, with rising homelessness, evictions of families with children, increase in alcohol and drug addiction, people struggling with mental health issues, loneliness and many unable to make ends meet. We don't need to look far at the consequences of such issues and dilemmas upon individuals and communities, with low self-esteems, lack of worth and value, depression and stress, a sense of hopelessness, suicidal tendencies particularly amongst young people, rising intolerance, crime and violence... the repercussions go on.

Primarily, mission is about God intervening and bringing His reconciling love into our broken lives, messed up through the ravages of sin. He is a God of mission and calls us to work alongside Him, empowered by His Holy Spirit to break the chains of oppression and set people free through

the power of the cross and the sacrifice He made in Jesus Christ. That is what we are primarily called to in this community; to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through the outworking of His love in and through us in reconciliation. As a result, our PCCs at Rainham and Wennington have agreed to use our tithing this year to help resource the areas of mission in our own community amidst the growing needs around us. We are targeting four areas; namely, Rainham Foodbank which has widened its ministry to include advice and support as well as food, Hope 4 Havering night shelter for the homeless, the Ship Centre Outreach and Rainham Community Youth Work in our schools and colleges. Each of these areas has seen a growth in its sphere of influence and extension of needs. You can read a fuller account on their work in RPCs recent APCM report. But each of these areas of mission are seeing God opening new avenues of contact and building relationships as they minister to those with needs. Please pray for the work that they do and the doors that are being open to them, not just in providing much needed social support but also spiritual direction and witnessing to the love of God through Jesus, where we are seeing lives changed as a result.

Alpha Course

ST JOHN & ST MATTHEW CHURCH, South Hornchurch are beginning an Alpha course at the church on 20th September 2018, if anyone is interested in attending, or known to you who might wish to attend, please contact the St John's Church Office directly.

The Alpha course is split into 12 weekday evening sessions and the course will begin on Thursday 20th September. The sessions

will run from 6:30pm until 10pm and there will be a weekend session on Saturday 3rd November to be held at an offsite venue.

Alpha is an excellent course for those who are exploring Christianity for the first time and those who are new to the faith. Supported by grounded teaching as well as plenty of space for questions and discussion.

GOOD NEWS. GREAT JOY.

Pack an OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD shoebox and equip local churches around the world to help children discover, follow and share Jesus.



THIS YEAR WE will again be supporting the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal and Rainham & Wennington. Leaflets and Shoeboxes are available now from church, The Ship Centre and the Parish Office. Please fill a shoebox with suggested items from the leaflet. PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO ITEMS NOT TO BE INCLUDED. There will be the now usual large box in church to put in, and take from. Please pass any financial contributions to the team and also please note that the carriage per box is now £5. The team members at RPC are Sarah Edwards,

Janet Lill, Glenn Phillips, Margaret Hall and Betty Braakenburg.

Last year we collected over 100 boxes; with ever-increasing needs in our world, what can we increase that number to this year? The boxes are normally collected mid-November. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out is eternal. Be part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child.

Bring & Share Lunch Transforming Presence

YOU ARE INVITED to celebrate and share your good wishes with Henry & Sheryl at the end of our service on Sunday 30th September where tea & cake will be served, or later at 1pm for a 1:30pm start in St Helen's Hall with a Bring & Share Lunch. If you can contribute or help in any way, please see Shirley.

YOU WILL FIND white square cards, booklets and prayer cards in Church. Please take whatever is appropriate to you. These are all tools to help us become His transforming presence to this community.



Open House London 2018

The world's biggest architecture festival.

ON SATURDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, Rainham Parish Church will once again be opening for visitors from 10am–5pm as part of Open City's Open House London 2018 showcase. Rainham Parish Church of St Helen & St Giles sits right at the very centre of our community in Rainham, and being the oldest building in Havering, it is fantastic to be able to welcome new visitors who have 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–5pm to come to the church and support, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see Valerie Hernes if you would like to help out.

Rainham
foodbank

Please note that donations placed into the FoodBank box at the back of church also go towards feeding the hungry of Rainham out of The Ship.



Continues to need any new unwanted small gifts for resale. Please keep the new unwanted gifts coming, they do make a difference!

Services and Themes for September

Sunday 2nd

Life Giving Water

John 7:37–52 & Ezekiel 47:1–12

10:00am WPC Holy Communion

10:30am RPC Family Service

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 9th

Waters of Adversity

Psalms 1:1–4 & Jeremiah 2:1–13

10:00am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC Holy Communion

6:30pm RPC Evening Prayer

Sunday 16th

Water into Wine

John 2:1–11 & 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

10:00am WPC Holy Communion

10:30am RPC Family Service

6pm RPC Confirmation Service

Sunday 23rd

By Still Waters

Psalms 23 & Matthew 11:25–30

10am WPC Morning Prayer

10:30am RPC All Age Service

6:30pm RPC Holy Communion

Sunday 30th

Crossing the Waters

Exodus 14:13–31 & Mark 4:35–41

10:30am RPC Joint Family Service

Waters of Life

WATER IS A RICH theme throughout the Bible. We use water as a sign of purity in baptism and it symbolises the spiritual cleansing that comes with the acceptance of God's offer of salvation in Jesus. In Ephesians 5:26, Paul mentions water in connection with "cleansing of the Church" where it is associated directly with God's word. Jesus identifies the "streams of living water" that flow from within those who receive the Holy Spirit (John 7) and it also symbolises troublesome times in life—conversely there is nothing so calming as to walk alongside water to revive the soul.

Twice in Jeremiah, Yahweh is metaphorically identified as "the spring of living water" but in both instances Israel is rebuked for having forsaken the Lord; Isaiah also speaks of God's judgement in terms of water that will "overflow our hiding places" (Isaiah 28:17).

In the gospel of John, there are a number of references to water: His first miracle involved water, and in John 4, part of Jesus' discourse with the Samaritan woman at the well, He speaks metaphorically of His salvation as "living water" and as a "spring of water welling up to eternal life". In the previous chapter, speaking to Nicodemus, Jesus' reference to "water" and "spirit" are often understood as natural birth by water, and supernatural birth by the Spirit. This month we will look at some of the references to "water" in Scripture and see how they relate to our lives.

A Thought from Wennington

Insomnia Cure

If you can't sleep, try counting your blessings.

September Birthdays

Pauline Hills
Everet Bailey
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.

Just to make you aware, due to the new Data Protection rules, we are no longer permitted to display people's birth dates in this public Newsletter.

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!

Thank you to all who helped and all who came to Neil's Small Group Coffee & Cake Morning in Neil & Maxine's garden. We raised £400 which will go towards the Tower Fund and the work in The Ship.

Bereavements &

Eprays Epraise

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

Alternatively feel free to call and leave a message so we 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,

Please keep us up to date with any further developments regarding your prayer request. That way, your church family can be better equipped to know how to pray.

- Please pray for all those being Confirmed on Sunday 16th September:
 - Brian McDonald
 - Shaun Alexander
 - Wendy Cookey
 - Irene Kist
 - Scott Taylor
 - Shay Osanyintolu
 - Israel Osanyintolu
 - Michael Staggs
 - Moriam Dawodu
 - Danielle Batley
 - Ryan Clapham
 - Christer Mulwanda
 - Ivwananji Mulwanda
 - Wiza Mulwanda
 - Aminat Belo-Osagie

- For the FoodBank premises.
- For God's appointment and envisioning of our next incumbent, and wisdom for those making decisions over that appointment.

Prayer Points

Family News

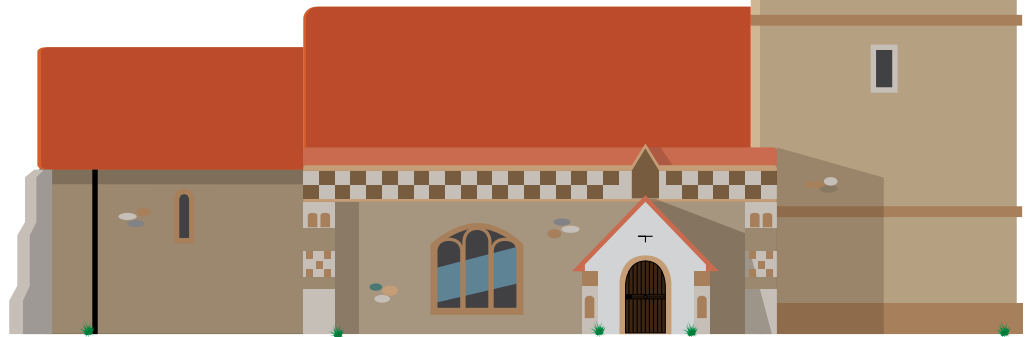
Small Groups

Weeks Commencing
2nd & 16th September

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 (but our Administrator is also contactable via email on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the same hours.)

Shirley

At The Ship Centre only

David & Jan

Sundays only

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–5pm
Closed for lunch 12-1pm

Contact Us:

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

Vicar

Revd Henry Pradella

Associate Minister

Revd David Stainer

Youth Minister

Nick Pucenot

Church Wardens:

Shirley Phillips & Stephanie Bare [RPC]
Pat Sanders & Tim Stock [WPC]