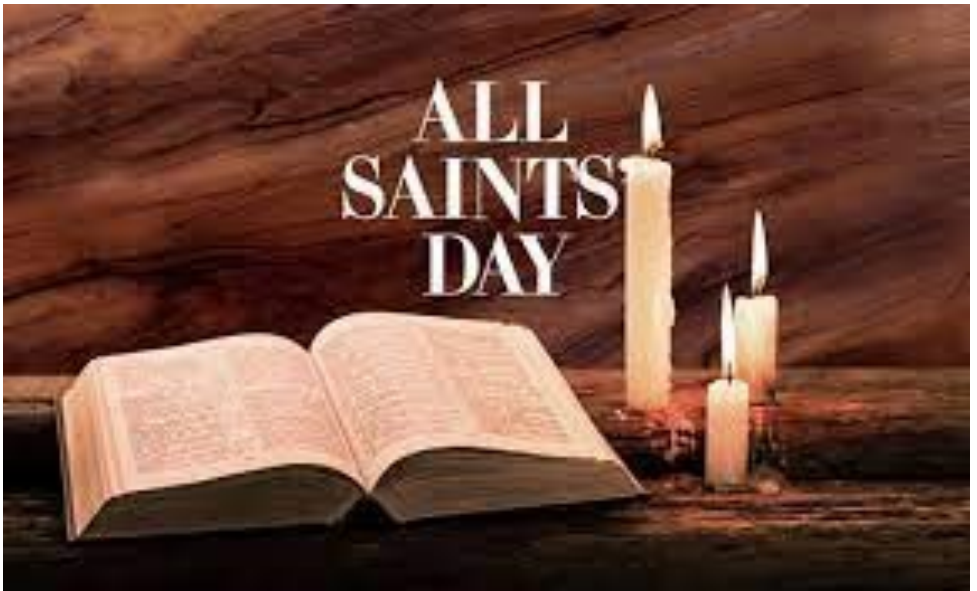


All the latest news for our communities for November 2022



be, belong, encounter, grow

Keep up to date on our websites:

www.ststephens-colchester.org.uk

www.stmargaretscolchester.org.uk

Regular Weekly Services and Meetings

**St Stephen's—Sunday mornings at 11:00 am
together with our Wednesday morning Holy Communion or
Morning Prayer services at 10:30 am.**

2nd and 4th Sundays from 9:30—10:00 am (before Sunday Service) a time of Christian meditation

Messy Church on the first Sunday of the month, on the second Sunday of the month we have Morning Worship, including Holy Communion and Kids Club. The third Sunday we have Café Church in the morning including Breakfast Club and a short service of Holy Communion at 6 pm. On the fourth Sunday of the month we meet for All Age Communion (with activities for the children).

**St Margaret's—Sunday mornings at 9:30 am
and Morning Prayer on Wednesdays at 9:30 am**

1st Sunday of the month is All Aged Worship, 2nd and 4th Holy Communion and Morning Prayer on the 3rd.

5th Sunday of the month (if there is one) joint worship at either St Stephen's or St Margaret's—see notices for further details

**Three Together; St Stephen's, Wimpole Road and St Margaret's
Worship & Meetings**

Weekly Sunday Evening On Line Worship on Facebook at 6:30 pm. This will stream into our Facebook pages. You are able to join us live at the time or take part at an alternative time that better suits you.



Weekly Prayer Meeting at 10:00 on Tuesday via Zoom

[Click here](#) to access Zoom on the internet or Meeting ID: 195 594 506 & Passcode: 011904

Bible Study at 7:30 pm on Thursday via Zoom

[Click here](#) to access Zoom on the internet or Meeting ID: 780 700 295 & Passcode: 011904

You can also access Zoom Meetings via the telephone; please contact Andrew Tople for further information.

Pause for thought Rev Lorraine

Rather than write this month I thought I would share with you two reflections. One a reflection from Sacred Space about how God can speak to us in the wilderness and quiet. The Second is a poem raising the question about how we decide to live our 'one wild and precious life'?

If the Spirit is to take over in our prayer, we need to be in something like a wilderness, where nothing much is happening. In Hosea 2.14 God says of his people Israel: "I will now persuade her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her."

It is good to draw back from the noise and chatter that imprisons you on the surface of yourself, to create those wilderness conditions that heighten your sensitivity to God's word. You will be allured by God's attractiveness, and God will speak to your heart.

The promise of God in Hosea is played out in chapter 3 of Exodus, the story of Moses. Moses has led his flock 'beyond the wilderness, and come to Horeb, the mountain of God' (Ex 3.1). He has slowed down and is quiet. He is ideally placed now for God to catch his attention. Next, Moses notices a steadily blazing bush and is fascinated. Here God is captivating Moses. God then calls him by name: "Moses, Moses!" This intimate meeting touches Moses to the depths. God is speaking to his heart.

God is active in your prayer, too. Your wilderness is a graced place. Be still and let the things of God touch your heart. Invite God to whisper your name, to light a little flame in your heart, and to tell you how he loves you.

From 'Sacred Space, The Prayer Book 2015' by the Irish Jesuits. www.sacredspace.ie

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear?

Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean –

the one who has flung herself out of the grass,

the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,

who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down,

who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down

Cont....

into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?

Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

The Summer Day, Mary Oliver

from 'New and Selected Poems, 1992, Beacon Press, Boston MA



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

Learn more about:

How our Church is funded?

What does our Parish Share pay for?

Who decides how much each parish is asked to contribute?

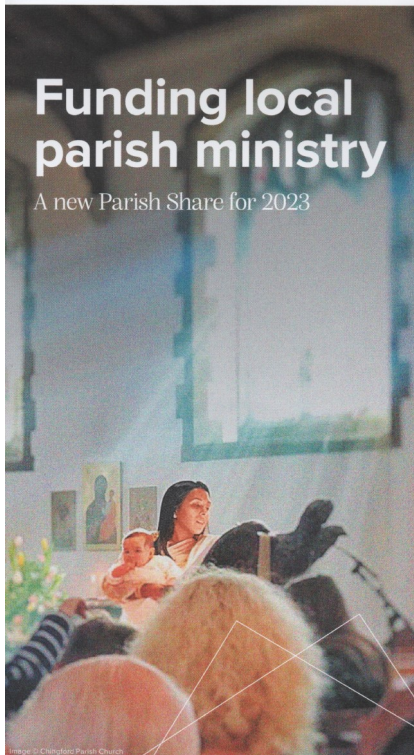
How do Churches raise the money the need?

How can I help?

Pick up a leaflet to get answers to these questions from the back of the Church and also from the foyer.

For more information you can always talk to Rev Lorraine or Chris Poole our Treasurer.

We can also now accept donations via our new contactless card machine.



Letter from the Churchwardens

Dear all,

In October, we heard that we have been given a Silver EcoChurch award. That is great news and reflects efforts by a lot of people in the congregation. Well done everyone. The plaque to join the Bronze award may take a little time to come but it is on its way.

We are particularly strong in some of the five facets of action to achieve the award. Those contributing to worship including our ministry team have helped us to remember the importance of God's creation in our prayers, liturgy and in preaching. We have been building and strengthening links with other community organisations who care about Creation.

An area in which we could perhaps do more is in challenging each other to examine what EcoChurch calls "Lifestyle". Do we do all we can in the way we act in our day to day lives to reduce our carbon footprints? How if at all do we act to nurture and protect God's creation? Do we use the freedoms we have to press for action on a larger scale in our locality and nationally? How do we show our care for people whose livelihoods, homes and very lives are in danger because of our society's patterns of consumption? We know that our individual efforts can only achieve so much and that larger forces are at work. But every step we can take will help.

Just a reminder: Protecting and nurturing God's Creation is the fifth mark of mission in the Church of England. It is not an optional extra but something that all of us need to be part of. So let's take another look at what each of us can do. Our personal circumstances may be very different. Some of us can contribute more than others. So here are some suggestions for a review of lifestyle:

1. Carry out a carbon footprint audit. Decide on one thing that you can do to reduce your carbon footprint Here is a link to the WWF calculator. <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

Instead of asking you to provide exact numbers for your energy usage, annual mileage, and the like — which most of us don't have on hand — it asks you simple multiple choice questions.

It's also one of the most comprehensive. It includes the four main categories of household consumption and asks a number of questions about each.

The WWF calculator is intended for UK residents, with data coming from the Office for National Statistics. On the results page it even compares your estimated footprint to the [Government's 2020 target](#).

2. Write to your MP Will Quince about the latest issues that come up about the environment.

At the time of going to press it is about the forthcoming COP 27 conference in Egypt and the recent UN report that says that we will be unlikely to reach the target of

Cont....

limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degree C with huge consequences for us all but especially the world's poor. Will the Government redouble its efforts to act on drastically reducing fossil fuel use and creating green jobs?

3. Do something to nurture God's Creation. Enjoy it, love it and praise Him for it.

On another topic, the **PCC's next meeting is on 20 November**. If you have something that you want to raise talk to a member of the PCC or Lorraine or the churchwardens. We have recently said farewell to Ruth and Saulo Barros who have gone to minister in West Ham. Ruth's place on the PCC is vacant. Do you think you may be called to join us to become part of the team whose job it is to keep St Stephen's moving forward in faith? If so, talk to the churchwardens or Lorraine. On 20 November one thing on the agenda will be reviewing the first two Cafe Church services (the one featuring Kevin Durrant talking about Jonah and the recent one themed on the movie "Up"). How do you think they went?

God Bless,

John Clifton

for Martin Kerins and John Clifton , Churchwardens

Youthy is Back!

Re-opening on Thursday 10 November

6:30—8:00 pm for ages 10—13

8:00—9:00 pm for ages 13—17

Simply come along and have a great time

**For further information or if you would like to volunteer to help
email or message Sarah at**

sarah.daniels@ymcachelmsford.org.uk or 07508 151 225

Ask for ANI Codeword scheme

HM Government

SAFE SPACES

IF YOU NEED
IMMEDIATE HELP
**ASK
FOR
ANI**

OR

OUR CONSULTATION
ROOM IS OPEN
**IF YOU
NEED A
SAFE
SPACE**

**IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE
WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.**
Ask to use the Safe Space or ask for ANI at the healthcare counter.

Ask for ANI (Action Needed Immediately) is a codeword scheme that enables victims of domestic abuse to discreetly ask for immediate help in participating pharmacies.

Although the ANI code word was established to be used in pharmacies and chemists, it was used with us today.

If someone approaches any of our foodbanks, or yourselves personally using this code word we need to be able to help if safe to do so. Protocol would be, if safe to do so for the person using ANI and yourselves, to get them to a safe area out of eyeshot. Ring 999 immediately and report it as a emergency with the code word ANI to Police.

It takes a lot for any person male or female to reach out and ask for help, the lady this morning was in her 60's and very scared. She reached out because she felt "safe" with us to do so. This not only highlights this doesn't just happen to "young people" but also the older generation too, a generation you may not think it could/would happen to, but it also gives credit to all of us at the foodbanks, that we make people feel they can speak with us and safe to do so.

If you have any concerns for anyone you know, anyone that comes into the foodbanks needing help, and they don't feel comfortable with the police being called yet, you can contact these agencies that will come out and speak to them.

Next chapter : <https://www.thenextchapter.org.uk/>

01206 500585

Essex Compass :

<https://www.essexcompass.org.uk/>

0330 333 7444

Worship Song Suggestions

You may have spotted the box at the back of Church asking for suggestions for worship songs. Thank you to everybody who has already made suggestions. We would like more ideas and suggestions, so if you have songs that you would like the worship teams to consider using please don't hold back! Pop your suggestions in the box which will remain in Church for the next few weeks.



Fixed Access Data Point

This can be found in the Foyer and is for all to us to use to access key sites on the internet . Thank you to the Digital Access Support Team at Colchester Borough Council for providing this.





Bridgeway Mission

October 2022

I want to tell you about Bridgeway Mission, partly so you will know about this important little Christian organisation, and partly because we are looking for help from you.

Bridgeway is a charity and it is run by a husband-and-wife team, Raied Ajaj and Souzan Yousif, who are Iraqi Christians, and who want to share the love of Jesus with Eastern and Middle Eastern refugees in this part of England. Raied and Souzan have been in the UK for 14 years, have three daughters, and their mission is to help these refugees to settle happily and integrate into their local communities. They do this mainly in practical ways, through the provision of practical help (food and clothing) and through the emotional support they can offer because they understand the culture and some of the languages of the refugees' home countries. Those refugees who are also Christians are blessed by being able to read the bible and pray with Raied and Souzan.

You will know that earlier this month (October) some families arrived at Marks Tey Hotel, placed there by the Home Office. They add to those who have arrived since Bridgeway started its work, being both families living in Colchester having fled countries and situations in Iraq, Iran, and Syria, and other temporary residents whose status is being decided.

Bridgeway has been supported mightily by Castle Methodist Church for over 3 years now, and Raied and Souzan worship there.

Bridgeway had a sudden "growth spurt" in the summer of this year when it acquired the use of a small shop in Priory Walk. There, the front part is a charity shop, fundraising to help support the work with the refugees. In the other spaces craft sessions for children are being held fortnightly, and ladies' sewing sessions will begin soon, as will "cultural cooking", an opportunity for women to gather socially and share the food of their cultures.

Here is how you might help; Bridgeway is looking for:

- Items to sell in the shop,
- Winter clothing in good condition, for men, women and children,
- Stationary and electronic devices (sewing machines, table cooker with an oven, slow cooker, food processor, juicer, blender, smart TV, and PlayStation), and

Cont...

- Volunteers. We request volunteers through the local churches because we are a Christian organisation and we trust and value Christians to work with us and our refugee families.

Volunteers are needed to help with the children's craft session (one hour on some Saturday mornings from 11 am to 12 pm; to come and "Stitch, Knit and Natter". Or just sit and natter. The idea is to help the refugee women to be amongst English women, hear English spoken, and learn a little. The sessions will start Monday 7th November from 11 am to 12:30 pm and we will be continuing every Monday.

Computer skills and English communication skills.

If you are interested to help occasionally, or regularly, please get in touch.

Sue Wood: a trustee of the organisation and you can ring or email me:

01206 212100; woodsinmarkstey@outlook.com.

Or Souzan Yousif: 07787925227 / bridgewaymission@yahoo.com

An exciting opportunity has arisen, to join the team at Essex Integration the Migrant & Refugee project of DNA Networks as a Befriender & Volunteer Co-Ordinator.

DNA Networks is a Christian charity supported by the Diocese of Chelmsford

For more details [click here](#) or on the link below or if you don't have on-line access speak to Andrew in the office for a hand copy of this vacancy.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1swnuf8sdTL-DkYCft80nCeZDSzLycvjI/view?usp=sharing>

Transport to St Stephen's Church

If you'd like to come to Church, but you are struggling and a lift would help, please speak to Belinda and she will see if she can start up a lift rota.

If you could help with proving lifts to people, please also speak to Belinda.





**Remembrance
& Thanksgiving Concert**

**Fauré
Howells
Handel
Brahms
Chilcott**

**Cantique de Jean Racine
(extracts from) Requiem
(extracts from) Messiah
(extract from) Requiem
A Little Jazz Mass**

Film Music

**Wood Fantasia on British Sea Songs
Last Night of the Proms with Audience Participation**

with

Boxted Methodist Silver Band

Conductors

John Chillingworth

Victoria Steinitz

**St Botolph's Church, Colchester,
Saturday 12th November 2022 at 7.30pm**

Tickets £15.00 (£8.00 under 18/full-time students)

From: Box Office 01206 543280 / Mann's Music

Also available online: www.lexdenchoral.org / or at the door

Sponsored by



Come as you are

Inclusive, open, heartfelt worship
with Holy Communion & a shared
meal.

Next Meetings:

Sunday 13th November | 7pm

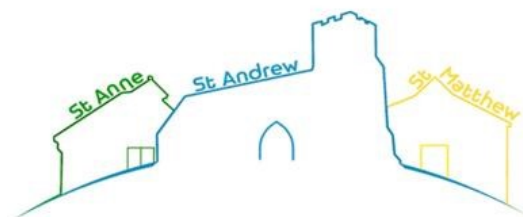
Sunday 11th December | 7pm

Sunday 8th January | 7pm

**St. Anne's Church, Compton Road
Colchester, CO4 0BQ**

andyanneandmatt.org.uk

opentable.lgbt





FAIRTRADE



Thank you so much for your
support during October.

Every purchase, however small, makes such a difference when added
to other small purchases.

Together we really do help the farmers and producers.

We will have 2 stalls next month.

After the services on 20th and 27th November.

There will be

CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDARS

Meaningful Chocolate Company including The Story of the Nativity

£4.50

Divine chocolate milk or dark **£5.50**

CHRISTMAS CARDS Various prices

ADVENT CANDLES Both white and red **£3.20**

Beryl and Alison

Carol Singing Friday 16th December 2022

Please can you save this date and join us in carol singing around our local roads, bringing some Christmas joy to our community.

Last year we were also invited to the Odd One Out pub and had some lovely soup afterwards.

We collected for Beacon house and nearly raised £200 for this great cause.

No experience necessary just some warm gloves. We normally meet around 6pm.

I will confirm all details next month but at this stage if you can save the date and join me that would be brilliant.

Many thanks

Chris Liddamore



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT'S GOING ON AT CHURCH AND AROUND THE LOCAL AREA

**Watch our Facebook pages for all sorts
of information about what is going
and as well as the "Events" page on
our web site.**



PASSIVHAUS OPEN DAYS

#iPHopendays



CANNOCK MILL COHOUSING FRI 11 & SUN 13 NOVEMBER



Invitation to Cannock Mill Open Days: 11 and 13 November

Sara and Linda who have been worshipping with us want to invite members of the congregation to visit the community of which they are a part.

Cannock Mill Cohousing (Old Heath Rd, Colchester CO2 8AA) is a community living in a building featuring very low energy use. It is a "PassiveHaus".

Would you like to learn more about how Passivhaus buildings work? Then why not book to visit Cannock Mill on 11 or 13 November as part of the International Passive House Open Days organised by the Passivhaus Trust. For details about their open days see bit.ly/CMOpen and to book email: events@cannockmillcohousing.co.uk

#iPHopendays

St. Margaret's Church

Monthly on a Sunday Afternoon Concerts.

We would love to have more people come and enjoy the music performed by professional people.

The last four concerts for this year are:

November 13th Jamyma Hanson, a new young talent

December 11th Brett Wales

Admission £10 including refreshments



Bishop Guli's Presidential Address to the Chelmsford Diocesan Synod.

Can I encourage you can watch a video of the address below, or a [transcript can be read here](#). (if you don't have on line access to this, please speak to Andrew in the office and he can provide you a printed copy).

Diocesan Synod
22 October 2022

Presidential Address
The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis

The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

Over 60's Lunch Club at St Stephen's on 14 November 2022

from midday for 12:30 lunch

If you are interested in coming along please give Jill a ring on 01206 572 605. Booking is essential for catering purposes.

Two courses will be served with tea or coffee to follow for a charge of £5.

Dietary needs can be catered for if known in advance.

Many thanks from **The Lunch Club Team**



PRAYER FOR ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES

Please pray for the people living in the following roads across out two parishes:



Week 1. From 30 Oct to 6 Nov. Winsley Road, Beehive Court, Worsnop House, New Town Road, Littlefield Road, Elmwood Ave and Lordswood Road .

Week 2. From 7 to 13 Nov Cannon Street, Rebow Street, Victoria Place, Launceston Close and Canberra Close.

Week 3. From 14 to 20 Nov. Belmont Place, Scarlets Road, Recreation Road Parkland Court, Smith's Field, Hitherwood Road, Breachfield Road and Eight Acre Lane

Week 4. From 21 to 27 Nov. Brookside Close, Bourn Road, Dudley Close, Bourn Court, Rose Allen Avenue, John Hammond Close and John Mace Road

Anybody who wants to Prayer Walk these roads please do.



coffee with cops



Your chance to get to know your Local Community Policing Team over a coffee. Ask questions, voice concerns – tell us how we can help you.

Location:

St Stephens Church, Canterbury Road, Colchester, CO2 7RY

Date / Time:

Wednesday 9th November 2022 12pm - 1pm



It's YOUR Newsletter

Please don't forget, if you have stories or items that they would like to contribute to future Newsletters please contact me at: office@ststephens-colch eser.org.uk .

Andrew Topple



Rainbow Tots

WEDNESDAYS

@St Stephens Church Centre

1.15pm start

£1.50 per child (+50p per sibling)

**Snack Time for Tots
Coffee & Tea for Adults**

**Fun Play Sessions with Rhyme
Time Included**




St Stephen's
CHURCH CENTRE

be
belong
encounter
grow



Little Lambs

parent and pre-school group



Last session
this term -
18th July.

Starting
again 5th
September

Mondays in term time 9.30-11am

Everyone welcome

£1.50 per family

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. Isaiah 40 v.11



Contact:
Carolyn
07748795926



Baby & Toddler Group

Coffee morning

**Mondays 9 – 11 am
(term time)**

**Toys, singing,
fun and refreshments**



Contact us at: wimpoleroadmc@gmail.com /
Facebook message / 07847 846292

A free **Community Café**
in conjunction with
Colchester Foodbank
at
St Margaret's Church Hall

Stansted Road, Colchester, CO2 8RA
Every Friday from 11:00am to 1:00pm

The café will offer free refreshments and everyone is welcome. We will also have different community groups and charities from week to week providing support and care to the local community. So come along for a chat and a cuppa.

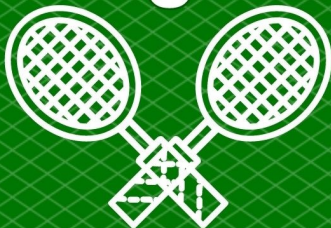
Every Friday

the following partners will be available this week



 mind Mid and North East Essex

 **St Stephen's**
Church Centre



ST STEPHEN'S BADMINTON CLUB FOR ADULTS

MEETING IN THE HALL ON
THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE
MONTH

7:30 - 9:30 pm

Contact Information

St Stephen's Church Centre, Canterbury Road, Colchester CO2 7RY

Rector: Rev Lorraine Badger-Watts

Curate: Rev Dan Cant

Administrator: Andrew Topple

The Church Office is open on:

Tuesday 12 noon - 3 pm

Wednesday 12 noon - 3 pm

Thursday 9 am - 12 noon

Tel: 01206 869091

Email: office@ststephens-colchester.org.uk

Website: www.ststephens-colchester.org.uk

Facebook: [St Stephen's Church Members -Colchester](#)

Church Wardens: John Clifton and Martin Kerins

For Centre bookings contact: Andrew Topple in the Church Office

For **urgent** prayer requests (Prayer Tree) contact Andrew in the office or Rev Lorraine

The November newsletter should be available by Sunday 25 November. Please send any items to Andrew for inclusion as early as possible, and no later than

Monday 21 November to:

office@ststephens-colchester.org.uk