



# Lent 2026

## at St Clement's, Sandwich

What is prayer?

What do Christians believe?

Why did Jesus die?

Why is there suffering?

Ask these and other questions  
at our special discussion groups,  
open to all (no faith necessary)



Programme of study & discussion groups,  
special services, and lunches: now in church  
or online at [www.stclementsandwich.org.uk](http://www.stclementsandwich.org.uk)

Make 2026 a year to consider faith.



## From The Rector

**The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important moment in the history of creation, truly revealing to us how close God is.** Nothing can separate us from the love of God. But we choose, through sin, to look away and to overlook him at work in our lives and world.

Lent is a season in which we look into ourselves, asking God to help us amend our ways, to turn more fully towards him, and to prepare ourselves to witness the events of Holy Week. The more fully we engage with Lent, the more glorious our Easter celebrations will be. Each one of us individually, and all of us as a community as well.

If you are reading this as a member of the congregation at St Clement's, do commit this year to entering into the mystery and spirit of Lent. If you are reading this from elsewhere, and especially if you are asking questions about life, death, faith, love... Lent is a perfect time to delve into the Church and see what it's all about.

Alongside all the special events and services listed in this booklet, we continue to worship every Sunday at 8:00am (quiet, said Holy Communion c30 minutes) and 10:30am (sung Parish Eucharist c75 minutes), Wednesdays at 10:00am (Holy Communion c30 minutes), Fridays at 9:45am (Morning Prayer, 15 minutes), and other times as announced.

With every blessing for the keeping of a holy Lent,

*Fr S. J. M. Hamilton*

**The Reverend Sebastian J. M. Hamilton**  
Rector of Sandwich and Worth



## Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 18th February

10:00am Holy Communion

7:30pm Sung Eucharist

*The imposition of ashes will take place at both of these services*

**The beginning of Lent,** an excellent season in which to consider who we are, whether there are parts of our lives we may wish to change, and to contemplate the meaning of Easter.



## From the desert to Evensong: A History of Morning and Evening Prayer

Sunday 22nd March,  
Noon



**Grab a coffee after the 10:30am service** and attend this presentation

**Morning and Evening Prayer are ancient ways of offering the day to God,** and of praying in company or in private. Over the centuries they have taken many forms, in this 30 minute presentation the Rector will talk through some of this history, with suggestions of how these services could be used by any of us today.

# Exploring Christianity Discussion Groups

A chance to learn more about Christianity, with presentations and discussions on the following topics. All are welcome, including any from the surrounding areas who just have big questions about life and wonder what answers God may provide.

*No booking needed! You don't need to attend every session. Just turn up in St Clement's for those you wish to be a part of. Please email [admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk](mailto:admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk) if you would have difficulties using stairs for any of these events.*

## How do we find belief? Finding faith in a broken world.

Thursday 19th February 7:00pm-8:30pm

## What is prayer and how do we do it? Can God find us a parking space, or bring about world peace?

Thursday 26th February 7:00pm-8:30pm

## Can I be a Christian on my own? Finding faith in a broken Church.

Thursday 5th March 7:00pm-8:30pm

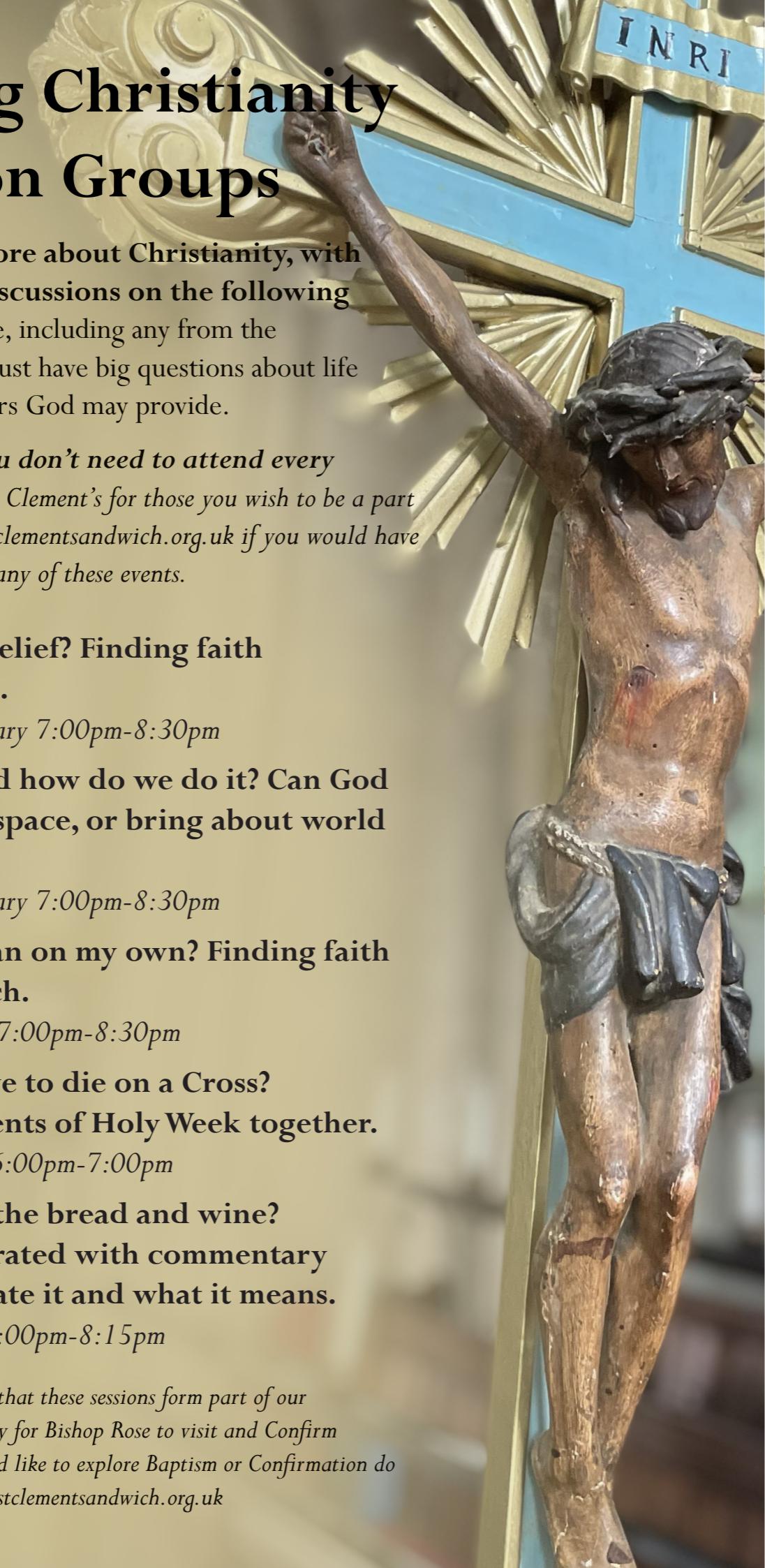
## Why did Jesus have to die on a Cross? Discussing the events of Holy Week together.

Tuesday 31st March 6:00pm-7:00pm

## What happens to the bread and wine? A Eucharist celebrated with commentary on why we celebrate it and what it means.

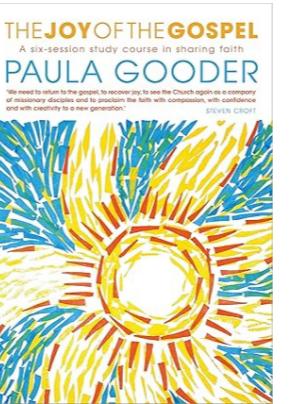
Thursday 9th April 7:00pm-8:15pm

You may be interested to know that these sessions form part of our Confirmation preparation ready for Bishop Rose to visit and Confirm candidates in May. If you would like to explore Baptism or Confirmation do come along, or email [admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk](mailto:admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk)



# 'The Joy of the Gospel' Discussion Group

**Every Wednesday, 25th February - 25th March, 3:30pm in the home of a member of the congregation**



## Lent Lunches

**Fridays 20th February -27th March, serving Noon until 1:30pm in the Church Hall (Church St St Clement)**



A relaxed, informal group led by a member of the congregation guided by the book 'The Joy of the Gospel' by Paula Gooder.

**Booking in advance necessary:**  
Please register your attendance in advance by emailing:  
[admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk](mailto:admin@stclementsandwich.org.uk)

You may wish to get hold of a copy of the book, please let the Parish Office (email above) know if you will need help obtaining a copy at £10 each.

**Homemade soup and good company offered each week in Lent**, raising money for a 'Tariro', a small charity delivering extraordinary youth work in Zimbabwe.

[www.tarirouk.com](http://www.tarirouk.com)





## Holy Week, the most extraordinary week in the Church's year.

Daily services guide us through the final days of the life of Jesus Christ, as we contemplate the meaning of his death, and prepare to celebrate his Resurrection at Easter.

*This year we will be guided by a guest preacher, ordinand (someone preparing to become a priest) Jack Carrington, from Westcott House in Cambridge.*

**All are welcome during the week.** There are many services, small and large, and it is a perfect chance for those who question faith to explore the meaning of Christianity, and for Christians to deepen their relationship with Christ.

Principal services are printed in larger type on the opposite page, but anyone at all interested is highly encouraged to particularly attend the three great services which lead one to another:

**Maundy Thursday 7:30pm**

**Good Friday 2:00pm**

**Holy Saturday 8:00pm** (with the unveiling of our newly restored tiles, see overleaf. Bring a bell!)



# PROVISIONAL HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES 2026

Palm Sunday  
29th March

*8:00am Holy Communion  
10:30am Parish Eucharist with procession  
4:00pm Evening Prayer*

Mon. & Tue.  
30th & 31st March

*9:45am Morning Prayer  
4:45pm Evening Prayer  
5:30pm Said Eucharist with homily  
Tuesday 6:00pm: 'Why did Jesus have to die on a Cross?  
Discussing the events of Holy Week together' discussion group*

Holy Wednesday  
1st April

*9:45am Morning Prayer  
10:00am Holy Communion with homily  
TBC Evening Services*

Maundy Thursday  
2nd April

*11:00am Chrism Eucharist in Canterbury Cathedral  
6:00pm Evening Prayer  
7:30pm Liturgy of Maundy Thursday*

Good Friday  
3rd April

*9:45am Morning Prayer  
Noon Churches Together in St Peter's Gardens  
1:00pm Meditations, Silence, & Hymns  
2:00pm Liturgy of the Passion*

Holy Saturday  
4th April

*10:30am Morning Prayer  
8:00pm The Great Easter Vigil with the  
unveiling of the restored tiles. Bring a bell!*

Easter Day  
5th April

*8:00am Holy Communion  
10:30am Festal Parish Eucharist*

# THE LOST WILL BE RESTORED

THIS EASTER  
AT SAINT CLEMENT'S...

Around 1869, the east wall behind the high altar was paved with beautiful tiles featuring flowers, anchors, and a central cross. **The whole wall was whitewashed over in 1913.** We have begun the process of removing the whitewash to reveal this splendid wall, ready to be unveiled during the **Easter Vigil (Saturday 4th April 2026 at 8:00pm)**, in the full glory of the light of the Resurrection.

To celebrate the restoration of the tiles, and to ensure the continued life of St Clement's, we invite you to sponsor a tile. You could sponsor a tile for yourself, a friend, a family member, a Godchild... This is your chance to support the life and building of St Clement's, to have your chosen name recorded here for generations to come, and to mark it with a gift.

**All are invited to celebrate Easter here in 2026, and to witness the unveiling of our restored tiles.**

SPONSOR  
A RESTORED  
FILE TODAY!

## Choose your tile:

### **Mosaic: A £15 donation**

- Your chosen name in the Benefactor's Book, against one of the mosaic tiles (112 available)

### **Flower: A £40 donation, or a monthly £5 donation**

- Your chosen name in the Benefactor's Book, against one of the flower tiles (174 available)  
- An exclusive pin badge featuring one of the tiles

### **Anchor: A £100 donation, or a monthly £10 donation**

- Your chosen name in the Benefactor's Book, against an anchor tile (40 available)  
- An exclusive pin badge featuring one of the tiles  
- An exclusive ceramic coaster featuring one of the restored tiles

### **Vase of Flowers tile motif (both now sponsored)**

Find out more, and sponsor a tile today, by picking up a leaflet or heading to:

[www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/sponsoratile](http://www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/sponsoratile)