

This week in Church

Tues - Thurs	8.10am	Morning Prayer
Mon - Thurs	5.15pm	Evening Prayer
Tues	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Wed	10.30am	Holy Communion in Merrow Hall Wednesday Coffee Club
Fri	6.30pm	Choir Practice

Next Sunday - 21st May - Easter 6 - Rogation Sunday

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Eucharist
6.30pm	Mediation & Compline

NOTICES

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK this week 14th - 20th May.

HEAVENLY DUETS - NEXT Sat 20th May at 7pm in St John's Church. Come and listen to an hour of relaxing music followed by refreshments in aid of Woking & Sam Beare Hospices. Tickets £10 per person from Brian Taylor or the Parish Office.

CHRISTIAN CINEMA - next Friday 19th May at 7.30pm in Merrow Hall. 'Ring the Bell'. Do come. Wonderful inspiring films for all the family - 8 yrs upwards. Admission by donation. Pop corn and drinks for sale.

THY KINGDOM COME - a Nationwide request to set aside time between Ascension and Pentecost to pray for the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

BEACON EVENT at Guildford Cathedral on Sunday 4th June (Pentecost Sunday) It would be lovely for some of us from St John's to make a walking pilgrimage to the Cathedral to join in the afternoon Prayer and food festival. More information in May's Parish Magazine (p18) and in future services, and do ask Jacqueline about it.

OUR NEXT PARISH BREAKFAST - will be NEXT Sunday 21st May, 8.45-9.30am. Do come and join us.

MERROW CE INFANTS SCHOOL MAY FAIR - will be NEXT Sat 20th May, 12noon to 2.30pm. Do go along and support our local church school.

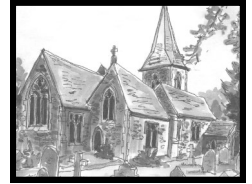
ST JOHN'S BABY & TODDLER GP - we are still looking for more help on Monday mornings 9.30 to 11.45am. We need people who will chat to the mums, or who would be willing to help set up/clear away. If you can spare an hour, we would be so grateful, particularly as Jacqueline is now injured!

ST JOHN'S SUMMER FETE - is now on the horizon (June 10th)! Please see note about plants for Plant Stall and see Helen Chambers with offers of help.

ST JOHN'S PRE-SCHOOL VACANCIES - part time for 2 x Pre School Assistants. Level 3 in Childcare or equivalent. Apply to Head of Pre-School Amanda



St John the Evangelist Merrow 14th May 2017 EASTER 5 Today's Services



8.00am Holy Communion (C W Order 2)

President & Preacher: Dermot Verschoyle

10.00am Parish Eucharist

President: Jacqueline Drake-Smith

Preacher: Dermot Verschoyle

Readers, Intercessions & Elements: Ian Farr & Hilary Ellwood

HYMNS: NEH

- 205 Christ is made the sure foundation**
- 374 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**
- 477 Ye that know the Lord is gracious**
- 484 The Church's one foundation**

6.30pm Evening Prayer (said)

Officiant: Dermot Verschoyle

Curates:

Revd Dermot Verschoyle ☎ 533449

Revd Jacqueline Drake-Smith ☎ 846812 ✉ curatemerrow@btconnect.com

Parish Office: ☎ 454621 ✉ stjohns.merrow@btconnect.com

Churchwardens: Helen Chambers 846574

Robert Avis 575327

TODAY'S COLLECT & READINGS

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

First Reading Acts 7.55-60

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

Second Reading 1 Peter 2.2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Gospel John 14.1-14

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but

the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Pray for New Jersey (II, The Episcopal Church), The Rt Revd William Stokes

DIOCESE CALENDAR OF PRAYER: Pray for Pray for Youth and Children's Workers in our parishes

Pray for David Welch (Diocesan Youth Adviser), Alison Hendy, Steff Shepherd and all staff and volunteers working for the benefit of young people.

Prayer requests:

for our preparations for the 'Thy Kingdom Come' Beacon event on 4th June
for those considering a call to youth work and children's and families work

IN AND AROUND THE PARISH: Pray for those who live and work in Merrow Park

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

Alan Purser Martin Jeffreys Linda Ratnieks Liz Gale Kaye White John Higgins
Dawn Swarbrigg Brenda Mansey Penny Evans Michael Stoughton

FOR THE DEPARTED AND THOSE WHO MOURN: Joan McGuire
Joan's Funeral is at St John's on Thursday 1st June at 2pm, followed by refreshments in the Centre.

THE PARISH VISION PRAYER:

*Lord of life, as we work to build a vision for St John's,
enable this Church to hear your calling,
to discern your direction and to prepare the way.
Limit us not to our own hopes, ideas and agendas,
but enlighten us to your eternal vision for our church, community
and new Incumbent;
so that together we can be messengers of your gospel,
walking faithfully in the ways of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen*