

## This week in Church

No Morning or Evening Prayer this week

|                      |               |   |
|----------------------|---------------|---|
| Tues                 | 7.30pm        | Bell Ringing Practice   |
| <b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> | 10.30am       | Mid-week Eucharist with imposition of ashes in Merrow Hall                    |
|                      | 10.30am       | Wednesday Coffee Club   |
|                      | 8.00pm        | Holy Communion with imposition of ashes                                       |
| Fri                  | 6.30pm        | Choir Practice  |
| <b>SATURDAY 17th</b> | <b>5.30pm</b> | <b>RONA'S INSTITUTION AT ST JOHN'S FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS IN THE CENTRE</b> |

## Next Sunday - 18th February - First Sunday of Lent

### WELCOME RONA

|         |                       |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 8am     | Holy Communion        |
| 10.00am | Parish Eucharist      |
| 6.30pm  | Meditation & Compline |

The weekend of 17th and 18th February is the weekend we welcome our new Rector. On Saturday at 5.30pm in St. John's Rona will be installed as our Rector by Bishop Andrew and Area Dean Nick Williams. The whole Parish is invited to this very important occasion. After the service, refreshments will be served in the St. John's Centre and we will have the opportunity to give Rona a real St. John's Welcome, Then the next day, 18th February, Rona will be leading at all our services and everyone is invited to come and join in some vibrant worship on this joyous occasion.

## NOTICES

**JACK'S COIN TRAIL** - for Head's Together. Over to you Jack!

**ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN IN CHURCH** - will be THIS Thursday 15th Feb, 9.30am to 12noon, to ensure the Church looks its best for Rona's Institution on the Saturday. Please bring cleaning materials. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you Rosanne 579462.

**REFLECTIONS FOR LENT** - 15 minute reflections followed by Bread and Soup Lunch at St Mary's Church Quarry Street every Thursday 15th Feb to 29th March, 12.15 to 12.30pm. See poster and flyers in Church and Centre.

**WINTER TEA PARTY WITH GAMES** on Sun 25th Feb from 2pm. To raise funds for our Charity of the Month, Heads Together.



## St John the Evangelist Merrow

11th February 2018



## SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT JACQUELINE'S FINAL SUNDAY WITH US Today's Services

**8.00am Holy Communion (C W Order 2)**

*President & Preacher: Jacqueline Drake-Smtih*

**10.00am Parish Eucharist**

**Please join us after the Service for refreshments and to say farewell to Jacqueline**

*President & Preacher: Jacqueline Drake-Smith*

*Deacons: Diana Matthews & Dermot Verschoyle*

*Readings, Intercessions & Elements: Mark Butcher & Hilary Ellwood*

### **HYMNS:**

- 436 Praise my soul the King of heaven - NEH
- 173 Make me a channel of your peace - NHWS
- 420 O Jesus I have promised - NEH
- 307 Sweet Sacrament Divine - NEH
- 163 Lord for the years - NHWS

**6.30pm Evening Prayer (read)**

*Officiant: Jacqueline Drake-Smith*

### 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

**Jacqueline's Induction at Wrecclisham will be on Tuesday 13th March at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to go by coach, please contact Michelle in the Parish Office asap. Thank you.**

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## **TODAY'S COLLECT & READINGS**

### **Collect**

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **First Reading** 2 Kings 2.1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

### **Second Reading** 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to

give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel** Mark 9.2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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## **FOR YOUR PRAYERS:**

**ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:** Pray for The Anglican Church of Canada  
The Most Revd Frederick Hiltz Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

**DIOCESE CALENDAR OF PRAYER:** Pray for:  
members of the Bishop's Council and the Diocesan Board of Finance as they balance issues of mission and finance  
for those serving on Diocesan Synod and those from this diocese serving on the General Synod.  
for Peter Coles in his role as Diocesan Secretary and for Chris Ellis in his new role as Deputy Diocesan Secretary

**IN AND AROUND THE PARISH:** Pray for those who live and work in Bushy Hill

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:** Alan Purser Linda Ratnieks Penny Evans  
John Higgins Brenda Mansey Joan Ashbee Elizabeth Jordon Paul Ratnieks  
Barbara White Yvonne Tarrant Margaret Heale Angela Rye

**FOR THE DEPARTED AND THOSE WHO MOURN:**

Lucius Tarrant Phyllida Williams  
Funeral Service for Phyllida Williams at Guildford Crem on Mon 26th Feb at 2.15pm

**For Rona and her family as they prepare for next weekend.**

**For Jacqueline as she prepares for her move to Wrecclisham this week and our prayers of thanks for all that she has done for us at St John's and in the Community.**