



St. John the Evangelist
Merrow



NEWS & RESOURCES

Sunday 17th March – 5TH Sunday of Lent

THIS WEEK

Sunday 17th March – Lent 5

8am Holy Communion BCP

10am Parish Communion

Monday 18th March 2024

9.15am St John's Baby & Toddler Group – in the Centre

Tuesday 19th March 2024

4.30pm Green Team - in the Centre

Wednesday 20th March 2024

10.15am Coffee Club

10.30am Communion in the Centre

5pm Youth Café – in the Centre

Friday 22nd March

3pm St John's Choir Practice – in the Centre

Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday

8am Holy Communion BCP

10am Palm Sunday Service – with donkey procession starting in the
centre

6pm Youth Group – in the centre

Please take this home with you

Hymns

707 Lift High the Cross

143 Here is Love, Vast as the Ocean

489 From Heaven you came, Helpless Babe

748 O Jesus, I have promised

Collect

Most merciful God,

who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross

we may triumph in the power of his victory;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

or

Gracious Father,

you gave up your Son

out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,

that we may know eternal peace

through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings

Hebrews 5.5-10

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

John 12.20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there

heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Seasonal material

Invitation to Confession

God shows his love for us in that,
while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.
Let us then show our love for him
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Introduction to the Peace

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus
we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

Extended Preface

It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and saying:

Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing...

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Readings next week (Palm Sunday)

Philippians 2: 5-11.

Mark 11: 1-11.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Sick or in need

Jenny Shales, Dick Pyper, Toni Gardner, David Welbourn. Tim Dean

The Departed

Jim Styles, Ian Donnison.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

Giving

Giving is good for us! It is our response to the gift of life from God. Giving to the Church, according to our ability, enables our mission and ministry in love and service of the world to the glory of God. If you want to talk more about giving to the Church, and how that connects to your life as a Christian, Tim (our Rector) would be pleased to hear from you. At St. John's we encourage generous, regular and planned giving and you can also setup a monthly direct-debit.

Green Team

St John's Green Team is starting up again this Tuesday 19th March! Green Team will meet in the St John's Centre from 16:30 -17:30 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

For children aged 6+. This groups aims to learn more about God's creation, looking at what bible has to say about it and explore different ways that we can care for it! In our monthly sessions we will be using the churchyard and our new vegetable plot in the rectory garden where we can create, learn, sow, grow and take part in projects. We will end each session back at the Church Centre with a drink, a biscuit and a prayer.

If you would like more details please get in touch with Georgie or youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk or to register your child to take part in this group please visit our website for our registration form.

Youth Café Helper

We are looking for two more people to join our Youth Café team. The role entails setting up, packing down, signing in and supervision of teenagers and helping make a few toasties! As for a time commitment, we run on a rota system, which works out each person being on about once a month from 16:30-19:00 on Wednesdays (term time only). If you think you might be interested, please contact Georgie on youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk and she will send you a full role description. These roles will require a DBS check and safeguarding training.

Funeral for Jim Styles – 25th March

The funeral for Jim Styles will be at St John's on the 25th March at 2pm, followed by a reception in the centre.

Tricia and family thank you all so much for your love, support and prayers during the months of Jim's illness, and for all the beautiful cards and letters we have received following his sudden death. Your kind words have been totally overwhelming, uplifting, and of great comfort as we move forward. Thank you

Carol Phillips RIP

A card will be available for people to sign at coffee on Sunday 17th and Wednesday 20th March. It will be sent to Carol's sons. As you may be aware Carol left instructions that there should be no funeral service and no fuss so a card seems to be the best way of remembering a life well lived. Rosanne

Rev. John Gordon Clark RIP

A Memorial Service will be held at St John's Leatherhead on Saturday 13th July 2024. If you would like to attend please email Robert Gordon Clark: Robert@playgc.co.uk

Spring Clean! - Saturday 23rd March

The annual spring clean of the church will take place between 9.30 and 12. Drop in anytime. Help needed with light duties as well as more strenuous tasks. Refreshments with homemade cakes available! Do hope you can help. Rosanne 579462

Concert

Don't forget to get your tickets for the concert by Dave Kelly on Friday 5th April 2024 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Merrow, GU4 7AA. Doors open at 7pm for 7:30pm start
Tickets £18.00 online at <https://www.saintjohns.org.uk>

Lent Course 2024

The Diocese of Guildford Lent Course continues on 19th March. The course will take place in the church centre and will be run by the Rector.

Tuesday 19th March 7.30 – 8.45pm

Online Shopping

We would be grateful for your help in raising money for St. John's when you shop online. Follow this link to sign up and join many others at St. John's who already kindly contribute.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>

Bereavement Teas

We will be serving tea to anyone who has been bereaved and would like to spend some time chatting with others.

3pm-5pm in the Merrow Hall on

16th June

22nd September

8th December.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Baby Basics

Baby basics is open for donations by appointment. Please contact Lisa at babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk

We are always in need of any financial donations to keep this vital charity running. If you are able to consider donating to this work please visit www.saintjohns.org.uk/babybasics

Food Bank

The food bank greatly appreciates donations of tinned tomatoes, tinned soup, tinned custard or rice pudding, shower gel, tinned fruit and washing up liquid. All donations gratefully received in the boxes in the Church porch.

Newsletter Content

If you have anything to advertise or news from the Church family or community that you would like to add to this newsletter please email office@saintjohns.org.uk by Wednesday 20th March.

The Friends of St John the Evangelist (FOSTJ)

The Registered Charity 'Friends of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Merrow' (known as Friends of St. John's (FoStj)) was formed by members of the community to assist in maintaining and preserving the buildings and grounds of the magnificent Grade II listed Church, for the benefit of the local Community as a whole. If you would like to help our endeavours in any way and keep up with our news, please visit www.fostj.org. We would love you to become a member.

SERVICES COMING UP

24th March – Palm Sunday

8am – Holy Communion BCP

10am – Palm Sunday Service

25th March – Holy Monday

8pm Compline in Church

26th March – Holy Tuesday

8pm Compline in Church

27th March – Spy Wednesday

8pm Compline in Church

28th March – Maundy Thursday

8pm Eucharist & Foot Washing

29th March - Good Friday

10.30am Family Service

followed by Chocolate Egg Hunt in the Rectory Garden

2pm Good Friday Liturgy

30th March – Holy Saturday

8pm Vigil & Service of Light

31st March – Easter Sunday

8am Holy Communion BCP

10am All Age Eucharist

5th May – Rogation Sunday

10am All Age Worship

10.45am Congregational Brunch

11th May – Messy Church
3.30pm in the Centre

Events Coming Up

Please pencil the following in your diary:

12th May APCM. 11.30am

8th June Rectory Fete. Time TBA

19th- 23rd August Holiday Club. Timings TBA

CONTACTS

Rev. Tim Clifford Hill <i>Rector</i> Day off: Friday	rector@saintjohns.org.uk	01483 951649
Georgie Gregson <i>Youth and Families worker</i> Days off: Friday & Saturday	youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk	0797449 4504
Harry Talboys <i>Parish Administrator</i> Mon 10am – 4.30pm Tues – Thurs 9.30 - 4pm	office@saintjohns.org.uk	01483 454621
Barry Dickinson <i>Centre Manager</i>	centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk	01483 454621
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