



St. John the Evangelist
Merrow



NEWSLETTER

Saturday 15th February

7pm Women in Fellowship - Film Night - Centre

Sunday 16th February

8am Holy Communion - Church

9.15am Choir during Communion - Church

10am Parish Communion - Church (Livestreamed)

Monday 17th February

9.15am Glow Toddlers - Centre

Wednesday 19th February

NO Wednesday Coffee Club this week

10.30am Holy Communion Service - Centre

NO Youth Café this week

Friday 21st February

10am Men in Fellowship Walk & Lunch - Tilford

3pm Choir Practice - Centre

Sunday 23rd February

8am Holy Communion - Church

10am Parish Communion - Church (Livestreamed)

10am Sparks 5-11s - Church

(Please take this news sheet home with you)

Regular Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

Sundays	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Communion
Mondays	9.15am Glow Toddlers
Wednesdays	10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club 10.30am Holy Communion Service 5pm Youth Café
Fridays	3pm Choir Practice

Other Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

February

Tues 25th Feb Green Team 4.30pm

March

Sat 1st Mar Church Yard Tidy Up 9.30am
Tues 4th Mar Pancake Party 4pm
Sun 9th Mar Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Sun 9th Mar Songs of Praise (not the BBC version)
Tues 11th Mar Green Team 4.30pm
Sun 16th Mar Choir during Communion 9.15am in church
Sun 16th Mar Bring & Buy Sale after 10am service
Wed 19th Mar Lent Lunch 12noon
Sun 23rd Mar Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Tues 25th Mar Green Team 4.30pm
Sat 29th Mar Mothering Sunday Posie Making

April

Sat 5th Apr Church Yard Tidy Up 9.30am

Hymns

664 God is Love
238 Come down O love divine (tune 1)
464 Sweet sacrament Divine
Communion hymn
598 Before the throne
507 We have a Gospel to proclaim

Collect

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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
Eternal God,
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord.

Reading

Jeremiah 17.5-10

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Gospel

Luke 6.17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Readings next week:

Revelation 4

Luke 8.22-25

Post Communion

Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him
at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Sick or in need - Dick Pyper, Baby Edward, Baby Jesse, Christopher Frith

NEWS

Saving Energy - Saving Money!

I thought I should explain why the Church was rather cold last Sunday (9th February). As you probably know the Church is heated by a gas boiler system. All historic Grade II listed Churches like ours are draughty, poorly insulated and challenging to heat. We also have a Diocesan mandate to create and implement a Net-Zero RouteMap.

As part of our plan to reduce energy cost and carbon footprint we have recently been working on improving energy use efficiency. Fortunately, the reordering of the Church in 2010 included two new boilers and quite a smart controls system. You might find some numbers help provide important context. We have 110kW of boiler power, and I have measured the cost of heating for the two services on the Sunday before last to be around £50 and 150 kg of CO₂. The current annual gas bill for the Church alone is £6800, and it's not unusual for the bills for each of the four winter months being between £800 and £1000 per month. I have been experimenting with revised temperatures and heat-up time control. We are targeting a 50% reduction in energy use for services. Please bear with us while we finesse this. Thank you!

Tim and Gordon Farquharson, St. John's Net-Zero Champion.

Coffee Club - Wednesday 19th February

There will be NO coffee club this week as they are holding their annual lunch for club members and helpers.

Men in Fellowship Walk - Friday 21st February 10am

We are pleased to invite all members to join us for a walk on Friday 21st February, following a circular route from the centre of Tilford village to Frensham Little Pond. The route follows gently undulating heath and woodland, with no steep inclines to navigate, and returns to the village along the valley of the River Wey.

We will be travelling by car to arrive in Tilford by 10am and the walk should last no more than 2 and a half hours, ready for a well-earned pub lunch with a short coffee break midway.

We encourage and welcome members who are non-walkers, to join us for the lunch and to enjoy the social gathering. A separate car share will be available, leaving Merrow at 12 noon and returning about 3pm. If you are interested in joining us please contact Richard richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk

Pancake Party - Tuesday 4th March 4pm - 5.30pm in the Centre

This Shrove Tuesday we will be hosting a Pancake Party and all ages are welcome!

Between 4pm and 5.30pm pop in for a pancake!

We'll be serving some of your favourite toppings with drinks, games, toys and some activities in the hall.

Getting ready for Lent has never been so flipping tasty!



Quiz Night - Merrow Infant PTA Quiz Night - Friday 7th March 7.30pm

Come along and join the Merrow Infant PTA Quiz night. Our very own Tim will be the Quiz Master!

- Quiz starts 7.45pm.
- Tickets £15 per person including Domino's Pizza (Margherita & Pepperoni)
- Bring your own Drinks & Snacks (alcohol permitted)



Send us an email to quizmerrow@gmail.com and let us know your Team name and numbers, and any dietary requirements. We will send you a payment link to complete the entry.

Choir during Communion - Sunday 16th March 10am

On one Sunday in each month(except April), we ask members of our congregation to gather in a choir of singers, to sing a hymn during communion. This choir consists of members of our church choir and anyone else who wishes to join in! If you wish to sing, please arrive at church at 9.15am on Sunday for a run-through before the 10am service if you can. Contact Micky or Tim for more information.

16th March: 451 Just as I am (tune 1)

18th May: 458 Here proclaim the glorious mystery

Bring & Buy Sale - Sunday 16th March after the 10am service

Bring your unwanted items to our Bring & Buy Sale during coffee after the 10am service on Sunday 16th March (at approximately 11am), and perhaps buy some items that others bring! We will also be serving delicious cakes with coffee/tea. This is a charity fundraiser for our supported charities and St John's. Please speak with Sandra in the Parish Office if you need further information.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care in a church should be something we all share, even if some people take a lead on it through training and their personal gifts. We have a vision of Christ-centred pastoral care as a major element of the life of any church, along with worship and teaching. At St. John's, the whole church family aims to care for each other. If you know anyone who would like to be visited (at home or in hospital) or receive communion at home, please let Tim know.

Warm Space

A 'Warm Space' is available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings between 10am and 2pm.

Dramatic Fund-raiser for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, Saturday 1st March, Onslow Village Hall GU2 7QR. Doors open 7.30pm.

Led by our own Jane MacIntyre (8 o'clocker and occasional reader) a 'theatrical extravaganza' is being staged by the Herald Players to celebrate the dramatic legacy of friend and mentor Keith McDonald. A fun evening is planned with favourite snippets from his many shows interspersed with music and some surprises. Highlights include performances by Jenny Pegman and Jane Bryant, doyennes of MDS. Tickets £15 from Phyllis Tuckwell events:

www.pth.org.uk/news-and-events/events/upcoming-events/theatrical-extravaganza*/ Welcome drink on arrival, please bring your own interval drinks.

Raffle and pound game, please bring cash! Jane

Food Bank

The food bank would greatly appreciate donations of

- Toilet Rolls, Cereal, Longlife Desserts, Peanut Butter and Chocolate Spread

Please put donations in the boxes in the Church Centre, thank you.

The QR code can be used for monetary donations to the food bank.



Baby Basics

The donation point is now closed until further notice

For more information email babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk, or if you would like to contribute financially to the work we do please visit www.saintjohns.org.uk/babybasics. Thank you.

This Newsletter - content

If you have anything to advertise, or news from the Church family or community for this newsletter, please email office@saintjohns.org.uk by Tuesday each week. Please be aware that anything you ask to be advertised in the newsletter may also appear on Facebook and our website. If you do not wish to have personal details advertised, then please make it clear when asking to have items advertised in the newsletter. Many Thanks, Sandra.

CONTACTS

Parish Office

Please note the following Parish Office opening times:

Barry: Tues to Fri (9.30am to 1pm)

Sandra: Mon, Wed, Fri (9am to 1pm)

Rector: Rev. Tim Clifford Hill
(days off: whole Fri, & Sat am) rector@saintjohns.org.uk
01483 951649

Youth worker: Georgie Gregson
(days off: Fri & Sat) youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk
07974 494504

Parish Administrator:
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Churchwarden:
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Churchwarden:
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Deputy Churchwarden:
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Treasurer:
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Safeguarding Officer:
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Organist & Choir Director:
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