



St. John the Evangelist
Merrow



NEWS & RESOURCES

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 28th April

8:00 BCP Holy Communion

10:00 Parish Communion

Monday 29th April

9:15 Glow Toddler Group – Centre

Wednesday 1st May

10:15 Coffee Club – Centre

10:30 Holy Communion – Centre

5:00pm Youth Café – Centre

Friday 3rd May

No Choir Practice

Sunday 5th May – Patronal Festival

8:00 BCP Holy Communion

10:00 All Age Worship

10:45 Congregational Brunch

Please take this home with you

Hymns

209 Love's redeeming work is done

212 Now the green blade riseth

188 Sing choirs of heaven

721 Love Divine

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,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

or

Risen Christ,

your wounds declare your love for the world

and the wonder of your risen life:

give us compassion and courage

to risk ourselves for those we serve,

to the glory of God the Father.

Readings

Acts 8.26-end

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So, Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Seasonal material

Invitation to Confession

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Introduction to the Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Extended Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.
And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Post Communion

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.

Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing . .

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Sick or in need

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

The Departed

Mike Newell

For your prayers

The children we help in Haiti through the work of Compassion, whose country is suffering a complete collapse of law and order, a takeover by warring gangs and a breakdown of society in general.

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

A Message from Margaret Dean

Thank you, everyone in St John's, for all the prayers, love and support you gave to Tim and me in these last months before Tim died, and also to me in the last few weeks. We have been so grateful that we made St John's our home, and last Friday so many people were very generous with their time and their care to ensure all the arrangements for Tim's funeral went smoothly. Thank you to all of you.

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

Choir during Communion

On one Sunday in each month we would like a choir of singers to sing a hymn during communion. This choir will be made of members of our church choir and anyone else who wishes to join in! If you wish to sing please contact Micky or Tim. Rehearsals will be on the Friday before the Sunday, in the church centre. The Sundays will be:

23rd June (rehearsal at 6pm on Friday 21st)

21st July (rehearsal at 6pm on Friday 19th)

18th August (rehearsal at 6pm on Friday 16th)

15th September (rehearsal at 6pm on Friday 13th)

Gardening Party for Rectory Fete

In preparation for the Fete on 8th June, we are hoping to gather people to help smarten up the rectory garden. If you would like to help come to the rectory on **Saturday 1st June** at 11am. If you have gardening tools please bring them! If you hope to attend please let Tim or Alexandra know.

Harry Talboys

Our Parish Administrator, Harry, has some exciting news! Firstly, he has a new baby boy! James Hugo Talboys was born this week and both mother (Ellen) and baby are doing well. Harry will be on paternity leave for the next couple of weeks and during this time his role will be shared between Barry, Georgie and Tim. Please do bear with them as they cover for Harry.

Secondly, Harry has a new job! He will be moving to Guildford Cathedral to be the Assistant Administrator and Volunteer Co-ordinator. Please give Harry your congratulations if you see him once he has returned.

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 vegetables, dried flavoured noodles, tinned fruit, tinned soup, tuna, treats (crisps, chocs etc.) All donations gratefully received in the boxes in the Church porch.

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 payment arrangement.

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/>

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.

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.

SERVICES COMING UP & VISITING PREACHERS

5th May – Patronal Festival

10am All Age Worship
10.45am Congregational Brunch

9th May – Ascension Day

10.30am Eucharist with hymns in church

11th May – Messy Church

3.30pm in the Centre

12th May

Christian Aid Sunday

26th May – Trinity Sunday

Preacher: Mrs Kitty Price. Lay Reader at Portsmouth Cathedral

9th June - Trinity 2

Launch of the Young People's Ministry Fund

16th June – Trinity 3

Preacher: Bishop Peter Hancock. Former Bishop of Bath & Wells

23rd June – Trinity 4

Preacher: Compassion UK Representative

14th July – Trinity 7

Preacher: Rev. Elizabeth Brown. Former Curate and daughter of Rev. John Gordon Clark (John's memorial service is the day before at St. John's, Leatherhead)

1st September

All Age Worship with Blessing of Backpacks (school and work bags)

CHURCH EVENTS THIS SUMMER

12th May APCM - 11.30am

8th June Rectory Fete - 12pm – 3pm

19th - 23rd August Holiday Club for Children. Timings TBA

CONTACTS

Office opening hours are Mon-Thurs 10:00am – 4:30pm
Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm

Rev. Tim Clifford Hill <i>Rector</i> Day off: Friday	rector@saintjohns.org.uk 01483 951649
Georgie Gregson <i>Youth worker</i> Days off: Friday & Saturday	youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk 07974 494504
Harry Talboys <i>Parish Administrator</i>	office@saintjohns.org.uk 01483 454621
Barry Dickinson <i>Centre Manager</i>	centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk 01483 454621
Peter Tappin <i>Churchwarden</i>	peter.tappin@saintjohns.org.uk 07776 183701
Jane Farquharson <i>Churchwarden</i>	jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk 07765 620017
Cathy Thompson <i>Deputy churchwarden</i>	cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk 07518 202920
Rosanne Bond <i>Safeguarding officer</i>	safeguardingstjohn@gmail.com 01483 579462
Micky Clare <i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	mickyclare2@icloud.com 01483 538306
Gerald Hunt <i>Coffee Club</i>	merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com 07545 256114

