



St. John the Evangelist  
Merrow



# NEWSLETTER

## Trinity 1

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Church  
10am All Age Service - Church (Livestreamed)

### **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

9.15am Glow Toddlers - Centre

### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

4pm Green Team - Centre

### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club - Centre  
10.30am Holy Communion Service - Centre  
5pm Youth Café - Centre

### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

3pm Choir Practice - Centre

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Church  
10am Parish Communion - Church (Livestreamed)  
Sparks 5-11s Group

*(Please take this news sheet home with you)*

## Regular Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

Sundays	8am Holy Communion - Church 10am Parish Communion - Church
Mondays	9.15am Glow Toddlers
Tuesdays	7.30-9pm Bell Ringing Practice
Wednesdays	10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club 10.30am Holy Communion Service 5pm Youth Café
Fridays	3pm Choir Practice <b>Not on the 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>

## Other Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

### June

Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Men-in-Fellowship - Walk in local area
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Jun	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Green Team 4pm
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church

### July

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Church Fete - Rectory Garden 12.30-3pm
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Parish Picnic - Rectory Garden
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Green Team 4pm
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Women-in-Fellowship - Breakfast
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Baptism Tea Party
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Men-in-Fellowship - Watercress Line 'Real Ale Train'
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Green Team 4pm
Thur 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	Mission Rescue Holiday Club Prep Session 9.30am - 1pm
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Men-in-Fellowship - Breakfast
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Mission Rescue Holiday Club Prep Session 12.30pm - 4pm

## Hymns

- 103 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
489 From heaven you came  
510 Will you come and follow me.  
593 At the name of Jesus (tune 1) (omit \*)

## Collect

O God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature  
we can do no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
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  
God of truth,  
help us to keep your law of love  
and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life  
in Jesus Christ your Son.

## Reading

### Romans 4.13-end

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he

considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## **Gospel**

## **Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.' While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, 'My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.' And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.' Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, 'Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.' And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, 'Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.' And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

## **Readings next week:**

Romans 5.1-8

Matthew 9.35-10.8 [9-23]

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal Father,  
we thank you for nourishing us  
with these heavenly gifts:  
may our communion strengthen us in faith,  
build us up in hope,  
and make us grow in love;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**Sick or in need** - Ben, Amelia Butler, Sophie, Anna Collins

**Departed** - Joan Westlake, Margaret Hicks, Robert Cooles, Sally Norcliffe

# NEWS

Helen and Michael would be delighted if members of the congregation wished to join them in Church for their forthcoming marriage service on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2pm at St. Johns - all will be welcome.

## Christian Aid Week

Thank you so much for joining us in supporting Christian Aid Week. To date, we have raised an anticipated grand total of £1,835 in cash and online donations, including Gift Aid, which is an incredible achievement. Money raised is helping Christian Aid and its partners to support communities to find practical and sustainable ways out of poverty. This year's appeal focused on work in Nairobi, Kenya, where intense poverty means families have a daily struggle to feed their children. With secure jobs hard to find, and most people earning less than a dollar a day, to cover school costs, rent and water, providing food for every meal is a relentless problem. But with tools, seeds and specialist training from Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, families are learning how to make the most of a small space in the city to grow a steady supply of fresh vegetables to cook or sell. Thank you for helping to make this amazing work possible.



Here is a thank you video from Christian Aid:

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9b03PrH0L8>]

To find out more about projects like this, visit [caid.org.uk](http://caid.org.uk)



## Women in Fellowship Theatre Trip

For those members who missed the recent email regarding our theatre trip to see The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time on 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. We have a few more tickets available. The tickets are £44.72. If you are interested, please contact Carole Burtonwood [carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk) by this coming TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE.

## First Aiders

If you have a First Aid Certificate and would like to help at the Church Fete on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, please can you contact Tim at [rector@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:rector@saintjohns.org.uk).

## Do you have an Allotment?

Do you have an allotment in Merrow or somewhere else in Guildford? We would love to have chat with you about Harvest Festival in October and how we could work together to celebrate the Harvest in the community. If you would be happy to come and have a chat about it please contact the Rector, Tim at [rector@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:rector@saintjohns.org.uk)

## Choir Practice

There will be NO Choir Practice on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

## Bishop's Gathering for Guildford at Emmanuel Church Stoughton on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 7pm for 7.30pm

We have all been warmly invited to meet, pray and worship with Bishop Paul, Bishop of Dorking and now Acting Bishop of Guildford, at the Bishop's Gathering for Guildford Deanery hosted by Emmanuel Church on Wednesday 10 June. There will be a reception at 7pm, followed by the Bishop's Gathering which will begin at 7.30pm and conclude by 9pm. All, including young people, are welcome.

We will be celebrating all that God is doing across Guildford Deanery and discussing our next steps with Bishop Paul in his new role, so it should be an inspirational evening. Do come if you can.

Emmanuel Church is located at 1 Shepherds Lane, Stoughton, Guildford GU2 9SJ and there is unrestricted parking on the roads surrounding the church.

## Men-in-Fellowship upcoming Events

Your Men-in-Fellowship team has been busy planning events for Summer 2026 and here's a summary of what's coming soon.....

- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June** - Walk in the local area - details to follow
- **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July** - Watercress Line "Real Ale Train" - evening departure from Alton Station - always a popular event / more details to follow.
- **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July** (8.30am) - Breakfast Meeting with Philip Pratley on a talk entitled "Reflecting Ethics in leadership; inverted or subverted"

Please save the dates and we hope you can join us. More details will follow, meanwhile contact Robert [robertavis@raavis.plus.com](mailto:robertavis@raavis.plus.com) or Richard [Richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:Richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk) if you need more information.



## St John's Church Fete Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 12.30-3pm

**Volunteers** - The Church Fete team are looking for volunteers to run some of the stalls at the Fete this year.

**Children's area** - This year we will have 10 stalls in the children's area. We are looking for volunteers for all the stalls. If you can help, please contact Georgie at [youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk)



### **Donations**

We are now ready to receive your donations for this years Church Fete

- **Jolly Jars Stall Request** - In the children's corner we have a new stall this year; Jolly Jars. We would love for people to make Jolly Jars to donate to this stall. These can be filled with anything children would like and that can fit. These can contain sweets, chocolate, stickers, stationery or anything else similar. You can also decorate these to make them extra special! If you'd prefer, you can just donate some glass jars or items that can fill them as we will have a morning nearer the time to fill these.

All jars to be dropped into the office Mon to Fri 9-1pm. Many Thanks, Hannah

- **Bottle Tombola** - The ever-popular bottle tombola needs alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks in bottles, cans, multipacks, cartons, sachets, etc.
- **Chocolate Tombola** - Chocolate is needed - we're having a Chocolate Tombola, and we'd be very grateful for your delicious donations. Big bars, boxes of chocolates, multipacks of smaller treats - they're all welcome. Thank you for helping to make the fete extra sweet!

Please pop your Bottle and Chocolate donations into the box in the Centre foyer/office anytime on weekday mornings.

- **Book Stall & Jigsaws**

Now is a great opportunity to clear your bookshelves of books you enjoyed but won't read again.

Please drop your good quality books into the box at the back of church on Sundays or the office Mon to Fri 9-1pm. Any queries contact Peter Topp [peter.topp2@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.topp2@btinternet.com)

### **On the Day**

Please deliver before 11am on the morning of the 4th of July

- **Refreshments Stall** - your tray bakes, individual cakes, cookies & small savoury foods (sausage rolls/individual quiches, etc.) to go with your tea & coffee - to Carol Burtonwood
- **Cakes and Home Produce** - sale products to Mickey Clare
- **Plants and all things horticultural** - to Cathy Thompson

**Thank you very much from the Fete Team.**

## Women in Fellowship upcoming Events

Your Women-in-Fellowship team are busy planning events for 2026 and here is a summary of what you can look forward to....

- **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July - 8.30 am** - Breakfast with talk by Rev. Margaret Dean – Life in a rural parish
- **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October - 8.30 am** - Breakfast and talk – TBA

If you wish to know more about the Women-In-Fellowship or the events, please contact Carole Burtonwood [carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk) or Lindsay Dobson [treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk)



## Mission Rescue Holiday Club Prep Sessions - 23<sup>rd</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> July

This year we will be holding two sessions to prep for our holiday club if you are free to come and help. There will be things such as painting, sewing, constructing, cutting, sticking, laminating and organising to do. NO SKILLS REQUIRED, drop in anytime. Tea, coffee, biscuits and the chance for a good natter. Held upstairs in the Church centre - pop the dates in your diary!

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 9:30-13:00 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 12:30-16:00



## Opportunities Booklet - St John's

'Opportunities to join in the life of St John's' booklet! Please help yourselves to one at the back of church or in the Church Centre.

## St John's Pre-School

Are you looking for a nursery place for your little ones?

We have the St John's Pre-School here at the St John's Centre.

Contact Amanda Bazley on 01483 454625 for more details



## Wednesday Morning Coffee Club

Coffee club is open for business 10.15am every Wednesday until the school holiday when we will close on the 22nd July to give all the hard working helpers and drivers a rest.



Following the success of our trip to Paddington we thought we would try a couple of informal get togethers over the summer, so we are holding two events:

The Horse & Groom Mellow on the 5th August at 11.30

Edwins Garden Centre at Clandon Park on the 26th August at 11.30

These are drop in events and anyone is welcome to join me, members and non-members, there is no need to book, just turn up!

Hope to see you there and either way enjoy the Summer, Gerald Hunt.

Should you have any queries, please contact me on e-mail

merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com or ring me on 07545256114

## 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.

## Regular Giving at St John's

Do you give to St John's in the collection pouch on Sundays, or use the card machine at the back of church? If so, would you consider giving regularly by direct debit instead? Having the regularity of giving helps us considerably in terms of planning and budgeting, and it is easier for you too! If you are interested to find out more, please scan this QR code or speak with Tim, or Martin Thompson ([giftaid@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:giftaid@saintjohns.org.uk)).



## Food Bank

The food bank would greatly appreciate donations of

- Instant Coffee (Not Decaf)
- Rice
- Tomato Ketchup
- Choc Spread/Marmite
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Toilet Roll



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 will be closed this week

Massive thank you for all the donations. With your help we've been able to help many new mums and we couldn't do it without your support and donations'



For more information email [babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk), or if you would like to contribute financially to the work we do, please visit [www.saintjohns.org.uk/babybasics](http://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](mailto: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

Please note the following Parish Office opening times:

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

Barry: Tues, Thur, Fri (9am to 1pm) Wed (9am to 12noon)

**Rector:** Rev. Tim Clifford Hill  
(days off: whole Fri, & Sat am)

[rector@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:rector@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 951649

**Youth & Families Minister:**  
Georgie Gregson (days off: Fri & Sat)

[youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk)  
07974 494504

**Parish Administrator:**  
Sandra Rayner

[office@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:office@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 454621

**Centre Manager (inc Room Bookings):**  
Barry Dickinson

[centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 454621

**Churchwarden:**  
Michael Eagle

[michael.eagle@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:michael.eagle@saintjohns.org.uk)  
07850 000224

**Churchwarden:**  
Cathy Thompson

[cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk)  
07518 202920

**Deputy Churchwarden:**  
Rosemary Stoughton

[rosemary.stoughton@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:rosemary.stoughton@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 828829

**Treasurer:**  
Lindsay Dobson

[treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk)  
07809 836896

**Safeguarding Officer:**  
Rosanne Bond

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01483 579462

**Safeguarding Officer:**  
Susan Harrington

[safeguardinghelp@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:safeguardinghelp@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 454621

**Organist & Choir Director:**  
Micky Clare

[mickyclare2@icloud.com](mailto:mickyclare2@icloud.com)  
01483 538306

**Coffee Club:**  
Gerald Hunt

[merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com](mailto:merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com)  
07545 256114

**Bell Ringing:**  
Jane Farquharson

[jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk)  
07765 620017