



St. John the Evangelist  
Merrow



# NEWSLETTER

## Pentecost

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

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

### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

NO Glow Toddlers - Centre

### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May**

10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club - Centre  
10.30am Holy Communion Service - Centre  
NO Youth Café - Centre

### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

3pm Choir Practice - Centre

### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

Men & Women-in-Fellowship Tour of Guildford Cathedral

### **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Church  
10am Parish Communion - Church (Livestreamed)  
Sparks 5-11s Group  
Bring and Buy Sale - After the 10am service

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

## **Regular Calendar Events**

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Sundays    | 8am Holy Communion - Church<br>10am Parish Communion - Church   |
| Mondays    | 9.15am Glow Toddlers ( <b>not on 25<sup>th</sup> May</b> )  |
| Tuesdays   | 7.30-9pm Bell Ringing Practice  |
| Wednesdays | 10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club<br>10.30am Holy Communion Service<br>5pm Youth Café ( <b>not on 27<sup>th</sup> May</b> ) |
| Fridays    | 3pm Choir Practice  |

## **Other Calendar Events**

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

### **June**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun  | Sewing Group 10.30am                               |
| Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Jun   | Churchyard Tidy Up 9.30am                          |
| Tues 9 <sup>th</sup> Jun  | Green Team 4pm                                     |
| Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Jun  | Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church |
| 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

- 242 Come Holy Spirit Come (omit \*)  
258 O thou who camest from above  
238 Come down O love divine (tune 1)  
630 Father Lord of all creation

## Collect

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

or

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,  
revive your Church with the breath of love,  
and renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Reading

## Acts 2.1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

## **Gospel**

## **John 20.19-23**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

## **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:

### *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 . .

**Readings next week:**

2 Corinthians 13.11-end

Matthew 28.16-end

**Post Communion Prayer**

Faithful God,

who fulfilled the promises of Easter

by sending us your Holy Spirit

and opening to every race and nation

the way of life eternal:

open our lips by your Spirit,

that every tongue may tell of your glory;

through 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

# NEWS

## 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)

## Bring & Buy Sale - Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May after the 10am service

We are holding our next, ever popular, Bring & Buy Sale next Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May after the 10am service (so starting at about 11/11.15am). Please start to look at home for items you no longer want, that you feel others may like, to bring along on the day. And please note the date and join us on the day, to enjoy some tasty cakes and to browse items you may wish to buy for a donation. Proceeds to our Young Peoples' Ministry Fund. If you would like further information, please speak to Cathy Thompson.



**BRING & BUY SALE**

Bring along items in good condition that you no longer want or need

Coffee and cakes

St. Johns Centre, Merrow  
Sunday 31st May after 10am Service

Contact - Cathy Thompson - [cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk)

Fundraiser for St John's Young Person's Ministry Fund

## Sewing Group - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 10.30am

Anyone is welcome to come along, sewing skills or not! This time we are going to be finishing the tablecloths for the Infant school and tackling a few patterns for holiday club.

This will be the last session of the school year but look out for the 2026/27 dates soon!

Next Meeting: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun



## The Rt Revd Paul Davies has invited all parishes in the Guildford Deanery to a gathering on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm-9pm

I write to extend an invitation to you. As you know, I have set three key priorities for the coming two years: prayer, pastoral care and a sharper focus on our 'priority of priorities': deepening discipleship (including revitalisation) and investing wholeheartedly in children and young people.

As part of this, I am holding special gatherings in each of our 12 deaneries to enable me to meet, pray and worship with our clergy and congregations. I would be delighted if you would join me at the **Guildford Deanery Gathering which will be held at Emmanuel Church on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 7.30pm to 9pm**, with tea and coffee served from 7pm. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to join us but cannot make the date, you are most welcome to attend any of the other deanery gatherings. I very much look forward to meeting you and to what I am praying will be an uplifting and memorable evening together.

**The Rt Revd Paul Davies**

Bishop of Dorking & Acting Bishop of Guildford

## Men-in-Fellowship upcoming Events

Your Men-in-Fellowship team has been busy planning events for Spring/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.



## Volunteers - Church Fete on 4<sup>th</sup> July 12.30-3pm

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)

**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. Anything is very much appreciated! All jars can be dropped off at the Parish Office 9-1pm Monday to Friday. Many Thanks, Hannah

## Church Fete Donations

We will be collecting donations of bottles, paperback books, jigsaws and chocolate during June, ready for the Church Fete on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. You will be able to leave your donations in church on Sundays or at the Parish office between 9am and 1pm Monday to Friday.



## 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



## 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

- Pasta
- Tea Bags
- Hot Chocolate
- Sanitary Pads
- Small Laundry Liquid



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 open Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm,  
outside the Church Centre to the left of the main door

Please refer to our baby basics website/Facebook page for a list of items that we accept. Please refrain from leaving other items as space is limited.

We do have a high demand for the following items and donations would be greatly appreciated.

- *Mum and Baby Toiletries*
- *Nappies size 0 and 1 (75p at Lidl)*
- *Baby Towels*
- *Breast Pads*
- *Moses Baskets*

If you have prams or larger items to donate, please get in contact before dropping off these items.

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)

The office will be closed on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May

**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

[safeguarding@saintjohns.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@saintjohns.org.uk)  
01483 579462

**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