



NEWSLETTER

Lent 2

Sunday 1st March

8am Holy Communion - Church
10am All Age Worship (Baptism) - Church (Livestreamed)
Coffee will be served in the Foyer after the service

Monday 2nd March

9.15am Glow Toddlers - Centre

Tuesday 3rd March

10.30am Sewing Group - Centre

Wednesday 4th March

10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club - Centre
10.30am Holy Communion Service - Centre
5pm Youth Café - Centre
7pm Lent Course - Centre

Friday 6th March

3pm Choir Practice - Centre
7.30pm Merrow infants PTA - Quiz Night

Saturday 7th March

9.30am Churchyard Tidy Up

Sunday 8th March

8am 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

Other Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

March

Tues 10 th Mar	Green Team 4pm
Wed 11 th Mar	Lent Lunch 12 noon
Wed 11 th Mar	Lent Course 7pm
Sat 14 th Mar	Mothering Sunday Posie Making 9.30am in church
Sat 14 th Mar	Women-in-Fellowship - Film Night - 7pm
Wed 18 th Mar	Lent Course 7pm
Fri 20 th Mar	Men-in-Fellowship - Walk to West Horsley & Pub Lunch
Sun 22 nd Mar	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Sun 22 nd Mar	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Tues 24 th Mar	Green Team 4pm
Wed 25 th Mar	Lent Course 7pm
Sun 29 th Mar	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church

April

Sat 4 th Apr	Churchyard Tidy Up 9.30am
Sat 18 th Apr	Women-in-Fellowship - Breakfast
Sun 19 th Apr	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Sat 25 th Apr	Men-in-Fellowship - Breakfast meeting with Stephen Hall

May

Sun 10 th May	APCM - save the date
Sat 30 th May	Men-in-Fellowship - Tour of Guildford Cathedral

Hymns in Order of Service

Collect

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

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.

Gospel

John 3.1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Readings next week:

Romans 5.1-11

John 4.5-42

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Sick or in need - Ben, Amelia Butler, Sophie, Bishop Andrew Watson

Departed - Michael Stoughton, Sheila Luce

NEWS

Friends and Quizzers had a great time at the recent Friend's of St. John's Quiz night. In addition to raising the roof with their communal rendition of all the songs in the "Songs of the Show" Round, they contributed some £1240 to our Restoration Project, the renewal of the North Porch. Thanks to the Quizmaster, the organisers and more importantly to the generous Quizzers.

Easter Flowers

If you would like to make a donation towards the Easter lilies in Church, in memory of a loved one, and to include their names on the memorial roll, I should be grateful if you would let me have names and monies by **Thursday 19th March at the latest**. Cash or Cheques made payable to 'Merrow PCC' can be left in the parish office. Please do not leave money in Church.
Many thanks Helen Chambers

Sewing Group - Tuesday 3rd March 10.30am

Thank you so much to our sewing team for last week! Our next session will be on Tuesday 3rd March where we will be looking ahead to a few holiday club sewing projects.

The dates are:

Tuesday 3rd March

Tuesday 7th April

Tuesday 2nd June



Merrow Infants PTA - Quiz Night - Friday 6th March 7.30pm

A fun-filled quiz night here at the St John's Centre to support Merrow Infants CoE School! An evening of trivia, games and delicious Domino's pizza. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Teams of up to 8 people. Don't miss out! Tickets £15 per person. <https://merrow-c-of-e-infant-school-pta.sumupstore.com/quiz-night> or use the QR code.



Beating Hearts Merrow - Next Course 7th March at the St John's Centre

On Saturday 7th March 2026 10.30-11.30am, you are invited to a free Learn to Save a Life demonstration session.

Led by a highly experienced paramedic, you will learn what to do if someone collapses from a sudden cardiac arrest or a traumatic bleed. In one hour you will have the confidence to use an automated defibrillator and a Bleed Kit (now found in many defib cabinets). Questions and hands on practice.

Spaces are limited, so please register:

Email: beatingheartsmorrow@outlook.com or text: 07590 045751

Lent Lunch - 11th March

We are holding our 2nd Lent lunch on Wednesday 11th March. Sign-up sheets will be at the back of church on Sunday mornings.

Mothering Sunday Posie Making - Saturday 14th March 9.30am

We would like to invite you to come and join us on Saturday 14th March, in Church from 9:30 -11:00, to help make posies ready for Mothering Sunday. If you are able to bring any greenery from your garden and a pair of secateurs/snips that would be very helpful. We will provide the tea, coffee, biscuits and chat! All ages welcome, hope to see you there. For any more information or to let us know you are coming please email Georgie at youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk

Women in Fellowship - Film Night - 14th March 7pm

The Women in Fellowship will be holding a film night on Saturday 14th March at 7 pm in the Centre. We will be showing the latest Downton Abbey film and serving tea, coffee and cakes in the interval. If you wish to come along, please contact

Lindsay Dobson treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk or

Carole Burtonwood carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk



Men-in-Fellowship upcoming Events

- **Friday 20th March** (depart 9.30am) - Walk to West Horsley with lunch at The King William IV Pub
- **Saturday 25th April** (8.30am) - Breakfast Meeting with Stephen Hall, who is a Mediator, Leadership Coach and Strategy Consultant, talking about conflict in business and Christianity
- **Saturday 30th May** - Exclusive tour of Guildford Cathedral to include members of St. John's Women-in-Fellowship
- **June (tbc.)** - Watercress Line Real Ale Train – awaiting dates

Please save the dates and we hope you can join us. More details to follow.

Saturday 28th March - Annual Church Spring Clean

Our Annual Spring Clean of the church ready for Easter. Drop in anytime between 9.30 and noon ready to polish, dust, tidy, sweep etc as many hands do make light work! Carrying out tasks together makes it fun so please join us. Homemade cakes supplied for the workers! Rosanne

Choir during Communion – Sunday 5th April 10am

On one Sunday in each month, 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 9.30am on Sunday for a run-through before the 10am service if you can. Contact Micky or Tim for more information.

5th April: 219 This Joyful Eastertide

The Matrix Trust - Annual Dinner Thursday 23rd April - Guildford Cathedral

The Matrix Annual Dinner is taking place on Thursday 23rd April at Seasons at Guildford Cathedral. This fundraising evening will include a delicious dinner, live jazz music, an inspiring talk from their CEO, and an auction, all in celebration of the young people the Matrix Trust support and the impact of their work.

Tickets and further details can be found here:

<https://thematrixtrust.charitysuite.com/events/7uihtd4f>

A book request! Angela Tilby's 'Won't You Join The Dance?'

One of our parishioners is trying to find a copy of Angela Tilby's 'Won't You Join The Dance?'. It's unavailable at libraries and second-hand online sellers. She wondered if anyone has a copy they could lend her. She promises to take great care and return it promptly. Please contact the parish office if you have a copy you are happy to lend.

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.

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.

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).



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.



ST JOHN'S PRE-SCHOOL

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER

If you are looking for a happy, engaging environment to help support the physical, emotional and social development of your child then look no further. Our learning through play philosophy is at the heart of what we do.

MON-FRI 9.30-12.30 TERM TIME ONLY

JOIN NOW!

For more information visit our Facebook page (search for St John's Pre-school Merrow) or contact Amanda Bazley on 01483 454625 or email amanda.bazley@saintjohnspreschool.org.uk

Food Bank

The food bank would greatly appreciate donations of

- Tinned Tomatoes
- Cooking Oil
- Long Life Puddings (Sponges, Jelly, Angel Delight)
- Biscuits
- Toilet Rolls



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.

- *Baby Wipes*
- *Baby Towels*
- *Nappies size 0-1*

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, 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

Please note the following Parish Office opening times:

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

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

youthworker@saintjohns.org.uk

Parish Administrator:
Sandra Rayner

office@saintjohns.org.uk
01483 454621

Centre Manager (Room Bookings):
Barry Dickinson

centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk
01483 454621

Churchwarden:
Jane Farquharson

jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk

Churchwarden:
Cathy Thompson

cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk

Deputy Churchwarden:
Michael Eagle

michael.eagle@saintjohns.org.uk

Treasurer:
Lindsay Dobson

treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer:
Rosanne Bond

safeguarding@saintjohns.org.uk

Organist & Choir Director:
Micky Clare

mickyclare2@icloud.com

Coffee Club:
Gerald Hunt

merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com

Bell Ringing:
Jane Farquharson

jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk