



NEWSLETTER

Saturday 19th July

8.30am Men in Fellowship – Breakfast Meeting – Centre

Sunday 20th July

8am Holy Communion – Church

10am Parish Communion – Church (Livestreamed)

11.30am Parish BBQ – Rectory Garden

4pm Inter-Church – Church

Monday 21st July

9.15am Glow Toddlers – Centre

Wednesday 23rd July

10.30am Holy Communion Service – Centre

11.30am Wednesday Coffee Club 60th Anniversary – Centre

No Youth Café – returning on 10th September

Friday 25th July

3pm Choir Practice – Centre

Sunday 27th July

8am Holy Communion – Church

10am Parish Communion – Church (Livestreamed)

10am Sparks 5-11s group – Church

12noon Sophie Stokes Baptism – Church

(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 (term time plus a few extras)
Wednesdays	10.15am Wednesday Coffee Club 10.30am Holy Communion Service 5pm Youth Café (term time only) returning on 10th Sept
Fridays	3pm Choir Practice

Other Calendar Events

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

August

Sat 2 nd Aug	Churchyard Tidy Up 9.30am
Sun 10 th Aug	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Sat 16 th Aug	Men-in-Fellowship - Real Ale Train
Wed 13 th Aug	Coffee, Cake and Chat Morning - 10am
Thur 14 th Aug	Time to talk! 2pm
Sun 17 th Aug	Starship Discovery Set up 2pm
18 th -22 nd Aug	Starship Discovery Holiday Club - (Monday - Friday)
Sun 24 th Aug	Holiday Club All Age Service 10am in church

September

Mon 1 st Sept	Glow Toddlers returns after the summer break at 9.15am
Sat 6 th Sept	Churchyard Tidy Up 9.30am
Tues 9 th Sept	Green Team returns after the summer break at 4pm
Sat 13 th Sept	Ride and Stride
Sun 14 th Sept	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church
Thur 18 th Sept	Time to talk! 2pm
Sun 21 st Sept	Inter-Church 4pm in church
Tues 23 rd Sept	Green Team 4pm
Sun 28 th Sept	Sparks 5-11s group - during 10am service in church

Hymns

765 Praise to the Lord
236 Breathe on me, breath of God
445 God is here! (tune 337)
588 And can it be

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour 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,
send down upon your Church
the riches of your Spirit,
and kindle in all who minister the gospel
your countless gifts of grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading

Colossians 1.15-28

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Gospel

Luke 10.38-end

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Readings next week:

Genesis 18: 20-32

Luke 11.1-13

Post Communion

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your
governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Sick or in need - Dick Pyper, Edward, Ben, Jean Lockwood, Michael Stoughton

Departed - All whom we have known and loved but see no longer.

NEWS

Wednesday Coffee Club - 60th Anniversary Celebration - 23rd July

On the 23rd July we are celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Wednesday Morning Coffee Club at 11.30am in the Church Hall. Various dignitaries including our MP Zoe Franklin will be joining us. There will be sandwiches, scones, cakes etc with bubbly to wash it down.

We would love everyone to come and join us for this celebration, members and friends are all welcome. If you are thinking of coming, please can you add your name to the sign-up sheet that will be in church on Sunday. Hope to see you there, Gerald (Organiser)

T: 07545 256114 E: merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com

Starship Discovery Preparation and Making Morning - Wednesday 30th July

On Wednesday 30th July 10am-1pm we will be having a preparation and making morning for our holiday club Starship Discovery upstairs in the Church Centre. Would you be free to come and help us get ready? There will be things such as painting, sewing, constructing, cutting, sticking, laminating and organising to do. NO SKILLS REQUIRED, just willing hands and you can drop in anytime! Tea, coffee, biscuits and the chance for a good natter provided. If you have any of the following, and are willing to, please bring them with you on the day: Craft knife and cutting board, Hot glue gun, Decent pair of scissors and Sewing machine. Please let Georgie know if you are able to come along.



Coffee, Cake and Chat Morning - Wednesday 13th August 10am

On Wednesday 13th August at St John's Centre in main hall we will have a coffee, cake and chat morning. Drop in anytime between 10.00 and 12.00.

If you need transport please contact Rosanne by Wednesday 6th August on 01483 579462. Suggested donation £1. ALL WELCOME!

Time to Talk - Do you need a listening ear? - Thursday 14th August 2pm

We are trialling a new pastoral care initiative called 'Time to Talk.' This is a time for anyone to come and talk to Tim and one of our pastoral care team. You can come and talk to us if you have a pastoral issue, a theological question or even if you just want to chat. Time to Talk will initially be held in the parish office, where we will have access to coffee, tea and biscuits too.

The dates are:

Thursday 14th August 2pm-3pm

Thursday 18th September 2pm-3pm

Men-in-Fellowship - Events

Saturday 16th August - Real Ale Train

Back by popular demand, **The Real Ale Train** on the Watercress Line. The RAT as it is affectionately known, returns in 2025 to continue its tradition of serving real ale from the bar car whilst travelling by train through the Hampshire countryside. Food is available along with non-alcoholic beverages. We will be leaving Merrow late afternoon, in time for the steam train departing Alton at 7pm. For more details please contact Richard at richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk



Ride and Stride - Saturday 13th September

Get sponsored for visiting churches in Guildford. Start at St John's and walk, run, cycle etc to as many churches as you wish, being sponsored for each church that you visit.

Money raised will be halved between St John's and the Churches Trust, who in return give grants to churches for restoration.

Details and sponsor forms will be available in church and from Jane Farquharson. Jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk

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/Work Space

A 'Warm/Work Space' is available at the St John's Centre in the foyer on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings between 10am and 2pm

Food Bank

The food bank would greatly appreciate donations of

- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Fish
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Toilet Rolls
- Cooking Oil



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


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.

 nappies 1

 baby wipes

 baby toiletries (shampoo, body wash, lotion)

 mum toiletries, breast pads and maternity pads.

If you have prams to donate, please get in contact before dropping off.

We are currently looking for some support with fundraising for Baby Basics Guildford! If you have some time to support in this way please get in contact so we can arrange a time to chat. Whether that be organising a fundraiser for us, help with sponsorship or looking at grants for us anything that could help keep the pennies in the bank would be appreciated.

We can only keep doing what we do with support from others.

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

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:
Sandra Rayner

office@saintjohns.org.uk
01483 454621

Centre Manager:
Barry Dickinson

centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk
01483 454621

Churchwarden:
Jane Farquharson

jane.farquharson@saintjohns.org.uk
07765 620017

Churchwarden:
Cathy Thompson

cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk
07518 202920

Deputy Churchwarden:
Michael Eagle

michael.eagle@saintjohns.org.uk
07850 000224

Treasurer:
Lindsay Dobson

treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk
07809 836896

Safeguarding Officer:
Rosanne Bond

safeguardingstjohn@gmail.com
01483 579462

Organist & Choir Director:
Micky Clare

mickyclare2@icloud.com
01483 538306

Coffee Club: Gerald Hunt

merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com
07545 256114