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November 2026

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The Revd Tim Clifford Hill
Rector



Georgie Gregson
Youth & Families
Minister

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Please note: St John's Church is currently closed during the day, unless there is a scheduled service. We will update you when we are able to re-open at other times.

Sunday services are listed on Page 2.

Services during the week:
Morning Prayer Monday to Thursday at 9am in Church.
Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 10.30am in the Merrow Hall, St John's Centre.
Evening Prayer on Fridays at 5pm in Church.

All are welcome.

NOVEMBER 2026 SUNDAY SERVICES (Year A)

Sunday 1st November All Saints' Day, White

1 John 3.1-3, Matthew 5.1-12

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am All Age Worship

Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday, Red

1 Thessalonians 4.13-end, Matthew 25.1-13

9am CW Holy Communion

10.45 Act of Remembrance

11.15 Uniformed Organisations

Sunday 15th November 2nd Sunday before Advent, Green

1 Thessalonians 5.1-11, Matthew 25.14-30

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd November Christ the King, Red/White

Ephesians 1.15-end, Matthew 25.31-end

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Holy Communion

Sunday 29th November 1st Sunday of Advent, Purple

1 Corinthians 1.3-9, Mark 13.24-end

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Holy Communion

Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent, Purple

2 Peter 3.8-15a, Mark 1.1-8

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am All Age Worship

Wednesday Holy Communion will be weekly at 10.30am in the Merrow Hall.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Funerals:

8th October Stephen Hall



ST JOHN'S SUNDAY 10AM LIVESTREAMED SERVICE

Our Sunday 10am livestreamed service has moved from Facebook to **YouTube**. If you wish to watch the livestream then you should go to our website and click on the red box at the top right. That will then show you a page which has our logo on it. If the logo is framed in RED then the livestream is working.

BISHOP'S PRAYER NETWORK

Bishop Paul has made intentional prayer one of his three foci as our Acting Bishop and has invited all those willing to pray with him for our diocese to join the Bishop's Prayer Network. This will entail receiving a prayer bulletin every two months, invitations to pray online with Bishop Paul, should you so wish, six times a year and to join him in two half-nights of prayer.

All are welcome to join at: www.cofeguildford.org.uk/prayernetwork

FROM OUR YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES MINISTER

Welcome to our November Magazine!

November is always a bit of a whirlwind, isn't it? Just as the evenings get darker and the jumpers get thicker, there seems to be a lot happening at St John's — and this year is no exception!

We begin the month with All Saints' Day on Sunday 1st November. For our 10am All Age Worship we will be continuing our year of focusing on diversity by celebrating the wonderful diversity of God's worldwide Church with "Bring a Piece of Your World."

We're inviting everyone to bring along a small object that connects you with somewhere in the world — perhaps somewhere you were born, have lived, have family, or simply somewhere that is special to you. If you can, have a think about a Christian or saint connected with that place too. You might already know someone, or perhaps do a little research. Don't worry if you can't find anyone — simply bringing something that represents your connection with the place is absolutely fine.

November, of course, also brings Remembrance Sunday on the 8th November, when we pause together to remember those who have lost their lives or been affected by conflict.

This year our Remembrance services are:

9am – Holy Communion

10.45am – Church Act of Remembrance

11.45am – Service for young people & uniformed organisations

Then, on Friday 13th November, it's time to put your general knowledge to the test at our Quiz Night! Gather a team, bring your competitive spirit and join us for an evening of questions, fun and probably a little bit of arguing over whether an answer is actually correct. It's always a great chance to spend time together as a community, so we'd love to see you there.

As we move through the month, we'll gradually turn our thoughts towards Advent, a time of waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus, at Christmas! We are also looking forward to our new focus for the liturgical year, starting on Advent Sunday, which is Prayer.

This Advent one of the ways we are going to be preparing is with our very first Christmas Lantern Festival! From Friday 11th to Sunday 13th December, we'll be filling the church with lanterns and light, and we'd love as many people as possible to get involved. There are two ways to take part: you can make a hanging paper lantern using our simple template, or enter a free-standing lantern — which can be homemade or something you already have. Families, individuals, schools, groups and businesses can all get involved. Visit our website for more information on how to get involved: www.saintjohns.org.uk

So, when you're drinking your first (or fiftieth) November hot chocolate and wondering how Christmas can possibly be approaching already, why not start thinking: "What could I make for the Lantern Festival?"

We can't wait to see what you come up with!

Georgie Gregson

A POEM FOR REMEMBRANCE

For the Fallen.
by Laurence Binyon.

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres,
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

BRING A PIECE OF YOUR WORLD

As part of our year of celebrating diversity, we'll be celebrating the wonderful diversity of God's worldwide Church this All Saints' Day.

We're asking you to bring a small object that connects you with a place somewhere in the world — perhaps somewhere you were born, have lived, have family or simply somewhere special to you.

If you can, have a think about a Christian or saint connected with that place — you might know someone already, or perhaps do a little research!

Don't worry if you can't find anyone, though; simply bringing something that represents your connection with the place is absolutely fine.

One church. Many places. Many people. One God



WAR AND ETHICS

Robert Avis reports that Brigadier (retd) Philip Pratley talked at a recent Men-in-Fellowship breakfast about War and Ethics, giving some thoughtful insights into the way the British war dead were commemorated a century ago. He commissioned Philip to write this article for our Remembrance Day magazine for which we are very grateful.

Commemorating British war dead a century on.

On 11 November 1918 an armistice brought fighting in the Great War to a standstill but exposed a particularly difficult question which for many families ruptured a sense of shared national commitment: how should the dead be commemorated? To us, events might appear logical with neat timelines and a clearly defined perspective. But both during and following the war, commonly held grief was superseded by sincerely held but diametrically opposed views.



From the outbreak of war in August 1914, as reports of the casualty lists began to dominate local and national newspapers, people of all classes realised the war was not detached from their lives. For some historians, telegram boys provide the original instance of bringing war to the home front. The telegrams were messages of heartbreaking news that a son, brother, husband, father was dead or missing. It was common for officers to write letters of condolence, although they rarely knew the soldiers' next of kin to whom they were writing. Similarly, chaplains (also known as padres in the military) often wrote after a field burial. Families would have questions, which they might pose by way of a letter in reply: what happened; where is the grave and how is it marked; how can you be sure he is dead if he is "missing believed killed"?

Regiments might try an answer but often in staccato terms, designed to close down the discussion. They had a war to fight. Soldiers felt the burden of grief for their mates; the trauma of recalling comrades killed in their presence. Trying to explain to families the horror of industrialised warfare was impossible. A battlefield burial might have been tactically feasible, while others would die of wounds in a field hospital. Too often, burial proved impossible; unit commanders had to report casualties as "missing believed killed". The nightly war diaries acted as a continual reminder and ideas took shape for regimental commemorations. It would be for individual regiments to decide how to do this. For the Royal Navy, the question was how to remember their losses, most of which were posted as missing, as whole ships' companies were lost at sea.

As here in Merrow, communities started what were to become local commemorations, with an emphasis on supporting the bereaved families. Decisions were made locally, not nationally. The limited overlap between local and military memorials was understandable; the gulf in understanding between those who had been in the trenches and communities coming to terms with the scale of local casualties was too wide.

In previous wars, even in South Africa (1902), soldiers would be buried without ceremony if at all. Commemoration would be regimental and sometimes local. Nothing was arranged nationally. But as the Great War drew soldiers of all backgrounds from across the nation then the Empire, the Army reluctantly agreed that the dead should be treated respectfully rather than just being cleared from the battlefield.

The question then became one of how the British nation and Empire would remember its dead. The national principle proposed by the Imperial War Graves Commission (now known as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, or CWGC) by early 1918 was straightforward: cemeteries close to the battlefield with equality of treatment to remember those of all faiths and none, without regard to rank.

For some families, the most pressing concern was repatriating a body to the family plot in the local church or to place a private memorial on the grave. Nothing masked the controversial response: no repatriations, no private memorials in military cemeteries. As the fighting finished, the most prominent arguments were about the type of headstone. Petitions

and even Parliamentary debate offered one approach: "(to) represent the idea of self-sacrifice … the one essential symbol is the cross". Parliament accepted "the principle of equality of treatment laid down by the Commission should be carried out by the erection over the graves of all officers and men in the war cemeteries abroad … headstones of uniform dimensions" meant that a cross shaped headstone would be inappropriate. King and Parliament settled on a blank rectangular stone headstone with curved top, engraved with name, rank, age, date of death and a regimental cap badge with an engraved cross or other faith symbol, unless the family wished for no such symbol. There would be no private memorials in the cemeteries. Some families were never reconciled to the decisions.

There was a separate, no less bitter, debate on creating memorials to the missing, "to whom the fortune of war denied the known and honoured burial given to their comrades in Death" (Kipling's words). Today the distinctive CWGC headstones in the carefully designed and beautifully kept CWGC cemeteries, and the memorials to the missing, create a sense of remembrance and reflection.



We appreciate these sites as giving us meaning for thought and gratitude. Many churchyards have CWGC headstones, for those who died while in UK, having been brought back to hospital in UK or through vehicle or training accidents. We have two such in St John's.

The public forms of commemoration have different outward appearances. Local, such as the memorials here in Merrow. Regimental, such as the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment memorial in Holy Trinity Guildford. National whether buried, such as at Brookwood the largest CWGC site in UK, or missing, such as the RAF memorial at Runnymede. Specific faith commemoration, such as the Muslim burial ground for British Indian Army soldiers in Horsell. Other nations, such as Belgian soldiers buried under their national headstones alongside

British dead under CWGC headstones in West Clandon. Workplace memorials, such as at the entrance to Guildford rail station. The reasoning behind each design may have been complicated. The purpose remains ours in common: we will remember them.

Brig (ret'd) Philip Pratley MBE

BABY BASICS

Could you help with Baby Basics?

Baby Basics are looking for members of the congregation to join their team.

They need people who:

- would be willing to come along once a month, usually on a Tuesday morning, to help empty and sort the donation point and pack new orders.

- could help on an ad hoc basis with meeting midwives to collect baskets outside of the usual Tuesday morning sessions.

- Volunteers to wash the baby clothes that people donate. If you think you could help with any of these roles, please get in touch with the team at babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk.

If you would like to know more about Baby Basics, please 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.

FREE PROSTATE CANCER TESTING COMES TO MERROW THIS NOVEMBER

Thursday 12 November at Clandon Golf, next to Merrow Park & Ride



November is **Men's Health Awareness Month**, and this year Clandon Golf is helping to put men's health firmly in the spotlight by hosting a free prostate cancer testing event. On **Thursday 12 November**, the Guildford charity **The Prostate Project** will bring its mobile prostate cancer testing unit, the Man Van, to Clandon Golf next to the Merrow Park & Ride. The free blood testing is **open to all eligible men — not just golfers.**

Every year, Clandon Golf organises events to raise awareness of men's health, particularly prostate cancer, while also raising funds for The

Prostate Project. Prostate cancer is now the **UK's biggest cancer killer among men**, claiming one life every 45 minutes. However, when detected early, it is often highly treatable and usually curable. That is why regular testing via a simple PSA blood test and awareness are so important.

For almost 25 years, The Prostate Project has been working to improve the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. During that time, it has raised more than £11 million, helping the Royal Surrey County Hospital achieve Centre of Excellence status for prostate cancer treatment. The charity also supports scientists at the University of Surrey, funding research into innovative immunotherapy treatments and new drugs for men with advanced (metastatic) prostate cancer.

The visit of the Man Van to Clandon Golf provides a convenient opportunity for men in Merrow, Guildford and the surrounding areas to get tested locally and find out more about their prostate health. Early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms at all. Men can feel completely well while having the disease. By the time symptoms appear, it is often advanced and incurable.

Thursday 12 November

Clandon Golf, next to Merrow Park & Ride

Free prostate testing for:

- **Men aged 50 to 70**
- **Black Men aged 45 to 70**
- **Men aged 45 to 70 with a family history of Prostate, Breast or Ovarian Cancer**

No appointment required

You MUST have your NHS Number


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ST JOHN'S WOMEN-IN-FELLOWSHIP



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….

Thursday November 5th 2pm – 4pm
Visit to the Spike (St Luke's workhouse) with refreshments

Saturday 5th December – Christmas themed craft afternoon
If you wish to know more about the Women-In-Fellowship or the events, please contact Carole Burtonwood carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk or Lindsay Dobson treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk



ST JOHN'S RECIPE BOOK

We are looking to create a recipe book from our amazing community to sell at various church events during the year. So, we need your help! Do you make a fantastic flapjack, a superb soup, a perfect Paella, or marvellous Moussaka?

We would love to have your recipes! Please go to:

https://forms.churchdesk.com/f/E0W5wyV31u or use the QR code to access the form to send us your recipe! We would ideally love all the recipes in by the end of October and then keep an eye on the Parish Magazine or church newsletter to see when we go to print!

WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST MEETING

At our October meeting we were lucky to welcome two speakers from Shooting Stars Children's Hospices (formerly Shooting Stars Chase Hospices).

We had an informative talk on the work undertaken at Christopher hospice site at Artington built on land generously donated by the More Molyneux family, after the tragic death of their son in an accident in 1997. There is another hospice called Shooting Stars Hampton.

The hospices care for babies, children and young people up to age sixteen with life limiting conditions, supporting them and their parents through the difficult time of devastating diagnosis to living with a condition to end of life care, bereavement and beyond.

Highly qualified and knowledgeable nurses provide medical help to those whose needs are constantly changing. This support is 365 days a year. There are up to 6 supported children's beds and 3 family flats for supported parents to stay at Christophers Artington.

There is a Sensory Room, allowing children with limited sensory abilities to experience the world around them using, for example, musical floors, fibre optics, mirrors. Also, a Hydrotherapy pool, where children and families can swim together providing physical benefits to help muscle strength and mobility, not possible out of water.

Art and music therapies are available, helping children communicate

and express feelings. Sessions are often recorded for precious memories.

Shooting Stars' motto is:
"We are here to make every moment count."

The hospices provide Bereavement support to families of babies and children who have died suddenly. Care is offered for 3 years and 3 months so as not to stop support near an anniversary.

It costs £14 million per year to run both hospices - 30% from government funding for medical costs, the rest covered by the hospices. Volunteers are welcome, details on their website.

We can help by supporting the 2 local charity shops at Guildford and Godalming by donating or buying from them.



Our specialist care and support is available 365 days a year



We support families across Surrey, south west and north west London



It costs £14 million a year to run Shooting Star Children's Hospices

VIEW FROM THE PEW

In the recent film "Conclave", Ralph Fienne's character tells the assembled cardinals tasked to elect the next pope that their main enemy is certainty.

To a community reared on the firm assurance of faith, this is a startling statement, yet history is littered with the damaging effects of certainty. The Spanish Inquisition and the widespread burning to death of heretics and witches spring immediately to mind.

Doubt can be excruciatingly painful, especially in such existential concepts as our hope of salvation and the rightness of our way of life. In the light-hearted film "The King and I" Yul Brynner sings about life being "a puzzlement". He concludes rather pessimistically that to avoid doubt we will all fight to prove that "what we do not know is so". As Christians we most sincerely declare our belief in the truths of our faith, and I firmly believe that we are right to do so.

Where certainty is probably dangerous is if we believe our own personal vision of God is the only correct one. Paul says we see Christian truth through a glass darkly but will see everything clearly in the next life. I'm rather looking forward to that wonderful clarity.

Chris Starr

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.

ST JOHN'S MEN-IN-FELLOWSHIP

Men-in-Fellowship Winter Calendar of Events

Your Men-in-Fellowship team have been busy planning events for winter 2026 and here is a summary of what's coming…….

Saturday 7th November (evening)
Pub Social Night with a curry aimed at new and established members

Thursday 10th December (morning & lunchtime)
A local walk followed by Christmas Pub Lunch together

Please save the dates and we hope you can join us. More details will follow, but in the meantime please contact Robert robertavis@raavis.plus.com or Richard Richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk if you need more information.

A REPORT ON THE MEN-IN-FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST, 26TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Why are Foodbanks needed in 21st Century Britain?



We had a most interesting and informative talk by our very own Dan Frith on his experiences in running the Wandsworth Food Bank.

The food bank was set up by a group of six Wandsworth churches with the aim of alleviating food poverty in the borough but also assisting with poverty generally. There is a central depot in a building made available by a property group, with distribution through the churches on different days of the week.

People don't choose to come to the food bank; typically, they don't really have enough money to cover basic costs (accommodation is particularly expensive in this part of London) and then perhaps they encounter life issues impacting their income and are forced to contact a local charity in the borough who can refer them to the food bank.

The aim of the food bank is to provide short term help during a difficult period as well as other assistance which people may need to get back on their feet. Dan and his team have put a lot of thought into the experience of using the food bank, in order to achieve a good blend of their values of compassion and dignity. Feedback from users suggests that users appreciate their efforts and many people have benefited from their work.

The talk stimulated a lively discussion, and we all agreed we had learnt a great deal, which will help us in interacting with the Guildford food bank through St John's.

Dial back a bit on the pasta, more of the tinned meat and fish!

David Mulvey

PS. The Men-in-Fellowship donated generously, and an additional food basket was handed on to North Guildford Food Bank as a result of Saturday's gathering.



HOME-START GUILDFORD

We have been contacted by the above organisation who advises us as follows:

I'm a patron for a local Charity, based in Burpham, called Home-Start Guildford (*) and in the process of promoting the launch of an illustrated children's book written by a local resident in Albury and illustrated by an artist in Dunsfold. They are generously donating all proceeds to Home-Start Guildford. We have been given a full-page free advert in MOVEiT/GUIDETO newspaper (Oct Edition) and are aiming to maximise awareness via as many local parish mags as possible. The book will be available at Shere Pottage and in store and online @ Paper Moon in Guildford and we will be running sessions, aligned with Guildford Book Festival.

Our story is all about a local charity, supporting local people with a local author and local illustrator being supported by local businesses.

(*) Home-Start is a prominent family support charity who provides free, confidential, and non-judgmental assistance to parents with young children who are going through challenging times

Kind regards
Rob Kelly
Patron Home-Start Guildford
07836 520 656

HOME START Guildford





WEDNESDAY COFFEE CLUB

The coffee Morning is as usual a hub of lively conversation, so if free on a Wednesday at 10.15 please give us a try - it may be more fun than you think.

We are also now taking bookings to go to the Pantomime at Godalming Borough Hall on 12th December to see Beauty & the Beast At £ 23.00 a bargain "oh no its not- Oh yes, it is!"

Hope to see you soon

Gerald

Email: merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com

Tel: 07545 256114

Following on from a great time at Edwins, I will be holding our November lunch meet on Thursday the 12th Nov at 1pm in the Bulls Head, Clandon.

If you are interested in joining us, we would love to see you, but can you let me know as the Pubs do not like 15 people just turning up unexpectedly!

Gerald

PARISH MAGAZINE – COST

Dear Readers,
We hope that you are continuing to enjoy the content of our magazine. Unfortunately, we have made the difficult decision to raise the cover price of our magazine to £1 to cover printing costs (this will take effect from January). The last increase was around 5 years ago.

Thank you for your understanding.
Cathy Thompson (St John's Parish Magazine Co-ordinator)

FROM MERROW C OF E INFANT SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

As we embrace the beautiful colours of autumn around our lovely playground, it is a pleasure to write to you from our school and share the wonderful start we have had to the new academic year. The school buildings are once again filled with laughter, energy, and a shared enthusiasm for learning.

Our newest and youngest pupils in Year R have settled into school life so well, we are very proud of the way they have all come into school so keen to learn and play. They have adapted remarkably quickly to their new routines, making new friends and exploring the classroom and playgrounds with great confidence.

A major highlight of the term so far was the Year 2 trip to RHS Garden Wisley. The children had a fantastic day exploring the spectacular gardens and learning about the natural world around them. From investigating diverse plant life to observing the changing seasons first-hand, our oldest pupils represented the school magnificently with their exemplary behaviour and curious minds.

More recently, we gathered together for our annual Harvest Festival celebrations. We were absolutely delighted by how well-attended both the YR and KS1 Assemblies were, and it was wonderful to welcome so many parents and family members to join us in giving thanks and singing some of our favourite Harvest songs. The generous donations brought in by our families will directly support our local foodbank; it is such an important message for our children to take on – that of giving generously, if not with foodstuffs like at Harvest but also how they can be generous with their friendships, time and attention.

Rev'd Tim has shared with you the news from Surrey that we will not, at present, be moving forward with an amalgamation with the Junior School; whilst the staff at the infant school have found the news somewhat unsettling, we remain committed to providing the very best opportunities and learning environment for our children. We remain incredibly grateful for the continued prayers, warmth, and support of

the parish and we look forward to sharing more of our journey with you over the coming months.

Warm regards,

Emma Hooper

FORTHCOMING MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Issue	Copy date	Editor	Editor's email address
December	15th Nov	Helen Eagle	helen.chambers@saintjohns.org.uk
January	13th Dec	Carole Burtonwood	carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk
February	10th Jan	Frances Jewson	frances.jewson@ntlworld.com

(If you draft your copy in Tahoma, 16 point, on an A4 page, you'll get a good idea of how much space it will take up.)

The front page of this month's magazine reminds us of our Remembrance Sunday services on 8th November (see page 5 for more information)



Thank you very much to **Chantries & Pewleys** for sponsoring our colour magazine cover again this year.

ABOUT OUR CATHEDRAL..

In November…

The Cathedral Choir.

I was prompted to write about the Cathedral Choir when I learned that Jeremiah, a young male chorister from our Cathedral, was a semi-finalist in this year's BBC Young Chorister of the Year.

By way of history, The Cathedral Choir sang for the first time at the service of consecration in May 1961, and under the direction of five organists and masters of the choristers since that date has established an impressive international reputation. This reputation for excellence has been founded on the tremendous commitment, energy and enthusiasm of parents, choristers and adult singers alike. In 2002 the establishment of the Girl Choristers augmented the Cathedral's music foundation.

Between them the boy and girl choristers and the lay clerks provide music for seven fully choral services each week during school term time. They also participate in a wide variety of musical activities which include recording, broadcasting and touring, as well as frequent concert appearances in the cathedral and elsewhere.

Additionally, The Guildford Cathedral Choir Association was formed in the 25th anniversary year of the Cathedral (1986) by a group of former lay clerks and choristers from the early years of the choir. They felt it was important to create an Association whilst there were a large number of the founding members of the choir available. This is a unique situation for a cathedral choir since Guildford Cathedral was the only completely new cathedral in the twentieth century.

The boy choristers of the Cathedral Choir are all educated at RGS Prep School, the choir school for Guildford Cathedral. In recent years they have toured France, Belgium, the Netherlands and the East Coast of America.

GARDENING HINTS FOR NOVEMBER

Things to do in the garden in November.

The grass is gradually turning green and we have had some rain but normality is still some way off. The Planting of Tulips should be completed by the end of this month.

Cut down faded perennials leaving Penstemon and other late flowering perennials to continue flowering.

If you do not want to risk frost damage to Dahlias and Cannas by overwintering them in the ground. they should be lifted, dried and stored in a frost free place ready for planting next Spring, if they are being overwintered in the ground they should be covered with a mulch dressing.

Apply an application of a mulch dressing to protect Agapanthus from the frost.

Stand pots and containers on feet to prevent waterlogging.



Half hardy Fuchsias and Pelargoniums should be cut back and brought undercover. Watering should be reduced so that they remain dormant during the winter months.

Bare root Roses should be planted this month. The roots should be plunged into a bucket of water overnight and planted in a mixture containing Bonemeal, and compost.

Complete the pruning of Climbing Roses and reduce the height of Bush Roses to prevent wind rock during the Winter months.

Continue to sow Sweet Peas under glass or indoors, once they produce two pairs of leaves they should be pricked out into 3" pots and then placed into a cold frame or frost free place to continue growing slowly.

Oriental grasses should be left until the Spring before being trimmed back.

This is a good month for taking hard wood cuttings of shrubs, they should be 6"-8" long with the top cut angled to shed water just below a pair of buds, the lower cut should be straight just above a pair of buds, push the cuttings into a deep pot filled with compost, the cuttings should be pushed in around the edge of the pot with the angled cut uppermost. Water the compost and then place the pots in a frost free place to overwinter.

Amaryllis bulbs should be potted up for Christmas flowering.

Bring potted Hyacinths into a light cool area once they begin to shoot.

Reduce the watering of Houseplants so that the soil surface is dry but the roots are slightly moist, give the plants plenty of light but do not leave them close to a window on frosty nights.

Now is a good time to plant Raspberry Canes, Fruit Trees and Bushes.

Start the winter pruning of Apple and Pear trees.

Aquadulce Broad Beans should be planted now to produce an early crop ahead of the Spring invasion of Blackfly.

Garlic cloves can still be planted.

The grass should be cut on warm dry days with mower blades set on a higher setting.

Try to keep off the lawn when it is frosty.

Continue to rake fallen leaves off the lawn.

John Boon

REGULAR ST JOHN'S 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 (term time only)
Fridays	3pm Choir Practice

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

November

Tues 3rd	Green Team 4pm
Thurs 5th	Women-in-Fellowship – Visit to the Spike 2pm
Sat 7th	Churchyard Tidy-up 9.30am
Sat 7th	Men-in-Fellowship – Pub & Curry Night
Sun 8th	Remembrance Sunday
Mon 9th	PCC Meeting
Fri 13th	St John's Quiz Night 6pm
Sun 15th	Inter-Church 4pm in church
Tues 17th	Green Team 4pm

Sun 22nd Sparks 5-11s group – during 10am service in church
Sun 29th Sparks 5-11s group – during 10am service in church

December

Tues 1st	Green Team 4pm
Sat 5th	Women-in-Fellowship – Craft Afternoon 2pm
Thurs 10th	Men-in-Fellowship – Local walk and Christmas Pub Lunch
11th to 13th	Lantern Festival in church
Sun 13th	Sparks 5-11s group – during 10am service in church
Tues 15th	Green Team 4pm
Sun 20th	Christmas Carol Service
Thurs 24th	Crib Service 4pm

Sun 27th Sparks 5-11s group – during 10am service in church.

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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 our Treasurer, Lindsay Dobson (giftaid@saintjohns.org.uk).


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WHO'S WHO

Rector	The Revd Tim Clifford Hill (Day off: Friday and Sat am)	951649
Youth & Families Minister	Georgie Gregson (Days off: Friday & Saturday)	07974 494504
Churchwardens	Cathy Thompson	07518 202920
	Michael Eagle	07850 000224
Deputy Churchwarden	Rosemary Stoughton	07493 372215
Verger	Helen Eagle	07500 222063
St Johns Centre Office	9am – 2pm, Mon, Wed and Fri 9.30am – 1pm, Tues and Thurs	01483 454621
- Parish Administrator	Sandra Rayner	office@saintjohns.org.uk
- Centre Manager	Barry Dickinson	centremanager@saintjohns.org.uk

Web site: www.saintjohns.org.uk Email: office@saintjohns.org.uk

(Acting) PCC Secretary	Tricia Tappin	01483 579193
PCC Treasurer	Lindsay Dobson	07809 836896
Gift Aid, Legacies and Parish Giving Scheme	Martin Thompson	578923
Organist and Choir Director	Micky Clare	538306
Babies and Toddlers Group	Jane Farquharson	07765 620017
Baby Basics	babybasics@saintjohns.org.uk	458128
Bell Ringers	Jane Farquharson	07765 620017
Bible Reading Fellowship	Jenny Welbourn	825541
Cathedral Link	Nick Bond	579462
Children's Society representative	Judith Sampson	571847
Christian Aid Organiser	Natalie Excell natalie.excell@saintjohns.org.uk	
Electoral Roll	Carole Burtonwood carole.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk	
Flower coordinator	Helen Eagle	07500 222063
Magazine Advertisements	Alan Thorn adverts@saintjohns.org.uk	
Merrow C of E Infant School	Louisa Dormer (Executive Headteacher)	
	Emma Hooper (Deputy Head)	561501
Church Governors	Helen Eagle	07500 222063
	Lindsay Dobson	07809 836896
Safeguarding Officer	Rosanne Bond	579462
St John's Merrow, Pre-School	Amanda Bazley (Manager)	454625
Diocesan Lay Pastoral Assistant	Helen Eagle	07500 222063
Readings and Intercessions Rota	Joe Bullock	07521 960480
Weekly News Sheet	office@saintjohns.org.uk	
Wednesday Coffee Mornings	Gerald Hunt	07545 256114
Transport	Rosanne Bond	579462
Website contact	Parish Office (as above)	

For any changes to Who's Who, please email cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk

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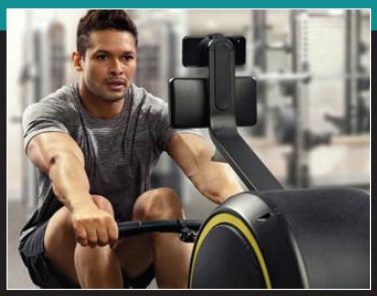


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