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know God's love, grow in faith and
live in hope.**

PARISH MAGAZINE

June 2026

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Epsom Road, Merrow

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The Revd Tim Clifford Hill
Rector



Georgie Gregson
Youth & Families
Minister

A Caring Christian Community, here for everyone

St John's is open every day from 9.30am to 4pm. Please feel welcome to visit us.

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.

All are welcome.

JUNE 2026 SUNDAY SERVICES (Year A)

Sunday 7th June

First Sunday after Trinity, green

Romans 4.13-end, Matthew 9.9-13 18-26

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am All Age Worship

Sunday 14th June

Second Sunday after Trinity, green

Romans 5.1-8, Matthew 9.35-10.8

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Parish Communion

Sunday 21st June

Third Sunday after Trinity, green

Romans 6.1b-11, Matthew 10.24-39

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Parish Communion

Sunday 28th June

Fourth Sunday after Trinity, green

Romans 6.12-end, Matthew 10.40-end

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am CW Parish Communion

Sunday 5th July

Fifth Sunday after Trinity, green

Romans 7.15-25a, Matthew 11.16-19

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am All Age Worship

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

FROM THE RECTORY

Welcome to the June newsletter!

June is an in between month for us at St John's. We had the joy of our Patronal Festival last month, with many attending our parish breakfast and our evening Eucharist as we joined together to celebrate John the Evangelist, our Patron Saint. And next month we have our Church Fete in the Rectory garden on Saturday 4th July - please do come and enjoy the day!

Last month was also the festival of Pentecost, which is often described as the birthday of the Christian church. To help us celebrate this we received some birthday cards from Year 5 at Merrow Junior School. Every child in Year 5 sent a card to us. Each card was filled with colours of orange and yellow to signify the fire of the Holy Spirit. Each card had a different message inside - my favourite being "celebrating the outpouring of the Spirit, may your day be filled with the joy of the Lord."

For me these cards showed how important the Christian church is to the life of a community, particularly here in Merrow where we are continuing to strive to have good relationships with everyone in our community. Merrow Junior School is one of those places with whom we have a good relationship. Although it is not a church school it is joined in partnership with our church school (Merrow Infant School) and they share the same Head and staff. It is possible that these schools may join together and become a new Church of England Primary School on the Merrow Junior School site. However, we will have to wait for the outcome of a consultation to see if this will happen. This idea would be a wonderful opportunity for us to strengthen our relationship with the community and to help more young people on their journey through life, whether they have faith or not.

Sadly this amalgamation idea has come under fire (and not the fire of the Holy Spirit!) from local councillors and the National Secular Society, who have written articles saying that the church clearly wants to convert children to the Christian faith and force our views upon the young.

I want to say here in writing that this is not the case. Christians should not try to 'convert' people, especially the young. Faith is a choice. Christianity is a choice. Baptism is a choice. Confirmation is a choice. Our role as Christians is to support our fellow human beings on their journey from life to death and beyond. If they want to join us and become a part of a large loving family which spans the whole globe and lives out its life walking with Jesus then that is a wonderful thing. But we should never force Christianity on people.

In July we look forward to inviting the choir of Merrow Junior School to our church fete, along with the famous maypole dancers from our church school. Please come and join us and bring your family and friends too, as together we continue to strengthen our community ties and build a stronger and better Merrow.

With good wishes,

Tim

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Baptisms:

19th April Ettie Eckersley-Trowse

26th April Olive Roussos
Aimee Roussos

Wedding:

8th May Rebecca Elizabeth Baldwin
Carl Mitchell Lewis



ST JOHN'S, MERROW PRESENTS



MISSION RESCUE

BIBLE HOLIDAY CLUB

17TH - 21ST AUGUST

9:15 - 12:00

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THE FRIENDS OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST (FOSTJ)



The Friends of St John the Evangelist is a registered charity formed by members of the community of Merrow to assist in maintaining and preserving the buildings and grounds of the magnificent Grade II listed Church.

If you would like to help in our endeavours in any way and keep up with our news, please visit www.fostj.org. We would love you to become a member.

Our Parish Magazine front page this month shows a painting of the allotments and St John's Church in Merrow, painted by Jenny Kisler. Jenny, who passed away a few years ago, was a long-term worshipper at St John's. Best known for her work on Rupert Bear in the 60s and 70s, Jenny succeeded well-known Rupert Bear artist Alfred Bestall after his retirement in 1965.

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

FORTHCOMING MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Issue	Copy date	Editor	Editor's email address
July	14 th June	Chris Starr	chrisstarr10@btinternet.com
August	12 th July	Susan Harrington	suzh90@outlook.com
September	16 th August	Cathy Thompson	cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk

(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.)



VIEW FROM THE PEWS

I am angry, I am angry that we have some of our beloved church family facing diagnosis of severe health issues. It's very much, 'Why do bad things happen to nice people.' It was ever thus, BUT, the sense of helplessness and the question, WHY looms large. If we are living in a society with a blame culture, who can we blame? Obviously that is so unhelpful but often a question to which we know will never have an answer. So loving and caring, supporting in whatever way we can cannot change the outcome, so often Our Lord is blamed. Does it challenge our faith in an all loving God in the face of 'bad news'? Is it okay for me as a Christian woman who believes in an all loving God, to ask why is there war, sickness, violence against the innocent? Surely it's the very reason to hold even tighter to our faith, our faith supports our endurance, we can lay our anger, frustration, grief at the feet of our Lord. Without our faith, without our hope that our beloved friends will not be alone in the path they walk, we will walk alongside them. But, it doesn't stop me from being 'angry'.

Trish Hayman

Thoughtful and heartfelt words from Trish and how many times have we each thought the same?

And View From the Pews number 2 and equally thought provoking:

The world portrayed in the media has large elements of chaos challenging my belief that God is in total control of his creation. It's not that I don't believe in that control, just that our abuse of the free will he gives us must often grieve him sorely. Our acts of kindness to our neighbours seem minor against the savagery happening in Ukraine, Gaza, Lebanon and Iran. Our doubts and unease trivial compared with a daily background of death and injury. There is a legend that when Peter fled Rome to avoid persecution, he met Jesus going to Rome carrying his cross. "Quo Vadis, Domine?" he asked – where are you going Lord? "To Rome to be crucified afresh" was the reply. Peter turned around back to Rome and to a painful death. I am ashamed

when considering how minor my mild discomforts are compared with the suffering gladly borne by the early Christians, real though such discomforts are to me. In the Screwtape Letters the junior tempter Wormwood is frequently exhorted to muddle the Christian he is tempting. Paul's praise of suffering in his letters leaves me thoroughly muddled, and I would be grateful if someone could open my mind to the value of pain. Like the chaos portrayed in the media, it seems thoroughly bad and totally against the will of God.

The chaos we see in the world
Is fought by Christ's banners unfurled.
By the giving of love
We please heaven above-
Back to Hades the devil is hurled

It seems appropriate, at this point, to include recent intercessions written by Sonya Graham:

Intercessions for *Our Community* – Sunday 17 May 2026

God of love and light, though I'm not here every Sunday, I feel the warmth of this church and the people in it. Thank you for the kindness, the laughter and the sense of belonging that this community offers. It's a reminder that, even in uncertain times, there are places where people care, where hope is alive, and where we can make a difference together.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

God of unity, I pray for our *Church family*, for everyone here, those who come every week, those who drop in now and then, and those who feel connected from afar.

Thank you for the moments that bring us together, like the quiz night that I'm sure filled the hall with laughter and friendship.

Help us to keep building a community where everyone feels welcome, valued, and supported.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Lord, *for a world in need of hope*, the world can feel heavy with conflict, division, and suffering.

But I'm reminded that there's also so much good - people helping each other, communities standing together and small acts of kindness that change lives.

Give us the courage to challenge the darkness, to speak out for peace and to work for a future where everyone can live with dignity and safety.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Generous God, for *Christian Aid Week* this week, we're invited to stand with those facing poverty and hardship, like families in places like Nairobi who struggle just to put food on the table.

Bless those who give, those who collect and those who will receive help because of our generosity.

May our gifts, however small, bring hope and practical support to those who need it most.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Loving God, *we pray for Ourselves*. Help us all - whether we're here every week or just sometimes - to carry the spirit of this place into our daily lives. Give us the strength to be kind, to reach out, and to believe that, together we can make a difference. Remind us that even in the small things, we can be a light in the world.

We lift up those who are ill or in need of strength. Our prayers are with Ben, Amelia Butler, Sophie and Anna Collins.

We also remember those whom we have known and loved but see no longer.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

GIFT SUNDAY – 14th June 2026

On Sunday 14th June, we will thank God for all the gifts he has given us in the past years and ask for inspiration to use them for his glory in the year to come.



As usual with our previous Gift Sundays, we will look ahead at the financial challenges set before us and our continued efforts to financially support our Young People's Ministry Fund. We will also be thanking and hearing from some of the many volunteers who give of their time for the life of St John's and why they enjoy helping their church as much as they do.

This Sunday is one that I hope will encourage us and help us to keep going as we continue to proclaim the Good News in this corner of God's world. I also hope it will enable us to think afresh, both as individuals and as a community, about other ways we might serve God and God's people in Merrow.

Above all, it is a Sunday that gives me, as Rector, a chance to thank everyone at St. John's for all that you do to continue to make this church a place for the whole community to know God's love, grow in faith and live in hope.



St. John the Evangelist
Merrow

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-3PM**

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We are now ready to receive your donations for.....

- **Bottle Tombola**

- The ever-popular bottle tombola needs alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks in bottles, cans, multipacks, cartons, sachets, etc.
- Please pop your donations into the box in the Centre foyer anytime on weekday mornings

- **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 donations into the box in the Centre foyer anytime on weekday mornings

- **Book Stall & Jigsaws**

- Your Paperback books and Jigsaws are requested
- Please leave them in the Church on Sundays (in the box provided) or the Centre foyer anytime on weekday mornings

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 Carole Burtonwood
- **Cakes and Home Produce** – sale products to Micky Clare
- **Plants and all things horticultural** – to Cathy Thompson

Thank you



WEDNESDAY COFFEE CLUB

Coffee club is open for business 10.15 every Wednesday as usual till the school holidays when we will close on the 22nd July to give all the hard working helpers 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 Merrow on the 5th August at 11.30am.

Edwins the garden centre at Clandon Park on the 26th August again at 11.30am

These are drop ins 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 my e-mail: merrowcoffeemorning@hotmail.com or ring me on 07545256114



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...

- Saturday 11th July - 8.30am - Breakfast with talk by Rev'd Margaret Dean – 'Life in a rural parish'
- Saturday 10th October - 8.30am - 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 or Lindsay Dobson treasurer@saintjohns.org.uk

An English Breeze - Robert Louis Stevenson

UP with the sun, the breeze arose,
Across the talking corn she goes,
And smooth she rustles far and wide
Through all the voiceful countryside.

Through all the land her tale she tells;
She spins, she tosses, she compels
The kites, the clouds, the windmill sails
And all the trees in all the dales.

God calls us, and the day prepares
With nimble, gay and gracious airs:
And from Penzance to Maidenhead
The roads last night He watered.

God calls us from inglorious ease,
Forth and to travel with the breeze
While, swift and singing, smooth and strong
She gallops by the fields along.

FROM MERROW C OF E INFANT SCHOOL



Dear Friends,

As we write we are coming to the end of a busy half term at Merrow Infant School; we certainly like to keep the minds and bodies of our children active. This half term we have participated in cross country races and obstacle courses as well as visited the Cathedral, Rosamund Community Garden and had an Owl Workshop come into school.

We are continually looking for ways to join the infant and junior children together. A highlight for Y2 was when the Y6 children came down to give a French lesson to them. They all thought it was magnifique and tres bien! The Eco Group had a very interesting day up at the Cathedral participating in all sorts of green activities which they are now sharing with the rest of the school; they also enjoyed a visit to the Rosamund Community Garden with our newly elected Mayor, Mrs Tyson.

Reception's highlight this half term has been their visit to Bocketts Farm; we were very lucky with the weather as it remained fine and warm. Our link governor, Lindsay Dobson and Georgie came with us and we all enjoyed feeding the animals, the tractor ride and the most popular with the children – the pig race, especially as our orange pig won, Alison Gammon!

Last week Dan came to school and brought with him three beautiful owls; the children were captivated by them flying over their heads and thought it was hilarious when Zazu owl flew up onto the beams of the school hall! Dan told us lots about owls and we have all become owl experts now – they only eat meat; they don't like vegetables and only 5 are native species to the UK. The owls were not the only creatures flying at Merrow Infants as some of the classes released their butterflies too. Each class received a delivery of 5 tiny caterpillars which we have watched grow into quite chunky caterpillars over about 2 weeks, then we watched them become chrysalises before they emerged as beautiful butterflies.

After half term we have our Sports Day to look forward to as well as lots of activities planned to help prepare the children for next year. We have visits from the children who will begin school in September in Reception; we look forward to welcoming them and their families to Merrow Infant School.

Warm regards,

Emma Hooper

Reimagining St. John's Church



Pentecost Pause Day at Merrow Infants

On Wednesday 20th May Merrow Infant School came up to Church to begin their wonderful Pentecost Pause Day! The children came to St John's for a Pentecost Service lead by Rev Tim and Rachel Boxer from the Diocese. They spent time praying and learning more about the meaning of Pentecost in our beautiful church, with thoughtful prayers lead by year 2. Back at school, the children took part in the NATRE Spirited Arts project exploring the theme of *Sacred Spaces* — and wow, what an incredible job they did! Working together, they created a huge cardboard model of St John's Church! What great creativity, and imagination. We were so impressed by their hard work and teamwork, and it was lovely to see them to build their church as their Sacred Space! Thanks to all the staff involved as well!



Georgie Gregson



ST JOHN'S MEN-IN-FELLOWSHIP

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...

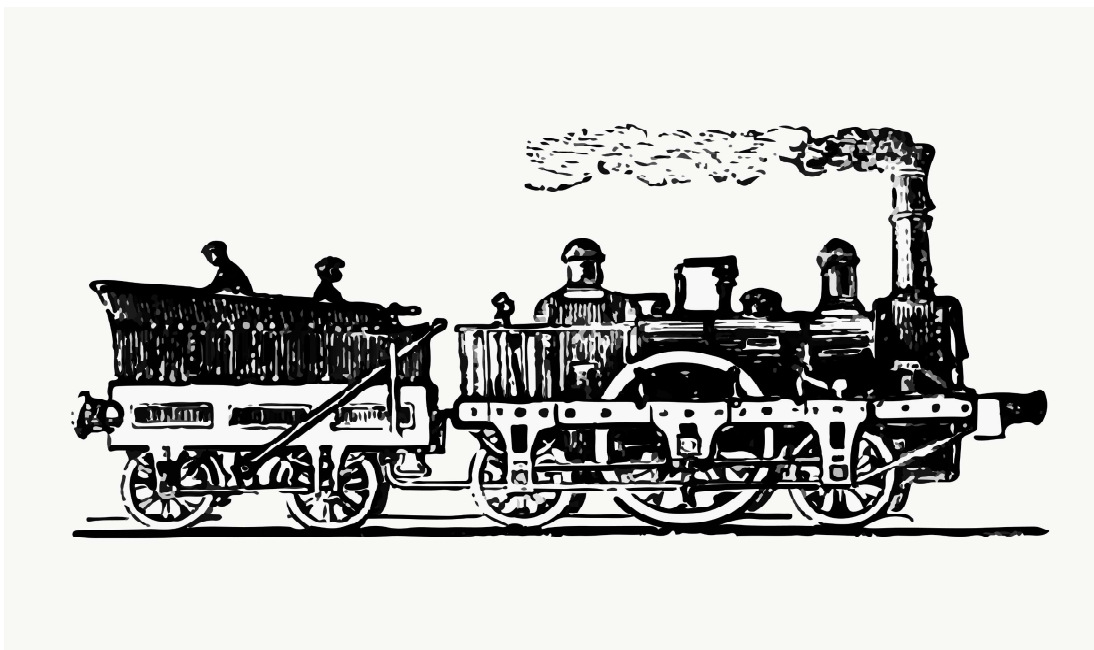
- Friday 19th June – Walk in the local area – details to follow
- Saturday 18th July - Watercress Line "Real Ale Train" – evening departure from Alton Station – always a popular event / more details to follow.
- Saturday 25th July (8.30am) - Breakfast Meeting with Philip Pratley on a talk entitled "Reflecting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

Richard.burtonwood@saintjohns.org.uk if you need more information.



Adlestrop
By Edward Thomas.

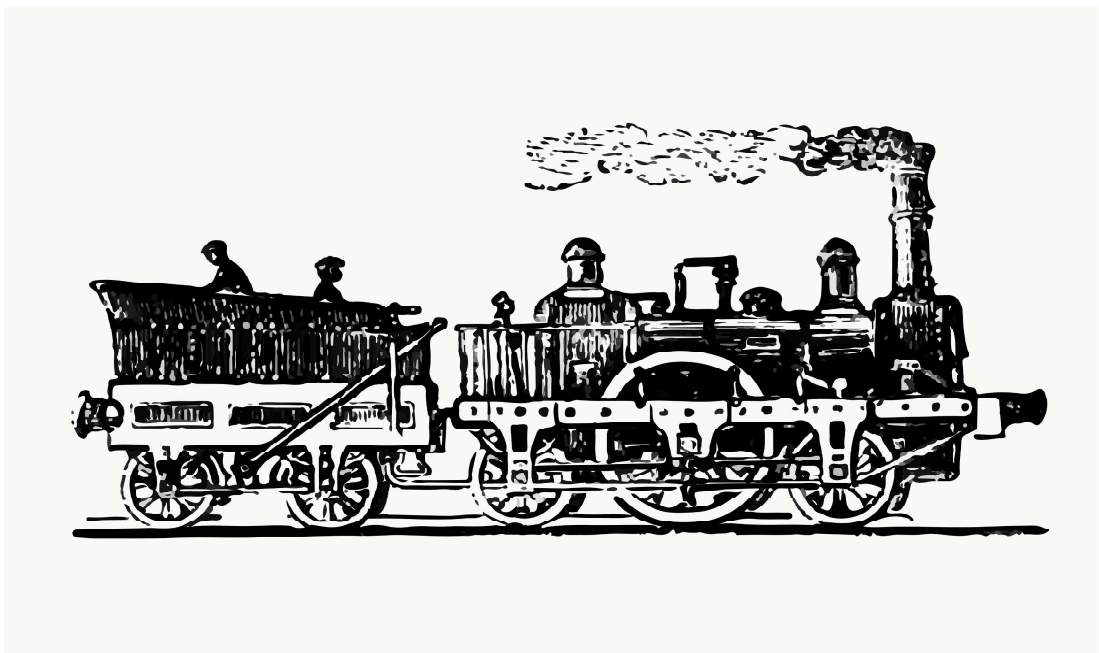
Yes. I remember Adlestrop —
The name, because one afternoon
Of heat the express-train drew up there
Unwontedly. It was late June.

The steam hissed. Someone cleared his throat.
No one left and no one came
On the bare platform. What I saw
Was Adlestrop—only the name

And willows, willow-herb, and grass,
And meadowsweet, and haycocks dry,
No whit less still and lonely fair
Than the high cloudlets in the sky.

And for that minute a blackbird sang
Close by, and round him, mistier,
Farther and farther, all the birds
Of Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

With thanks to Nick Bond for this fortuitous offering!





CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Thank you so much for joining us in supporting Christian Aid Week.

To date, our initial total is £1,600.00.

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:

To find out more about projects like this, visit **caid.org.uk**



Natalie Excell

GARDENING HINTS FOR JUNE

With no real rain in the forecast we could soon be in for a hosepipe ban, but at last the risk of frost has passed and we can safely plant out our tender plants into their flowering positions and look forward to the task of keeping them watered throughout the warm and hot Summer months ahead we hope.

Roses should have any wild suckers (that is shoots with seven or more leaves) removed, they should then be sprayed regularly with a systemic insecticide against Aphids, Blackspot and Mildew and fed with a Rose fertiliser. Climbing and Rambling Roses need to be tied in as near to the horizontal as possible to encourage better flowering.

Dahlias should be planted out and staked as they grow.

Dead head Delphiniums and Lupins to encourage a second flush of bloom.

Spring flowering shrubs such as Forsythia and Philadelphus should be pruned after flowering. Perennial Aubretia and Alyssum should be trimmed after flowering to encourage new growth. Clematis, Honeysuckle and Sweet Peas should be tied to supports as they grow. Lift Tulips when the foliage is dry and papery.

Pinch out the leading shoots of Chrysanthemum, Fuchsia and Helianthus to encourage bushy growth. Divide Bearded Iris after flowering.

Containerised plants should be fed once or twice a month.

In hot weather the greenhouse should be dampened down with water to maintain a humid atmosphere.

Protect Delphiniums, Hostas, Lilies and Lupins from Slug and Snail damage using animal and bird friendly pellets.

Indoor Tomatoes should be staked and have their sideshoots removed unless they are a bush variety, start feeding when the first fruits have formed.

Brussel Sprouts, Winter Cabbage, Courgettes, Purple Sprouting and outdoor Tomatoes should be planted out. Early Potatoes should be dug as soon as they come into flower.

Runner and French Beans should be planted out, sow seed now for a later crop. Continue to sow small quantities of Salad Crops.

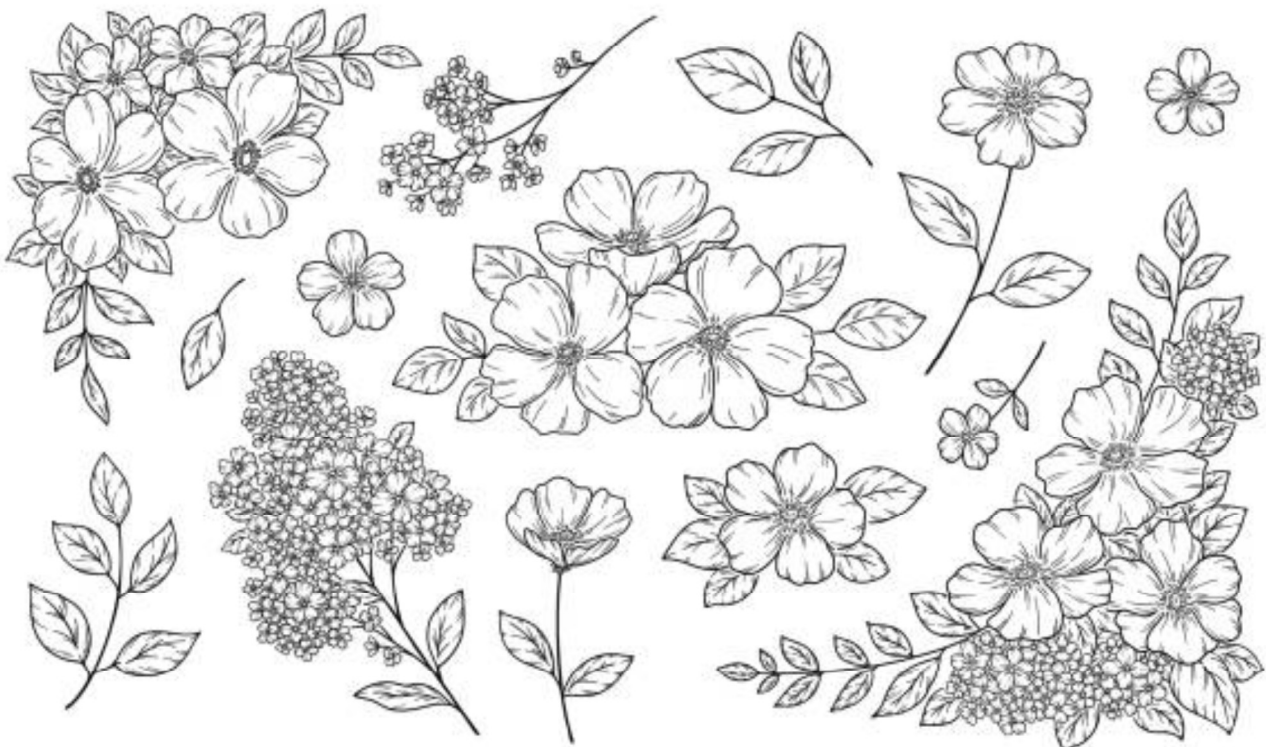
Thin out Apple, Pear and Plum fruits after the natural June drop has occurred.

Make sure that newly planted Shrubs and Trees are kept well watered during dry weather.

Now is a good time to sow Herbs outdoors, Parsley can be slow to germinate and can be speeded up by placing the seed in the refrigerator before sowing or by pouring boiling water over the soil after sowing. French Tarragon cannot be grown from seed only by vegetative propagation, Russian Tarragon which can be grown from seed is bland and tasteless.

Continue to mow the lawn frequently and apply a dressing of Summer Weed and Feed just before rain is forecast we hope.

John Boon



The following is Tim Wood's sermon from Sunday 17 May

The Reverse Economics of the Kingdom

Occasion: Sunday after Ascension Day

Acts 1.1-11

"In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Father, would you help us listen. Would you help us see the hallmarks of your love for us even in your leaving, even in those moments where we do not fully understand what is going on. Amen.

In my opinion, taken as read, Ascension Day is a bit of a bummer. It feels a little like receiving a gift at Christmas and then being asked to give it back a short while later. And I don't know about you, but it seems to me that it's at odds with Jesus' mission. In the gospel of Mark we read:

“And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they **might be with him** and he might send them out to preach and have the authority to cast out demons.” Mark 3:14

We note at the start of this passage in Acts a reference to “40 days”. This is not by accident. It is purposely similar to Noah’s forty days on the Ark, Moses’ forty days while he received the Ten Commandments, Satan’s forty days against Jesus in the wilderness. The significance is this: something important has been accomplished; something new is about to begin. So, yes - Jesus ascending into heaven is at odds with being with the disciples. But we have a few clues as to why, and what I want to suggest to you is that it’s a bit like reverse burglary - where someone leaves something behind instead of taking something from you.

Hearts and Minds

The first clue might be that even with Jesus in person, even after three years of itinerant ministry and seeing miracles, the disciples’ thinking was still focused on the restoration of Israel (by force). Even in this passage, Jesus (maybe kindly?) did not answer the question directly, perhaps because he knew the Holy Spirit would better accomplish this change.

In Romans 12:2 we read: “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.”

I’d like to suggest to you that the Holy Spirit is the agent of change in the patterns of our thinking.

The Mission

Another clue is that the scope of the mission is large. The place names do double time as they highlight both significant categories of place, while setting out the table of contents for the rest of the book of Acts: Jerusalem as the place of right now; the place where it all happened, the place of spiritual gravity. Judea as the surrounding countryside, but also the places of power. Samaria as the foreign and enemy territory. The ends of the earth, possibly a reference to Rome. But the mission is - always onwards and outwards.

Let's pause for a second - maybe we think the mission is too overwhelming. The disciples let their mouths hang open and gape: the angels address the disciples very lovingly as "men of Galilee". God knows very well who we are - people of Merrow, people of The Paddock, people of Swayne's Lane, people of Merrow Street. And God doesn't ask us to complete the mission alone. That's where the Holy Spirit comes in.

The Reverse Economics of the Kingdom

Finally, let's chat logistics. In business the objective is often to move from 1:1 to 1:many. If the service I provide requires less intensive time and I can serve more people, then it's possible I can either generate more revenue, or more margin, or both. But it seems to me that God is working in reverse. Jesus has to leave so that the Holy Spirit can come. We move from 1:many - Jesus appeared to as many as 500 disciples in those 40 days after his resurrection - to 1:1 as the Holy Spirit ministers to each of us corporately and individually.

Summary

Can I encourage us to celebrate this gift of the reverse economics of the Kingdom – Jesus leaves so that the Holy Spirit can come, re-orient the way we think, and help us deliver on our mission.

Let us pray.

God of reverse economics,
You leave so that you can come closer,
You ascend into heaven
So that you can descend into our hearts.
Forgive us for gawping, for being confused:
Still asking the wrong questions,
Still wanting the kingdom on our own terms.
Send your Holy Spirit before we overthink things,
And make us your witnesses here
In Merrow, in Surrey, and to the ends of the earth.
Come Holy Spirit, come.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Who left well, so that we might live well. Amen.

PARISH MAGAZINE – Could you consider being a 'guest editor' for one magazine per year – any month of your choosing?

We are looking for more people to get involved with producing the Parish Magazine.

The magazine is a focal point for information about St John's activities and makes a healthy profit for church funds. We currently need two additional guest editors.

Guest editors receive a document template with the magazine cover, adverts and regular pages already inserted. They then insert articles from both regular and occasional contributors and are free to add anything of particular interest to them. After proof-reading they send the completed copy to the printers.

Please contact Cathy Thompson (cathy.thompson@saintjohns.org.uk or ring 07518 202920) if you would like more information.

Thank you for considering this.

A Sunday school teacher, said to her children: 'We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?'

George blurted out: 'I know, Aces

'I hope you didn't take it personally, Vicar,' an embarrassed woman said after a church service, 'when my husband walked out during your sermon.'

'I did find it rather disconcerting,' the vicar replied.

'It's not a reflection on you, Vicar,' insisted the churchgoer.

'Christopher has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child.'



ABOUT OUR CATHEDRAL

The appointment of the new Diocesan Bishop.

You may be aware that Bishop Paul has recently advised that the **Vacancy in See Committee (ViSC)** would shortly begin the process towards the appointment of a new Diocesan Bishop, following the untimely death of Bishop Andrew. There will be an important opportunity for the whole of the diocese to participate through a consultation, expected to launch in June. Your responses will help shape a Statement of Needs and articulate what we are seeking in our next Bishop of Guildford.

The **Committee** has now held its first meeting, with a further meeting held on Monday 18 May and has two key responsibilities: to prepare a Statement of Needs which is a detailed profile of the diocese and the qualities sought in the next Bishop and to elect the six diocesan representatives from the ViSC to the **Crown Nominations Commission (CNC)** which will shortlist and interview candidates. When meeting to nominate an bishop, the Commission meets several times in secret. Following the lengthy process the Commission then forwards two names to the prime minister, who chooses one of them. Since 2007 the convention has been that the prime minister will choose the first-named recommendation. If the chosen individual accepts the office, the prime minister advises the Sovereign, who then formally nominates the prime minister's choice. Thereafter, the diocese's College of Canons meets to 'elect' the new bishop. Following on there will be a symbolic ceremony of installation or [enthronement](#) that takes place in the bishop's new cathedral, during which they are welcomed by their new diocese and first sits in their cathedral.

The above is a brief outline of the stages of the election of a new Bishop. Because of the importance of this appointment to our Cathedral, we will be following the process and continue to update you accordingly.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!

(in the Centre unless mentioned otherwise)

JUNE

Tues 2nd June	Sewing Group 10.30am
Sat 6th June	Churchyard Tidy Up 9.30am
Tues 9th June	Green Team 4pm
Sun 14th June	Sparks 5-11s group (during 10am service in church)
Fri 19th June	Men-in-Fellowship – Walk in local area
Sun 21st June	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Tues 23rd June	Green Team 4pm
Sun 28th Jun	Sparks 5-11s group (during 10am service in church)

JULY

Sat 4 th July	Church Fete Rectory Garden 12.30 – 3pm
Sun 5 th July	All Age service in the Rectory Garden and bring a picnic
Tuesday 7 th July	Green Team 4pm
Sat 11 th July	Women-in-Fellowship
Sun 12 th July	Sparks 5-11s group – during 10am service
Sun 12 th July	Baptism Tea Party
Sat 18 th July	Men-in-Fellowship – Watercress Line “Real Ale Train”
Sun 19 th July	Inter-Church 4pm in Church
Tues 21 st July	Green Team 4pm
Thur 23 rd July	Mission Rescue Holiday Club Prep Session 9.30am – 1pm
Sat 25 th July	Men-in-Fellowship – Breakfast
Wed 29 th July	Mission Rescue Holiday Club Prep Session 12.30 – 4pm

SUDOKU - ONE EASY ONE HARDER

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General Knowledge

Mad Dogs And Englishmen

This 20 question quiz also has an added bonus question. The first letters of each correct answer spell out the sub-title above.

1. Into which sea does the Nile flow?
2. Three continents lie on the Tropic of Capricorn, South America is one, name any of the other two?
3. In American currency 10 cents make a what?
4. Afrikaans was developed from which European language?
5. An Ortanique is a cross between a tangerine and what other fruit?
6. What Italian word for 'Scratched Drawing' can be found on walls all over the world?
7. What musical features 'Some Enchanted Evening' and 'There Is Nothing Like A Dame'?
8. What was the name of the first manned lunar landing mission in 1969?
9. Which boxer was nicknamed 'The Dark Destroyer'?
10. What was the name of Ritchie Valens' girlfriend?
11. What is the procedure called where an anaesthetic is injected close to the spinal cord?
12. What poisonous oily liquid occurs naturally in tobacco leaves?
13. Who had his first UK top 10 hit with 'Wichita Lineman'?
14. Which sign of the Zodiac is represented by the Scales?
15. In which country was Rudyard Kipling born?
16. What is the gemstone for September?
17. What instrument has been nicknamed the 'Mississippi Saxophone'?
18. One and a half litres of champagne is known as a what?
19. In alphabetical order name the three particles that make up an atom?
20. What is the common name of the 'Auora Borealis'?

BONUS QUESTION - WHAT DOES THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH ANSWER SPELL OUT

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	rosemary.stoughton@saintjohns.org.uk
Verger	Helen Chambers	01483 827844
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 Chambers	846574
Magazine Advertisements	Alan Thorn	adverts@saintjohns.org.uk
Marrow C of E Infant School	Louisa Dormer (Executive Headteacher)	
	Emma Hooper (Deputy Head)	561501
Church Governors	Helen Chambers	01483 846574
	Lindsay Dobson	07809 836896
Safeguarding Officer	Rosanne Bond	579462
St John's Marrow, Pre-School	Amanda Bazley (Manager)	454625
Diocesan Lay Pastoral Assistant	Helen Chambers	827844
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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