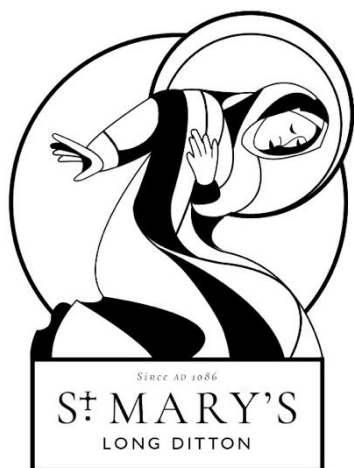




Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 13th September 2026

8.00am

HOLY COMMUNION

10:15am

PARISH COMMUNION

Anthem: Magnificat in G (Sumston)

Hymns: 606 (vs. 1, 3, 5, 6), 362, 241, 530

4:00pm

PET BLESSING SERVICE

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PRAYER FOR GROWTH AND RENEWAL

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions and power to our witness. Help our church, St. Mary's, to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community of Long Ditton, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading – Isaiah 61:10-end

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Second Reading – Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Gospel Reading – Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Post Communion Prayer

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray for all preparing for baptism and marriage, those who are sick or in hospital, and those who have died, and all who mourn.
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Church Diary

Monday 9:15am – Morning Prayer
Wednesday 10am – Holy Communion

Sunday 20th September – 16th Sunday after Trinity
8am – Holy Communion
10.15am – Parish Communion
6pm – Choral Evensong

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Jonah 3:10-end of 4 | Philippians 1:21-end | Matthew 20:1-16

EVENSONG MUSIC TO INCLUDE:

Rachmaninov Vespers Hymn to Mary
(in recognition of this week's Patronal Festival)
Responses by Forbes L'Estrange
Aston Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis

Parish news and notices

ALPHA COURSE starting **Thursday 3 September 8pm at the Rectory**, 5 Church Meadow for five weeks. Alpha is a series that explores the basics of the Christian faith. All are welcome. Here are some quotes from people who have previously done the Alpha course at St Mary's:

I enjoyed the social and relaxed atmosphere of the meetings and the open discussions of Christianity. (Sue)
Although the guy talking in the videos was too smooth, the course certainly impressed me, and I did learn quite a lot. (Gerda) *I went into the Alpha Course feeling unsure, but the gentle, discussion-based format helped me relax and explore faith without pressure or performance. Alpha became a space where my relationship with God felt clearer, calmer, and more personal. I would highly recommend this course. (Lucy).*

The next **BOOKBOX** will be taking place on **WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER at 7:30pm in the Church**. **Andrew Lownie** - distinguished publisher, literary agent and author - will talk about his book **'Entitled: The Rise and Fall of the House of York'**.

The next **FILM FRIDAY** is on **18th September at 2:00pm in the Community Hall**. The film being shown is the 2025 historical drama **'Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale'** with Hugh Bonneville, Elizabeth McGovern, Jim Carter, Michelle Dockery, Penelope Wilton (and many other original cast members). All are welcome to attend and enjoy refreshments afterwards. For more details, contact Joanne Hall on 020 8398 5637.

HARVEST SUPPER SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER - 6.30pm for 7.00pm in the Community Hall. For a suggested donation of £10, enjoy a two-course meal, table-top quiz and raffle - all proceeds are for church funds. BYO drinks. Places must be booked in advance by 20th September - there is sign-up sheet at the back of church or alternatively contact Joanne Hall (020 8398 5637) or Diana Jemmett (020 8398 1184). Vegetarians and other dietary requests can be catered for so let us know on the sign-up sheet as appropriate or when booking through Joanne or Diana.

URGENTLY REQUIRED - One or two people to deliver our popular Lychgate Magazine in roads off Ditton Hill. The roads include- Manderville Drive and Saffron Way (34 Mags) and/ or Oaks Way and Devonshire Drive (62 Mags). The estate is very quiet and pleasant, and delivery is every two months starting at the end of this month. Anyone interested in joining our wonderful team, please contact Val Tanner on email- val.a.tanner@gmail.com or Tel. 07771817760 Thank you.