



# Welcome to St Mary's Church

*Following Christ, serving you*

## **SUNDAY SERVICES 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**8.00am**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**10:15am**

**PARISH COMMUNION**

**Anthem: O Taste & See (Vaughan-Williams)**

**Hymns: 368, 427, 283, 474**

**6:00pm**

**EVENING PRAYER**

## **15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

## **First Reading – Amos 6:1, 4-7**

"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria! "Woe to those who lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the midst of the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David invent for themselves instruments of music; who drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore, they shall now be the first of those to go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves shall pass away."

## **Second Reading – I Timothy 6:6-19**

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

## **Gospel Reading – Luke 16:19-end**

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

<p><b>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.</b></p>
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## **Church Diary**

Monday – No Morning Prayer  
Wednesday 10:00am - Holy Communion

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival  
8:00am – Holy Communion  
10:15am – All Sorts Parish Communion with Holy Baptism  
6:00pm – Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS  
Philippians 4:4-9 | John 6:25-35

## Parish news and notices

### **FRIENDSHIP LUNCH – Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 1:00pm in the Community Hall.**

Do join us for a delicious two course meal followed by coffee. Do bring a friend or two with you – everyone is most welcome! If you would like to come along to join us and/or have any dietary requirements, please let us know before Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October. Contact either Joanne Hall (020 8398 5637) or Florence Caley (020 8398 3182) or add your name to the list on the notice board at the back of church. We look forward very much to welcoming you and others you may bring along with you but please let us know that you are going to join us.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL 5<sup>th</sup> October** – Please bring donations of non-perishable foods (tea/coffee/cereal/pasta/tinned goods etc.) to any of the services on 5<sup>th</sup> October. These will be given to the local Women and Children's Refuge – they are very grateful to receive them. Thank you.

**ST. MARY'S QUIZ NIGHT – 6:30pm on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> October at Long Ditton Village Hall.** Bring your own food/drink/glasses and money for the raffle. £10 a ticket from Joanne Hall (020 8398 5637 or email [joanne-h@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joanne-h@hotmail.co.uk)) or Diana Jemmett (020 8398 1184 or email [diana.e.jemmett@gmail.com](mailto:diana.e.jemmett@gmail.com)). Maximum 8 per team. Start swotting up now!

Our next **BOOKBOX** will be on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 7:45pm** – This month will be a little different. With our minds on Christmas, we will be wine-tasting! Charlotte Dean, who has worked in the wine trade since 1991 and runs the very popular 'Wined Up Here in Norbiton', will offer an overview of six wines, and there will be 10% off for orders taken on the night. Tickets will be £25.

**START COURSE on Thursdays 8pm at the Rectory beginning on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.** START is a six-week course which focuses on God, Jesus and life. It uses video clips, Bible study, discussions and interactive exercises to explore Christianity. START is accessible, fun and there is no prior knowledge assumed. It doesn't matter whether you are completely new to Church or have been a Christian for five minutes, five years or five decades - START offers something for everyone! If you have had questions about Christianity but never quite got around to asking this is the course for you.

### **SOCIAL TEAM NEEDS SECRETARIAL SKILLS URGENTLY**

We are urgently looking for someone who can take minutes at our meetings and then type and circulate them to the team members by email. We only meet bi-monthly, at 10:45am on a Saturday morning, for no more than an hour and a half, and often less! If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Diana (email: [diana.e.jemmett@gmail.com](mailto:diana.e.jemmett@gmail.com)).