Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 1st November 2026

8.00am	**HOLY COMMUNION**
10:15am	**PARISH COMMUNION** **With Holy Baptism of Michael Caley-Brannigan** **Anthem: Glory to the Lamb (Blackwell)** **Hymns: 227, 455, 230, 232 v. 1,2,3,8**
4:00pm	**ALL SOULS SERVICE OF MEMORIES**

ALL SAINTS DAY

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; 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 – 1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Post Communion Prayer

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; 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.

Church Diary

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

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday
8am – Holy Communion
9:45am – Parish Communion
11:00am - Act of Remembrance at Long Ditton War Memorial
6pm – Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1Thessalonians 4:13-end | Matthew 25:1-13

Parish news and notices

Thanks to everyone who helped at or came to the Quiz Night on 24th October. As usual it was a fun evening with some challenging questions but enjoyed by all. A fantastic £1,040 was raised for church funds**.**

The charity **READING FORCE**, founded by Revd Alison Baverstock in Aldershot in 2011, connects military families (including veterans) through shared-reading. On **Armistice Eve, Tuesday 10th November**, they are hosting a very special evening in the **Prince Consort's Library in Aldershot**. Valerie Singleton OBE and Janet Ellis MBE (both ex-*Blue Peter*) will read from a specially selected programme of poems and prose related to war. We will have musical interludes provided by the Lord Lieutenant for Surrey's trumpeter. Just 60 places are available. A link to secure a ticket can be found on Eventbrite: A special celebration on Armistice Eve Tickets, Tuesday, November 10 * 6 PM - 7:30 PM | Eventbrite or by emailing alison@readingforce.org.uk.

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH Friday 6th November at 1pm - join us for a delicious two course lunch followed by tea or coffee, and why not bring a friend or two with you as everyone is welcome! If you would like to join us and/or have any dietary requirements, just let us know before Wednesday 4th November. Please contact either Diana Jemmett (020 8398 1184) or Hilary (Billy) Lach (07532 004460), or add your name to the sign-up list on the notice board in the History corner at the back of the church. We look forward very much to welcoming you and any others you may bring along, but please do let us know that you intend to join us.

CAKE SALE on Sunday 15th November. Please bring cakes for selling (large or small) and money for buying.

The next **BOOKBOX** will on **Wednesday, 18th November at 8:00pm in the Community Hall** – Steve Owens from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission will outline the creation of the Imperial War Graves Commission, the development of memorials and cemeteries, before moving on to outline the Commission's work around the world today. He will include stories relating to those buried locally, of which St. Mary's provides some first-class examples.

FILM FRIDAY 20th November at 2.00pm in the Community Hall. The film being shown is the Alfred Hitchcock directed 1954 mystery thriller 'REAR WINDOW' with James Stewart and Grace Kelly. All are welcome to attend and enjoy refreshments afterwards. For more details contact Joanne Hall 020 8398 5637.

LONG DITTON LIGHTS UP! takes place on **Sunday 22nd November, 4.00pm - 6.00pm** in the car park next to Anny's. Fun for all the family with Food / Drink / Games / Carols / Raffle - Father Christmas will switch the tree lights on at 5.45pm. Do come along to support this community event!

LADIES NIGHT OUT – Wednesday 2nd December 7:00pm at The Angel Pub. All ladies are invited to enjoy a delicious meal and convivial company at The Angel on Wednesday 2nd December at 7:00pm. Please contact Joanne Hall (020 8398 5637) or Diana Jemmett (020 8398 1184) to book a place (**by Wednesday 25th November latest**). Look forward to seeing you there!