



Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 14th August 2022

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**

10.15am **PARISH COMMUNION**
Hymns: 413, 191, 356, 227

6pm **Evening Prayer**

9th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

First Reading – Jeremiah 23: 23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Second Reading – Hebrews 11: 29-12.2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched

raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel Reading – Luke 12: 49-56

‘I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

He also said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, “It is going to rain”; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. ⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?’

Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of 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

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES

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

Sunday 21st August 2022

8am Holy Communion
10:15am Parish Communion
6pm Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

to help you prepare to worship next Sunday

Isaiah 58: 9b-end | Hebrews 12: 18-end | Luke 13: 10-17

Parish news and notices

FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

The next Friendship Lunch is Friday 2nd September at 1pm in the Community Hall. I do hope this finds you all well and enjoying the sunshine! If you would like to join us, or perhaps bring a friend along, please contact either Diana on 020 83981184 or Florence on 020 83983182. There is also a sign up sheet on the notice board at the back of church. Please also let us know if you have any special dietary needs and we will try to cater for them. We look forward very much to welcoming you.

BIG BREKKIE!

To celebrate our Patronal Festival on **Sunday 11th September**, a BIG BREKKIE will be served in the Community Hall 8:30am to 9:30am. Cost is £8 for adults and £4 for children. Please sign up on the sheet on the notice board in the history corner (and indicate if a vegetarian option is required). A BIG BREKKIE is even better than a Squires breakfast!

ALPHA

We will be running **Alpha** again this September. If you have not come across this before, it's a course in the basics of Christianity that begins with shared food (in our case a pudding) followed by a film and short discussion. Alpha has been successful worldwide, and it was much enjoyed when we ran it for first time last year. Do consider if you would like to be part of this and sign up at the back of church.

The organiser of the **Biblical Barristas** (our celebrated post 10.15 service coffee team) is looking for more people who would like to join. We pride ourselves on providing really good coffee – so do get in touch with neilbaverstock@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to be part of this distinguished group.

BOOKBOX

Our **BookBox Programme** (a monthly book/writing-themed event) takes a break in August, but we will be back with a full programme leading up to Christmas. We have three very well-known writers and a fourth local celebrity – whose book actually outsold the other three in The Regency Bookshop in Surbiton when it was launched! Chris Cleave joins us on **Wednesday 14th September** to talk about ‘Everyone brave is forgiven’ and then we move to Thursdays, **13th October** for Tim Harrison, **17th November** for Katie Hickman and **15th December** for Elizabeth Buchan. These events are gathering quite a following so do join us – the entry price of £7 includes a free glass of wine and home-made nibbles. The books for all these authors are stocked at Regency.

QUIZ

Also coming up is a revival of the long-popular **St Mary’s Church Quiz in Long Ditton Village Hall**, on 8th October – tickets for this (which includes a ploughman’s supper and a pudding for £15) always sell out quickly so do book early. Please bring your own drink and glass. The link to order tickets is on our website or contact either Joanne Hall 020 8398 5637/ Diana Jemmett 020 8398 1184 if you have any queries. Tables accommodate up to eight, but don’t feel you have to recruit seven others in order to join in. We will be putting together teams on the night.

FUN FRIDAYS IN AUGUST!

To brighten up August, when everything stops for the summer, a different activity will take place every Friday afternoon in the Community Hall. These are:

19th - 2pm Cream Tea Afternoon + piano accompaniment

26th - 2pm Friday Film + refreshments.

Each afternoon activity costs £5 and must be booked in advance (pay on the day). Information sheets with reply slips are available at the back of church or contact either Joanne Hall 020 8398 5637/Diana Jemmett 020 8398 1184 if you have any queries.

VOCATIONAL RETREAT IN WOKING

Are you currently exploring or considering ordained ministry in the Church of England? Join a vocational retreat at St. Columba’s House, Woking on 14th - 16th October led by The Revd. Haydon Wilcox.

Contact: admin@stcolumbashouse.org.uk or ring 01483 766498 for more details.