



Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 7th August 2022

8.00am	HOLY COMMUNION with Rev Richard Truss
10.15am	PARISH COMMUNION with Rev Patrick Bateman Hymns: 537, 220, 386, 262
6pm	Evening Prayer

8th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading – Genesis 15: 1-6

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Second Reading – Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Gospel Reading – Luke 12: 32-40

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love

shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

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 with Rev Richard Truss

Saturday 11am – wedding of John Boyton & Anna Dutkiewicz

Sunday 14th August 2022

8am Holy Communion

10:15am Parish Communion

6pm Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

to help you prepare to worship next Sunday

Jeremiah 23: 23-29 | Hebrews 11: 29-12.2 | Luke 12: 49-56

Parish news and notices

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 meal 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:

12th - 2pm Flower Arranging + refreshments

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).

COME TO AS MANY AS YOU LIKE! 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. Amid so much stress and mental health issues would you be interested in attending a course of three evenings on 14th, 21st & 28th July to explore compassion for ourselves and towards others? Contact: admin@stcolumbashouse.org.uk or ring 01483 766498 for more details.