



**The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton**



Open to God, Open to all

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/

Email: gillinghamanglican@gmail.com

Sunday 31 August The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity (Proper 17)

CW Lectionary Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16; Luke 14.1, 7–14

10:00am **BENEFICE Holy Communion** St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Hymns: 766 (omit v.4), 569, 283, 557 (choir), 663

Prayers for healing are usually available after the service in the side chapel in St Mary's

12noon Baptism of Alora Kendall

St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Collect

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Post Communion

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your thoughts and prayers

Janet House, Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Mary Andrews, Diane Whitford, Ann Lockyer, Jean Harding, Anne Clarke and Michael Giddings.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, especially Zillah Tudor, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?' Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

GOSPEL Luke 14.1, 7–14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place," and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.' He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

Monday 1 September

2:00pm – 3:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Swimming for Memories' at RiversMeet Leisure Centre.

An hour of dedicated safe and supportive swimming or pool relaxation, with trained staff. For people who have memory loss, or any form of dementia, with a carer or loved one. Weekly from Monday 1 September until Monday 27 October. Free and no need to book.

Wednesday 3 September

10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10.30am – 12noon The Gillingham Men's Group at Rawson Court

2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

At Eden Café there will be an opportunity to purchase a variety of handmade craft items by J K Hall including cards, notelets and bags. Commissions also taken. A donation from each item sold will go towards St Mary's Church Funds.

2:00pm – 3:30pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Singing Together' at Rawson Court. Admission £2, which includes refreshment.



Thursday 4 September

10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Sing-a-Song of Praise' at The Malthouse Care Home

Friday 5 September

9.30am – 10am Informal Prayer Group in St Mary's Church

Saturday 6 September

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

Sunday 7 September The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 18)

CW Lectionary Philemon 1–21; Luke 14.25–33

8:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Church, Silton

We welcome The Bishop of Sherborne who will be presiding and preaching at St Nicholas.

10:30am Morning Worship St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour



Saturday 13 September Events

Gillingham - Meet at St Mary's 10am for a walk to Motcombe. Approx 3 and a half miles, mostly across varied farm and woodland, returning by bus from Motcombe church. Frieda Attwood has very kindly agreed to lead the walk this year, but please do let me know if you can join her. Kate Wickson 833 663.

Milton – 3:00pm at St Simon & St Jude. A traditional tea with sandwiches and cakes (£5 donation to DCHT). For further information contact Christine 824 655 / christine-alexander@live.co.uk

Silton – Peter Williams is challenging his personal best again on his trusty bike, and on a later date – Mike and Michela Metcalf and Diana Masters are doing a walk.

Tuesday 16 September – Benefice Social in the VSR, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

A Benefice Social to meet the Rector Candidate and their family, where Tea and Cake will be served. Please give your names to your church wardens so that we have an idea of numbers, or add names to the list on the St Mary's notice board just inside the church. Any contributions to cake would be appreciated. These can be handed to Miriam in the Parish Office that morning 9am -1pm or brought to the VSR just before the event- VSR will be open from 3pm.

Sunday 28 September – 10:30am Harvest Festival at St George's, Langham.

St George's will be collecting for the Foodbank and would appreciate any contributions on the day to decorate the church and to help those who are in difficulty.

Sunday 5 October – To celebrate harvest at St Mary's we are holding a lunch in the VSR, 12:15 for 12:30.

Ploughman's lunch, pudding and a glass of cider for £10 per head, children free. We are asking for volunteers to entertain us. You can sing, recite a poem, tell jokes anything goes - more information will be posted soon.

Gift aid summary letters for FY 2024/25 are now available for all St Mary's planned givers and anyone who has made gift aided donations during financial year 2024 - 2025. Please pick yours up from St Mary's. If you are able to help by delivering others, please do take those too. Many thanks from the Stewardship Recorder, Philippa Sargent.

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 9 September