

The parish of St André de la Pommeraye

www.standrewschurchguernsey.org



Newsletter for Holy Cross Day, 14 September 2025

The Rector writes ...



The **Feast of the Holy Cross**, sometimes known as the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, is the day when Christians celebrate the cross. Whereas Good Friday is dedicated to the passion of Christ and his crucifixion, Holy Cross Day is an opportunity for us to celebrate the Cross itself, as the sign of salvation.

The feast dates back to the early days of the Church. On 13 September 335, a great church built by the Emperor Constantine was consecrated in Jerusalem.

This church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem survives in a later construction, as the church built by Constantine was destroyed 1009, rebuilt forty years later and modified over the centuries. It is a place of great significance for Christians. It has been an important pilgrimage site for Christians since the fourth century.

According to ancient traditions, the church

contains both the site where Jesus was crucified at Calvary, or Golgotha, and the location of the empty tomb.

The day after the church's consecration, a relic of the cross on which Jesus was crucified was shown to Christian people for the first time for veneration.

Holy Cross Day is kept each year on 14 September, which this year coincides with a Sunday.

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The cross is depicted in a myriad of different shapes and representations, from bare wood through to ornate designs of precious metal and jewels. Some are empty. Some carry the depiction of Jesus being crucified. The cross in today's picture is from El Salvador in central America, a depiction of the Nativity in the shape of a cross, which has been displayed on the walls of our different homes over the years.

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The work on the exterior wall at the **east end of the church** is almost completed. The perished mortar has been removed, and the wall has been re-pointed with lime mortar. Once the stone has been cleaned on Monday, a water repellent spray will be applied to protect the building and the downpipe will be reconnected.

Once the wall has dried, perhaps next spring, we will deal with the damage to the internal plaster around the organ and on the east wall of the chancel.

Scaffolding has been erected on the **path from the car park** to the church, in preparation for the work on the roof and tower. Whilst the path is still open, and safe to use, please take care as you walk through the scaffolding.



This week

Sunday 14 September	Holy Cross Day	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 17 September	3.00 pm	Angel knitting at the Rectory
Thursday 18 September	6.30 pm	Choir practice
Sunday 21 September	St Matthew, apostle and evangelist	
	10.00 am	Holy Communion

St Andrew's church is usually open daily from around 10 am until the late afternoon or early evening.

Holy Communion, and laying on of hands and prayers for healing on Wednesday at 10.30 am at the **Monnaie Chapel**. The Monnaie Chapel is a remarkable place – accessed off the Rue du Monnaie (halfway up the road, on the left, when approaching from Les Poidevins).

In our parish ...

There will not be a service at 8 am on Sundays 21 and 28 September. The 8 am service resumes on Sunday 5 October. The 10 am service will continue as usual every Sunday.

The **Harvest Lunch** will be Sunday 5 October at La Barbarie Hotel in St Martin. I will have the SumUp machine in church on Sunday, this week, to accept payments for the lunch. *Please bring your bank card or whatever device you use to make payments.*

The annual campaign to knit **angels** for the Princess Elizabeth Hospital begins this week (although I understand that some have already been busy knitting at home). All knitters are invited to the Rectory on the following Wednesdays at 3 pm: 17 September, 1 October, 15 October, 29 October. November dates to follow.

Around the Island ...

GU10 will be giving a concert at Les Capelles Methodist Church on Friday 19 September at 7.30 pm. Free entry (but donations will be given to the Tumaini Fund) and refreshments will be served during the interval.

There are posters for various events, including the annual **Silver Service**, celebrating the National Day for Older People, which will take place at Vale Parish Church on Saturday 27 September at 3 pm and an **Applefest** at Les Capelles Methodist Church on the morning of the same date.

Prayers for the week

A prayer for this week:

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray

- for all who work at Guernsey's harbours, ensuring the supply of all the food and other goods on which we rely;
- for the wonderful work of volunteers for Guernsey's many charities;
- for the people of the United States of America at a time of great political turmoil;
- for those who are caught up as innocent victims in fighting in Gaza, Sudan, Congo, Ukraine and other troubled places in the world.



We pray

- in the **Guernsey churches** prayer cycle, for the work of PACE and the engagement of our churches in schools in Guernsey, and for Peter Graysmith and the chaplaincy at Elizabeth College;
- in Guernsey for all who live in the **parish of St Andrew** and for our church community, and for our constables and douzeniers;
- for those for whom our prayers have been requested:
 - Dennis Parton, Mike O'Hara, David Harvey, Godfray Guilbert;
 - church members: Cathy Belcher, Audrey Gollop, Stella Machon; and
 - friends and family: Emma, Jean Walsh, Stina Holmes, Elisa, Pauline, George Maiden, Georgina, David, Fletch O'Hara, and Chris and Diane Lesbirel.

Finally ...

I will be going to the Town Church after the 10 am service on Sunday, to attend the annual Battle of Britain service.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Tim

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Collect

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son
made an instrument of painful death
to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Liturgy and hymns at 10 am

1	676	Immortal, invisible, God only wise	Tune: St Denio
2	628	Father of heaven, whose love profound	Tune: Rievaulx
3	794	The King of love my shepherd is	Tune: Dominus Regit Me

4 812 Through all the changing scenes

Tune: Wiltshire

Gloria 1 (said)

Creed 3 (sung)

Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnis Dei Sung (usual settings)



Readings

New Testament reading: the letter of St Paul to the Philippians chapter 2 verses 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
 but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death -
 even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name
 that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel: John 3 verses 13-17

Jesus said, 'No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God,
whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree
and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes:
give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for he is our salvation, our life and our hope,
who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.