



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/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/)  
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### **Sunday 14 September Holy Cross Day**

*CW Lectionary Phil. 2. 6-11; John 3. 13-17*

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

*Hymns: 707 (omit \*vs), 157, 644, 144 (choir), 736*

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

10:30am Matins St Nicholas Church, Silton

10:30am Holy Communion St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 702, 660, 478, 152*

12:00noon Baptism of Jude Francis St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

#### **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.

#### **Post 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.

#### **For your thoughts and prayers**

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, Michael Giddings and Shirley Lynch.

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

### **READING Phil. 2. 6-11**

Christ Jesus, 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. 13-17**

Jesus said to Nicodemus: '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.'

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### **Monday 15 September**

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

### **Tuesday 16 September**

4:00pm – 5:30pm Benefice Social in the Vicarage School Room

*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 9:00am – 1:00pm or brought to the VSR just before the event - VSR will be open from 3:00pm.*

### Wednesday 17 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

*Also, at Eden from 2:00pm – 4:00pm, 'Experiment with Stitch'. Come and enjoy experimenting with a different stitch each month, starting with CRETAN stitch. Embroidery threads will be available, but please bring your own fabric. Contact Caroline on 07788 688795 for more details. No booking required.*

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

### Thursday 18 September

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

7:00pm Gillingham Community Cinema in the Vicarage School Room.

*Come and see 'Bridget Jones Mad About The Boy'. Tickets £6. Reserve from 07817 379006.*

*Payment on the evening.*

7:30pm The Challenges of the Green Agenda at Christ Church, East Stour, SP8 5LP.

*The power sources and energy efficiency of our church buildings and the challenges of carbon reduction in the drive towards Net Zero Carbon are important topics right now and are being addressed in this meeting of Deanery Synod to which anyone who is interested in these issues is warmly invited. There will be a presentation by The Revd Canon Kenneth Padley, Chancellor of Salisbury Cathedral, who has led the cathedral's reduction in its carbon footprint with initiatives that parish churches might be able to follow. Tea & coffee will be available from 7pm; the meeting will start at 7:30pm.*



### Friday 19 September

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

### Saturday 20 September

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

1:00pm Wedding of Henry Fisher and Helena Allfrey at St Nicholas Church, Silton

### Sunday 21 September St Matthew

CW Lectionary 2 Cor. 4. 1-6; Matt. 9. 9-13

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

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

6:30pm Harvest Festival St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

*For Harvest, CW Lectionary Philipians 4. 4 – 9 or Rev. 14. 14 – 18; John 6. 25 - 35*



### 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 – 12:15 for 12:30 Harvest Lunch in the Vicarage School Room.

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. Please sign list on the notice board at the back of St Mary's church to enable us to have numbers for catering (tickets will be available next week). Please speak to Anne Marsh for the open mic entertainment. Kate Wickson will be looking for bakers to produce apple crumble for the pudding. For any other information please speak to Steve Butler.

### GENEROSITY – Cornerstone Questionnaire for St Mary's

The Diocese has set up some workshops on this topic which Mike Sargent and I will be attending on behalf of St Mary's. To prepare, we need to ask the congregation of St Mary's to fill in a short questionnaire if they have time, patience and a computer! Please consider having a look at this and answering the questions. You do not need to agonise too much about the answers. Thank you, Tom Wickson

This is the link to the Cornerstone Questionnaire <https://forms.office.com/e/TmUcSFBtKk>, which will give insight into your church's approach to generosity in all its forms. It does not ask anyone to give money! Where it asks people to put in a CODE, please use your A Church Near You Code for St Mary's Gillingham: 634171. If you would like to fill in the questionnaire, please do so by Tuesday 7 October.