



**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/)  
**Email: [gillinghamanglican@gmail.com](mailto:gillinghamanglican@gmail.com)**

**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

*Hymns: 1 (vs 1-4 & 8), 135, 682, 145 & 456 (choir), 748*

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

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 *Hymns: 501, 41, 746, 379*

**Collect**

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Post Communion**

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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 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 Philemon 1–21**

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

**GOSPEL Luke 14.25–33**

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.'

### Monday 8 September

2:00pm – 3:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Swimming for Memories' at RiversMeet Leisure Centre  
3:00pm Milton on Stour PCC Meeting

### Tuesday 9 September (Parish Office Closed)

10:00am Funeral of Zillah Tudor at St Mary's Church, Gillingham  
10:00am – 12noon Gillingham Mindful Café at Gillingham Social Club, Hardings Lane. This week's activity will be Jeff Law, singer and guitarist.

### Wednesday 10 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

### Thursday 11 September

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

### Friday 12 September

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group in St Mary's Church  
2:00pm – 3:30pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Name that Tune' at St Martin's House, Queen Street, Gillingham. Remember music from films and songs when you were at school and have fun amongst others! Everyone is welcome.



### Saturday 13 September *Ride and Stride 2025 for Dorset Historic Churches Trust*

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room  
12:30pm – 3:30pm Repair Café in the Vicarage School Room

#### Ride and Stride Events Today

**x 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.

**x 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](mailto:christine-alexander@live.co.uk)

**x Silton** – Peter Williams is challenging his personal best again on his trusty bike.

### 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
10:30am Matins	St Nicholas Church, Silton
10:30am Holy Communion	St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour
12noon Baptism of Jude Francis	St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

### 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. Can these be handed to Miriam in the Parish Office that morning 09:00-13:00 or brought to the VSR just before the event- VSR will be open from 15:00.

### Thursday 18 September – The Challenges of the Green Agenda at Christ Church, East Stour, SP8 5LP, 7 for 7:30pm.

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.

### 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 u16 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.

**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.