

## Prayer bulletin

Give thanks for:

- Mark & Helena's children settling well in their new schools.
- Our new roof.
- Our house group having become two groups with more people involved.
- The opportunities for contact with local schools around Christmas.

Pray for:

- Helena to find a job locally.
- Those who find the Christmas season hard – pray for people you know.
- The staff at our local hospitals, already over-stretched with the winter season beginning.
- The Oaks School, as their year 5 children come into church for carols, and Jill visits Reception class with a Christmas Assembly.
- The Lighthouse Project doing 'Christmas Explored' workshops in many primary schools in addition to assemblies and lunch clubs.



**The Gate Café at St Mary's** is open every Thursday morning from 9.30am to 1.00pm. We offer a varied selection of snacks and some toasted products, such as tea cakes or crumpets, alongside cappuccinos, filter coffee, a variety of different teas and hot chocolate.

A friendly, sociable atmosphere for meeting friends, making new friends, or just enjoying a hot drink. Where possible we use Fair Trade products for our drinks. If you have not been to the café before, please tell our counter staff that you have seen our notice and your first tea or filter coffee is on the house. Please feel free to bring a friend or two.

**OPEN THROUGHOUT DECEMBER**  
closing just for Christmas and New Year's Day.

**St Mary's Craft Evening - Wednesday 14 January 2026 7.00pm**  
All welcome. Recommended donation £2. Refreshments provided.

## WHO'S WHO

**TEAM VICAR:** Revd Jill Alderton  
07856 657594 [rev.jill.alderton@gmail.com](mailto:rev.jill.alderton@gmail.com)  
(Day off: Friday)

**PRAAYER CHAIN CONTACT:**  
Ashley 07775 877781

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Janet Kensey  
01293 547261 [saintmaryssouthgate@gmail.com](mailto:saintmaryssouthgate@gmail.com)



Holy Trinity Church

[www.holytrinitytilgate.co.uk](http://www.holytrinitytilgate.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/holytrinitytilgate](http://www.facebook.com/holytrinitytilgate)

Holy Trinity Church, Titmus Drive, Tilgate, Crawley RH10 5EU  
Postal address: Parish Office, St Mary's Rectory, Forester Road, Crawley, RH10 6EH

| South Crawley Team Ministry is  
| St Mary's Southgate | Holy Trinity Tilgate | Christ the Lord Broadfield |



## Tilgate Link December 2025



### Sunday Services

	7 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
		3.30 p.m.	Messy Church Christingle
	14 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30 a.m.	Sunday Worship
	21 <sup>st</sup> December		NO MORNING SERVICE
Wednesday	24 <sup>th</sup> December	4.30 pm	Carol service
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup> December	11.00 pm	Christmas Communion
	28 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 a.m.	Family Communion
	4 <sup>th</sup> January	10.30 a.m.	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship
		10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

**10.30 Sunday Services are followed by coffee/tea in the lounge.**  
Do join us for a drink and a chat.

**Parish Communion service on Tuesdays at 10.00 a.m.** Services are led in turn by both vicars in our parish, with lay ministers preaching at some. The service is followed by coffee/tea and time to chat in the lounge.

**In need of prayer?** If you would like someone to pray 1:1 with you, please speak to the vicar or service leader after the service. Anointing for healing is also offered.

### Advent thought from the vicar:

Are we ready? Anticipating Jesus' return?

Doing what Jesus told us?

Voicing the Good News of salvation?

Expecting signs of Christ's Kingdom?

'Now and not yet' living;

Today, tomorrow, until Christ returns.



*Jill*

### Matthew 24:44

So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

## New Rector Update

We are very pleased to announce that the Licensing service for Rev Mark Davey to start in his new role as Rector of South Crawley Parish will be on Tuesday January 6th 2026 at 7.30pm at St Mary's. This will be conducted by Bishop Martin. More details to follow.

## Giving

Holy Trinity church is grateful to everyone who supports our work financially. If you would like to give, there is a collection box available in the lounge. For direct bank payments the account name is 'PCC South Crawley Parish Holy Trinity', number: 51472563 bank code: 30-99-50. If your donation is specifically for the building fund, please place cash in a labelled envelope or give the reference 'Building Fund' for bank payments. For other methods of giving, please collect a leaflet in the lounge or speak with Ian Baker, our church treasurer.

## Easter Team Appeal - Extra Special December Requests

We are blessed with your generous giving throughout the year as a donation box for The Easter Team is available in church and by the Rectory door throughout the week. These weekly donations are essential and very gratefully received.

If you are able to give a **donation** the team would really appreciate tins of food - soup, meat, fish, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, rice pudding and custard please.

**The team would like to give their clients some special contents for the Christmas Day meal and in order to do so would appreciate gifts of money - please put these in a clearly labelled envelope in the collection box. The team would also appreciate non-alcoholic Christmas puddings, mince pies or treats.**

Donations can be brought to the service in Holy Trinity on Sunday or Tuesday mornings or left in the crate on the Rectory doorstep in Forester Road at any time (envelopes with donations should be clearly marked and placed in the collection box).

The Easter Team

A CRAWLEY FOOD BANK PARTNER

**Prayer Chain:** we are re-launching the prayer chain. If you are a regular worshipper at Holy Trinity and would be willing to commit to praying for others, please collect a letter about this.

Please phone or text your prayer requests to Ashley. Keep requests clear and concise. Only ask for prayer for others if you have their consent to do so.

**Receiving Communion** If you are a baptised believer in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit we welcome you to receive the bread and wine (or just the bread, if you prefer). Come forward to the communion rail when invited. If you would like a prayer of blessing instead, come forward and keep your hands folded.

Please let the welcomers know when you arrive if you require gluten free bread or need to have communion brought to you at your seat.

**Church Hall, Lounge & Upper room regular use: - you will notice some changes during the roofing work- please contact Janet if you need details**

Day	Group	Time	Location
Monday	Chris Witherall	3.30pm-9.00pm	Upper Room
	Couch Quitters	6.00-6.45pm	Hall
Tuesday	U3A	1.30pm-3.30pm	Hall (16th December)
Wednesday	Bloom Pilates	5.45-7.45pm	Hall & lounge
Thursday	Couch Quitters	6.00-6.45pm	Hall
Friday	Complete Core Control	9.00-12.30am	Hall

**Please pray for our various community partners who use our buildings.**

**Ladies event:** Saturday December 6th 3.00 until 5.00 in the lounge. We will be celebrating Christmas with activities, carols, cake, friendship and discussion.



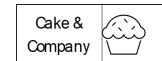
**Lighthouse 95% Prayer meeting Sunday 7th December 7pm**

Holy Trinity Church, Tilgate

We look forward to praying with you!

**Cake & Co Carol Service - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm**

You are warmly invited to join Cake and Co for our inaugural mid week Carol service followed by tea and cake. We shall have a few carols, some readings and Rev Jill Alderton will be sharing a short talk. Please do invite family, friends, or neighbours who might not normally come to church



**Weekday Morning Prayer at St Mary's 8.30-9.30**

A small group meets Monday-Thursday mornings to read the office of morning prayer, discuss the Bible readings and pray together. It's a great way to start a day. Come in by the Rectory gate to the office entrance.

**House Group(s)** are meeting weekly until mid-December with a course for Advent, at 3.30pm at Terry and Liz's house and 7pm in the church lounge with Stewart.

**Home or hospital communion:** If you are housebound or in hospital and would like to receive communion, please let the vicar know. We have a team of people authorised to bring you communion at home or in hospital as an extension of our Sunday worship.

**The roof is done!**

A few final details are being tidied up and the scaffolding is down.

## Fundraising

Silver and gold can be resold for church funds; is now the time to let go of the broken necklace or cufflinks that you never intend to repair and wear?

Foreign currency left over from a past holiday? Please bring it to church and put it in the glass bowl.