REGULAR WEEKLY CHURCH EVENTS

Monday	Songbirds Choir	Rehearsals in hall
Tuesday	10.00am	Holy Communion at **Holy Trinity Tilgate**
	7.00pm	Tuesday Night Church at **Christ the Lord**
Wednesday	1.30pm	Cake & Company
Thursday	9.30am-1pm	The Gate Café
Friday	10.30am	St Mary's Weekly Prayer Meeting (in Upper Room)

Dates for your Diary

14th November (Saturday) 7.30pm Tearfund Big Quiz Night 2026
19th November (Thursday) Emma Finister Age UK pop up session at The Gate Cafe
21st November (Saturday) 10am-12noon Autumn Church Garden Clear up
22nd November (Sunday)) 10.30am Holy Communion Reading: Luke 15:1-10
5th December (Saturday) 5pm Songbirds Holy Trinity Church Carol Singing
6th December (Sunday) 7pm The Lighthouse Project 95% Prayer Gathering, Christ the Lord, Broadfield
12th December (Saturday) 4pm Songbirds Concert at St Mary's - see notice
13th December (Sunday) No morning service at St Mary's – come instead to the Carol Service at 4pm
13th December (Sunday) 4pm Carol Service
15th December (Tuesday) St Mary's host the local school Christmas Events
20th December (Sunday) 10.30am Nativity Service
24th December (Thursday) 11.15pm Midnight Communion at Holy Trinity
25th December (Friday) 10.30am a Joint St Mary's and Holy Trinity Christmas Day Holy Communion Service at St Mary's
27th December (Sunday) 10.30am a Joint Holy Trinity and St Mary's Service at Holy Trinity Tilgate

WHO'S WHO

TEAM RECTOR Revd Mark Davey 01293 200112
rector.southgate@outlook.com **Day off Saturday**

Pastoral Care Team
Lead contact: Clare Hiley
Sylvia Brophy **Louise Cook**
Debby Gregory **Liz Hunter**
Pat Miller **Sharon Richards**
To speak to a member of the team, please contact Clare Hiley 01293 534733

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR - Janet Kensey
01293 547261 saintmaryssouthgate@gmail.com
The Parish Administrator is available 10am-1pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
You can find the Parish Administrator Thursdays in The Gate Café in church

PRAYER CHAIN
Peter and Elizabeth Wigglesworth 01293 409339
pswigglesworth@gmail.com or emwatkins1@gmail.com

Please submit any notices for the next **Family Matters** to the Parish Office, by **Wednesday 18 November**

St Mary's Church,
Wakehurst Drive, Southgate, Crawley RH10 6EH
www.stmaryscrawley.org
| South Crawley Team Ministry is
| St Mary's Southgate | Holy Trinity Tilgate | Christ the Lord Broadfield |

St Mary's Southgate family matters

Worshipping Jesus, Sharing His love, Making Him known

Sunday 15th November

10.30am	Morning Prayer
Theme:	Prayer
Reading:	Colossians 1:9-13 and 4:2-6
Leader:	Graham Piper
Preacher:	Philippa Piper

Welcome to St Mary's

I'm sure we are getting our ingredients ready for 'stir up Sunday' next week when traditionally the Christmas pudding is made. As we look at our passage today from the letter to the Colossians, what 'ingredients' does the apostle Paul suggest we ensure we employ in our prayer lives? Why did Paul write this letter to the fellowship in Colossae, a place he had never visited, and what can we learn to aid us in our walk with the Lord here today? Can what we say, write or text make a lasting difference to aid God's purposes at work in the lives of those we encounter?

So much to talk about from these 4 verses written by Paul in his imprisonment!

Philippa

2 **Be persistent *and* devoted** to prayer**, being alert *and* focused in your prayer life with *an attitude of* thanksgiving.**

Col 4:2 (Amplified bible)



Comfort & Joy – An Advent Devotional
Make space this Advent to pause, reflect and prepare your heart for Christmas!

Comfort & Joy is a lovely little devotional book exploring Isaiah chapters 40–55 through 25 short, accessible reflections to encourage and inspire us as we journey towards Christmas.

Just **£1 a copy!** Books are available in church, so grab one while you can – once they're gone, they're gone! Mark



Thank you to everyone for packing your shoeboxes at church or online.
They will be appreciated so much by the children that receive them. I will be delivering 34 boxes to Kingdom Faith Friday 13th November. Thank you once again, Liz Hunter

The next Age UK pop up session at The Gate Café is Thurs 19 November.

Autumn Church Garden Clear up We shall be having an autumn clear up around the church grounds on Saturday November 21st from 10-12.

There will be piles of leaves to clear from the grass amongst other tasks so suitable for all ages and gardening abilities. Please wear suitable shoes as may be muddy and bring gloves if you have them.

If you can't make a Saturday but are able to help with church garden please speak to Claire Jordan.

Ann Dutton will be carrying out a **flower demonstration** for those taking on Sunday flower arrangements on Thursday 26 November from 10.30am

Ann Dutton will be overseeing putting up the **Christmas Trees** in church after the service on Sunday 6th December, all are welcome to help decorate the trees.



Come and Sing in Tilgate - Saturday 5th, 12th and 19th December
Holy Trinity would like to remind us of their exciting plans for carol singing at 5pm on the first three Saturdays in December - they are looking to fill the air of Tilgate with the sound of Christmas during December, leading up to their Christmas Services.

Songbirds Choir will be performing on the steps of Holy Trinity Church (or just inside if the weather is not good) for about an hour from 5pm on **Saturday 5th December. Additional support, particularly for the 12th and 19th December will be gladly welcomed.** For any further information please contact Stewart Harper stewart@harperaccountancy.co.uk

give a little

There are several ways you can donate to St Mary's . This is a useful link that will take you to our Give a Little Donation page. Please take a Giving Leaflet for more information or speak to our treasurer, Peter Wigglesworth.

Easter Team Food Collection Requests

The Easter Team
A CRAWLEY FOOD BANK PARTNER

We **continue to collect for the Easter Team throughout every week**, if you are able, please bring something from the list below, there is a collection box for The Easter Team in church, do ask if you can't see it or speak to Debbie Gregory.
The team would very much appreciate **sugar, UHT milk and tinned food for vegetarians please**.



Before you shop this Black Friday and Christmas, please do something special for PCC St Mary's Church Crawley and install the easyfundraising app.
Use it when you shop with 8,000+ online retailers and we get free cashback donations at **no extra cost to you.**
Install it this month and we get an instant £2 donation! Get it here and follow the quick steps to join for free. Thank you!
https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/pccstmaryschurch/E3TZYU/2pae/9NkZC5EM/2PA02/sharetext/



Songbirds Christmas concert 4pm on Saturday 12 December with St Francis school choir and live band, here at St Mary's Southgate. Free entry. Refreshments and raffle (cash only) Donations and proceeds to their current charity pot for Ten Little Toes and Golden Lions Children's Trust.

Ten Little Toes BABY BANK

golden lion children's trust

Jill and Mark wish to thank all who joined us for our retirement lunch and/or who contributed to the very generous gifts. It was lovely to have so many people from our church family together with us. The wine glasses, wine and carafe were put into use the same night. The telescope has been set up by the patio door so that we can practise using it before we take it on a field trip. We are going to have a lot of fun with that. Most of all, thank you for your love. It has been a joy to serve alongside you as disciples of Jesus in South Crawley. God bless you all.

Prayer chain notice for Family Matters
Those who are new to St Mary's may not be aware that we operate a Prayer Chain through which members of the congregation can submit specific prayer requests for themselves, their families and close friends, usually at a time of crisis.
The prayer chain comprises members of St Mary's who have committed to pray promptly in response to prayer requests they receive. Peter and I co-ordinate the prayer chain and we forward requests which we receive to prayer chain members by email. You do not have to be a member of the prayer chain to submit a prayer request, but you do need to obtain the permission of the person for whom you are requesting prayer. All items shared via the prayer chain are confidential, and while updates and answers to prayer sent via the prayer chain are welcome, prayer chain members are discouraged from directly approaching those who have requested prayer for more information.
If you wish to submit a prayer request, please keep it as brief and as general as possible. Our contact details are on the back of the Family Matters notice sheet. Elizabeth Watkins and Peter Wigglesworth