St Mary's Thorpe

A House of Prayer for All

Living by a rule and rhythm of prayer,
Learning from all generations and
Loving the diversity of people welcomed.

Church Family News, week of 15th November

GREETINGS

As a part of my year at St Mary's, I spend significant time discerning how best to use my time and skills for God, and whether it is the best thing for me to spend my life to the service of God in a church context. It can be very difficult to place where we feel we could do the most good for ourselves and those around us. This week we are told the parable of the servants asked to look after their master's gold whilst he is away. The good servants put what they are given to work, whilst the lazy servants sit on their gifts. In its context, we are being asked to prepare ourselves for the coming return of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are asked to use the life and the gifts given to us by God to prepare the world for his return. Let us pray that we might be able to discern how best to use our lives to the service of God, and let us work to support each other so that we might grow the gifts given to us by Him.

Brad

This Week

TODAY: 8am Said Holy Communion
8.45-9.45am Joint 8am and 10am family breakfast.
10am Sung Holy Communion service

Monday 11am Friendship Group at the Red Lion for anyone who would like to meet other people
6.30 Compline followed by 7pm PCC meeting

Tuesday 2-4pm Sunset Café in the Rutherwyke Rm
Theme: Caring for Carers.

Wednesday 9am-3pm Parish Office Open
11am Holy Communion
Server: Brad *Warden*: Jenny
Refreshments for all 11.30 -12.30

Thursday 9-11am Noah's Ark
1pm Funeral Alan Rolfe RiP
4.30-6pm Alpha Discussion Group – Why and how do we pray? All welcome

Friday Fr Stephen's day off

Saturday St Mary's Quiz in Church. Doors open from 6pm for 6.30pm.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday 28th November 7.30pm The Hythe Singers – Winter Concert at St Mary's with works by Hungarian, Czech and English composers and accompanied by harp, organ, piano. Tickets available from www.thehythesingers.com, or at the door.

Saturday 5th December: 11am-4pm Christmas Fair. Help needed from **everyone**! Please contact a member of the Social Committee – Susi, Jenny, Joan, Jill. We need stall holders/cake makers/refreshment servers/ people to set up and clear up!

NOTICES

Farewell -This week we said farewell to Jane Carter as she moves to a residential care home in Woodbridge, nearer to her family. Jane has been a member of St Mary's for nearly fifty years and has contributed hugely to the life of the church, especially through music, prayer and pastoral care. She will be much missed. Our prayers go with Jane, that she'll settle quickly and find a spiritual home at St Mary's Woodbridge. Her new address is Grove Court, Beech Way, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4BW.

Carols by Candlelight 6pm on 13th December
Our organist, David, is putting together a choir for the service with singers from his local choir 'Feltham Choral Society', 'The Hythe Singers' and those from St Mary's who would like to sing. Please contact Jill, Mary or email the parish office if you would like to sing, adding voice part SATor B.

Confirmations Two members of our church family, Marlena and Stan, are being confirmed by Bishop Paul on 2nd December, 7pm at Christchurch, Virginia Water. Marlene and Stan would love our support at their confirmation on this next stage of their Christian journey.

Thorpe Parish Council Consultation
When we come under West Surrey authority next year Runnymede borough council will cease to exist and our wonderful local councillors will no longer represent us in a local authority. Runnymede Council is consulting on whether to create a Thorpe Parish Council to ensure local interests and concerns continue to be considered and represented. Please consider completing this survey to indicate your views (by 18th December).
https://www.runnymede.gov.uk/boundaries-governance/thorpe-community-governance-review

Tea and Talk Second Monday of each month. Our last speaker in 2026 is Zara Chamberlain - An insight into her work as a midwife and counsellor at St Peter's Hospital.

Runnymede Foodbank— Urgent November needs are on the posters. Donation boxes are in the Rutherwyke Room and by the door outside the Rutherwyke Room behind the church. Financial donations also accepted. https://cafdonate. Cafonline.org/13202

SUNDAY WORSHIP 15th November Year A
Second Sunday before Advent
SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Activity packs for children, large print Service Booklets and Hymn books are available at the back, please ask a steward.

A basket will be passed around during the service for donations towards the work of St Mary's, or there are contactless machines at the back. Tokens for other donations are available on the backs of aisle seats.

Collect *(prayer for the week)*
Heavenly Father whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Those serving us today are:
8am said Holy Communion
Server: Katerina *Welcome/Reader:* Kim

10am Sung Holy Communion
Server: Brad *Warden:* Pete *Welcome:* Karen
Reader: Andrew J Chalice: Server/

HYMNS: *Today we use the **GREEN** hymn book*
Introit: Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour (*omit v3*) **296**
Gradual: He who would valiant be **372**
Offertory: Blest are the pure in heart **341**
Communion: For the beauty of the earth (*omit v6*) **285**
Recessional: Guide me, O thou great redeemer **368**

Organist: David

Psalm: 90: vs 1-12

Response: Satisfy us by your loving kindness; so shall we rejoice and be glad

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30 (see sheet)

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

- For world leaders to strive for peaceful solutions to conflict
- For victims of abuse
- For children in foster care and children's homes
- For all who are sick in body, mind or spirit
- The Universal Church Worldwide
- For those on our Diocesan Calendar of Prayer: The Anglican Church worldwide, and in our own Diocese – Woking Deanery clergy, occupants of our new housing estates, workplaces, and local communities.

For those on our November prayer list: Graham, Stan, Michael and Denise, Hannah, John, Lucas, Jean, Paul, Jimmy, Chris, Luke, Patricia, Justine, Sandra, Sarah, Peter, Simon

For the recently departed:
Baby Eva, Jonathan and for his Family, Rosemary Mummery, Alan Rolfe

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Jimmy White, Mercy Arcay, Samuel Thornton.

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All are welcome to stay for refreshments in the Rutherwyke Room after the service

Copies of Fr Stephen's sermons are available
Email: vicar@stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

Fr Stephen and others are available to talk or pray with anyone; please just ask.

Bless you this week.

Safeguarding: See it. Hear it. Report it.
Done well, safeguarding builds trust and strengthens community.
safeguarding@stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

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