STBARNABA R A N M O R E The Cathedral in the Woods



Services
Sunday 14th December at 11.00 a.m.
Sung Eucharist (BCP)
Saturday 20th December at 3.00 p.m.
Christingle and Navity Play
Sunday 21st December at 11.00 a.m.
Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Wednesday 24th December at 7.15 p.m.
Episcopal Holy Communion on Zoom
Thursday 25th December at 10.00 a.m.
Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day (BCP)
Sunday 14th December at 11.00 a.m.
Sung Eucharist (BCP)
Sunday 4th January 2026 at 11.00 a.m.

Matins for Epiphany (BCP)

monthly newsletter

DECEMBER 2025

WELCOME

WELCOME to our Matins Service which will be led by our Lay Minister Chris Watts.

We trust you will stay for a glass of wine or soft drink and, of course, the winning 100 Club number will be drawn (Application forms are available).

The Rev'd Dr Anthony Rustell will preside at a Sung Eucharist on the 14th and he will lead the Christingle and Nativity Play which will be held on Saturday 20th and the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will follow on Sunday 21st when he will be joined by Bishop Paul and The Whyte Effect Choir.

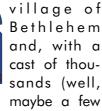
The Rev'd Caroline Lazenby will lead an Episcopal Holy Communion on Zoom at 7.15 p.m. on Christmas Eve and will preside at the service of Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day and please note that this service will start at 10.00 a.m.

Rev'd Anthony will preside at a Sung Eucharist on the 28th and Lay Minister Chris Watts will lead a Matins service for Epiphany on January 4th.

CHRISTINGLE & NATIVITY

MIDST all the hustle and bustle let us take you back over two thousand years to a cold, starry night in the





less!), we will tell you the real story of Christmas.

We invite the children to take the parts of angels, shepherds, kings, good sheep, unruly sheep, donkeys, etc. to gather around the crib and sing carols. We have some costumes available or do come dressed if you would prefer.

Please contact Carolyn Bourton on 01306 881364 if you have any queries.

Preparations for this service will start in the morning when a team will be making up the Christingles and we would appreciate some help with this, please. We would also be grateful for donations of oranges. Please talk to Lynda Mackie-Gandy (01306 887263) who has kindly agreed to take charge of operations if you can spare an hour or two between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. There will be refreshments.

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

THE Whyte Effect will be singing our service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 22nd December at 11a.m. Please do come along and encourage others to as well, espe-

Trees

Bare tracery against a Flawless sky; promise of Spring, sap-rising, bursting Into leaf: fullness of Flower at summer's height; Flowers, fruit and then Fulfilment in the autumn Fire. Symbol of life and Death and resurrection. Endlessly repeated, Growing to completion. Standing deep-rooted, Moving with the wind, Offering shelter and Strength to all who come, Embodying ageless wisdom. Here I will rest, and let the Silence penetrate my depths, Giving me timeless space To grow and be.

> Ann Lewin English poet poem submitted by Sally Lowe

cially those who have never been to one before.

This very special service takes the same form as the world-famous one that is held annually in Kings College Chapel, Cambridge on the 24th December and which attracts huge numbers, both in person and remotely.

The reason why it does is because it is a wonderful start to Christmas; it is easy to participate in and exudes great beauty. I would very much like to fill St Barnabas (as we did last year) and make this a really memorable service, but that will need a collective effort. The service will be led by by Paul, The Bishop of Dorking (together with Rev'd Anthony Rustell).

The music we will be singing will be memorable and, I hope, live with you during Christmas itself. Not only will we all be singing the well-known Christmas carols, such as 'Once in royal David's city' and 'O come, all ye faithful', but The Whyte Effect will be performing some music that you will probably have never heard before, including 'Illuminare, Jerusalem' by Judith Weir, which is a fabulous piece (and was commissioned for the Kings service in 1985), an arrangement of 'O Holy Night' by two of my daughters, Eloise and Eve Yates (who are also playing in it), and "The crown of roses' by Tchaikovsky.

Please do come in abundance and reach out and bring others. I look forward to seeing you there and I believe that there might be some mulled wine afterwards!

> Nicholas Yates Principal conductor of The Whyte Effect

BIG THANK YOU to all the stall-holders, helpers and, of course, to the many people who came to our Christmas Fayre and special thanks to

Christmas A

David Gandy and his organising team who made the Fayre such a success.

Many thanks also to our Treasurer Philip Warley for sorting out the takings and, indeed, the floats. He tells us that the details were as follows: Tombola £220; Raffle £562; Books and CDs £128; Cakes and Produce £359; Refreshments £263; Jewellery & Collectibles £289; Bric-a-brac £44; Mulled Wine £106; Teas & Refreshments £230; Tattoos £40; Concessions £40 and Donations etc of £192, which added up to a grand total of £2199.

Thank you to everyone who helped with and enjoyed the Sunday Teas which raised £1050 and thank you also for your donations amounting to £284 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal on Remembrance Sunday. The collection at the Christingle service will go the Children's Society and the collection at the Carols service will go to CRISIS Christmas Appeal.

Spirituality Matters

SAVE the date. It was very regrettable that the Quiet Morning in November needed to be postponed but we now have a new date of 18th February 2026 for the next Quiet Morning.

This will be held at St Barnabas Church, Ranmore, on Ash Wednesday starting at 10.30 a.m. More details will follow but the Quiet Morning will precede the Ash Wednesday service.

Rev'd Caroline Lazenby

Christmas Present Appeal

AFTER last year's success we will again be collecting UNWRAPPED presents for those attending Christmas Day Lunch at Dorking Christian Centre.

Target – 40 presents (new gifts around £5 - £8 or less) Some ideas: Notelets, scarf, key ring, mug, umbrella etc etc – All ideas welcome!

Please put presents in the Christmas Box near the font during December. Last day collection day is at the Nine Lessons and Carols Service on 21st December.

A huge thanks to everyone

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT FOR NEXT YEAR

Friends of St Barnabas Church

Our church benefits hugely from the people (only 280) who live in the parish who may not necessarily be part of our congregation but nonetheless provide very welcome support in keeping St Barnabas Church open and viable. We would like to put this support on a slightly more formal basis and welcome discussion from the parish about setting up – and maintaining – a Friends organisation for our church.

Opening the church

WE have noticed that whenever someone is in the church during the week visitors come in as a steady stream.

One of us welcomed a party celebrating a marriage in the church thirty four years ago.

The usual comment from visitors is "I've been past the church a number of times but always found it locked."

We would dearly like to have the church open more often for visitors but on safety grounds we need two people for each opening and hope that the lovely people of Ranmore Common will come forward to help us improve visitor access to St Barnabas.

Who's Who at St. Barnabas

Priest-in-Charge:

Rev'd Dr Anthony Rustell 07919 154641

St Barnabas is part of a United Benefice with St Martin's Church Dorking. Please contact the Church Office with enquiries about baptisms and marriages at email: stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com

or phone 01306 884229

Churchwardens:

Dr Robin Luff 01306 884093 Mrs Stephanie Kingham 01306 888368 This newsletter and other information is available on our website...

www.achurchnearyou.com/ranmore-st-barnabas

Contact the Editor <u>dick.gover@gmail.com</u> to receive the newsletter in your email inbox.

You can also follow St Barnabas on Facebook.

There is more information on the website www.StBarnabasRanmore.com

You can find much about the history of Ranmore, the Denbies Estate and St Barnabas Church on the website created by the late Margaret Maynard.

www.ranmorewarmemorial.info

Nine Lessons & Carols

Sunday

21 December 2025

11.00 am

sung by
The Whyte Effect

The Church of St Barnabas, Ranmore

ALL WELCOME