

News Sheet for Sunday 18th February

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



PARISH OF FLEET
All Saints with Ss Philip & James
*Welcoming all in our community
into the love of Christ*

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our worship today. It is a great joy to have you with us as we worship God together. If you are here for the first time we pray that your visit will be a time of blessing. Please make yourselves known to us after the service and, if you can, join us for coffee and a chat in the hall.

TODAY IN THE PARISH

All Saints (FPCC)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW)
with Junior Church and Crèche

Ss Philip and James

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
10.00am All Age Eucharist

TODAY'S COLLECT Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love; teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

The Coffee Bar is open Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 12.30pm

Monday 19th February

FPCC	9.00am Morning Prayer
FPCC	7.30pm LCC meeting
Ss Philip and James	7.30pm LCC meeting

Tuesday 20th February

FPCC	10.00am Praise and Play
Ss Philip and James	11.00am Prayer Group
FPCC	2.30pm Afternoon tea and chat

Wednesday 21st February

Ss Philip and James	9.30am Eucharist followed by coffee
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Thursday 22nd February

Vicarage	11.00am Lent Bible Study
Ss Philip and James	7.30pm Choir Practice

Friday 23rd February

FPCC	10.00am Parent and Toddler Time
FPCC	8.00pm Choir practice

SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

All Saints (FPCC)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW)
with Junior Church and Crèche

Ss Philip and James

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW)
with Junior Church and Crèche
12.00pm Baptism
6.30pm Taizé Prayer

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .

Those in urgent need of our prayers including... Beverley, David Brett, Jules Cooper, Grace Dicker, Fiona Guy, Dexter Heard and Louise Purton.

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers... Patricia Bull, Alwynne Hallam, Jon Harrow, Mollie Hayes, Bonnie Lewis, Evelyn Murray, Gill Page, Peter Pimm, Barbara Simson, John Stocks, Erica Taylor, Tyler Thompson and Molly Wilson.

Those who have died recently... David Pritchard and Ada Burrow

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time ... Alfred Warner, William Eddy, Kate Findlay, Vivian Saunders-Mitchell, Doreen Dolton, Harriet Beale, Enid Hale, James Hancock, Shirley Dearman, Christopher Goodband, Thomas Woolford, Edna Beale, Paul Durrant and Jock Forbes

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 19TH FEBRUARY

Meditation “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up” Galatians 6:9

We give thanks for... Those many born abroad who now enrich the life of our nation.

Please pray....

Mon - For the schools of our parish as they return from half term holiday.

Tues - For endangered species, and those who work for their conservation.

Wed - For those suffering from loss of hearing, sight or memory.

Thurs - For the parish of Christ Church, Crookham; and all parishes in interregnum.

Fri - For our Rebuilding Group, architects and advisors.

Sat - For the Government and people of Botswana

Sun - For the grace to see Jesus in ourselves and other people.

All week – For those who live in Farnham Rd, Fern Drive, Fieldway, Fir Close, Fir tree Way, and Firethorn Close.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

PANCAKES - were much enjoyed in the FPCC and over 70 were cooked. Many thanks to all those who helped make it a great success.

LOCAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - this Monday 19th February at 7.30pm at P&J and FPCC respectively. Everyone is welcome to attend. Minutes and agendas are posted on noticeboards at each church.

YPNG AND FAMILY ACTIVITY AFTERNOON PLANNING - Tuesday 27th February, 7.00pm, Ss Philip & James, there will be a meeting of the Young People's Nurture Group (YPNG) followed by a Family Activity Afternoon Planning meeting. Contact Revd Carol for details.

MIDWEEK LUNCH - will be on 1st March and Dorina will be playing the piano. Please sign up if you would like lunch to follow. Could you help with transport? Please speak to the Parish Office for more details.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday March 2nd 2018

Service written by the Christian women of Suriname. "All God's Creation is Very Good". A service about cherishing our world.

Two opportunities to join in this service with refreshments to follow.

10.am at Crookham Baptist Church, Basingbourne Road and 7.30pm at Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath. All welcome, men, women, children and young people.

LENT LUNCH - planned for 4th March has been postponed. However there is a shared meal in the evening of 17th March. See next item

LENT MEAL with friends, sharing and reflecting on the Last Supper - will take place in Ss Philip and James Hall on Saturday 17th March at 7pm. Tickets £7 for a two course meal will be available next week.

DAVID PRITCHARD - who was the deputy head of All Saints School has sadly passed away. Many may remember him and we extend our condolences to the family.

PARISH ANNUAL REPORT - We are looking to update the format of the parish annual report again this year so if you normally submit a report for your group please submit a photo of your group in action and a few short bullet point highlights of 2017. Contact Claire Holt - pcc.secretary@parishoffleet.org.uk or the Parish Office.

DEVELOPING A CHURCH PRAYER STRATEGY - Thursday 22nd February, 10.00am-12.30pm, The Good Shepherd Trust, Guildford. How can a church prayer strategy be developed that works in the real world? Book via email: pdet.admin@cofeguildford.org.uk

SALTMINE THEATRE - at Church on the Heath, 17th March, 7:30pm "Darkness Falls", a gritty re-telling of John's Gospel by Saltmine Theatre Company. Moving, funny, poetic and fantastical, with vivid

story-telling and live music. The show is suitable for 12+. Tickets £12/£6; available at www.churchoftheheath.org.uk or 01252 400236.

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP - organised by Diocese of Guildford, there are monthly events from March to July with very interesting leaders. Full details from www.cofeguildford.org.uk/intentional-discipleship or on the green posters on the notice boards.

TRAIDCRAFT BIG BREW - March 3rd 3- 5pm at Church on the Heath

Readings for Sunday 18th February 2018

First Sunday of Lent

First Reading Genesis 9.8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' ¹²God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my

covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' ¹⁷God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Comment *This early Old Testament story is just one of many such stories of the Flood that are to be found in ancient contemporary literature. Here natural phenomena are given an explanation and are used to illustrate a new relationship between God and all human beings following the Fall and Adam & Eve's expulsion from the Garden of Eden.*

Psalm 25.1-9

Refrain: Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness.

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.

² Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness.

³ Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

⁴ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.

Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness.

⁵ Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁶ Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.

Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness.

⁷ Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.

⁸ He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly.

⁹ All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness.

Comment *This is the psalmist's act of contrition. Having admitted his sins he now asks (with us) for forgiveness.*

Second Reading

1 Peter 3.18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Comment *Peter's Jewish readers would have understood the reference to 'the spirits in prison' as those wicked ones who had perished in Noah's flood. He likens his readers who had been baptised to those of Noah's family who had survived; they can now enjoy a new relationship with Christ in heaven.*

Gospel Reading

Mark 1.9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Comment *Mark, in saying 'He saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending', implies that this is the end of a separation between God and man; it happened with the Holy Spirit descending in the form of a dove.*

ALL SAINTS UPDATE

- We are making fast and steady progress in drawing up detailed plans for the rebuilding.
- We have been visited by the diocesan heating advisor, and by our electrical and mechanical designer.
- We have also had a visit from our tree consultant.
- All this is vital in enabling our Architects to draw up detailed plans, which will be unveiled when they are completed and submitted to the local authority for their response.
- We are putting together a fundraising group – ideas or experience in this area, please speak to the vicar.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Visitors and Newcomers: If you are new to our church, we welcome you - please fill in one of our contact cards (available from the duty warden at the door) so we can be in touch.

Hospital and home visits: If you know of anybody who is in hospital or housebound and would appreciate a visit, contact the Parish Office.

Pastoral Assistants: Should you have a pastoral need or any other kind of a problem and wish for a listening ear, there is a Pastoral Assistant available after the 10.00am service. Please ask the duty warden at the door for more information.

For any other need, suggestion or query, see contacts below:

PARISH CONTACTS:

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281

✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

Revd Carol Dunk ☎ 01252 444872

✉ carol@parishoffleet.org.uk

Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson

Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm

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