

News Sheet for Sunday 23 April 2023 Third Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends,

It's great to be back! Thank you to you all for all that you did to make Easter so special in our parish this year, and for all your kindness, cooperation, prayers and good wishes during the time that I have been off following my operation. I am now recovering well and back to work!

This Monday, 24th, will be our APCM (please join us if you can) and I thought I would use this as my brief annual report.

This has been an extraordinary year for us in the Fleet Parish, a momentous and exciting one during which we have seen not only the reopening of our beloved All Saints Church, but also growth in our congregations, big changes in our worship programme, and a number of new projects coming to fruition.

Quite simply God has been at work among us, doing wonderful and surprising things. He has brought us many delights and blessings, along with a few challenges, but overall, this has been a year of great blessing for which we offer our thanks and praise.

At the same time, I would like to offer my thanks to all of you who in any and every way contribute towards the rich and varied life and ministry of the Parish of Fleet. I will thank some individually at the APCM, but here I would just like to thank you all, whoever you are and whatever you do.

After the trials and struggles of recent years, and the long journey we have been on together, I would like to think that now and, in the year ahead, we will have the chance to enjoy and celebrate all that God has done and is doing here in our parish. We can sometimes be too distracted by small niggles and difficulties to enjoy the much bigger blessings that are right in front of us. So let's make this a year of celebration and enjoyment.

An old catechism used to sum up the meaning of life as this 'to know God and to enjoy him forever' and for me this still works pretty well!

As the people of Christ in this place, that is what we are here for, though our calling as a parish is to honour and praise God and to build his kingdom. We have the very great privilege of being a kind of 'Showhouse' for the Kingdom of God - to show the world what his kingdom is like, to build heaven on earth and to invite people to enter it.

Aware that this is God's work, and that he will complete it with us, without us or despite us; we have nevertheless been working extremely hard to build the kingdom on firmer foundations over the last year. To this end have had some big projects in play...

- Using All Saints to introduce more people to Christ.
- Reshaping our worship to better praise and honour our Lord.
- Helping more people to find their place in mission and ministry.
- Enabling more families and children to get to know Jesus and to become his disciples.

In the year ahead we will continue to work on these areas of our life together, with particular emphasis on bringing more families and children to Christ.

God is doing these things and he invites us to join in. What an exciting time this is! Don't miss the chance to get involved!

May God bless you all in his service.

Mark

THIS WEEK

The Coffee Bar is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10.00am-12.00pm

Sunday 23 April - 8.00am Holy Communion, Ss Philip & James Church

10.00am Parish Eucharist, All Saints Church

10.00am Simple Eucharist, Ss Philip & James Church

12.00pm Baptism Service, All Saints Church

12.00pm Baptism Service, Ss Philip & James Church

Tuesday 25 April - 11.00am Prayer Group, Ss Philip & James Church

Wednesday 26 April - 9.30am Holy Communion, Ss Philip & James Church

Sunday 30 April - 10.00am Eucharist for P&J Patronal Festival, Ss Philip & James Church 3.00pm Service of Celebration and Reconsecration, All Saints Church

Ss Philip & James Church is open for prayer Wednesdays 11.00am-1.30pm & Sundays 12noon-3.00pm.

PRAYERS FOR SUNDAY 23 APRIL - THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

TODAY'S COLLECT Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for eyer.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK ...

Those in urgent need of our prayers including: Alona Beauchamp, Jean Belgrove, Giorgia Laughton, Ann Mann. Carol Paton, Peter Rogers, John Simson, Tyler Thompson, Lucy Tyler, Phillip, Garth and Judy Kellett, Peter, Louise, Chris and Diana.

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers: Matthew Allen, Gladys Barber, Melanie Brant, Marion Brown, Xander Coleman-Day, Yvonne Dunk, Marcia Farrey, Joan Hall, Alan Harvey, Mark Hayton, Dexter Heard, Michael Heard, Tony Holbeche, Bonnie Lewis, Barbara Main, Sheila O'Connor, Gill Page, Michael Standen, Eileen Taylor, Erica Taylor, Molly Wilson, Clare and family.

Those being baptised today: Elijah Spragg, Rex Hogg.

Those who have died recently: Sybil Michael, Shirley Brooks.

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time: Olive Taylor, Winifred South, Reg Hallam, Alwyne Hallam, Nancy Payne, Susan Bowen, Molly Butt, Patricia Greenway, Ronald Hill, Geoffrey Linton, Joyce Gordon, Ken Stephenson.

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 24 APRIL 2023

Meditation: 'I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.' *C.S. Lewis*

We give thanks for those who have served as officers of the parish and on the PCC over the past year.

Please pray...

Mon - For those who will be elected to PCC, Deanery Synod, or as Churchwardens today.

Tues - For the people of the Sudan.

Wed - For Save the Children.

Thurs - For young people taking or facing exams.

Fri - For those suffering from arthritis.

Sat - For all serving in the armed forces and for their families.

Sun - For all who teach, preach or interpret the word of God.

ALL WEEK - For those who live in Kerry Close, Kevins Grove, Kimpton Drive, King Henry Road, King John Street, Kings Road.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 23 APRIL:

Acts 2.14a,36-41

Luke 24.13-35

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

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

<u>ALL SAINTS CHURCH SITTERS</u> - Church sitters needed please for Wednesdays 3rd and 10th May, 10am-12pm. Sign up sheet in the FPCC or contact Jenny Thorne on 01252 617108.

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND RECONSECRATION OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Sunday 30th April, 3.00pm, Bishop Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford is coming to All Saints Church to give thanks with us for the rebuilding of the church, to reconsecrate the church and bless the new altar and other furnishings. We have invited the builders and others who have been involved with us in rebuilding the church, and it will be a chance for us to thank God publicly for them. It will of course be a great opportunity for us as a Parish to give thanks for all the blessings received over the last eight years, so I hope many of you will be able to come. There will, however, inevitably be a limit on numbers (though we hope to pack in as many as possible) so please sign up on one of the sign up sheets (one in each church) so we now how many to expect. There will be an additional celebration service for all ages on Sunday 14 May, 3.00pm.

<u>CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEERS</u> - The Frimley Park Hospital Chaplaincy Team would like to recruit more volunteers from the local community to support the pastoral and spiritual work of the Chaplaincy Department within the hospital. Supporting patients, and sometimes family, is immensely rewarding and makes a significant contribution not only to the wellbeing of patients, but also to the hospital and the wider community. If you are interested please contact <u>Mary Goodson</u>, 01252 815103 for more details.

<u>FOODBANK PANTRY MANAGER VACANCY</u> - Hart Foodbank is seeking a Pantry Manager to establish a community pantry in Fleet, 15hrs per week, 6 month fixed term contract. For further details see <u>the poster</u> <u>here</u> or contact Mark Mabin, 07354 038457, <u>mabinm@me.com</u>. Closing date for applications: 12 May.

BABY SAINTS - Our May Baby Saints sessions are on Wednesdays 3 & 17 May, 10.30am, Fleet Parish Community Centre. Join us with your under-5s for a story, songs, prayer, craft and refreshments.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT IN AID OF ALL SAINTS FUND - Saturday 29 April, 7.30pm, Church on the Heath. Beethoven Egmont Overture, Mozart Piano Concerto No 23 and Mendelssohn 3 with Fleet Concert Orchestra and Dorina Latawska (piano). Tickets £15 from anne.smith33@btinternet.com, 01252 624171.

<u>APCM</u> - Monday 24 April, 7.30pm, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at AS/FPCC immediately following the Vestry Meeting. Elections will take place for 5 new PCC members and 3 Deanery Synod reps. Anyone interested in finding out more can speak to Nick Doran (nick.doran@btinternet.com). Only those whose names appear on the Electoral Roll can hold these positions, or propose and second candidates. This is your opportunity to be actively involved in contributing to the life and running of the church in this parish.

<u>HART FOODBANK</u> - The Foodbank requests for this week are tinned vegetables, tinned meat, coffee, sponge puddings, squash, dry rice, tinned fruit. Items can be left in the Foodbank containers in the narthex at Ss Philip & James Church and in FPCC - thank you.

FLEET AREA OVER 55s FORUM - Monday 24 April, Fleet Library, 10.00am-3.00pm. To register your interest to attend a talk/presentation please complete the online form.

GIVING OPTION - You can now donate to parish funds by scanning this QR code with any smart phone with a QR reader on it - it takes you directly to a web page where you can make a donation.

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton 201252 219281 □ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk Curate, Revd Cally Burch 201252 974994 □ cally@parishoffleet.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer, Sheila Buller **2** 01252 629346 □ safeguarding@parishoffleet.org.uk Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Jackie Broadfoot **2** 07918 559387 □ jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk

Administrator, Chantelle Gardner Office hours: Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 12.00pm Parish Office, Parish Community Centre, Church Road, GU51 4NB 201252 812114

☐ office@parishoffleet.org.uk website: www.parishoffleet.org.uk

Assistant Administrator, Shauna van der Spuy 201252 812114 🖳 shauna@parishoffleet.org.uk



