



News Sheet for 27th September – Trinity 17

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



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 with us for the first time, please do make yourself known to us after the service. We welcome in the name of our Lord all who wish to worship with us, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality or gender orientation. We rejoice in the fact that we are a very diverse Christian community and see this as our calling under Christ. We work hard in this parish to ensure the safety and safeguarding of all who join us for worship, if you have any concerns in this area, please do let us know immediately. If you have any special needs or would like to speak to a pastoral minister or have someone pray with you, please mention it to a welcomer or member of the ministry team.

There will also be coffee with fellowship available after the service, please do join us for this - you will receive a warm welcome there too.

Today is Trinity 17

We have one service in our parish today

10am Parish Eucharist at P&J

Today we will be celebrating Harvest Festival together, with young friends from All Saints School. This service will be suitable for all ages.

NEXT SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER – Will be Stewardship Sunday when we will be reflecting upon our response to God's great generosity towards us. Parish Eucharist will be at All Saints on this day. Please see my letter in the September magazine about this subject. Please pray that God will release a spirit of renewed generosity in our midst and pray for The Revd. David Senior who is coming to speak to us.

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER – St. Luke's Day – A special service offering Prayer for healing

May God bless you all,

Mark

READINGS FOR 27th SEPTEMBER

[Deuteronomy 8. 7-18](#)

[2 Corinthians 9. 6-end](#)

[Luke 12. 16-30](#)

SUNDAY SERVICE SLIDES

If you would like to access the slides for this Sunday's service, you can do so on your smartphone or tablet by pointing your camera at this QR code or by clicking on this QR code.



THIS WEEK

The Coffee Bar is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10.00am-12.00pm
All Saints Church is open to visitors Monday – Friday 10.00am-12.00pm.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH: No Service
Ss PHILIP & JAMES: 10.00am Parish Eucharist (Harvest)

Tuesday 29 Sept 11.00am Prayer Group, All Saints Church
Wednesday 30 Sept 9.30am Holy Communion Service, Ss Philip & James Church
10.00am – 12.00pm Little Saints, FPCC
Friday 2 Oct 10.00am – 12.00pm Fun Friday, FPCC
Sunday 4 Oct
Ss PHILIP & JAMES: 8am Holy Communion
ALL SAINTS CHURCH: 10.00am Parish Eucharist (Stewardship Sunday)

TODAY'S COLLECT: Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Those in urgent need of our prayers including: Anne Amos, Brian Biffin, Ethan, Marcia Farrey, Carolyn Ford, Kathryn Smith, Michael Heard, Sylvia Honiwell, Janice Jose, Graham Kitts, Ronnie, Erica Taylor, Tyler Thompson, Victoria Willis, Laura Wrigglesworth.

PLEASE NOTE – THIS LIST IS FOR USE IN PRIVATE PRAYER AND IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN INTERCESSIONS IN PUBLIC WORSHIP

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers: Matthew Allen, Gladys Barber, Alan Beckett, Joan Hall, Dexter Heard, Jonah, Bonnie Lewis, Gill Page, John Simson, Violet Slade, Michael Standen, Clare and family, Karen.

And our friends in residential care: Jean Box, Martine Dyer, Anne Richardson, Dee Stephenson, Barbara Willis.

Those who have died recently: Jack, Doreen Langridge, David.

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time: Estelle Davidson, Robert Harlick, Marjorie Robarts, Joan Jaynes, Jo Chapman, Frederick Watson, Thomas Chatziapostolou, John Cairns, Spencer Welch, Isabella Hill, Walter Tocock, Florence Munday.

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 28TH SEPTEMBER

Meditation: 'Tears are prayers too. They travel to God when we cannot speak.' Psalm 56:8

We give thanks for those who put their own lives at risk to ensure our safety and security.

Please pray....

- Mon** - for the people of Gabon and the Congo.
- Tues** - (St. Michael and All angels) for those who serve in the armed forces and for their chaplains.
- Wed** - (S. Therese of Lisieux) for children and all who minister to them in our parish. That our young people might themselves bring parents and friends to know Christ.
- Thurs** - (The Holy Guardian Angels) – for all carers, for those we care for and those who care for us. For our Guardian angels, that they might keep us safe and guide us into truth.
- Fri** - for those who work in the charity shops of our town.
- Sat** - (S. Francis of Assisi) for Christians of the Franciscan order.
- Sun** - for those who suffer from Leukaemia.
- ALL WEEK** for those who live in Tadley Close, Tamworth Drive, Tavistock Road, The Aloes, The Avenue, The Bogs.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS - This week the Parish Office will be open 10am-12pm Mon – Fri.

HARVEST GIFTS -This Harvest we're asking you to help feed local people in crisis by collecting tinned and dried food for Hart Foodbank. We are asking everyone to rally round to give items such as:-
cereals, pasta and pasta sauces, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, instant mash, tinned tomatoes, soup, rice pudding/custard, sponge puddings/jelly/Angel Delight/ long life UHT milk, fruit juices, squash, cleaning products and washing detergent.

1 in 5 people in the UK live in poverty; many families hit crisis and cannot afford food. More people are being referred to the Foodbank because they don't have enough money coming in to cover essential living costs. Rising food and fuel prices, static incomes, high unemployment and changes to benefits are causing many families to struggle to put food on the table but you can help be part of the solution by supporting Hart Foodbank.

OCTOBER COUNT - The Diocese requires us to provide statistics from services each October, including an age profile. Our system for obtaining this information anonymously will be at the church entrance for each service in October. There will be six jars marked with an age group. We want each person to put just one coloured token in their age-group jar at one service in October. Please remember not to put a second one in at another service! Thank you.

CHRISTIAN AID NEPAL APPEAL - Many thanks for the generous support of the Christian Aid Nepal Appeal. We raised £750. Anne Biffin, Christian Aid rep.

ALL ABOARD ALL SAINTS FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON – Saturday 24 October 2pm – 4pm. All Aboard at All Saints Church for a free family fun afternoon, including stories, crafts, quizzes, games, food and refreshments. We would love more volunteers to help run this event, including help with food preparation and cake making! Please do contact me if you can help - janette@parishoffleet.org.uk

LITTLE SAINTS – Meets every Wednesday term time at FPCC, 10.00am-12.00pm. If you have or care for preschool children we'd love to see you.

FUN FRIDAY – Meets every Friday term time at FPCC, 10.00am-12.00pm. Join us for a relaxed, friendly morning of soft play, craft, toys, books and more. A great space for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. No need to book – just come along.

DOREEN LANGRIDGE – Funeral service at Aldershot Crematorium on Monday 5th October – 12pm

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S MIKADO -. Thank you to everyone who helped make the Mikado such a success - singers, actors, musicians, costumes, props, stage builders, recording, photos, caterers, front of house, raffle organisers and our loyal audience. Our teamwork raised approximately £2500 for Parish funds. Anne & Robert

AN EVENING TO EXPLORE A CHURCH PLANT - Sunday 27th September at 7pm at the Church on the Heath. Twenty five years ago the Church on the Heath was planted by four denominations in Fleet coming together. Healthy churches multiply. If you have a heart for church-planting do join Rev Patrick Butler for an evening of conversation and prayer.

DUTY WARDENS AT ALL SAINTS - We are looking for additional volunteers to join the duty warden's rota on a Sunday at All Saints. This is not an onerous task, and will not require unlocking and locking the church. If you think that you can help, or would like more information then please speak to the office, Jenny or Mike Benham.

HART'S COMMUNITY GARDEN AUTUMN FETE – Saturday 10th October – 12pm – 4pm. Join us for an afternoon of family fun, community spirit and autumn celebrations. Includes music, Prickle Lodge Hedgehog Rescue, tombola, book stall, children's scavenger hunt, cakes & refreshments and more. £1 entrance to include free raffle ticket. Hart Community Garden, Pale Lane, RG27 8SP.

HCG@hartvolaction.org.uk to book or for more information.

GRANDPARENTS FUN DAY – Church on the Heath - Tuesday 27th October – 2pm – 4pm. For grandparents of children 8 years and under an afternoon of fun, games, crafts and friendships. Visit churchontheheath.org.uk or phone 01252 400236 to book.

PRAYER BOARD AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH - What would you like us to pray for? Please write down your prayer requests and the prayer group will check it weekly before their Tuesday prayer meetings. Alternatively, you may use this link <https://wpapp.parishoffleet.org.uk/tuesday-prayer-group/> to send your prayer requests via the website.

STEP BY STEP - Please leave your donations to Step by Step in the collection boxes, for P&J in the Narthex and in the Coffee Bar at All Saints. Donations welcome of the following items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gels & creams, soap, shampoo & conditioners. No bath products please as the centre only has showers.

STAMPS – Thank you for your support with used stamps. Please continue to drop used stamps into the bag on the notice board at FPCC.

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



PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281 ✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer, Dick Fawn ☎ 07974 155957

✉ safeguarding@parishoffleet.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding ☎ 01483 790329 ✉ safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

Administrators Steph Parsons & Sam Lord *Office hours: Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 12.00pm*

Parish Office, Parish Community Centre, Church Road, GU51 4NB ☎ 01252 812114

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

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TO THE CHURCH FAMILY OF THE PARISH OF FLEET

Dear Friends,

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

One of the great themes that runs throughout the Bible is the overwhelming generosity of God. Everything we have comes from him: the beauty of creation, the gift of life, the love of family and friends, the blessings we enjoy each day, and above all the immeasurable gift of salvation through Jesus Christ

God's generosity is never measured or reluctant. He gives abundantly, faithfully and lovingly, and he invites us to reflect that same generosity in the way we live our own lives. Christian stewardship is not primarily about money; it is about recognising that everything we have—our time, our gifts, our abilities and our resources—belongs first to God and asking how we can use them to serve him and build his Kingdom.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all those who give so generously to the life of our parish. Many of you give sacrificially, week by week and month by month. Others devote countless hours to serving in our churches and our community, often quietly and without recognition. Whether you welcome visitors, arrange flowers, clean the church, sing in the choir, serve on PCCs, teach children, visit the lonely, maintain our buildings, lead worship, or support our finances through regular giving, your faithfulness is deeply appreciated. Thank you. Your generosity makes an enormous difference.

As we look ahead, however, God continues to place before us many opportunities for mission and ministry. We believe he is calling us not simply to maintain what we have, but to grow our witness, deepen our discipleship, and serve our community in new and exciting ways. We are increasingly convinced that we must invest in our ministry with children, young people and families, ensuring that the next generation comes to know the love of Christ and finds a home within his Church. We also want to expand our ministry to the elderly, particularly those who live alone, and to serve our community more widely by offering welcome and hospitality to all.

That vision requires people as well as money. No amount of funding can replace willing hearts and hands, and no amount of enthusiasm can flourish without the resources needed to support ministry. Both are essential if we are to fulfil the work God has entrusted to us.

In recent years, our parish has shown remarkable generosity in supporting important building projects. We have much to be thankful for, and those investments have provided us with buildings that can serve God's people well into the future. Thank you for your commitment and generosity in making those projects possible.

Now, for a season, we are asking something different. Rather than focusing on bricks and mortar, we are asking you to help us invest in people. We want to strengthen our ministry and mission, particularly our work with children and families, so that our churches continue to be places where lives are transformed by the love of Christ and where future generations can encounter him for themselves.

For that reason, we will be holding a Stewardship campaign in October this year. We are asking you to prayerfully review your financial giving. If you already give regularly, would you consider whether you might be able to increase your gift? Even a modest increase, when multiplied across the parish, can make a significant difference to what we are able to achieve together.

If you do not currently give through the Parish Giving Scheme, I would warmly encourage you to consider joining it. Regular planned giving provides the church with a dependable monthly income, enabling us to budget wisely and plan confidently for the future. It helps us to use our resources responsibly and ensures that we can sustain the ministry and mission to which God is calling us.

I recognise that these are not easy times financially. Many households are feeling the pressure of rising costs, and for some an increase in giving may simply not be possible at present. Please do not feel guilty if that is your situation. God asks us to give willingly and according to what we have, not according to what we do not have.

At the same time, the church is experiencing those same rising costs. Energy bills, insurance, maintenance, staffing and the everyday costs of ministry have all increased significantly. It simply costs more today to sustain the work of the Church than it did only a few years ago. It currently costs **£700 per day** to keep our parish running, that is without funding any of the initiatives we believe God is calling us to embrace. If those who are able can increase their giving, it will help ensure that our ministry continues to flourish for years to come.

Please pray about how God may be calling you to respond. Whether through your financial giving, your time, your gifts, or all three, every contribution matters, and every act of faithful stewardship helps to build God's Kingdom in this place.

Next Sunday, 4th October at 10am at All Saints, The Revd. David senior will be helping us to consider some of these issues - do come along and hear what he has to say. We will also be giving you more information on how to help us should you feel you are able to. This information, and this challenge, will continue to be available throughout October and possibly beyond.

Thank you for all that you already do, and for all that you will continue to do in Christ's name.

With every blessing,

Mark