

Holy Trinity St Mary's



Dear Friends,

The splendour of ordinary time

The summer equinox was on June 21. After that day, when it feels as though summer has not yet properly begun, the nights have been getting longer. There are fewer than 150 shopping days to Christmas. Shops have been advertising “Back to school” clothes for weeks before the summer term ends. So, I often find it hard to locate when the summer season happens. Changeable weather does not help – “some time too hot the eye of heaven shines” (from *Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?*). Already, it feels as though “seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness” are only just round the corner. But now is a season to take our ease. After the enthusiasm and success of their first months of active ministry, Jesus drags his disciples away “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while” (Mark 6.31). He knows the importance of re-collection, of gathering the fragments of our lives together once again.

What helps ease happen? Travel? A change of scenery? Abba Moses (one of the early Desert Fathers) said 'Stay in your cell, and your cell will teach you everything'. The stillness that soothes the soul can happen in your own home, as much as it happens on a Greek beach. For me, ease happens as I move from 'should' to 'want'. This is when a day is less driven by 'what should I be doing now', and there is more space for 'what do I want to do now?'. Jesus helped people to reacquaint themselves with their desires. Mark 10.51 tells the story of Jesus meeting a blind man. Jesus did not presume to know what was best, rather he needed the blind man to articulate it for himself, by asking: "what do you *want* me to do for you?" So, perhaps the summer can be a season of befriending our passions. I want to enjoy a midday coffee – not in a mug hastily drunk at my desk, but savoured, sitting in the market-place, watching the world amble by.

I had not expected to watch the Olympics, feeling that it was bizarre/unwise to be holding a global competition in a time of pandemic. But I am finding that 5 minutes turns into 25 minutes in front of the TV, as I relax into enjoying, skill, grace, the thrill of winning and the nobility of losing well. We cannot live for highlights alone. Isn't it good when we can enjoy the 'lowlights' too? God is present in the quiet gentle slow-moving ordinary hours. Summer is a season for us to be fully present to ourselves and each other, and to appreciate the splendour of ordinary time. – **Robert**

Worship

Thank you for accepting the way that we are implementing the change of Covid regulations. We are feeling our way with mask-wearing and singing. We are taking small steps towards a new normal. It was wonderful that our churches were filled with singing last Sunday. It was also delightful increasingly to see people face to face, so that we can understand and be understood.

Together, we will keep our churches safe, spacious and welcoming places. We are making the most of what is currently allowed.



We welcome Margot Talbot for her baptism at Holy Trinity on Sunday.

Next Sunday, August 1st, in the evening at 6pm there will be a service of responsory compline in Holy Trinity. It is an experiment. Instead of leader and congregation format, it is structured as a dialogue of prayer with alternate voices speaking to each other, for each other and listening to the other. The limitations of those involved mean it will only be in person in church and not broadcast on YouTube or Zoom.



Summer ease

Through August, I trust there will be ease for all of us, in various ways. Sunday worship will continue in gentle fashion. There will be no Tuesday midweek Communion or evening service after August 1st. St Mary's 10:30am worship will not be zoom-ed. Holy Trinity 10am worship will still be available on-site and on YouTube, though the breakout rooms will be taking a break. This letter will continue, though in slimmed-down fashion. Weekday Morning Prayer will resume on September 1st. – *Robert*

Tea at St Mary's

Last Wednesday the Pastoral Care Group held a tea at St Mary's – the first such event since the beginning of the pandemic and since the restoration work at St Mary's was completed.

It was excellent to be together again after so long and we filled the church with chatter and laughter. We hope to hold a similar event sometime in the autumn.

– *Tom Pote*



Food Bank

A gentle reminder that there will be a collection at Holy Trinity for the Food Bank on **Sunday 1 August**. The currently most needed items are listed at the drop-off point at Sainsbury's in Burpham and on the North Guildford Food Bank [Facebook page](#). The Food Bank is particularly glad to receive tinned items (meat, fish and vegetables) and household cleaning products. Demand for the service is expected to rise during the school holidays. So please support the Food Bank in August if you can by leaving items at the Sainsbury's drop off point or delivering direct to St Clare's Church, Park Barn, GU2 8JW on **Mondays, between 9.30am and 11am**. The September collection at church will be on **6 September**.

Many thanks, Mara Uzzell

Abbot's Hospital – Local Almshouse

A refurbished flat suitable for a couple has become available at Abbot's, the historic almshouse opposite Holy Trinity on Guildford's High Street. For more information [download this flyer](#), or contact [Ian Bowler](#), tel 01483 455591. www.abbotshospital.org



Guildford Youth Symphony Orchestra at Holy Trinity Church • Saturday 7 August 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm)

Matthew Lloyd-Wilson • Conductor

Come to an uplifting evening of music played by local talent. Entry is free and the retiring collection will be donated to Holy Trinity Church. The programme explores some of the best known works by Dvorak and the bombastic Tannhäuser overture. Refreshments will be provided in the interval and all are welcome! For more information about the youth orchestra [visit their website](#).



Final Consultation for St Mary's Wharf

Thank you to those who provided feedback during our second round of public consultation for St Mary's Wharf, the former Debenhams store on Millbrook, in the Spring. Over the last few months the St Mary's Wharf project team have been busy, ensuring all of the comments we received from key stakeholders - including local residents, businesses and councillors - have been duly considered. Following this extensive review period, we have launched our third and final round of public consultation for the site. You can access the video and questionnaire here: [St Mary's Wharf - Have your say](#). Feedback can be provided until **Friday 13th August 2021 at 5pm**. We are keen to know your views on our updated proposals, and we would encourage you to let us know what you think via the website's feedback section. – *The St Mary's Wharf Consultation Team*



What a beautiful day!

Nick and Jane Graham celebrated their marriage in Holy Trinity last Saturday, with sumptuous music and such beautiful flowers. After this, I received out of the blue this message from a member of the public: "I cannot begin to express how happy I was to hear the St Mary's bells ringing again on Saturday afternoon. It actually brought tears to my eyes."



WHAT'S ON @HTSM

Need more information? Contact the Parish Office:
office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 567716

Sunday Worship • 1 August 2021 • Trinity 9

8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion • Led by Robert Cotton
[At St Mary's & on Zoom](#)

10am Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist • Sermon by Robert Cotton
Readings: 4:1-16 & John 6: 24-35
[At Holy Trinity & on YouTube](#)

10:30am St Mary's Morning Worship • Sermon by Andy Wheeler
Readings: Ephesians 4:1-16 & John 6: 24-35
[At St Mary's](#)

[We are taking a break from Zoom for the summer for Daily Prayer, chat rooms after the 10am service at Holy Trinity and for the 10:30am service at St Mary's.](#)

[Tuesday midweek Communion and Sunday evening service will restart in September.](#)

[Links to summer services by Zoom & YouTube and service sheets can be found below.](#)

Tom Pote is leading worship at St Mark's Wyke on Sunday morning

1 August • Links to services online • [Click here for help](#)

[8am St Mary's BCP Holy Communion](#)

[SERVICE SHEET](#)

[10am Holy Trinity Eucharist live on YouTube](#)

[SERVICE SHEET](#)

DAILY PRAYER

Morning Prayer by Zoom paused for August • [Daily Prayers from Church of England](#)

SERVICES, REFLECTIONS & MUSIC ON VIDEO

[Worship services • Music](#)

[Walking with God](#)

Please make sure we have your current contact details.