

Sunday 18th January 2026 **Second Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00 a.m. BCP Communion
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Children's Church
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church
5.30 p.m. Youth Group

Collect for Today

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Service Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7 (*p.689*), 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (*p.162*) and John 1:29-42 (*p.88*)

Please pray for

... Jo Garrick, Mark & Jan Knott, Julie Lodge, Jenny Powell, Bishop Andrew and Mike and Rosemary Woodcock.
... the family and friends of Clive Daborn (member of the Dray Court congregation) who died recently.
... the family and friends of Norman Hobson, Ellen Stewart and Majorie Laporte whose anniversary of death is at this time.
... those who live and work in Scholar's Walk, Scillonian Road and Stag Hill.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

In our Old Testament reading Isaiah says the servant was called before he was born, named while still in the womb. Which is comforting — until you remember it can sometimes feel we too have missed that calling somewhere along the way. We may wake up each morning feeling vaguely useful, but radiant with a sense of Divine purpose?

The servant in Isaiah knows that feeling well. *“I have laboured in vain”* he says. All that effort, all that faithfulness—and what does he have to show for it? If that line sounds familiar, it may be because it shows up as *trying to do the right thing* in a world that seems unimpressed. So, even God’s servants can get discouraged.

And yet, God responds, not by curtailing the servant’s calling, but by expanding the job description. *“It is too light a thing,”* God says. Too small. Too limited. You thought this was about fixing your corner of the world, but I had something bigger in mind. Not just restoration, but illumination. Not just survival, but light for people you will never meet, in places you will never go.

There has to be Godly humour here. The servant thought he was signing up for a modest assignment. God, apparently, had ticked the “global impact” box. Which explains why this calling can feel a little heavy some days. Because it was never meant to be handled alone.

Isaiah is reminding us that usefulness is not the same as visibility. Faithfulness is not the same as success. God’s work often looks like failure before it looks like salvation. The servant is despised before he is honoured, weary before he is trusted.

So, if today you feel hidden, or unheard, take heart. According to Isaiah, that may be exactly where the light is learning how to shine.

Paul Fenner

Mission Focus for January: ReSkilled

Reskilled works with people who have been unemployed for at least 1 year (the average of participants is almost 7 years unemployed) to learn to make things out of wood, while also learning the general skills they will need to continue on to volunteering roles or paid employment. Most of the wood they use is recycled wood (so if you are getting rid of a table or other good wood, do contact them to see if they can use it). For further information see their website at reskilled.org/ or contact piers@reskilled.org.

Notices

Welcome to Revd Paul Fenner who will be leading both our morning services today.

Tea Time Church today: As we reach the end of the Church's Christmas season, we reflect on a story about kindness and selflessness. Join Jo Dwyer and Beverly at 4pm to hear more.

Orchard Volunteer Morning: Saturday 24th January, 10.30-1.00pm. It is the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch this weekend and we will be watching for birds in the Orchard. We will be putting down chippings along the Woodland Trail and the entrances to the Orchard and working on the compost area. Meet by the metal shed (bring suitable tools and gardening gloves). We'd greatly appreciate cardboard for the compost heap: plain, uncoated cardboard - plain brown is best – no inks/patterns as these contaminate the soil.

David Garrick: The funeral of David Garrick will be held on Thursday 5th February at 11.30am here at All Saints, with the committal at Guildford Crematorium at 12.45pm. Please pray for Jo and her family.

Lent Course 2026: This year we will be studying a book called, '*The Hard Sayings of Jesus*', by F.F. Bruce. Dr Bruce was Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis at Manchester University, an outstanding teacher and communicator, and a prolific author. We'll be meeting on five consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 25th February through to 25th March, 7.30-9pm at the Vicarage. Please let Beverly know if you would like to come (or complete the sign-up sheet in the foyer).

New bookings for the hall: As you might know, the Montessori Nursery is ending their contract with us and relocating to Onslow Infants, probably in February. This is sad news as we've hosted a nursery or play group for very many years. However, we now have an opportunity to welcome new people to the hall. Do you know people or organisations who could use the hall? Who are your contacts? What activities do you do that could use the hall? Please have a think and let Eve (bookings.all saints@gmail.com) know of any potential bookings.

ZERO Carbon Guildford manage a Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) which provides free Energy surveys to Surrey residents. We have lots of Energy Champions in Guildford ready to go out, and their advice should bring your bills down and keep you warmer at home. Go to their website to sign up for a survey: zerocarbon guildford.org/home-energy-surveys

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.	
Mon 19 th	Hear Here Clinic, Reading Room, 2.00pm-3.00pm Preaching Group, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Tues 20 th	Altogether Worship Planning, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Weds 21 st	Wednesday Lunch Group, Wilders, 12.30pm Dray Court Service, 2.30pm Sharing & Learning Group, 5 Elmside, 7.45pm
Thurs 22 nd	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am Friday Group, 43 Poltimore Road, 3.00pm Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm Men's Group 'Exploring the Way', 21 West Mount, 8.00pm
Fri 23 rd	Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am
Sat 24 th	Orchard Volunteer Morning, 10.30am-1.00pm
Sun 25 th	Church Family Communion with Children's Church, 10.00am Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 19 th	Ps. 146, Genesis 6:11-7:10, Matthew 24:1-14
Tues 20 th	Ps. 132, Genesis 7:11-end, Matthew 24:15-28
Weds 21 st	Ps. 81, Genesis 8:1-14, Matthew 24:29-end
Thurs 22 nd	Ps. 76, Genesis 8:15-9:7, Matthew 25:1-13
Fri 23 rd	Ps. 27, Genesis 9:8-19, Matthew 25:14-30
Sat 24 th	Ps. 122, Genesis 11:1-9, Matthew 25:31-end

Service Readings for Sunday 25th January: Conversion of St Paul

Acts 9:1-22, Galatians 1:11-16a and Matthew 19:27-end

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