

Sunday 22nd February 2026 **First of Lent and Stewardship Sunday**

10.00 a.m. Church Family Communion
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 (p.2); Romans 5:12-19 (p.151) and Matthew 4:1-11 (p.3)

Please pray for

... Dave Barclay, Robin Holdsworth, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell, Andy Wells and Mike and Rosemary Woodcock.
... the family and friends of Irene Scurfield, Betty Nicholson, Bernard Parke, Una Clark and Christine Evans whose anniversary of death is at this time.
... those who live and work in Abbots Close, Agraria Road and Alresford Road.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

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 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. **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

I am delighted to have been invited to join you today to celebrate all that God is doing at All Saints' and to support Beverly and your PCC in your giving campaign.

These are exciting times. The 'Quiet Revival' has brought a new openness to faith and it is wonderful that you have chosen to invest so generously in growth through the Big Build Project.

As Beverly has set out in her letter, the next challenge is to fund the day-to-day ministry of the All Saints' which, in the year ahead, will require a 30% increase in total giving. This may feel like a mightily big step, but we have found in other parishes that this can be achieved if:

- all in the church family commit to giving monthly from bank accounts through the Parish Giving Scheme rather than, for instance, putting money in the plate, so your PCC knows for certain how much will be received in giving and Gift Aid each month
- and all those who already give through bank accounts ask "am I bringing God my 'first fruits' and making my giving to His work my top priority?" and then pray for guidance and the faith to move to a new and, in some cases, substantially higher level of giving.

Moving to a new level of giving may feel daunting but God promises that, if you trust Him by giving sacrificially and cheerfully, "you will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion" (2 Corinthians 9:11). Down the ages, Christians have found that we cannot outgive God and, as we experience His faithfulness, we are given the faith to take the next step in our giving. We grow in faith as we grow in giving.

Finally, it will greatly bless your PCC if all those currently giving by standing order could also in future give through the Parish Giving Scheme. This is easy to join online at parishgiving.org.uk, by phone on 0333 002 1271 or by completing and posting the form enclosed with your letter.

I am so looking forward to being with you.

Revd David Senior, Mission Enabler, Diocese of Guildford

Mission Focus for February: Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy (GTCC)

GTCC is run by various Guildford churches for the people of Guildford. Over 100 volunteers are: Street Angels; Community Angels and Volunteer Chaplains. Since 2008 Street Angels have provided practical care every Friday and Saturday night to people in a vulnerable state in Guildford Town Centre because of eg alcohol, drugs, or homelessness. In 2008, almost overnight, tensions were calmed, crime dropped, and antisocial behaviour was reduced by around a third. More information in February's magazine and on their website gtcc.org.uk/.

Notices

Stewardship Sunday today: Each year we review our financial giving to All Saints on this Sunday and for the following three weeks. Huge thanks to David Senior, the Diocesan Stewardship Officer, who will be preaching at 10am and 4pm.

Thank you to Jo Smalley and her team of helpers who made Tuesday's Pancake Party a very special time. Many pancakes were tossed and enjoyed!

Lent Lunch: TODAY 12 noon. Please stay on after coffee in the hall for our annual soup and bread Lent lunch. No need to book. David Senior is joining us for lunch, so there will be a further opportunity to chat with him. We'll be taking donations for the Koens family in Papua New Guinea.

A Day of Prayer for Bishop Andrew: Monday 23rd February, 12 noon to 10pm
Join at any stage during the day, for as long as you are able to stay. If you can't attend in person then do join in prayer from home or work. In the Cathedral, there will be opportunity for silent prayer, to pray with others, or to light a candle. Choral Evensong is at 5:30pm, when we will pray in particular for Bishop Andrew and his family. After Evensong, there will be an opportunity, for those who wish, to light a candle and to share in the ministry of laying on of hands and anointing. Teams from each deanery will be present throughout the day to welcome people and to pray with them, and the day will finish with Night Prayer, which will begin at 9:45pm and end at 10:00pm.

Orchard Volunteer Morning: Saturday 28 February, 10.30-1.00pm: We will be working in the compost area and will finish putting fresh compost around the fruit trees, checking bird boxes, weeding around the saplings and raised beds. 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.

Big Build Grant Funding – Help needed! Do you have experience of applying for grant funding or the willingness to learn? We need to make about a dozen grant applications to different funding bodies in the next three months. You'll be part of a team and with support from Beverly and Trish with making the applications and uploading relevant documents. Please contact Trish if you have a few hours to spare.

PCC – new members needed: At the APCM on Sunday 22nd March we will be appointing new members to the PCC. We need a Churchwarden and two Deputy Wardens to serve alongside Robin; one Deanery Synod representative and three PCC members. Please prayerfully consider if you could serve All Saints in this way and talk to Beverly or Trish.

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 23rd Central Team Meeting, Zoom, 10.00am
 Day of Prayer for Bishop Andrew, Cathedral, 12 noon – 10pm
 Memorial Service for Sian, Church, 12 noon

Tues 24th Architects on site meeting consultants, from 9.30am, Reading Room

Thurs 26th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am

Fri 27th Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am

Sat 28th Band Rehearsal, Church, 10.00am
 Orchard Volunteer Morning, 10.30am-1.00pm

Sun 1st Holy Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am
 Café-style Altogether Worship, 10.00am
 Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 23rd Ps. 71, Genesis 41:25-45, Galatians 3:23-4:7

Tues 24th Ps. 44, Genesis 41:46-42:5, Galatians 4:8-20

Weds 25th Ps. 6, Genesis 42:6-17, Galatians 4:21-5:1

Thurs 26th Ps. 42, Genesis 42:18-28, Galatians 5:2-15

Fri 27th Ps. 22, Genesis 42:29-end, Galatians 5:16-end

Sat 28th Ps. 63, Genesis 43:1-15, Galatians 6

Service Readings for Sunday 1st March: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 and John 3:1-17

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