

Sunday 8th March 2026
Third Sunday of Lent

10.00 a.m. Church Family Communion with Children's Church
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Exodus 17:1-7 (*p.66*), Romans 5:1-11 (*p.151*) and John 4:5-42 (*p.91*)

Please pray for

... Beverly, Hannah, Sam, Joe, Lydia and all of Bishop Andrew's family.
... Dave Barclay, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell, Mike and Rosemary Woodcock.
... Andy & Linda Wells as they prepare for Andy's father's funeral on Monday.
... the family and friends of Robert Scurfield, Dick Henderson, Mary Louise Trigg, Sheila Banks and Arthur Arni whose anniversary of death is at this time.
... those who live and work in Cathedral Close, Curling Vale and Downing Avenue.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

Donations are welcome at all our services. If you don't give regularly via the Parish Giving Scheme, please put your donation in the bowl, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

Our thoughts and prayers this Sunday are overshadowed by the sorrowful news of the death of our dear Bishop Andrew last Tuesday and by the sense of loss which we know is being carried by Beverly and the family, and by us all.

The process of grieving has its own milestones over a long journey. At this early stage there is shock and bewilderment, uncertainty and often a kind of mute numbness. It is a moment to follow the biblical pattern of “abiding”, remaining, dwelling within the love and presence of God and of God’s people, through whatever experiences we face. One of the most telling requests Jesus made to his disciples is “Stay with me, remain here with me”.

There are stages in our grief when we can’t see a way ahead, and then we need to “allow the habits of life to take over” as we journey on. This applies to our daily pattern of ordinary everyday things, but also to our prayers.

At times such as this, the legacy of our regular prayer and worship over weeks and years comes into its own and in some ways become more real. Nor is this legacy just our own individual or local legacy: the church carries wisdom, words and ways of praying to help.

As we gather to pray this week we can lean on this support, and learn to pray better. Perhaps first, because of our love and affection for Beverly and her family, we will want to remember those who mourn, that “casting all their care on the Lord, they may know the consolation of God’s love”.

As we remember Bishop Andrew, and his brilliant example of gentleness, patience, diligence and love, we are drawn to “give thanks for the grace of God revealed in his life”.

The death of someone close to us brings us up against our own fragility and makes us reflect on our own life, and maybe makes us pray “Lord, teach me so to number my days that I may apply my heart to wisdom”.

In the end, our best and only course is to entrust to God what belongs to God: “into your hands, Lord, our faithful creator and most loving redeemer, we commend your servant”.

Good ways of praying make us more aware of those around us, and their feelings and emotions. So finally, an encouragement to us all to care for one another and to ask for support if you need it from Andy, Alison and our Pastoral Team.

Julian

Mission Focus for March: A Rocha International

A Rocha International (arocha.org) is a global family of conservation organisations including A Rocha Uk which is a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK and worldwide to care for the environment – for God, nature and all People.

Notices

Welcome and thank you to Bishop Paul and Revd Julian Hubbard who are with us at our 10am service today.

Tea, cake and chat with the Guides: Sadly, this event planned for today has had to be postponed. Lucy has had to go to Scarborough to care for her mother-in-law. Watch this space for a future date.

A book for Beverly: Although many of us will have signed the diocesan or Cathedral Books of Condolence, there is another book, just from us - the church family at All Saints, to send love and support to Beverly and the family. If it's hard to know what to say, just a name will do, with 'We are praying for you'. We just wanted her to really know how much she, Hannah, Sam, Jo, Lydia and the three little grandsons are all in our hearts at the moment.

Mothering Sunday: Sunday 15th March. We'll be celebrating Mothers at both our 10am and 4pm services, with daffodils for all women present. At our 10am communion service, Revd Dr Anna Poulson will be preaching. Anna is the Principal of St Martha's College, the theological college for the Diocese of Guildford. We will also be joined by the Archdeacon of Surrey, The Ven Catharine Mabuza.

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

Annual Report & Accounts: The 2025 Annual Report & Accounts will be published this week and available to view on the website. If you would like a paper copy, please let Trish know by dropping her an email (allsaintschurchgfd@gmail.com).

Stewardship: Following the launch of the stewardship campaign by Revd David Senior, please sign up for the Parish Giving Scheme as soon as possible (if you need help please speak to Andy or Eve). Please also continue to pray for the increase in giving that we need.

Morning Prayer: Please be aware that Morning Prayer is on Zoom only for the time being. If you need the link, please contact Trish in the office.

Room needed: Do you have a garden room or home office you are not using? Ellie is looking for somewhere to rent temporarily when she moves out of the vicarage. Ellie and a colleague support children and families who are struggling in their child psychology practice. It would need to be quiet, private and easily accessible. Please talk to Ellie or email dratkintherapy@gmail.com

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am on Zoom.

Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

- Mon 9th Central Team Meeting, Zoom, 10.00am
Pastoral Team Meeting, 5 Elmside, 10.30am
Premises Team Meeting, Reading Room, 8.00pm
- Weds 11th Wednesday Lunch Group, Wilders, 12.30pm
Big Build Meeting, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Sharing & Learning Group, 7.45pm
- Thurs 12th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am
Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm
- Fri 13th Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am
- Sun 15th *Mothering Sunday*
BCP Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am
Church Family Communion with Children's Church, 10.00am
Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

- Mon 9th Ps. 5, Genesis 47:1-27, Hebrews 4:14-5:10
- Tues 10th Ps. 9, Genesis 47:28-end of 48, Hebrews 5:11-6:12
- Weds 11th Ps. 38, Genesis 49:1-32, Hebrews 6:13-end
- Thurs 12th Ps. 56, Genesis 49:33-end of 50, Hebrews 7:1-10
- Fri 13th Ps. 22, Exodus 1:1-14, Hebrews 7:11-end
- Sat 14th Ps. 31, Exodus 1:22-2:10, Hebrews 8

Service Readings for Sunday 15th March: 4th Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1:20-end, Colossians 3:12-17 and Luke 2:33-35

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