

Sunday 12th July 2026
Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 a.m. Church Family Communion with Children's Church
4.00 p.m. Pet Service

Collect for Today

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Isaiah 55:10-13 (*p.696*), Romans 8:1-11 (*p.153*) and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (*p.13*)

Please pray for

... Esme Doran, Violet Guo, Mark & Jan Knott, Julie Lodge, Paddy Payne, Mike Woodcock and Paul Young.

.... the family and friends of Sheila Kirkland, who sadly died on Wednesday this week. And we give thanks to God for Sheila's life.

... the family and friends of John Evans and Geoffrey Horsley whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in East Meads, Ellis Avenue, Elmbank Avenue and Elmside.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of 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 reading this Sunday is The Parable of the Sower. We can read it not only in Matthew but also in Mark (4:1–20) and Luke (8:4–15). In this story, we read about a farmer scattering seed. The seed falls on different types of ground: a path, on rocks, in thorns and good soil.

Jesus then explains what this means to his disciples. The different types of ground are like the paths we follow on our faith journey. We all go through times of hardship, misunderstanding, material distractions, of course, periods of enlightenment.

I look back at my theology and formation studies and experienced every one of these emotions. Sometimes I just could not get the subject, I had to re-read theology books again and again until, then, finally the penny dropped!

In this parable, Jesus acknowledges faith is definitely not a straight path. But he says by perseverance, we will understand God's word and His plan for us.

This parable also asks us to reflect a little too. Reflection is a really important part of being a Christian. By looking back on a particular thing we have done, thinking about the outcome of what we did and what might have made it different, we invite God into our reflection and are enlightened by it. From this, we grow, as God's word to us takes root and informs upon the next thing we do in life.

Andy

Mission Focus for July: Mosaic Middle East (MME)

Our prayers are still urgently needed for the work of MME, particularly for the beleaguered Christian communities in Iraq. Iran and other areas of the Middle East are of course more in the spotlight at the moment, but Iraq continues to feel the effects of ISIS and the wars since 2000. It remains a country suffering all kinds of internal strife, but some Christian communities soldier on against all the odds. St. George's Church in Baghdad is one of these – it stands steadfast as a beacon of hope. Please continue to offer prayers for the Rev'd Faiz and all those who benefit from his ministry!

Notices

Sheila Kirkland: Today we give thanks to God for the life of Sheila, who died in the early hours of Wednesday this week. Sheila was a very long-standing member of our church, and also a supporter of the Cathedral. Our prayer are with the family at this sad time.

Pet Service TODAY: At 4pm we'll be inviting all pets to our service. Please come along, we'll be giving thanks for our pets and all they mean to us and praying for God's blessing.

Youth Group: On Sunday 12th July, the Youth Group will meet as usual but we invite any year 6 children who might like to join us from September onwards. Why not come and see what we get up to each month and enjoy pizza with us too! Please let Jeanette know if your young person would like to come, jeanette.whiteman@gmail.com.

The St Francis 800 Years Pilgrimage: On Saturday 18th July, Jay Whittaker and the Guildford Area Franciscans will be leading a pilgrimage from St Francis Westborough to Guildford Cathedral via All Saints. The pilgrimage will start at 10.30am and end with a service in the Lady Chapel. Put the date in your diary and more information will be available soon.

Sponsored Bible Reading Event: On Saturday 15th August, 9.30am-12 noon we'll be reading through Mark's gospel and raising money for the Koens and their work for Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea. Have a chat with Katherine, Bruce or Richard Hemingway from the Mission Vision Group to find out more.

Dray Court Service in August: On Wednesday 19th August at 2.30pm, we'll have a special Dray Court Service celebrating our favourite hymns. If you'd like to choose a hymn and come along, please let Beverly know. Offers of cake would be very welcome!

Contacting our curate: If you need to get in touch with Andy, our new curate, please use this email address: curate@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk.

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 13th Small Group Leader's Meeting, Reading Room, 10.00am

Weds 15th Dray Court Service, 2.30pm

Big Build Meeting, Reading Room, 7.30pm

Sharing & Learning Group, 5 Elmside, 7.45pm

Thurs 16th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am

Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm

Fri 17th Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am

Sat 18th The St Francis 800 Years Pilgrimage, St Francis Westborough,
10.30am or All Saints 12 noon

Sun 19th BCP Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am

Morning Worship with Children's Church, 10.00am

Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Confirmation Group, Reading Room, 5pm

Youth Group, Church Hall, 5.30pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 13th Ps. 126, 1 Samuel 5, Luke 20:41-21:4

Tues 14th Ps. 132, 1 Samuel 6:1-16, Luke 21:5-19

Weds 15th Ps. 119:153-end, 1 Samuel 7, Luke 21:20-28

Thurs 16th Ps. 143, 1 Samuel 8, Luke 21:29-end

Fri 17th Ps. 144, 1 Samuel 9:1-14, Luke 22:1-13

Sat 18th Ps. 147, 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1, Luke 22:14-23

Service Readings for Sunday 19th July: 7th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 44:6-8, Romans 8:12-25 and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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