

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2023

St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

Welcome to St John's!

By now you should all know the news that I am moving on to pastures new, quite a lot of pastures actually in the Yorkshire Dales, where I will be the next Suffragan Bishop of Ripon.

Although I have known for a while now, for you it will be news you're having to get used to very quickly. I am sorry for the speed of all of this. My last Sunday on duty will be the 14th May when we will also have our APCM. Change is always unsettling. We are very sad to be leaving you all, but if there ever is a 'good' time, now feels like that time. St John's is in a hopeful and positive place, and for me I feel a strong sense of God's call to this new role.

May is the time we celebrate the birth of the church and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit following Jesus' Ascension to heaven. God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit are our constant companion and strong foundation through all things. Jesus' last words of commission in Matthew's Gospel, that we are to go and baptise new disciples in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are followed by Jesus saying 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'. I may be moving on and making way for someone new, who will be the perfect person called by God to the Oxted Team for this next chapter, but Jesus, through his Spirit never leaves you or me or any of us and in that we will remain forever one.

Thank you for all your love and care for me through some of the most difficult times in my life. You are all glorious Saints of God, and I will forever hold you in my heart. God Bless each and every one of you. With my love and prayers, as ever, Revd Anna

Services at St John's this month

Sunday 7 May: Easter 5

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Eucharist
11am: Scones and Sing for the King! (see overleaf)

Tuesday 9 May

2pm: Funeral of Robin Parker (see overleaf)

Wednesday 10 May

12 noon: Interment of ashes of John Mills

Sunday 14 May: Easter 6

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist
11.15am: Annual Parochial Church Meeting (see over)

Thursday 18 May

2pm: Funeral of Mavis Annell followed by burial at Oxted

Sunday 21 May: Easter 7

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist
11am: Big Brekkie for Christian Aid
Followed by Café Church

(Anna and family will join in with the Big Brekkie, although Sunday 14 May is officially her last day.)

Wednesday 24 May

12 noon: Eucharist in the Lady Chapel followed by a simple lunch in St John's Room (every 4th Wednesday)

Sunday 28 May: Pentecost

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist



St John's Wildflower Garden

The June Newsletter will be available on Sunday 28 May.

Please send anything to be included by Sunday 21 May to Janet Harman at office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk, or phone 715301 (and leave a message if I'm out!) Thank you.

St John's Notices

 facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen
 twitter.com/AnnaRevd

WILDFLOWER GARDEN: Have you looked at the wildflower garden this spring? It has been a real picture (see the photograph on the front page) with an ever changing parade of flowers. Currently, there are numerous fritillaries, cowslips, primroses and violets. What is more, some flowers can now be found in the grass along the north west side of the church, having self-seeded. There are also many fritillaries amongst the daffodils in the area at the bottom of the drive running alongside Church Way. *Mary*

SCONES AND SING FOR THE KING! To celebrate the King's coronation, on Sunday 7 May there will be drinks and scones after the 9.45am service followed by a short medley of coronation favourites. The music will include Zadok the Priest, Defender of us all (a new song composed by Daniel Nicholls, Charlotte's dad), Jerusalem, Be thou my vision (a favourite of King Charles), I vow to thee, my country and the National Anthem. If you won't be at the 9.45 service, please come along from 11am for the scones and a sing (we'll be finished by 12 noon). It will be a relaxed family performance with audience singing and plenty of flag waving! The singers from St John's and St Mary's would love other singers to join them. Please come for a rehearsal on Friday 5 May at 7.45pm in the York Rooms.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS AND BOOKWORMS!



We plan to have a craft stall at the St John's Autumn Fair on Saturday 11 November, and we are hoping that many crafters will help us to make our stall even more successful than last year. Perhaps you love knitting, or sewing or crochet or macramé or...something else?

We would love to hear from you. For more details contact Sue Farrell, susan.farrell@zen.co.uk or 01883 715773.

As for the bookworms, make room for more books by donating those you've read and those that you have been meaning to read for years. You will never read them, so donate them! Contact Cathy Booth to find out how to donate, cathy.booth17@gmail.com or 01883 715748.

FAREWELL PARTY: Please put Sunday 11 June, 4 - 9pm in your diary for the Eltringhams' leaving-do! This will be a relaxed drop in with food, drink and possibly some entertainment at St Agatha's Hall, Hurst Green to say goodbyes. After the 14 May Anna's official rector duties will come to an end, but the family will be in the area for quite some time preparing to move, and the children will still be at school here for most of the term.



COFFEE and a CHAT
St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon
Thursdays 4 & 18 May, 1 June

If you need a lift, please ring Barbara 715636

HURST GREEN'S CORONATION CELEBRATION: Monday 8 May at St Agatha's Hall, 1 - 4pm, for light refreshments, creative and craft workshops, planting sunflowers and volunteering (litter picking). Here for everybody - everything is free!

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF ROBIN PARKER: Robin's funeral will be at 2pm on Tuesday 9 May at St John's Church followed by refreshments in the York Rooms. Liz is so grateful for all your kindness and support and looks forward to welcoming any of you who would like to attend. If you would like to make a donation to Royal Papworth Hospital charity or St John's Hurst Green in Robin's memory, you can do so on the day or via Alex Jones Funeral Directors. We remember Robin and his faithful presence here at St John's with great fondness and continue to hold Liz and his family in our love and prayers during this time.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING: This year's APCM will be on Sunday 14 May at 11.15am in the church with elections to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Deanery Synod. There are four 3-year vacancies and two 2-year vacancies for PCC members. All lay representatives on the Deanery Synod finish this year and there are four 3-year vacancies available. Nomination forms are on the porch notice board and there are leaflets with more information about the Deanery Synod on the table in church. Please come if you can!

PIANO RECITAL AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH: Sunday 14 May at 2pm. Award-winning pianist and platinum selling composer Holger Skepeneit has performed with artists Katrina and the Waves, Chris Farlowe, The Tremoloes, Dave Berry, Pete King and Jacky Cheung and will play music from his latest albums. His music has been described as cinematic, alluring, and having an all-pervasive sense of storytelling. Tickets £10 on the door or at www.holgerskepeneit.com.

Other Notices

MUNCH WITH MUSIC: St John's Church, Clareville Road, Caterham Valley, Wednesday lunchtime 3 May, 12.45pm. We shall be treated to a performance (45 mins approx) by the group INDIG+O, playing recorders, violin, double bass, mandolin, bouzouki and hurdy-gurdy. Free admission, donations welcome. Coffee, tea and biscuits available from 12.15pm. Bring your own Munch!

Walking with Jesus
Sunday 30 April at 6.30pm, St Peter's Limpsfield
A 5th Sunday service of meditation and prayer, based on the Iona liturgy.
All welcome!



HURST GREEN SINGERS' SUMMER CONCERT: Saturday 13 May at 7pm in the Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School. The programme comprises Rutter's Te Deum and Handel's Zadok the Priest to mark the coronation. The main work is Haydn's Nelson Mass, thought by many to be his greatest composition. It was written 225 years ago at a time of political and economic turmoil (which resonates with today's global problems) and is an impassioned work of great drama. Hurst Green Singers will be accompanied by an orchestra and four soloists from The Royal Academy. It promises to be an amazing concert and the choir hope you will be able to come along and support them. Tickets are £15 and can be obtained from Cathy Booth (telephone 715748 or email cathy.booth17@gmail.com) or on the door.

A STRING OF PEARLS, WEDNESDAY 17 MAY, 2.30PM: This talk at Oxted Library on the villages and hamlets on the A25 ridge from Nutfield to Westerham will be given by Bob Evans to celebrate local and community history month. Tickets, £2, include refreshments. Book at the library or by e-mailing oxted.library@surreycc.gov.uk

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st John's
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