

NEWSLETTER-SEPTEMBER 2024

St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

Welcome to St John's!

During the summer months we take an opportunity to enjoy a change of routine, a change of scenery and spend more time outdoors in the sunshine (if it's not too hot!) It's good to have a time of rest which creates space to reflect and see things from a different perspective.

During the summer at St John's, there has been a fresh look at our ministry and mission to young families and young people. It has also been a time of waiting for the ongoing work and conversations for 'Crossing the Threshold' to move ahead.

Now that the long summer evenings are drawing in, we turn towards an autumn season with hope and continued prayer for the life, mission and ministry of the church and the parish.

Every blessing, Revd Sue

READY, STEADY...

Play: Solve the mystery of what's inside the box

Praise: God cares for you

Pray: for the new school term, .

ALL AGE SERVICE

Sunday 1st September 9.45am

St John's Church, Hurst Green

OFFICE@STJHURSTGREEN.CO.UK | 01883 712674 | WWW.STJOHNSHURSTGREEN.ORG.UK
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, CHURCH WAY, HURST GREEN, SURREY, RH8 9EA

Followed by a Bring & Share Lunch in the Vicarage Garden

Bring something to share and a picnic rug or garden chair. Please sign up on the list in church if you can bring one of these items of food to share: quiche, cooked sausages, chicken goujons/nuggets, vegetarian/vegan option, green salad, potato or pasta salad, pudding.

Services at St John's this month

Sunday 1 September: Trinity 14 (Proper 17)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Service

Sunday 8 September: Trinity 15 (Proper 18)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 15 September: Trinity 16 (Proper 19)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 22 September: Trinity 17 (Proper 20)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

1pm: Baptism of Esme Lily Smith

Sunday 29 September: Trinity 18 (Proper 21)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

**Wednesday 25 September at St John's
and every 4th Wednesday of the month**



**Eucharist in the Lady Chapel at 12 noon
followed by a simple lunch of delicious
home made soup and bread in St John's Room**

COFFEE and a CHAT

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon

Thursdays 5 and 19 September



If you need a lift, please ring Barbara 715636

The October Newsletter will be available on Sunday 29 September.

**Please send anything to be included by Sunday 22 September 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](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen)

MINISTRY AND MISSION TO FAMILIES: Over the last few months, Sue has been having conversations with parents of children and youth at St John's and those involved with café church to prayerfully review our provision for young families.

There will be a new season of all age services which will have a theme, an activity and some songs that the children will know from their worship at school. Café church will not re-start in the Autumn. Instead, work is ongoing to explore new ways to connect with unchurched families. Some ideas for fresh expressions of church which are specifically aimed at young families are being explored as well as outreach in the community.

We give thanks for café church and the part that it has played in the ministry of St John's for many years. Do pray for God's leading and guiding of us as a church as we navigate the way ahead. If you would like to get involved in creating a new vision for mission to young families or want to find out more, get in touch with Sue.

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD: CTT has been meeting regularly and we are still pressing for progress on various community projects whilst scoping modifications that need to be made to the church to support our goal to make our buildings more flexible, accessible and sustainable. Some of you may have noticed that the main doors to the church now display notices about the relocation of the font. These confirm that the diocese has given us an 'in principle' green light but we are awaiting final confirmation of the faculty we need to start work. We hope that it will be approved shortly without further conditions. This will mean we can then agree a date for works with the builder. We have taken care to ensure that disruption during the work is kept to a minimum. The reordering of the baptistry area will, therefore, happen in phases but, once complete, the serious health and safety issues that have arisen from the current location of the font won't be a problem in future and we will not have further injuries (or worse) from people tripping and falling over the font again when coming in and out of church. Moreover, we will have a very special space with the font still in a prominent position right at the entrance to the church.

On a similar theme, we are also pressing the diocese for permission to install the artwork which is being created from the plaques removed from the old chairs. This will be a rather striking cross (designed by Christine Harwood and colleagues at Creative Community). We have a bench joiner lined up to do the woodwork to realise the design and funding pledged so, as soon as the diocese responds and agrees the proposed location of the new installation, we should have a fairly short lead-in time before the work is with us ready to hang.

One key mission for CTT is to increase community use of the church. From September we are pleased to confirm that we will welcome North Downs Community Orchestra to practise in the nave on a regular basis one evening per week. This brings in much-needed income and it is also a splendid use of our wonderful building as the orchestra was founded on a desire to establish a group that would foster life-long learning and fellowship as well as music-making. Thanks to Barbara Richards and Cathy Booth for working with the orchestra committee to secure this link.

Our negotiations also continue with the DWP and CAB to establish a local support service for Hurst Green and its immediate vicinity.

As ever with public sector projects, there are many issues to resolve before we can progress which are outside our control as they relate to the types of services that can be delivered off-site by a government body and funding is proving an issue too. Further meetings are due in early September, so more on this in our next CTT update.

If you would like more information about CTT and its activities, please speak to Sara Bartolozzi or any member of the CTT committee.

SURREY CHURCHES RIDE & STRIDE: St John's Church will be open to receive participants on **Saturday 14 September**. The event raises money for the Surrey Churches' Preservation Trust with 50% going to your own church. Speak to Chris Johns for more information and if you are interested in taking part.

HURST GREEN VILLAGE FAIR: Saturday 21 September 1-4pm. This year's theme is 'Putting the Green back into Hurst Green'. St John's is supporting the fair by providing a bouncy castle and a craft and prayer space. We need your help on the day. Please sign up on the sheet in church to take a turn to supervise the bouncy castle. Two volunteers are needed for each half hour slot during the afternoon. Many volunteers make it possible to share the work and make a real difference. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF THE RIVER EDEN ECOSYSTEM: The Environment Agency has designated the River Eden Ecosystem as poor. Come and listen to how local volunteers are trying to improve the quality of our local river and the surrounding riverbanks, with particular reference to what is happening in Hurst Green. **Thursday 24 October at 7.45pm** in the York Rooms at St John's Church.

ST JOHN'S AUTUMN FAIR: Saturday 16 November, 11am - 3pm in the church. There are still a few spaces for stalls available. Please contact Cathy Booth if you are interested.

Other Notices

SES WATER ADVICE: If you are struggling with water bills, you can call the extra care team at Redhill on 01737 785606. Did you know that low income households are entitled to a 50% discount?

CTOD - A CELEBRATION IN STORY AND IMAGE:



Sunday 29 September, at 6pm

Oxtd United Reformed Church - a chance to give thanks and glorify God for his work in our lives. All welcome!

ABSEILLING FOR ST CATHERINE'S HOSPICE, CRAWLEY: On **Sunday 22 September**, Revd Peter O'Connell, Rector of Godstone, South Godstone and Blindley Heath will be abseiling down the Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth to raise money for St Catherine's Hospice. You can help by sponsoring Peter, or joining him and raising your own sponsorship!

MODERN SLAVERY: Come to Reigate Methodist Church on **Saturday 19 October 10am - 3pm** to find out more. The event is organised by Southwark Against Modern Slavery (SAMS), previously called RASJF but now working across the Diocese. Some exciting speakers are confirmed including Bishop Rosemary, Bishop Alistair Redfern, Chair of the Clewer Initiative, Bishop Richard, the Roman Catholic lead on modern slavery and DCI Kerry Lovelace from Surrey police.

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

Revd Sue Bosley 01883 712674 / 07553 305087

st John's
HURST GREEN