

Sunday 27th September 2026
Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

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

Collect for Today

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Exodus 17:1-7 (*p.66*), Philippians 2:1-13 (*p.194*) and Matthew 21:23-32 (*p.23*)

Please pray for

... Mark & Jan Knott, Julie Lodge and Mike Woodcock.
... those who live and work in The Oval, The Quadrangle and The Square.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; 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

Jesus' parable about the 'Two Sons', from Matthew 21:23-32, is a humorous one. A father asks one of his sons to go and work in his vineyard – presumably tending the vines and maybe picking the fruit; it seems a perfectly reasonable request in an agricultural society. The first son replies, 'I will not', but later changes his mind and did what his father had asked him to do. The father goes to his second son and gives him the same instructions: 'Son, go and work in the vineyard'. This son very politely replies, 'I will, sir', but doesn't go and do the work his father has asked him to do.

Jesus asks his hearers, the Jewish leaders, 'Which of the two did what his father wanted?'. And they reply, 'The first'. Then Jesus makes a point about the way tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of them. In other words, so called 'sinners' are hearing God's call and putting it into practice, whereas those who claim to be following God's will are not. In the humour of the story, Jesus was dealing a challenging message to the religious leaders of his time.

I imagine each of us may relate more easily to one or other of the sons. We might be those who are full of enthusiasm, signing up for everything the Lord asks us to do, but not getting round to completing the tasks he gives us. We might be more like the first son, reluctant to do what the Lord asks of us, but eventually getting on with the work. Jesus, of course, was the perfect Son, who said 'Yes' to his father in heaven, and then did what his father asked of him. This parable challenges us to be honest with ourselves, our faults and our failings; and to make the decision to follow willingly in the footsteps of Jesus.

Beverly

Mission Focus for September: Friends International Guildford (FIG)

Friends International is a charity which spans multiple Churches in the Guildford area and provides support and services to International Students at Surrey University. All Saints has been a supporter of the Charity for a number of years, and members of the congregations also lend their time and support in their work. This month, a new cohort of international students will arrive at Surrey University, and many of them will have little to no network in the UK. FIG will be at the forefront, providing help and support to these students as they navigate life in a foreign country. For information visit on how to support FIG visit www.friendsinternationalguildford.org.uk/ and see the further information in the All Saints Magazine. Please pray for the mission of FIG as they go about their work, and for the impact that they have in so many lives.

Notices

Farewell and Thank you to Michelle our choral scholar: The choir will be singing an introit today with Michelle as soloist. We'll be wishing Michelle well as she moves on from All Saints. Here are the words:

Esurientes implevit bonis:
et divites dimisit inanes.

Suscepit Israel puerum suum,
recordatus misericordiae suae.

Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,
Abraham et semini eius in saecula.

He has filled the hungry with good things;
And the rich he has sent away empty.

He, remembering his mercy, has helped his
servant Israel,

As he promised to our fathers,
Abraham and his seed forever.

Choral Scholars: we all very much enjoy having Choral Scholars as part of our choir. The fund, however, is getting a little low and so we'd really appreciate more regular donors to help us keep the programme going. If you can help, please speak to Jeremy, Beverly or Eve (as bookkeeper). Thank you!

People's Emergency Briefing Screening: On Friday 2nd October, we're hosting a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing. The Church of England, and Bishop Paul, are encouraging churches to show this powerful film which brings together leading expert insights on the climate and nature crisis into a single, accessible narrative. Tickets are free here: <https://allsaints.short.gy/peb>.

Harvest:

✿ **Harvest Supper & Quiz:** *Saturday 10th October, 5.30pm-7.30pm*

Come along to our annual quiz and delicious Ploughman's supper. Come with a team or we can find you one on the night. Adults £12.50, children £5. Tickets on line at allsaints.short.gy/harvest26 (or speak to Trish if you can't do online purchasing).

✿ **Harvest Festival:** *Sunday 11th October.*

At 10am we'll celebrate with Church Family Communion, with children enjoying Children's Church.

At 4pm, join us for a harvest Tea Time Church.

✿ **Dray Court Harvest Celebration and 10-year Anniversary:** *Wednesday 21st October, 2.30pm.*

We'll be celebrating harvest and also the fact that the Dray Court service has been running for 10 years! Please feel free to come and support us and bring some fruit, veg or flowers with you to add to our display.

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 28 th	Worship Vision Group, Reading Room, 5.30pm Premises Team Meeting, Reading Room, 8.00pm
Weds 30 th	Finance Vision Group, Zoom, 7.00pm
Thurs 1 st	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am (<i>Revd Paul Fenner presiding</i>) Men's Group "Exploring the Way", 6 Scillonian Road, 8.00pm
Fri 2 nd	Baby & Toddler Group, Church 10.00am People's Emergency Briefing Screening, Church, 6.00pm
Sat 3 rd	Band Rehearsal, Church, 10.00am
Sun 4 th	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 28 th	Ps. 71, 1 Kings 21, 2 Acts 21:37-22:21
Tues 29 th	Ps. 34, Daniel 12:1-4, Acts 12:1-11
Weds 30 th	Ps. 77, 1 Kings 22:29-45, Acts 23:12-end
Thurs 1 st	Ps. 78:1-39, 2 Kings 1:2-17, Acts 24:1-23
Fri 2 nd	Ps. 55, 2 Kings 2:1-18, Acts 24:24-25:12
Sat 3 rd	Ps. 76, 2 Kings 4:1-37, Acts 25:13-end

Service Readings for Sunday 4th October: 18th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 5:1-7, Philippians 3:4b-14 and Matthew 21:33-end

Contacts

Revd Beverly Watson, Vicar
vicar@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk
Tel: 07547 416721

Revd Andy Wells, Curate
curate@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk

Office: administrator@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk Tel: 01483 563173
Safeguarding Officer: safeguarding@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk Tel: 01483 568857



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