

# Walton-on-Thames **St Mary's and St John's**

## **Prayer, Services and Events: November 2018**



“The church is always asking for money” some people say. However, in this church, November is the time we are encouraged to consider our serving and giving to God. We (Cathy and Jonny) like it because it means that when we get people at the door, or shaking tins, or asking for money on the TV as Christmas approaches, we can say politely, ‘No, we have carefully considered who we give to and we give to the local church.’ We sat down the other evening to consider our giving for 2019 and to see about increasing our giving to the church. We give through the Parish Giving Scheme, which makes it easy to tick a box to increase our giving each year in line with inflation. We give 10% of our income to God’s work, of which two thirds goes to the church including a Standing Order to the Under 5 and Families Outreach Minister (Amy Maddocks, who started in September 2018). We give first to the church because we belong there, and it is the place we get our spiritual food and nourishment. We also know we are giving to the poorest in the world through the mission the church supports.

When it comes to serving, as Vicars, we continue to pledge to serve God and his church in whatever way God wishes. The verses where Jesus says to Peter, ‘Feed my sheep’ have been important to us in discerning God’s call to us as leaders and pastors of his flock.

We would like to encourage everyone who gets fed spiritually at St Mary’s and St John’s to consider their giving and serving for 2019. We look forward to celebrating together our joint ministry as a church in all our services on Get Involved Sunday on 18th November.

The Vicars' letter, Serving and Giving forms for 2019 are printed in this booklet for your information.

We also commend to you the PCC letter explaining the **Stewardship Campaign** which is vitally necessary to increase the regular giving to the church in order to cover the church's regular weekly activities and pay our staff. There are also four leaflets explaining Why? How? and What the money goes to? and Biblical reasons for giving.

**Pray, serve, give** – we have talked about these in reverse order! But first of all, comes prayer. We will be praying regularly for God to fill his church afresh with his love and his Holy Spirit. We and many others got a copy of the Devotional booklet at the start of October and have been praying through the church Vision in 28 days. Some people have enjoyed doing it so much, they are going to start again in November. (Suggested donation £2).

It's November, time to pray confidently, serve joyfully and give generously.

May God bless us all.

*Jonny and Cathy*

.....

## Key Information

### Clergy:

Vicars: Rev Cathy & Rev Jonny Blair (off duty Friday) 01932 917736

Curate: Rev Caroline Merrick (available Tue, Thu & Fri) 07419 827739

Curate: Rev Alex Oehring (off duty Saturday) 07920 098867



**Church Wardens:** Dawn May & Sally Eckes

**Youth Minister:** Mandy Watts (off duty Thursday)

**Under 5s and Families Minister:** Amy Maddocks (day off Monday)

**Licensed Lay Ministers:** John Muggleton, Tessa & John Badcock

**Pastoral Assistants:** Wendy Fitch, Alan White, Roger Hunt, Linda Muggleton, Margaret Valentine

For enquiries of a pastoral nature, please contact via the Vicars.

**A full list of Parish Officers and organisations is on our website.**

Information about Weddings and Baptisms can also be found on our website  
[www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)

**Parish Office (open Monday - Friday 10:00-12:30)**

**St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2QS**

Telephone 01932 224238 Email [office@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:office@waltonparish.org.uk)

**St John's Church, 1 The Furrows, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 3JQ**

# Gala Concert



## Weybridge Male Voice Choir

*Ashley School Choir  
and the*

*Featuring*



### Guest Soloist David Henderson

Tenor with the English National Opera  
fresh from the West End production of  
**CHESSE the Musical** with Michael Ball  
and Alexandra Burke

**Saturday 17th November**  
**7.30 pm**  
**St Mary's Church**

Church Street, Walton-on-Thames. KT12 2QS

*All proceeds towards Church Funds*

Tickets - £10 [www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)  
[office@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:office@waltonparish.org.uk) - 01932 224238

 Walton-on-Thames  
 **St Mary's and St John's**



# Stewardship Campaign

## Open Letter from PCC

Thank you for all that you do to make St Mary's and St John's such a wonderful church family. We offer a vibrant, active and vital ministry serving the people of Walton-on-Thames. The way that people like you generously give your time, energy, support and prayers is a real encouragement to us and the community that we are all a part of.

It's because we have so many activities – to enhance the life of our community and reach out to people in need – that we currently do not cover our costs every month. But more than that... we'd love to do so much more! That's why we need your help.

We are a self-supporting church, which means that we rely on active members, like you, to help pay for the work we do with children, families, older people and work in the community in Walton-on-Thames. We do not receive any funding from the Church of England for this vital work.

It costs us £23,000 a month to run our two churches. At the moment the church is running at a deficit budget of £3,500 per month.

For example, the work done with children and youth costs us approximately £4,000 per month.

While it's great that we have fundraising events like the successful church abseil on Heritage Day, one-off gifts and donations make it difficult to plan and pay for regular expenses. It's a bit like the difference between birthday money and a monthly wage. It's great when someone gives you a gift for your birthday, but we all need to know what's regularly coming in, to plan and budget.

**The sad reality is that if we don't get more regular support we will be forced to cut back on some of our essential activities.**

A snapshot of what your support currently provides, and will continue to provide includes:

- **Children's activities on Sunday mornings** where children discover more about the love of Jesus, and events during the week where parents and children are welcomed into God's family (such as **Toddler's Praise**, **Messy Church** and **Club Rock**)
- Activities for people in the community such as the **Alpha Course** where dozens of people in Walton have learnt more about the Christian faith and many have taken their first steps in their walk with Jesus. Then there's **Walton Connections** – a lifeline to older people in the community who often suffer from loneliness and isolation.
- As a church, we give regularly to local, national and overseas charities who help people in greatest need, such as **Walton Food Bank**, and **Tearfund**, the Christian overseas development charity. Please find enclosed with this letter a booklet providing more detail on all the charities we help support through giving.

These activities need staff and volunteers to run them, materials and refreshments for visitors and regular financial commitments from the church. All our costs are overseen by the trustees, also referred to as the Parochial Church Council (PCC) – made up of volunteers from within the church – who make sure we are being good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. A list of our current PCC members can be found on the Walton Parish website in the 'about' section. <http://waltonparish.org.uk/pcc/>

However, beyond paying for our current activities, we have a vision to be a more welcoming church and do more in our community. We'd love to put that vision into action by expanding the activities we can offer those in the church and community, and in time adapting and improving our facilities to make us a more community-focused place of worship. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

We believe we have a generous loving Father in Heaven who will provide for our Kingdom work in the community. We also know that one of the ways that God provides is by moving in people's hearts so that they give financially to the work of the church.

So, if you benefit from the life of St Mary's and St John's, and you see how it also benefits the wider community, we encourage you – as part of your Christian walk – to give regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme or by Standing Order. We are aware that a number of you already regularly give and this is very much appreciated, but if there is scope for you to increase your regular giving then this would also make a real difference.

However, we do recognise that some people are in a better position to give than others. So please don't feel under pressure to give more than you can afford or more than God is calling you to give. But every little helps, and if everyone gave what they could every month, or increased their giving a little, it would release us to do so much more. So, I hope that you don't mind us contacting you in this way, as we know you would prefer us to be open about the position we are in. We've enclosed details of how you can give regularly through either our Parish Giving Scheme or by Standing Order. Every penny you give through this scheme will go direct to St Mary's and St John's.

*In Romans 12:3-8 we are called to be members of a united family. As members of this Church family we are all challenged to be generous and to contribute to its running, whether that be with our time, service, gifts or resources.*

Thank you again - please do pray and seek God's guidance as to how you can respond.

**Yours in Christ,  
Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

P.S. Feel free to speak to one of the Clergy or a PCC Member about the benefits of regular giving.

**Please look carefully at Midweek Holy Communion dates this month.**

<b>NOVEMBER 2018</b> <b>St Mary's and St John's Services</b>		<b>Pray, Serve, Give.</b>
<i>Wed 31 Oct</i>	<b>St John's</b> <i>10am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 4 Nov</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> before advent	<b>St Mary's</b> 8am Said Communion 9.15am Lively Service All Age 11am Reflective Service with Communion <b>6.30pm All Souls Memorial Service</b>	<b>Generosity and Worship</b> <i>2 Cor 8: 1-12</i> <i>Luke 21: 1-4</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 9am Said Communion 10.30am Morning Praise for all with Baptism	
<i>Thurs 8 Nov</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> <i>10am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 11 Nov</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> before advent <b>Remembrance</b>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8am BCP Communion 9.15am Lively Service with Communion <b>10.40 am Remembrance Service at the War Memorial</b>	<b>Eternal Sacrifice</b> <i>Hebrews 9:24-end</i> <i>Mark 1:14-20</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30am Morning Praise with Pastoral Assistant Commissioning	
<i>Wed 14 Nov</i>	<b>St John's</b> <i>10am Said Communion</i>	
<i>Thurs 15 Nov</i>	<b>Walton Community Centre</b> <i>11am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 18 Nov</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> before advent <b>'Get Involved'</b>	<b>St Mary's</b> 8am Said Communion 9.15am Lively Service 11am Reflective Service with Communion <b>7pm Evening Praise</b>	<b>Jesus our Saviour</b> <i>Hebrews 10:11-25</i> <i>Mark 13:1-8</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30am Holy Communion	
<i>Thurs 22 Nov</i>	<b>St Mary's</b> <i>10am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 25 Nov</b> Christ the King	<b>St Mary's</b> 8am Said Communion 9.15am Lively Service 11am Reflective Service with Communion & Baptism 3pm Baptism	<b>Jesus our King</b> <i>Rev 1:4-8</i> <i>John 18:33-37</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 10.30am Morning Praise	
<i>Wed 28 Nov</i>	<b>St John's</b> <i>10am Said Communion</i>	
<b>Sun 2 Dec</b> Advent 1	<b>St Mary's</b> 8am Said Communion 9.15am Lively Service All Age 11am Reflective Service with Communion	<b>Jesus will Return</b> <i>Thess 3.9-13</i> <i>Luke 21.25-36</i>
	<b>St John's</b> 9am Said Communion 10.30am Morning Praise	

## This month... November

6 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 pm	St John's	Connections
6 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 pm	St Mary's	Baptism Matters (Part 1)
11 <sup>th</sup>	10.45 am	War Memorial	Remembrance
13 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 pm	St Mary's	Baptism Matters (Part 2)
18 <sup>th</sup>			'Get InVolvEd' Sunday
21 <sup>st</sup>	8.00 pm	St John's	PCC

## Regular fixtures... \* monthly

Mondays	9.15 am	St Mary's	Morning Prayer
Tuesdays	8.30 am	St John's	Morning Prayer
	9.30 am	St John's	Alpha Course
	2.30 pm	St John's *1st Tues	Walton Connections
	8.00 pm	St John's *1st & 2nd Tues	Baptism Matters
Wednesdays	8.30 pm	St Mary's	Choir Practice
Thursdays	9.15 am	St Mary's	Morning Prayer
	7.30 pm	St John's	Alpha Course
	6.45 pm	St Mary's	Junior Choir
	7.30 pm	St Mary's	Band Practice
Fridays	10.30 am	St John's	Toddlers' Praise
	2.00 pm	St Mary's Hall	Toddlers' Praise
	3.30 pm	St John's * 2nd Friday	Messy Church
	6.00 pm	St Mary's Hall	Youth Groups (Yr 3-6)
	7.45 pm	St Mary's	Bellringing Practice
Saturdays	9.15 am	St John's	Breakfast Prayer Meeting
Sunday	7.00 pm	St Mary's *3rd Sun	Evening Praise
	6.00 pm	St John's **monthly	Solid Ground** (Yr7+)

\*\*check website calendar

*(NB: some of these activities only take place during term time.)*



# Get Involved 2018-19 Pray Serve Give

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Dear Friend,

Here's the **Good News!** If you have been attending worship at one of the congregations of St Mary's and St John's church for five months, we regard you as a member.

Together, we are part of the wonderfully diverse family of God's people. The local church is God's chosen instrument to bring his love to the world. We are proud of the pastoral care, school ministry, Toddlers and Seniors ministry we offer in Walton on Thames and we would like to do so much more. (More in primary schools, sports ministry for older children, more Messy church...) As our Vision says, we are "Taking our next steps towards deeper faith in Christ, welcome and belonging and shining God's light." **Pray Serve Give** is our annual reminder to **Get Involved!**

**Pray** The new devotional booklet is helping us to pray through our Vision. There is a special Vision prayer at the back too. If you missed starting yours in October, **Fear Not!** It is not dated so you can start yours in November and do it again as often as you like.

**Serve** As members of a family, we depend on everyone playing their part, so please would you choose which of the following four areas you will help with on a Sunday (monthly). Children's work, Coffee, Steward, Sound (AV) team. Those already on the teams will show you how and not throw you in the deep end. In addition, you can also volunteer to serve in line with your gifts and skills doing something behind the scenes or during the week – church isn't just on Sundays! See the attached sheet. The Servant Course has a 100% satisfaction rate for people interested in finding out more about the gifts God has given them enabling them to live and serve joyfully.

**Give** The church is entirely dependent on our donations, a bit like the family all contributing to the housekeeping costs. So, we invite you to increase your regular giving by standing order or to start it if you haven't got around to it yet. To find out more about and details of **Outward Giving** (the charities we support), please see separate leaflet. Giving generously to God's work should be the first place we give our money as a response to God's immense, free and unfathomable love for us. We suggest a guideline of 5% of our monthly income as a monthly standing order or better still, by the Parish Giving scheme. If you are a tax payer, Gift Aiding your donation gives an extra 25% to the church. You can also give specifically to the Under Fives and Families Outreach minister.

**What is the Stewardship Campaign?** The PCC are running a campaign specially for this year to encourage a big increase in regular giving of church attenders to try to close the gap between the cost of running the church and the donations received. We strongly commend their letter to you as well as the leaflets:

**Why** are we Fundraising?

**What** is Stewardship?

**How** you can Give?

**Biblical reasons for Giving**

We are fund-raising because the church requires more money to run than is given in donations. If we all followed the guidelines of the Bible and gave regularly, we would not need to fund raise.

Please fill in the two forms available in church or online and return to the church office by Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November and join us to celebrate "Get Involved".

Thank you so much for being part of this great church. **Jonny & Cathy**



# FUNDRAISING & GIVING

**We have produced 4 information leaflets to explain more about Stewardship, WHAT it is, WHY we are fundraising, HOW you can give and a fourth which outlines some of the biblical reasons for giving. You'll find them in church and on the website.**

# OFFICE OPENING TIMES

The Parish Office is open

**Monday – Friday**

**10.00 -12.30**

## EVENING PRAISE

**BIG QUESTIONS** – Join us this term as we explore a series of questions at our Contemporary Evening Service.

You'll find the Alex's talks and presentations from September and October on the website.

**This month we ask...**

**18<sup>th</sup> November –**

**Q3. SUFFERING:** Christian's claim that God is loving. How on earth can you account for all the pain and injustice in this world?

## Cryptic Quiz – Last months answers!

Last month we enjoyed another 'Streets of Walton' quiz put together by David Stannard. How many did you get right?!

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Hurst Grove      | 2. Stompond Lane       |
| 3. Dudley Road      | 4. Telford Drive       |
| 5. Shaw Drive       | 6. Egmont Road         |
| 7. Wellington Close | 8. Osborne Road        |
| 9. Cambridge Road   | 10. Russell Road       |
| 11. Midway          | 12. Ambleside Avenue   |
| 13. Cardinal Drive  | 14. Felix Road         |
| 15. Priory Close    | 16. St Michael's Close |
| 17. Oakfields       | 18. Vicarage Fields    |

# Daily Prayer Pointers

Some ideas for prayer for our church & community

## Sunday

**Sunday Services, midweek Communion**, for all who make our Church feel welcoming. For our Singers and Musicians.

## Monday

**One another** in our daily lives at work, in our neighbourhood, wherever we are, to show God's love.

## Tuesday

**Seniors** – Walton Connections. **Other groups** - Mothers' Union and St John's Wives.

## Wednesday

**Discipleship and Leadership** – Small Groups, the Servant Course, PCC, worship leaders, preachers and Pastoral Assistants.

## Thursday

**Outreach & community links** – the Alpha Course, Messy Church, assemblies in Walton schools, baptisms and funerals.

## Friday

**Children and Youth** – Friday groups, Sunday School and Sunday youth groups, Toddlers' Praise. For all helpers and leaders and for more leaders.

## Saturday

**Missionaries we support** – Tear Fund, Compassion, Foodbank, Bible Society, Hannah Satterthwaite, Samaritan's Purse Christmas boxes.

[www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)



Walton-on-Thames

**St Mary's and St John's**