

We live life together throughout the week as we seek to embrace and live out our vision, we gather as a community to worship, pray, give thanks and listen in all our services every Sunday. Where else might God be showing up in your week?



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

Parish Diary

23rd June 2019

First Sunday of Trinity

Services Week Commencing 24th June

Thursday 27th June
10.00 am Said Communion (St Mary's)

Friday 28th June
10.30 am Toddlers' Praise (St John's)
2.00 pm Toddlers' Praise (St Mary's)

Sunday 30th June
St Mary's
8.00 am Said Communion
9.15 am JOINT Parish Service

St John's
NO SERVICE

Readings
Genesis 18:22-33
Matthew 6:9-15

This week's theme:
Pray - Adoration

St Mary's
8.00 am Said Communion
9.15 am Lively Service
11.00 am Reflective Service with Communion & Baptism
(Hymns: 555, 383, 474, 546)

St John's
10.30 am Morning Praise
We welcome today the family & friends of Harper Nagioff who will be baptised this morning.

Readings
Acts 4:24-31
Matthew 6:5-8



COMING SOON!!

There are exciting developments going on in the Parish office! We are implementing a new system which the staff team are already beginning to use. Eventually all Church members will receive their own login which will allow easy rota views, easy rota swaps, a view of all our events and small groups, giving and much more!

Watch this space!

A huge Thank you to so many of you for the lovely and helpful cards and letters you have sent me following Brian's death. It has helped so much to remember Brian as he used to be. Thank you – Ann Rofe

From the Vicars...

It was great to have Jo Davis from FUSION with us last Sunday. You can find Jo's talk on the website. This week we welcome Hannah Satterthwaite who we also support with our Mission giving. Hannah will talk to us about her work in East Africa. Please join us in praying for both Jo and Hannah. We have bookmarks with their prayer requests, pick one up from the back of church.

On Saturday 29th June Alex will be at the Cathedral for his Ordination to the Priesthood. He will then be presiding at the Joint Service with Holy Communion on Sunday 30th June which will be followed by a Celebration Bring & Share BBQ. This is an opportunity to come together as church in worship as we celebrate together the Ministry of Alex and Katy. Please get in touch with Sally or sign up [online](#) to let us know if you can be there and if you are able to offer up some help on the day.

Cathy & Jonny

Looking for something to read this summer? Check out How to Pray by Pete Greig. Founder of the 24/7 Prayer movement, Pete's 3 guidelines on prayer are 'Keep it simple, keep it real and keep it up'. He shares about real struggles in his life and a God who answers prayer.



Did you know you can receive the Parish Diary by email?
www.waltonparish.org.uk



Dates for your diary...

June

Missionary Month with visits from Hannah Satterthwaite, Joanna Blair & Compassion

Sat 29th **Priests Ordination Service 2019 - Guildford Cathedral**
10.30 a.m. All welcome to attend and support Rev Alex Oehring as he is priested.

Sun 30th Joint Parish Service and Lunch

July

Fri 5th Churches Together - Worship & Prayer 8.00 pm @ St John's

Sun 7th Baseball's Coming Home, 10.15 am Outdoor Service, Walton Cricket Club. **Please note there is 9.15 am service at St Mary's on this day**

Bring & Share BBQ

to celebrate Alex and Katy's ministry among us Sunday 30th June 12.30 pm - St Mary's Hall

Sign up to tell us what you will bring (salads & puddings, we'll buy the burgers & hotdogs) Burgers will be available at £2 per person. Kids go free but bring anything else you want them to eat. Bring your own drinks.

We urgently need a team to make this happen. Please email

sally@waltonparish.org.uk directly, sign up on the sheets at the back of church, or fill out the [online sign up](#).

Holiday Club Booking now open 12th – 16th August

For Primary age children – join us for this year's holiday club where we'll be at the Space Academy!

Spaces are limited – reserve now to avoid disappointment. [Sign up here](#).

Holiday Club Team – Can you help?

We are looking for 2 leaders for our Space Academy Monday – Friday 9.00 -1.00 pm.

No astronaut experience necessary!

- just enthusiasm and willingness to get stuck into having fun with the children.
- if you can help please get in touch with Amy via amy@waltonparish.org.uk

Spring Harvest is a teaching and worship event for everybody. It's a unique break for all: holiday, festival, conference, and an encounter with God. Why not join us in 2020? If you'd like to learn more talk to Alex who will be organising next year's trip. Bookings open NEXT WEEK and the more people we book for as a group, the more fun we can have!

FOODBANK SHORTAGES

Since the end of last year the numbers of people coming to our foodbank each week have almost doubled. We have been distributing more food than we have been receiving and our warehouse now has significant shortages, so we would be really grateful to receive tins of peas & carrots, tins of soup, tins of potatoes, cartons of long-life fruit juice & milk and packets of cereals.

Thank you for your continued support. Donations can be left in the collection boxes in both churches or delivered to St John's on Thursday or Friday mornings between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm. Thank you.

Baseball's Coming Home! Sunday 7th July



DID YOU KNOW that Walton Cricket Club in Ashley Park is where the first ever documented game of baseball

was played by the Prince of Wales in 1749? WoTTA are organising what's set to be another fantastic event and Walton Churches Together will open the event with an outdoor service beginning at 10.15

This will replace our usual 9.15 am service. Join us here instead as we take Church out into our community. There will be an entrance fee of £2 if you stay on for the event but church is free! Find out more about what WoTTA have planned on their [website](#).

PARISH PRAYER DIARY

Please pray for: -

Those known to be suffering from illness both seen & unseen, or poor health.

We continue to pray for Jim Aspinall & Pam Gilbert.

The families of those who have died recently and in times past whose anniversary falls this week: Leslie Cole, Revd Mary Stokes, Harold Ashforth, Tony Darling, Jean Nissen, Brenda Cooper.

We also pray for:

Alex and his family as he prepares for his Ordination to the Priesthood and Sheila Samuels as she prepares for her Ordination to Deacon.

If you wish us to add any family members or people in the Parish, please let the office know and we will add them to the weekly prayer diary.

PCC Consultation on Admission of children to Communion - Your views please to office@waltonparish.org.uk or vicar@waltonparish.org.uk by **7th July**

The PCC would like to request your views on the possibility of admitting to Holy Communion children who have been baptised and have completed the "Footsteps to Faith" course. This would be for Children approximately aged 9-11 in our congregations. Please speak to a member of PCC (details below) personally, or fill in the tear off strip below or send an email to the office.

Please read the summary overleaf:/ below: St Mary and St John's Walton on Thames has a long standing healthy Eucharistic tradition. Children have been encouraged to the altar rail for a blessing at the Communion Services. We encourage children to be Eucharistic servers as part of their service of the body of Christ and have a tradition of preparing children for Confirmation from age 11. A group of children are being led through the "Footsteps to Faith" course as a pilot. Their parents are aware of what they are doing and what this means.

Family of God

At this point in the life of the church, we as a leadership, recognise that children are as valuable to God as adults. It has been said before "children are the church of tomorrow". We would strongly suggest that children are the church of today. We take seriously the instruction of children in Christian ways through Sunday school and Cell groups and also the equipping of parents to bring their children up in a Christian family (one way is through Faith at Home). But we also want to acknowledge that adults can learn from children and be led in worship by children.

The theology of the Family of God is very strong in Jesus' teaching and all are part of the family of God, whether young or old, whatever their physical or mental capacity. The early church welcomed all baptised members regardless of age or status. Whilst there is no explicit mention of any special approach to the baptism of children in the New Testament, they were included with the family or household, and welcomed at the Eucharist. The history of children and Communion in the West is a story of children gradually losing their place at the central table of the community. In the East the right and need of children to receive Communion is unquestioned.

Further reading: "Admission of Children to Holy Communion before Confirmation" by Rt Revd Colin Bennetts on page 13 of the Diocese of York document. (if you need a hard copy, please ask Becky in the office to print you one).

<https://dioceseofyork.org.uk/uploads/attachment/23/communion-before-confirmation-discussion-papers.pdf>

There is more background and history in the other documents from the Diocese of York. Please also read the article on Children and Communion Immediately below and on the Diocese of Guildford web-site which you can access at <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/young-people/ministry/children-and-communion>

Full adoption of the Christian faith can happen in one of three ways:

1. Adult Baptism and Confirmation at the same time
2. Infant baptism, followed by Admission to Communion followed by Confirmation
3. Infant Baptism Followed by Confirmation.

The proposal for PCC to consider is that the Parish of St Mary and St John's Walton on Thames adopt the second of these.

Elected members of PCC are:

Berenice Page, Rachel Grace, Carol Abson Alastair Duke, Janet Todd, Martin Felstead, James Waggott, Sally Eckes, Harry Navanayagam, Ryan Van der Riet, David Henderson, Anna Spray, Clare Rolton, Helen Gaunt, John Badcock, Harriet Barker, Catherine Schroeder, Katharine Scott, Elizabeth Cairns, Nick Stuart

Please Tear off here:

My views about the PCC proposal on Admission of children to Communion.

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