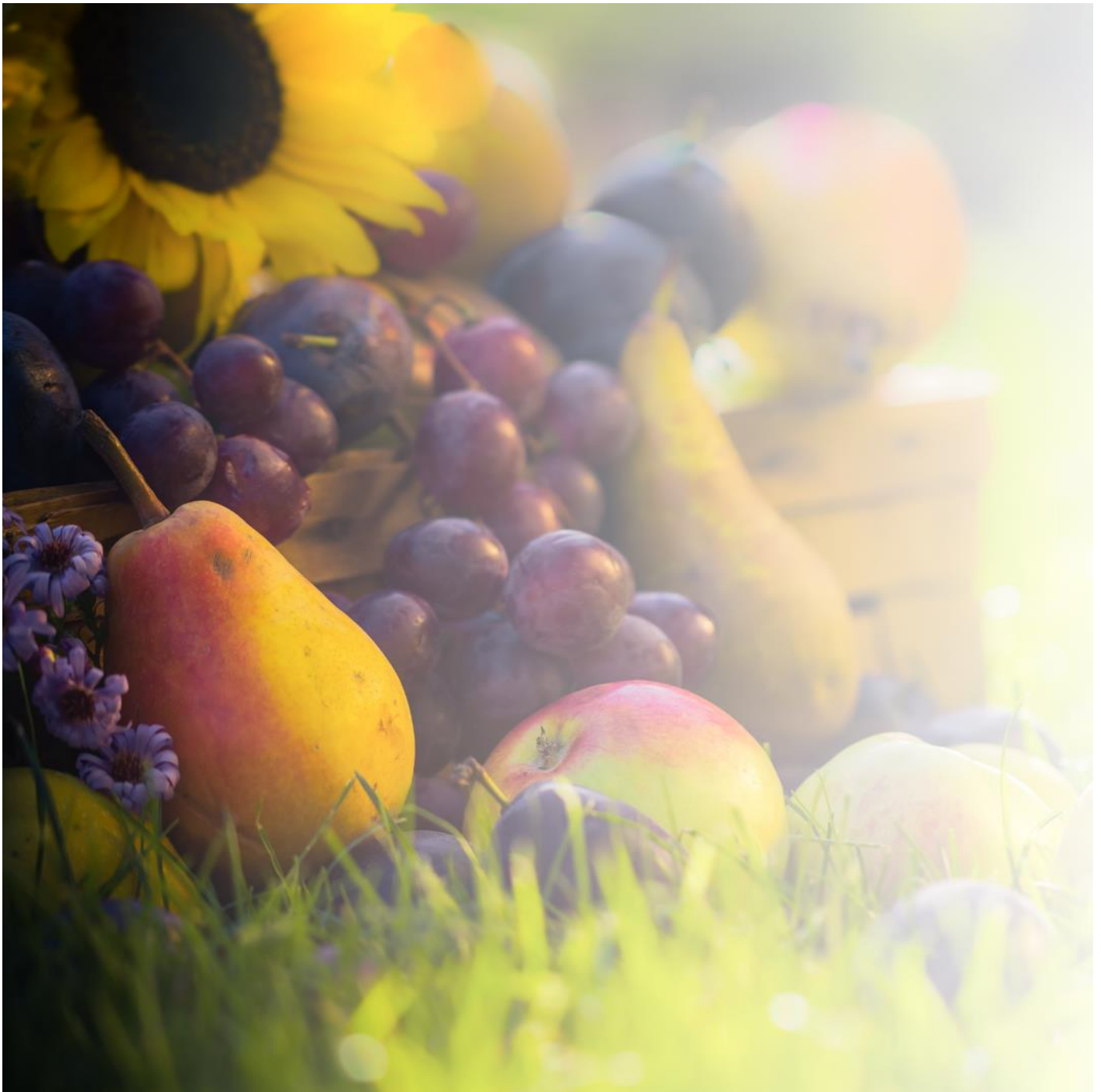


# October NEWSLETTER

this month's church family thanks and prayers



# Key Information

## **Clergy:**

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

Assistant Minister: Rev Caroline Merrick (avail Tue, Thu & Fri) 07419 827739

Curate: Rev Vlada Rakin contact via Office (off duty Saturday)

**Church Warden:** David Henderson, Ryan Van der Riet (St Mary's) and Janet Todd (St John's)

**Youth Minister:** Sarah Dunn (off duty – Friday & Saturday)

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

**Pastoral Assistants:** For enquiries of a pastoral nature, please contact Wendy Fitch via the Office or email vicar@waltonparish.org.uk

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Katharine Scott (volunteer)  
safeguarding@waltonparish.org.uk

**Safeguarding Administrator:** Julia Gorrie (part time flexi hours)  
safeguardingadmin@waltonparish.org.uk

**A full list of Parish Officers can be found on our website.**

Information about weddings, funerals and baptisms can also be found on our website [www.waltonparish.org.uk](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk)

## **Church Office**

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

The office contact hours are –

**Wednesday & Thursday 10.00 am – 12 noon**

Telephone - 01932 224238    Email - office@waltonparish.org.uk

## **Operations & Communications:**

Sally Eckes (off duty Mon & Fri) 07779 623377

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

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

October 3rd

Climate  
**Sunday** & Harvest

CLIMATE SUNDAY IS A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF POSITIVE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

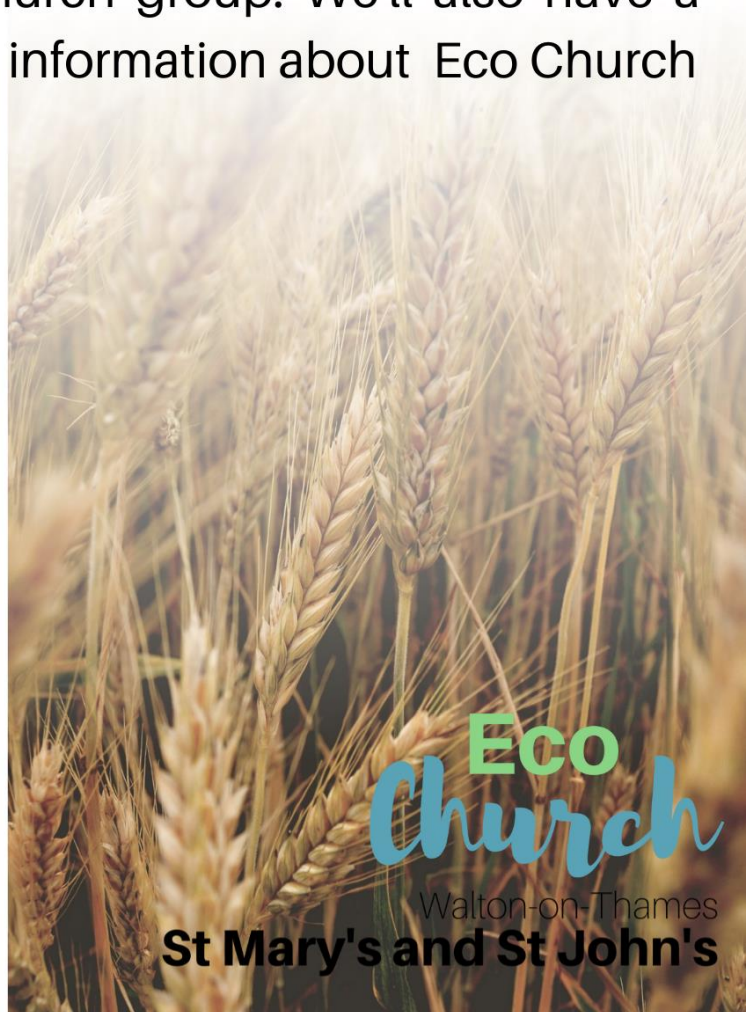
Join us as we celebrate harvest and climate Sunday - There will be coffee in the hall and an opportunity to meet and chat with our Eco Church group. We'll also have a fairtrade stall and more information about Eco Church

@ St Mary's  
or watch on

 YouTube

**9.00**

**10.15**



Eco  
Church

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

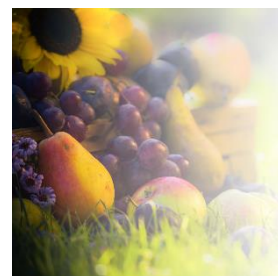
## VICARS' BLOG: Thank the Lord for all his good gifts

We are just picking the last of this year's crop of tomatoes. It has been quite a good year for cherry tomatoes. It is always so amazing to see the plants grow and form leaf, flowers, then fruit. This is the nearest we get in our household to the age-old celebration of harvest in which God's people express their gratitude to him for every good gift that God gives.



This year we are linking harvest gratitude with the needs of the earth with the dangers of climate change being increasingly urgent. We are proud that we are on the way to becoming an Eco-church. There is a bronze, silver and gold level depending on how high our rating for environmentally friendly processes and actions. There are things we can do together as a church and in our individual lives to help our planet. A big thank you to Janet Todd who is leading the way on this journey. Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October will be Climate Sunday. The BBC have produced a really simple guide to climate change. Watch it [HERE](#).

At harvest time we also remember those who struggle to find enough to eat physically and spiritually. It is a good reminder to pray for the missions we support at home and overseas who are helping many people in different types of need: Tearfund, Compassion, ReachAcross, Fusion Spain, CPAS and Walton CAN (Community Action Network) which is linked in with the Foodbank and Besom.



The Giving Project clarified for us the financial situation in our church and gave us several possible ways to give to Gods work through our own church. It will be good to be reminded what God's word says about giving in our sermon series in October entitled "Contributing to God's Kingdom – Living for God".



We were struck recently by King David's prayer as he gathers in all the money people have given for the building of the Temple of the Lord from 1 Chronicles 29:10-17. The first part we read in the Communion service each week, but notice the context:

David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

*'Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.*

*Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head overall. Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things.*

*In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name'*

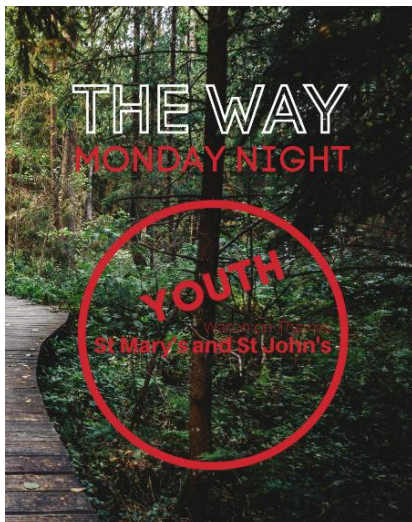
*But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.... all of it belongs to you. I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.*

God loves a cheerful giver. In this season of gratitude to God, may we be generous in serving, in giving and in prayer as we invest afresh in his kingdom both now and for eternity.

## Jonny and Cathy

---

### Call to Action!



The Way, our Monday night Youth Group, has started the term by thinking about Looking After God's World. We have discovered that the Bible says that the Earth God created is Good, and that we have been entrusted with looking after something valuable and must prove ourselves worthy of that trust, seen through our actions.

We did a carbon footprint calculator together and discovered that if everyone on the plant lived the same way we do, we would need two and a half planet earths to sustain us – we only have one! This is a big problem – why not give it a go and measure your ecological footprint – [www.footprintcalculator.org/home/en](http://www.footprintcalculator.org/home/en)

The youth are calling our church family to action and would like to challenge us as a church and individuals to SWITCH TO RECYCLED TOILET PAPER! (The youth were relieved to discover that this means old newspapers and writing paper get recycled into loo rolls and not used toilet tissue that gets used again...!)

As a youth group, we are also keen to make sure that the chocolate we consume comes in fully recyclable packaging, not single use plastic. They are also keen to challenge the rest of us to CYCLE TO CHURCH and SUPPORT LOCAL GREENGROCERS, BUTCHERS, FOOD RETAILERS where the food is more likely to be locally sourced and not in single use plastic.





**Congratulations** to Paul, Jess and Skye who welcomed baby India Olive to the world in September. We'll look forward to meeting baby India very soon!

---

## **Ashley school – Prospective Parent Meetings**

There will be a meeting for prospective Ashley School parents whose children would start next year; September 2022. The meeting will be on Zoom at 8.00 pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November. There will then be a second meeting for parents considering asking the Church to sign an Ashley School SIF for their child to start in either Sept 2023 or Sept 2024 this meeting will be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00 pm also on Zoom. Being on Zoom should mean both parents are able to attend without the need for a babysitter.

---

## **October Reflections**

Beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October, we will have a month of daily reflections. Monday – Saturday you'll find a new reflection on our YouTube channel and on Facebook.

---

## **Servant Course – NEW DATES**

We'll be running the Servant Course – November 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. It'll be on Zoom over the three evenings. To find out more contact [cathy@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:cathy@waltonparish.org.uk) or [sally@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:sally@waltonparish.org.uk)

---

## **Gardening Team Request!**

They are looking for any used/unwanted paving stones. They are happy to collect, if you can help email [news@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:news@waltonparish.org.uk)

---

## **In Memorium**

Please pray for the families and friends of those who have died in times past whose anniversary falls at this time:

Revd Martin Hussey  
Ian Marsh  
Maurice Tyson

Bob Allison  
Alan Howson

---

## **The Rev Canon Gregory Page-Turner Curate 1967-1970**

We learnt this week of the death of Rev Canon Gregory Page-Turner who was a Curate here in Walton in the late 60's. The family thought that there may be some parishioners who might remember him and who would have worshipped here with him. Gregory had suffered from Vascular Dementia for several years; he had been living at his home in Beaminster with carers.

## Service patterns in this experimental season

This is a new season post-Covid and we, like all church leaders, are doing our best to navigate through it. The most important thing is what God is saying to us as church at this time. And we keep reminding ourselves that being church is more important than doing church. We are church when we are doing Toddler Praise, youth group, Life Groups, midweek groups, Connections, as well as when we meet on Sundays. We want to reassure you that every regular congregation is important to us as a parish. We are one parish across two sites. Some things take place at St John's and some at St Mary's. Ideally, we do not intend to provide the same thing in two different locations. This pattern will remain for the autumn.

We are currently offering on Sundays:

- A Reflective Service with Holy Communion at 9.00 am in St Mary's Church with some singing also live streamed
- A Morning Praise Service with or without Holy Communion once a fortnight at 10.30 am at St John's Church
- One contemporary service, a 7.30 pm Evening Praise on Zoom
- One family friendly service All Age service across the parish at 10.15 am This has been by Zoom and will move into St Mary's Hall from 3rd October also on Zoom (booking will be essential)
- And on Thursdays at 10.30 am a said Holy Communion service twice a month at St Mary's and once a month at St John's. This is coordinated alongside the Connections ministry for all retired people

We expect to learn a lot about how many families there will be returning to church when the parish All Age service comes into the building at St Mary's Hall. We are in conversation with families who used to attend St John's or St Mary's, some of whom have engaged with zoom and others have not.

In this experimental phase, we are leaving capacity or creating space for other things to emerge and asking, "Who are we not reaching?" One answer is - more people from the estates. Another is - families with older primary age children who do sport in the mornings. We also want to explore how St John's can fulfil its vocation in being the church on the St John's estate for local people.

If you have any questions at all, the best thing to do is email or phone us [vicar@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@waltonparish.org.uk)

We really appreciate your prayers as we lead the church in an unfamiliar season and the most important thing is what God is saying to us.

**Thank you. Jonny and Cathy**

<b>OCTOBER 2021</b>	<b>St Mary's and St John's Services</b> <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>CONTRIBUTING to God's Kingdom: Living for God</b>	
<b>Online Service can be viewed via <a href="#">YouTube</a> – search Walton Parish</b>			
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.30 am Morning Prayer	St John's	
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 18</i> <b>CLIMATE &amp; HARVEST SUNDAY</b>	<b>9.00 am Joint Service with Communion</b>	St Mary's <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>God's Wonderful World</b> Psalm 104:1, 10-26 Mark 4:1-10, 13-20
	<b>10.15 am All Age Service</b>	St Mary's Hall* <i>and Zoom</i>	
	<b>7.30 pm Evening Praise</b>	Zoom	<b>How Can We Save Our Planet?</b>
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 19</i> <b>ADMISSION TO COMMUNION</b>	<b>9.00 am Service with Communion</b>	St Mary's <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>Living for God - in trust and blessing</b> Malachi 6: 6- 18 Matt 7: 7-14
	<b>10.15 am All Age Service</b>	St Mary's Hall* <i>and Zoom</i>	
	<b>10.30 am Morning Praise with Communion (Harvest)</b>	St John's Live	
	<b>7.30 pm Evening Praise</b>	Zoom	<b>Big Questions</b>
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10.30 am Holy Communion	St John's	
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>Trinity 20</i>	<b>9.00 am Service with Communion</b>	St Mary's <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>Living for God – In Godliness with Contentment</b> 1 Timothy 6: 6-16 Matt 6:19-24
	<b>10.15 am All Age Service</b>	St Mary's Hall* <i>and Zoom</i>	
	<b>7.30 pm Evening Praise</b>	Zoom	<b>Big Questions</b>
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	10.30 am Holy Communion	St Mary's	
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> <i>Last Sun after Trinity</i>	<b>9.00 am Service with Communion</b>	St Mary's <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>Living for God – Choosing Rich Generosity</b> 2 Corinthians 8: 1-12 Luke 19:1-9
	<b>10.15 am All Age Service</b>	St Mary's Hall* <i>and Zoom</i>	
	<b>10.30 am Morning Praise</b>	St John's Live	
	<b>7.30 pm Evening Praise</b>	Zoom	<b>Big Questions</b>
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Oct</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sun before Advent</i> <b>SAFEGURADING SUNDAY</b>	<b>9.00 am Service with Communion</b>	St Mary's <i>Live and Online</i>	<b>Safe places for all the Saints</b> Matthew 18:3-5 Luke 4:14-21
	<b>10.15 am All Age Service</b>	St Mary's Hall* <i>and Zoom</i>	
	<b>10.30 am Morning Praise with Communion</b>	St John's Live	
	<b>7.30 pm Evening Praise</b>	Zoom	<b>Big Questions</b>

\*NB Booking required for all live services

To book go to [www.waltonparish.org.uk/featured-events](http://www.waltonparish.org.uk/featured-events) if you do not have access to the internet contact the office – Please note there is nobody in the office after 12 noon Thursday. Outside of office hours please contact the Vicarage 01932 917 736.



**YouTube**

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