

# November NEWSLETTER

this month's church family thanks and prayers



## OUR Church Vision

### Taking our next steps towards:

#### Deeper Faith in Christ

- Accessible, spirit-filled worship
- Everyday discipleship
- Confidence in personal faith

#### Welcome and Belonging

- Welcome everyone
- Being a Community of God's people who care, pray together and love one another
- Being involved in church by worshipping, serving joyfully and giving generously

#### Shining God's light

- Promote the church in Walton-on-Thames
- Serve local people with practical and spiritual help
- Share the good news of Jesus wherever we are
- Pray for, engage with and participate in overseas Christian mission

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39

**Get Involved**

**Gift Day for  
Children and Families  
Minister**



# Key Information

## Clergy:

Vicars: Rev Cathy & Rev Jonny Blair (off duty Friday) 01932 917 736

Assistant Minister: Rev Caroline Merrick (avail Tue, Thu & Fri) 07419 827 739

Curate: Rev Vlada Rakin vlada@waltonparish.org.uk (off duty Saturday)

Curate: Rev Dave Bixby dave@waltonparish.org.uk (off duty Friday)

**Church Warden:** David Henderson, Scott Hay, Janet Todd (St John's)

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

**Pastoral Assistants:** For enquiries of a pastoral nature email vicar@waltonparish.org.uk

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Katharine Scott

Wendy Fitch, Louise Turner (Vulnerable adults)

safeguarding@waltonparish.org.uk

**Safeguarding Administrator:** Julia Gorrie (part time flexi hours)

safeguardingadmin@waltonparish.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Alastair Duke - treasurer@waltonparish.org.uk

**Assistant Treasurer:** Julia Gorrie - assistant-treasurer@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

**Administrator:** Sam Harrison

St Mary's Church Hall,

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

The office contact hours are

**Closed Monday.**

**Open Tuesday - Friday 10.00 am – 12 noon**

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

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

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

### Getting wet and Getting Involved!

It was worth getting wet! For us, it was a very moving experience to hear the testimonies of seven people from our church and to help them to reaffirm their Baptism vows, some by full immersion. We were all reminded of how we “drip the wet feet” of our own baptisms wherever we go every day and to be like Philip who had his trainers at the ready, prepared for whatever task God might be calling him to.



**Get Involved Sunday** 6<sup>th</sup> November is our annual opportunity to review our Giving, Praying and Serving in our church. In June 2021, we launched the Giving Project, and we have recently produced the leaflet ‘Our Church Finances’, so there has already been a lot of information about regular giving. Our message is, please follow through on your pledges, consider increasing in line with inflation and if you’re not giving regularly, please start in one of the ways outlined in the leaflet. Thank you.

The Fundraising campaign for a new Children and Families Minister is underway, so that you can give specifically to the ministry of children and families. Please see the leaflet for ways you can contribute to an annual salary of £27,000. The PCC has designated this as our number one priority at the moment.

**Prayer:** Here's a question for us all, ‘How can we pray more expectantly and effectively together for God’s will to be done in our town, our church and our own lives?’ Those of us doing the Prayer Course have enjoyed being reminded of the power of Prayer.

**Serving** is a real opportunity to use our gifts to bless one another in the church family. We encourage you to complete the form to choose where you might help out as you serve God and his church. If you would like help in knowing what your gifts are, try the Servant Course 8pm on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Sign up by Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Everything we do flows from our Vision and we say this as a dismissal every Sunday. May the Lord continue to fill us with his Spirit and lead us as we take “our next steps towards Deeper faith in Christ, Welcome and Belonging and Shining God’s light.”

***Cathy and Jonny***



## Big Baptism Day Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October

What a wonderful celebration! Well done to all seven young people and adults who spoke about why they want to follow Jesus and reaffirm their Baptism vows. That is such a brave thing to do.

For those of us gathered from all our congregations, adults and children, it was a huge encouragement to our faith and we really got that sense of being family. May we all shine like lights in the world to the glory of God!



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## We're recruiting... OPERATIONS MANAGER

This important role will provide us with the organisational culture, structure, and support that will enable our church to continue to grow and develop in these exciting times. Application deadline has now been extended.

Please pray for the right person to apply. For more information contact [Jonny@waltonparish.org.uk](mailto:Jonny@waltonparish.org.uk)

## Children and Families Minister for January.

We are looking for a dynamic leader who is passionate about seeing children and families following Jesus, who has a track record of helping children grow in faith and is a committed disciple of Jesus themselves.

**Target to raise £27,000. Gift Day 6<sup>th</sup> November**



**Now** is the time to take  
on a new  
**Children and  
Families Minister**



We need to raise £27,000 p.a.  
to employ someone full-time from  
January 2023.

This is £45 a month for 50 families

**Gift Day 6<sup>th</sup> November**

**Let's invest in our  
children!**

**Children and families are precious and we  
want to see them grow in faith  
Our Children and Families Minister will help  
us to do this in our church**

**We want to:**

***Build on our pioneering discipleship for families  
through the parish All Age service including:***

- *Provide discipleship in age appropriate ways for children age 7 upwards i.e. midweek groups for age 7-9 and age 9-11.*
- *Provide age-appropriate activities for families and children under 7 to grow in faith together*
- *Equip children to mature spiritually and prepare for Secondary school and youth groups.*
- *Be more available to pastor and disciple our families—adults and children*
- *Encourage families to grow as Christians together – Faith at Home materials.*
- *Link with Toddler Praise congregation*
- *Provide support to the volunteers who reach out to families in the community through Messy church and Holiday club.*
- *Monitor closely our safety and safeguarding procedures.*

**Statistics:**

- Over 100 families have attended All Age services over the last 2 years 2020-2022.
- We have contact with 302 children up to age 11.
- We have contact with over 1400 children through local Primary schools.

**Highlights for this month:**

**6<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm All Souls Service** to remember our loved ones who have died.

**13<sup>th</sup> November 10.40am Remembrance** - Joint Service at the War memorial





## The Great Elmbridge Litter Pick with Eco Church and the Youth Fellowship



Janet Todd, Co-ordinator of our Eco-Church programme, along with a group of volunteers, joined up with the St Mary's and St John's Youth Fellowship to take part in 'The Great Elmbridge Litter Pick' on Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A big group of enthusiastic young people from the Youth Fellowship joined Janet and her crew of volunteers to work our way from St John's

Church to the Elmbridge Community Eco Hub, collecting an impressive ten heavy bin bags full of rubbish on the way. We were equipped courtesy of Mick Tumilty, the Eco Hub Director, who provided litter pickers, and high-viz jackets.

Upon arrival at The Hub we added our litter to that collected by other groups who had joined in the 'Great Elmbridge Litter Pick'. Our 20 people were part of 400 who participated across Elmbridge, collecting between us no less than 132 bags of litter, weighing over 530 kilos – the weight of a small caravan. Quite some achievement.



As well as regular litter picks, Elmbridge Eco-hub runs a Community Fridge, Library of things, Book Swaps and more, and have a lovely community garden, all next to Elm Grove park.

Mark Ellis YF Leader

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### In Memoriam

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

- 4<sup>th</sup> Leonard Grimshaw
- 7<sup>th</sup> Albert Turner
- 13<sup>th</sup> Eileen Warne
- 14<sup>th</sup> Malcolm Jackson
- 18<sup>th</sup> Ernest Darley
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Godfrey Seale
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Hazel Woods

## **CHRISTINGLE**

Sunday 4th December  
3.30 & 5.00 pm @ St Mary's Church

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## **MESSY CHRISTMAS**

Saturday 10th December  
3.30 pm @ St John's Church

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## **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Sunday 11th December  
6.30 pm @ St Mary's Church

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## **FAMILY CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 18th December  
6.30 pm @ St Mary's Church

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## **NATIVITY SERVICES**

Christmas Eve  
3.30 & 5.00 pm @ St Mary's Church

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## **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION**

Christmas Eve  
11.15 pm @ St Mary's Church

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## **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES**

9.00 am @ St Mary's Church  
10.15 am All Age @ St Mary's Hall  
10.30 am @ St John's Church





NOVEMBER 2022		St Mary's and St John's Services and events		Preparing ourselves for the coming King	
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	10.30am Midweek Communion		St Mary's		
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> before Advent</i> <b>Gift Day</b> <b>Get Involved</b> <b>Sunday</b>	9am Service with Communion		St Mary's	<b>Partners with God</b> 1 Tim 6: 6-19 Luke 18: 18-30	
	10.15 am All Age Service		St Mary's Hall		
	10.30am Morning Praise		St John's		
	6.30pm All Souls Service		St Mary's		
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.30am Midweek Communion		St John's		
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	11.30am – 1pm Connections		St Mary's Hall		
<b>Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> before Advent</i> <b>Remembrance Day</b>	9am Service with Communion		St Mary's	<b>The Armour of God</b> Eph 6:10-20 John 14:23-29	
	10.15 am All Age Service		St Mary's Hall		
	10.30am Holy Communion		St John's		
	10.40am Joint Service at Memorial in Town				
	6.30pm Evening Praise		St Mary's		
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.30am Midweek Communion		St Mary's		
<b>Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>Christ the King</i> <b>Safeguarding Sunday</b>	9am Service with Communion		St Mary's	<b>King and Lord of All</b> Col 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	
	10.15 am All Age Service		St Mary's		
	10.30am Morning Praise		St John's		
	6.30pm Alpha Healing Service		St Mary's		
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.30am Midweek Communion		St John's		
<b>Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> <i>Advent 1</i>	9am Service with Communion		St Mary's	<b>Return of the King</b> Isaiah 2:1-5 Matt 24:36-44	
	10.15 am All Age Service		St Mary's Hall		
	10.30am Morning Praise		St John's		
	6.30pm Evening Praise		St Mary's		
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	10.30am Midweek Communion		St Mary's		
<b>Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> <i>Advent 2</i>	9am Service with Communion		St Mary's	<b>Make way for the King</b> Isaiah 11:1-10 Matt 3:1-12	
	10.15 am All Age Service		St Mary's Hall		
	10.30am Morning Praise		St John's		
	3.30pm ) Christingle 5.00pm ) Services		St Mary's		



**YouTube**

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