



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 158

August 2023

Are you new to St Jude's?

It's lovely to welcome you among us – in person or online. Please make yourself known and let us know how we can help you feel at home. If you have any questions, suggestions, requests for prayer or if you would like to come and talk more personally, please contact our Vicar on vicar@stjudeschurch.info.

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on 12th August. Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and have a look round.

Runnymede Food Bank

We remain very grateful to Geoff Chew who continues week by week to take our donations of non-perishable foodstuffs and other items to the Food Bank. Thank you to all of you whose generosity makes this vital ministry possible! Items may be left in our Food Bank crate in church.

Coffee Morning

Saturday 26th August

1.00–11.30am

St Jude's Church

Cakes, biscuits, preserves,
marmalade etc

Do come along for coffee
and a chat!

Music & Sweet Poetry

A Piano Recital

accompanied by poems about
composers and their music

Dimitri Kennaway (piano)

and Valerie Fry (poetry)

Saturday 3rd September

4.00pm

St Jude's Church

Admission free

Refreshments provided

Donations welcome

In every circumstance of our lives

As the schools' summer terms came to an end the children of Year 2 at St Jude's Infant School held their Leavers' Assembly in St Jude's Church. This beautiful service was entirely led by the children who first presented a drama inspired by the tale of the "Billy Goats Gruff". A group of young "kids" were looking for new things to do. The familiar things they had previously enjoyed didn't seem to appeal and were rejected as "BORING"! To find new and exciting adventures it was clear that they would have to cross a bridge into new and unfamiliar territory. That was a scary prospect. There might be trolls lurking under the bridge and bigger "kids" on the other side.

But how would they know what it would be like on the other bank unless they plucked up the courage to set foot on the bridge? And so, reluctantly at first, and then with growing anticipation and courage, they decided to do just that.

It was a wonderful interpretation of what it was like for the children (none more than seven years old), and parents and carers too, as they contemplate the scale of the transition from Infant to Junior School. Familiar surroundings and familiar people must be left behind and the future may seem daunting. But there will be new friends, new opportunities, and new things to learn – and those things can't be missed.

The drama, prayers and poems were interspersed with songs as the children reflected that they are now "taller, stronger and wiser" and ready to make a new beginning. And woven through the whole presentation was the golden thread of gratitude – for everything that they had gained through their years as infants – and for everyone who had been with them on that journey.

This was one of the loveliest occasions I have enjoyed in St Jude's Church. Many congratulations are owed to the children, and to the Teachers and Teaching Assistants who invested so much hard work in planning, preparing, and presenting the service. It was good to welcome so many parents, grandparents, and carers to be with their children for such a truly special event.

And it left me with plenty of food for thought. All of us face change repeatedly in our lives. Some change is chosen, and we embrace it with joy. Some change comes unbidden and often unwelcome. Some change is way beyond our control and often brings sadness and loss. As the children sang at one point in their presentation: "being a grown-up isn't all it's cracked up to be"! Even as adults we can be fearful of what the future may hold.

I was very struck by the theme of thankfulness, which came out so strongly in the service. The prospect of change can bring a significant opportunity to express our gratitude to those who have cared for and accompanied us on our journey thus far. Change can also make us very aware of those who continue to walk with us on life's journey and who in so many ways try to ease the burden of painful change – or to share the joy of the good times ahead. And experience has sometimes shown us that change can often bring with it new friendships and fresh opportunities.

And so, I reflected afresh on the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ as he prepared to leave behind His friends and travelling companions. Jesus said, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20) In every circumstance of our lives, God has promised to walk with us, from here to eternity.

The BBC Newscaster and Reporter George Alagiah sadly died recently. One of his closest colleagues said of him "Journalism has lost a giant". As he journeyed through his diagnosis of cancer, George had reflected on how he had found strength and peace to contemplate the unknown future. He had learnt to receive each new day as a gift. Perhaps humanity too has lost a "giant". The Bible reminds us that God's love for us is "New every morning" (Lamentations 3:23) and that life itself is a gift from Him. As the summer unfolds and begins to give way to the challenges of the autumn let us thank God for all his gifts - and, most especially for the Lord Jesus Christ, God's "gift beyond words" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Judith Allford

Audio Visual Project

A Special Invitation! Come and be part of the St Jude's United Church Live-Streaming Team!

This invitation remains open! We'd love to welcome you as part of the Team! Please contact guybunce@hotmail.com if you would like to know more about this exciting project. Help us keep in touch with those unable to worship with us in person.

Extended Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who attended our Coffee Morning on 15th July. Thank you to all who provided items for sale, and goodies to enjoy with our coffee, and helped not only with the preparation of the morning, but also with clearing up afterwards!

Special thanks to Andrew Sheer, who gave a fascinating, illustrated talk on the boundaries of Englefield Green. If you missed it – or want to hear it again – we are certainly trying to persuade Andrew to repeat the talk on another occasion.

Special thanks also to John Scott MBE who loaned us the model of the Village War Memorial so that we could display it alongside the Books of Remembrance which he donated to St Jude's. Just to remind you that John is preparing to bring the Books of Remembrance into a single volume to be kept in St Jude's. If you have any additional information about someone from Englefield Green who sacrificed their life in wartime conflict, there is still time to pass it on to him. Please contact us on vicar@stjudeschurch.info

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us by using easyfundraising.co.uk when buying things through Amazon John Lewis etc. You have raised £1410.20 (so far) for us through this scheme.

Readings at Communion

Sunday 6th August (Trinity 9/Transfiguration)	Daniel 7. 9–10, 13–14 Psalm 97 2 Peter 1. 16–19 Luke 9. 28–36
Sunday 13th August (Trinity 10)	1 Kings 19. 9–18 Psalm 85. 8–13 Romans 10. 5–15 Matthew 14. 22–33
Sunday 20th August (Trinity 11)	Isaiah 56. 1, 6–8 Psalm 67 Romans 11. 1–2a, 29–32 Matthew 15. (10–20), 21–28
Sunday 27th August (Trinity 12)	Isaiah 51. 1–6 Psalm 138 Romans 12. 1–8 Matthew 16. 13–20

Diary for August

- 2 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 6 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 9 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 13 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 16 Wednesday 10.00am SORRY – NO Holy Communion service today
- 20 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 23 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 26 Saturday 10.00–11.30am Coffee Morning
- 27 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 30 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion

Please note that our 9.30am each Sunday is always live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. If you are unable to join us in church we warmly invite you to tune in.

The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk 01784 471110

A reminder that, during the summer holidays, our café is open each weekday from the slightly later time of 10am. It remains open until 2pm. A warm welcome awaits you!

Our Manager, Ali Griffin, writes:

"We've had a busy start to the Summer holidays, especially with the unsettled weather making the café a warm inside venue for children. Most classes have finished for the summer break. However we have a new Children's Summer Camp run by an existing teacher for three weeks which is proving popular. Another new class is Pilates for those suffering with mental health issues. This is a free weekly class offered by a company called Sport in Mind.

Our long standing D of E student Chloe finished volunteering with us. However she is replaced by two new students working towards their Silver Medal. One is working in the Cafe and one is taking control of our social media.

Students from St Cuthbert's School have been collecting items for our Baby Basics programme and came into the Village Centre last week to present us with approx 6 gift boxes filled with newborn essentials.

As I write, our new Fire Alarm system is being installed by John at GloBell. The system brings the centre in line with current fire safety regulations and means members of staff are instantly aware of where a fire is located in the building. All smoke detectors are remotely fitted to navigate around our listed building status. The system will be linked to mobile phones, so control can be managed remotely if needed.

Harrison's funeral directors held a service of remembrance and thanksgiving at St Jude's Church on Saturday, 22nd July to remember all those who had passed over the last 18 months. The service was very popular and Harrison's generously arranged for donations from the service to come to the Village Centre. This amounted to £325.00. Thank you all."

As always, If you have any queries, suggestions, requests for bookings, or if you would like to offer your help to the Centre please contact Ali Griffin, our Centre Manager as below. Thank you!

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

From the Registers

Baptisms:

(9th July) Charlotte Reese Valerie Vardy; (16th) Hudson Ernest Lodge; (30th) Lexie Shay Owens, Eloise Harding, Kayden James Charles Owens.

Funerals:

(11th July) Margaret Rose Boobyer, (12th) George Ernest Johnson, (20th) Robert Fisher.



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



*"Excellence in Education, Kindness in Community, Courage
through Faith"*

As you will have seen on the first page of this edition of the SHIP, we were delighted to welcome into St Jude's Church Year 2 from our Infant School as they presented their Leavers' Assembly. Year 6 at our Junior School held their final Assembly in school on the last day of term. Congratulations to both Year 2 and Year 6. May God bless you all as you move on to new adventures!

The Leadership Structure of the Schools Federation will change a little from September. Mrs Vicki Chiverton, currently Head of our Junior School, has been appointed Executive Head of the Federated Schools. She will share the leadership with her two Deputies, Mrs Pru Ashplant and Mrs Emily Stanton, both of whom have been leading the Infant School during the past academic year. The three leaders will work across both schools, each spending part of the week across both sites. Congratulations to you all and we pray God's blessing on you all as you lead our schools as this new chapter unfolds.

And may God bless you all – teachers, all school staff, parents and carers, governors and children – through the summer weeks, and as you prepare for the autumn term ahead. Thank you for all you do amongst us.

Knitting Matters

We remain very grateful to Di and Alan Fone and Pat and Brian Summers as they continue to co-ordinate the delivery of knitted items to the "Revive 'n Thrive" charity based in Mytchett.

Di and Alan recently received this letter from the charity:

Please pass on our thanks for the 53 hats, 13 blankets and 45 jumpers so beautifully made by the knitters of St Jude's. Amazing!

We have recently sent out from Mytchett, with Christian Charities, tools, sewing machines, fabric, haberdashery, school supplies and knitted items, for projects in Romania and Uganda. Mechanical tools are soon to go to Zambia.

God has blessed this work in many ways and has recently opened up the opportunity for 12 boxes of knitted items to go to Ukraine.

Your donation is very much appreciated, as it will be by those who receive them.

Thank you all!

Sad News

We have been saddened to hear of the death of Penny Leech Cook, a long-standing member of our 9.30am congregation. Penny's family home was originally in Sunninghill and she had continued over the years to worship also with the congregation at St Michael and All Angels, Sunninghill. Our two congregations very much share the sadness of the loss of a very faithful and kind member of our fellowships. Our hearts goes out especially to Penny's family, close friends and neighbours in their loss.

Penny's funeral service will be on Wednesday 16th August at 11am at St Michael and All Angels, Sunninghill, (Church Lane, Sunninghill, Ascot SL5 7DD) and a warm invitation is extended to all who would like to attend. We shall not be holding our usual mid-week communion service at St Jude's on that day.

New Bishop of Dorking

We have just heard from the Diocese of Guildford that the Venerable Paul Davies, Archdeacon of Surrey, is to become the next Bishop of Dorking. This feels like the best news ever! Here is what Bishop Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford, has to say about the appointment as he reflects on why Paul is such a good fit:

Those of us privileged to work with Paul here in Guildford over the past six years have recognised just what a treasure he is: a godly disciple, a wise pastor, a gifted preacher, a keen strategist, and someone with extraordinary capacity for hard work. His family are pretty special too!

For some while now I've known that Paul would make a wonderful bishop somewhere – and over the course of the past few months it's become increasingly clear to me (among many others) that that 'somewhere' is here. I couldn't be more delighted.

Paul and I will be sharing in Episcopal ministry across the diocese. He will also have a particular brief as Champion for children and youth, vocations and the environment. As Paul lays down one mantle and picks up another, I'm really excited at all that the Lord has in store."