

NEWSLETTER-JULY/AUGUST 2023

St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action



Welcome to St John's!

**To everything (turn, turn, turn), there is a season (turn, turn, turn),
and a time to every purpose, under heaven.**

Do you remember the words of the 1960s song sung by The Byrds?

The lyrics are based on Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 and the song is expressing the reality of a changing, or turning world in which there is a time and place for everything.

The song seems very appropriate as we move fully into summer and start looking for a new Team Rector and a new Team Vicar. A time of big changes for us all; some of us may find it daunting but we know it will pass and, in any case, change is often positive and can provide opportunities for growth and development.

We hope to appoint a new Team Rector by the end of July while, at the same time, working on the paperwork to enable us to advertise for a new Team Vicar. Realistically, it is unlikely that we will have a vicar in place before the end of the year because the processes are lengthy but please be assured we're working on it! Thank you to everyone who has contributed their ideas on the characteristics of our new vicar, that's been really helpful.

We'll provide updates to you as and when we can, but in the meantime, if anyone has any questions or concerns, please speak to either the churchwardens or the clergy.

With love and prayers Cathy Booth, Churchwarden



Summer Services at St John's



JULY

Sunday 2 July: Trinity 4 (Proper 8)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Eucharist
Sunday School helping to lead the service

Sunday 9 July: Trinity 5 (Proper 9)

8.30am: Said Eucharist
9.45am: Parish Eucharist - with Sunday School

Sunday 16 July: Trinity 6 (Proper 10)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist
11am: Community Brunch followed by Café Church

Sunday 23 July: Trinity 7 (Proper 11)

8.30am: Said Eucharist
9.45am: Parish Eucharist - with Sunday School
12 noon: Baptism of William Victor McCartney

Wednesday 26 July

12 noon: Eucharist in the Lady Chapel and a simple lunch in St John's Room (usually on 4th Wednesdays)

Sunday 30 July: Trinity 8 (Proper 12)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

AUGUST

Sunday 6 August: The Transfiguration

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 13 August: Trinity 10 (Proper 14)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 20 August: Trinity 11 (Proper 15)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist
12 noon: Baptism of Teddy James Kabir
and Cody Jayden Kabir

Sunday 27 August: Trinity 12 (Proper 16)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist
1.30pm: Baptism of Caleb Bray

Please note: No All Age Service or 4th Wednesday Eucharist in August. Sunday School is on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays in term time only.

COFFEE and a CHAT

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon
Thursdays 13, 27 July & 10, 24 August




If you need a lift, please ring Barbara 715636

TEA AND CAKES, Sunday 13 August, 3-5pm
In the York Rooms / Church grounds (time tbc)

The September Newsletter will be available on Sunday 27 August.

Please send anything to be included by Sunday 20 August to Janet Harman at office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk, or phone 715301 (and leave a message if I'm out!) Thank you.

St John's Notices

 facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen
 twitter.com/StJHurstGreen

SPA EMERITA: At the Annual Meeting in May Monica Fenton was presented with a gift by Anna and awarded the title of SPA Emerita as an honour to reflect the 30 years of service she has given to St John's Church as a SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary). During this time Monica has spent great deal of time at East Surrey Hospital as a lay chaplain, but has done many other things too. Anna said she wished to recognise all this service and this new title would take the pressure off Monica feeling she had to do everything she used to do. Monica confirmed that she wanted to continue to be a 'listening ear'.

THANK YOU TO CHARLOTTE AND CHÉ for organising the Big Brekkie on 21 May which raised £122 for Christian Aid.

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH will start using the York Rooms for their Sunday services (at 11am) from the beginning of July and will join with our Café Church services when these are held. This arrangement will last for about 18 months until their church is rebuilt.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT: Archdeacon Moira Astin joined the PCC on 19 June to outline what to expect following the departure of Anna Eltringham. The four parishes agree that James Ashton should be invited to apply as a single candidate for the role of Team Rector. Following his installation, the recruitment of a Team Vicar for St John's and St George's could begin. If the right candidate is found the first time, he / she could begin in January.

The meeting continued after Moira left, with final decisions made on new noticeboards in the church grounds (similar to the one at St Mary's, with facility to change details and incorporate posters); and at the Woodhurst Lane crossroads (retaining the frame refurbished by 'men in sheds' but replacing the board to include a photo of the church). Many thanks to Chris Johns for all this research!

A defibrillator will be installed in a locked cabinet in the grounds, the cost covered by donations received for a gift for Anna, at her request. During the vacancy the churchwardens and Area Dean are in charge and must ensure cover for services. Rosemarie Mallett (Bishop of Croydon) and the Archdeacon both like to visit at least once during a vacancy. The Bishop will preside and preach at the 9.45am service on 17 September (staying for the Community Brunch) and the Archdeacon on 29 October.

ALL AGE SERVICE WITH A DIFFERENCE! Sunday School sessions have been spent preparing to lead a service for the whole congregation on Sunday 2 July. The children have had lots of ideas on putting the service together, choosing and learning the hymns, acting out the readings and writing the prayers. We look forward to experiencing the results!

HILARY AND FRIENDS invite you to a light-hearted evening of music on Saturday 8 July at 7.30pm at St John's Church, including song, piano, brass, woodwind and percussion. Hilary Dilnot and her musical friends and colleagues will perform a selection of well-known favourites such as the Flower Duet from Lakme, Debussy's Clair de Lune, as well as upbeat trios and musical theatre. Tickets are £10 on the door (under 18s free) in aid of church funds, with refreshments available afterwards for a small charge.

CHAIRS: Lighter stackable chairs will arrive in August to replace the current ones, although those with arms, and in the Lady Chapel and north aisle, will remain. This will enable more flexible use of the space in the church. The cost is largely covered by donations, for which we are grateful, and some chairs will be sold to address the shortfall. If you wish to buy a chair before they are advertised for sale, please speak to Cathy Booth, 715748.

Before this happens the commemorative plaques on the chairs must be removed and there will be a working party on **Sunday 9 July** after the main service. Please bring a flathead screwdriver with you, grab a coffee and help if you can! The plaques will be used to create a new artwork to retain these memories.

CONSECRATION: A number of people from St John's and the Oxted team attended the service on 22 June 2023 in York Minster at which Anna was consecrated and ordained as Bishop of Ripon. The moving service was conducted by the Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan and the sermon by the Suffragen Bishop in Europe included lots of helpful hints on how to be a good bishop!

After the service we mingled in the sunshine with many photo opportunities before attending a private reception hosted by Bishop Anna and family. A truly memorable and moving day.

Below: Archdeacon of Reigate, Moira Astin, Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell (and, of course, Bishop Anna and Curate Lotwina!)



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