



September 2022

# LINK-UP

*Keeping Churches in Touch*

[www.godalmingchurches.org](http://www.godalmingchurches.org)

[facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict](https://facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict)

## Message from the Chair

When does the year start for you? What do you regard as a new beginning? Different people will answer in different ways. There's the calendar year starting in January, the financial year starting in April, the Church's year starting with Advent in November or early December. For me, it would be September. Possibly through association with the academic year. And so many things start again in September after a summer break.

Within Churches Together, the monthly Prayer breakfast resumes on Saturday 24 September, at 8.30am at St John's, Farncombe. Prayer is such an important part of our common Christian life and it would be lovely to see more people there.

Another ecumenical prayer initiative begins this September. Enough people responded to last month's notice about the Julian Meetings contemplative prayer group to make it viable. The Godalming Julian Meeting will take place at 8.00pm at St John's, Farncombe, once a month, on the second Tuesday, so this month on Tuesday 13 September. Anyone is welcome – contemplative prayer is for the many not for the few.

Now could be a good time to renew our commitment to supporting Ukrainian refugees in our community. The Homes for Ukraine scheme began in March with placements lasting an initial six months. That period is coming to an end. Data suggests that the majority of placements will continue beyond September, but many will not, as the increasing cost of living makes it harder for householders to continue hosting their guests. Many of these refugees may find themselves homeless. Do we know of any in particular need in this area? As church members, and individuals, let us keep our eyes open to what is happening around us and be prepared to show that our faith makes a difference.

*James Toon, Chair of Churches Together in Godalming and District*

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## News of the Churches and organisations

### Parish of Godalming

#### **St Peter & St Paul**

Sunday 4 September, 8.00am - Holy Communion, followed by a light breakfast in the Octagon for those attending the service

Sunday 4 September, 9.30am and not 10.00am (PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER TIME OF 9.30AM)  
- Muddy Church at the Jack Phillips Memorial Park (No 10am service in church)

Sunday 11 September, 10.00am - Holy Communion Service

Sunday 18 September, 10.00am - Holy Communion Service

Sunday 25 September, 10.00am - Holy Communion Service

### *Godalming Deanery Confirmation Service*

Thursday 8 September, 6.30pm - St Peter and St Paul's Church host the Godalming Deanery Confirmation Service.

### *Heritage Open Day*

Saturday 17 September, 10.00am to 5.00pm – Heritage Open Day at St Peter and St Paul's Church. Visitors are welcome to take a pre-prepared guide sheet so they can tour the church and volunteers will be available during the day to answer any questions. The bell tower will be open for a bell ringing demonstration. Come and visit the ringing chamber and hear for yourself how good the bells sound. There will be a short talk about the English church bell ringing and a demonstration of this ancient art, more-or-less unique to the UK. Please note, for safety reasons, under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and that access is via a steep, narrow staircase. Tours are at 2.00pm and 3.30pm and need to be booked in advance via Godalming Museum, telephone 01483 426510 or write to 109a High Street, Godalming GU7 1AQ.

Service of Said Holy Communion with a Thought for the Day homily resumes on Tuesday 20 September at 12 noon.

### *Godalming Minster*

On Monday 11 July 2022, the PCCs of Busbridge Church, Hambledon Church and St Peter and Paul with St Mark's Churches voted on the proposal to unite and become a Minster Parish for the Godalming and wider area.

The PCC members are the Trustees of their parishes, so the matter was taken seriously and they all spent considerable time in thought, preparation and prayer.

Now the Minster proposal has been passed by all PCCs by a clear individual and collective majority, there will be meetings over the coming weeks for all church members where details of the proposal will be fully explored with lots of opportunities for questions. We will also gather for more prayer times.

There will be a special Annual Parochial Church Meeting with Archdeacon Paul on Sunday 2 October, following the All-Age Harvest Thanksgiving Service, for further prayer and ratification of the PCC's decision.

### *Children's Ministry*

Sunday Club is an all-age group for children aged 3 to 13 years. Our group meets during the 10.00am Holy Communion service in term time. We learn about the Bible with a combination and weekly variation of stories, chat, games, drama and craft. We finish each week in time to join our families in church as the children come up for a blessing during the sharing of communion.

For more details of our activities please contact Sarah Bryans at [godalming.church.office@gmail.com](mailto:godalming.church.office@gmail.com).

### *Baby Group*

The Baby Group (newborn to crawlers) has got off to a great start at St Peter & St Paul's Church on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am to 11.00am during term time. The group is led by Vickie Nye, our Children and Families Worker. We hope to welcome and support some new families, and there is space for up to eight families. For more details, please contact Vickie at [godalmingparishoctots@gmail.com](mailto:godalmingparishoctots@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you following the summer break on Wednesday 7 September.

### *Alpha Course*

The next course commences on Thursday 15th September at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church. For more information contact Sheila Samuels at [curate.godalming@gmail.com](mailto:curate.godalming@gmail.com) or register on our website <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/alpha-course>.

## **St Mark's**

All Sunday services start at 10.00am. There is a balance of services each month, including an All-Age service on the first Sunday, and Holy Communion and different Bible-based acts of worship on the other Sundays. The services are set in a small, informal and friendly setting, including prayer, music and activities with something for everyone.

### *Smart Tots*

This is church-led activity is for parents and toddlers at St Mark's. The group meets on Wednesdays, running from 9.00am to 11.00am. The aim is to offer a welcoming space for toddlers and parents to socialise, meet new people and make friends.

### *Foodbank*

The Foodbank requirement list is updated on a monthly basis on the website. Your Foodbank donations are important, and any items you wish to donate should be taken to St Mark's Church and Community Centre. If you would like to donate to the Foodbank by bank transfer, please contact Karen Milton, our Community Centre Co-ordinator, at [stmarkscentre@googlemail.com](mailto:stmarkscentre@googlemail.com), who will provide the bank details.

We need volunteers to help out on a Monday afternoon from 12.00pm until 2.30pm. Helpers provide a warm welcome and hospitality to people needing to use the foodbank. Helpers also help with stocking shelves and packing parcels. If you would like more information, then please contact Reverend Sheila Samuels at [curate.godalming@gmail.com](mailto:curate.godalming@gmail.com).

### *Smart Café*

Open Sunday 18 September, 2.00pm to 4.30pm at St Mark's Church, Franklyn Road. Why not visit the Cemetery and see the new information board and then drop in to the Church for tea and cake? For more information please contact Rev Sheila Samuels at [curate.godalming@gmail.com](mailto:curate.godalming@gmail.com).  
[www.parishofgodalming.org.uk](http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk)

## **Busbridge&Hambleton Church**

Busbridge&Hambleton Church is delighted to announce the arrival of the new Director of Youth and Children. Ben Barnes comes with his family from St Paul's Church, Camberley and will start his ministry at Busbridge&Hambleton Church on 1 September.

We are advertising for the crucial full-time roles of Worship Pastor and 4-11s Children's Worker. The adverts are here: <https://www.bhcgodalming.org/job-vacancies>.

For information about Muddy Church on 1st Sundays of the month, Messy Church (3rd Sundays) and Hearing Aid Clinics in Busbridge, Hambleton and Godalming Library, please see the weekly notices: <https://www.bhcgodalming.org/notices>, or the Connect area of the website.

[www.bhcgodalming.org](http://www.bhcgodalming.org)

## **Godalming Baptist Church**

We are delighted that Rev Peter Jackson has accepted the call to be Minister at Godalming Baptist Church. His Induction will take place on Saturday 1 October, and invitations will be sent out in the next few weeks.

### **For autumn reading!**

Do come and browse and borrow a book from our Library. We have some great authors with books to equip, challenge and build you up in faith and also books on various life issues. Please ring Reception on 01483 414544 Monday to Friday 9.00am to 12.00pm to check if the library is free to browse in.

### **Retirement of Maureen Jones**

Maureen Jones, our wonderful Friendship Lunch cook, is retiring at the end of this year after

many years of faithful service. Our heartfelt thanks to Maureen, who has worked tirelessly in cooking many delicious meals for those in our local community. Friendship Lunch is a wonderful opportunity in outreach to serve our community and we have a wonderful team who work so hard every fortnight to enable this to happen.

We are now looking for a cook for 2023! If you know anyone in the church or community who would be willing to work on Wednesday mornings, preparing, and Thursdays 9.00am to 2.00pm on a fortnightly basis, please contact Sally Pollard on 01483 428646 or email [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk).

### **Advance dates for your diaries!**

On Friday 2 September from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, Philip Friend is returning to Godalming Baptist Church to give us some culinary delights with his cooking demo! Open to men and women!

We also have a vital Life Issue event on Saturday 10 September from 9.30am to 12.30pm (coffee from 9.00am) - *Compassion Fatigue* focusing on how to protect ourselves while constantly giving out to others. Could you be running on empty? Trudi Davison will lead our morning. Find out how to react to the symptoms of compassion fatigue and how to strengthen your emotional resilience. Do come and pass the event on to others.

On Friday 23 September from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, we have a fascinating evening going back in time Navigating the River Wey from Weybridge to Godalming using vintage pictures telling its fascinating history led by David Rose. Open to men and women!

On Saturday 24 September from 10.00am to 12.00pm *Focus on Suicide* led by Suzette Jones. Please let sally know asap if you are able to join us that morning - thank you.

Saturday 8 October - *Growing Old Disgracefully!* Holding on to what matters with increasing age (nearly full with bookings!) led by Dr Martin Brunet 10.00am to 12.00pm (coffee from 9.30am).

Saturday 29th October - Bereavement Day led by Rev Peter Jackson 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Save the date in 2023! After nearly 4 years, we are delighted to let you know that once again we are having an Away Day for women in the beautiful surroundings of Ladywell Convent on Saturday 13 May 2023 with an inspiring Speaker – Canon Revd Hazel Whitehead, who will lead our day. Hazel spoke recently at our Breakfast at The Jack Phillips, and we were all inspired! The day will include a delicious buffet lunch and afternoon tea and cake. Do come! This is a wonderful opportunity to join together ecumenically and to come away from the busy demands of life. Cost £25 per person to include the hiring of the Conference Room, Buffet lunch and afternoon tea and cake and a contribution to the speaker's lunch and travel expenses.

To book for any of the above events, please contact Sally Pollard on 01483 428646 or email [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk).

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

## **Godalming United Church**

Online services: <https://guc.online.church>.

Service recordings: [www.guc.org.uk](http://www.guc.org.uk), <https://bit.ly/GUCYouTube>.

### **Friday Lunches from 9 September**

Friday Lunches restart on Friday 9 September from 12.00pm to 1.30pm. Beat inflation with prices as in July. Wholesome home-made fare, good company and the incomparable view from our River Room across the Lammas Lands. Profits go to local charities. Every Friday during term-time.

### **Cream Tea on the lawn, 10 September**

On Saturday 10 September there will be a cream tea on the lawn from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in supporting our ongoing commitment to the ophthalmic unit in The Gambia.

### **Harvest Festival, 2 October**

Sunday 2 October at 10.30am - Harvest Festival. Gifts of non-perishable foodstuffs please - to go to the Foodbank.

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

## **Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King & Martyr, Godalming with St Joseph's Milford**

### **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Thursday 1 September**

In his message to mark the start of the Season of Creation, Pope Francis calls us to 'cultivate our ecological conversion' and to pray together in 'the great cathedral of Creation'. He warns that we are reaching 'a breaking point' and must act decisively so that 'we and future generations can continue to rejoice in creation's sweet song of life and hope.' You can read his full message at

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2022/07/21/220721c.html>

### **Creation Mass at Ladywell Convent, Sunday 4 September**

To mark the start of the Season of Creation and a month of reflecting more deeply on our stewardship, the 10.30am Mass on 4 September will be celebrated in the grounds of Ladywell Convent, with coffee and cake and time for a parish social afterwards.

### **Workshop for Readers**

For all who read at Mass or who are thinking of becoming involved in this privileged Ministry, in which the Word of God is proclaimed and shared, we are running a workshop with the help of Anna Rogers on Saturday 10 September from 10.00pm to 12.00pm at St Joseph's, Milford.

### **Education Sunday, 11 September**

Education Sunday is on 11 September, and to mark the start of the new scholastic year there will be a special blessing for all teachers, lecturers, pupils and students at each of our Masses that weekend. The 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's will be one of our 'school Masses' and pupils, staff and families from St Edmund's school will be making a special effort to join us.

### **Grandparents Formation Day, 14 September**

To celebrate the importance of grandparents in handing on the faith, there is a special day at St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley from 11.00pm to 3.00pm. For more info email

[katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk).

### **Sharing the Church's Story**

Bishop Robert Barron is talking about the future of the Church and its renewal, at a one-day conference in London on 17 September. Two discounted tickets are available from the parish office. <https://www.sharingthechurchsstory.com>.

### **Cheese and Wine for teachers and lecturers**

Fr Jonathan invites all who are engaged in teaching or lecturing to join him and each other at the presbytery for cheese and wine on Thursday 22 September 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

### **Shared supper and 'Rubbish' talk!**

Our Live Simply group invites you to this event on 24 September at St John's, from 7.30pm to 10.00pm, and a special welcome to all our eco-warriors in Godalming! Ian Honeysett will be sharing his knowledge on the dos and don'ts of recycling and why it's so important. We hope to have a good discussion on green matters and what we can do to make a difference. Amongst all this rubbish there will be plenty of light entertainment! The evening will include the 'Scrunch Test' and the 'Shoebox Challenge', and Ian will be performing his not-to-be missed 'Witley Rap' and, of course, it's a perfect opportunity for a quick quiz! This event is St Edmund's contribution to Great Big Green Week (24 September - 2 October) at <https://greatbiggreenweek.com>.

### **Mass times and regular parish events and activities:**

Weekend Masses are celebrated at St Edmund's (6.00pm Vigil Mass) on Saturday evening; and

on Sundays at St John's Farncombe at 8.45am and Coffee after Mass on 4 September and 18 September; and St Joseph's Milford at 10.30am.

#### *Weekday Masses*

The dates, times and venues of these vary and can be found on the calendar on our website at [www.stedsgod.com](http://www.stedsgod.com).

We offer a warm welcome to newcomers at our regular parish gatherings during September:

- SVP Afternoon Tea on Wednesday 14 September at 2.30pm at the United Reformed Church, Elstead (to book phone Janet on 07990 717067).
- Fairtrade Sale at St John's after 8.45am Mass on Sunday 4 September.
- Prayer Group on Monday evenings at the later time of 7.45pm (phone Richard on 01252 703830).

Our Children's Liturgy and Bumps & Babes group start back after the summer on Sunday 11 and Monday 12 September.

If you would like help with getting to Mass or attending parish events, please get in touch with Alan on 01483 420859.

#### **Franciscan Centre, Ladywell Convent**

A Day of Prayer Led by Canon Gerard Flynn on 7 September from 10.00am to 4.00pm on the theme: 'And God saw that it was good' (Genesis 1:12).

Canon Gerard Flynn will reflect on beauty in creation, with music, poetry, story and prayer. You are encouraged to bring your own example of encountering our God of Beauty. More information is available at <https://franciscancentre.org.uk>.

<https://stedsgod.com>

#### **Godalming Quakers**

The regular weekly worship session continues to be held on Sunday mornings, starting at 10.30am at the Quaker Meeting House in Mill Lane, and all are welcome. If fine weather, then this is sometimes held outdoors in the walled garden.

With the number of people in Godalming now working on a Sunday, midweek Meetings for Worship have recommenced on the fourth Wednesday of the month, with the next one due to be held on Wednesday 28 September at 6.30pm.

Meanwhile, an Introduction to Godalming Quakers session is being held on 3 September.

[www.quaker.org.uk/meetings/godalming](http://www.quaker.org.uk/meetings/godalming)

#### **Feba**

Feba will be having its monthly prayer meeting on Zoom on Wednesday 7 September between 7.00pm and 8.00pm. Find out more at <https://www.feba.org.uk/blog/you-are-invited-to-pray-with-the-feba-family>.

#### *Items for next month's Link-up*

Please send items for the October 2022 edition of *Link-up* to Matt Farrow:

[farrow.matt@gmail.com](mailto:farrow.matt@gmail.com) by **Friday 16 September**, for publication on Friday 23 September.