



October 2022

LINK-UP

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinGodalmingandDistrict

Message from the Chair

This October is a busy month for Churches Together in Godalming and District. Please join us for any of these events if you can.

The Godalming Julian Meeting takes place in the Lady Chapel at St John's, Farncombe, at 8.00pm on Tuesday 11 October. This is a time of waiting on God in the silence.

We are offering a Service of Healing, also at St John's, Farncombe, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18 October. This is a new venture for us.

The next Prayer Breakfast is at 8.30am on Saturday 22 October at Godalming United Church.

Our Council of Church Together will meet at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26 October at St Peter & St Paul, Godalming. This will be our first meeting in person since before the Covid pandemic began in 2020. We have two special items on the agenda.

First, we welcome Grace Keal, Ecumenical Co-ordinator for Churches Together in Surrey, who will be talking about her role. Among other things, Grace has been sending us the monthly Ukraine Briefings.

Second, Canon John Harkin and Rev Simon Taylor will be briefing us on the proposal to create a Godalming Minster, uniting the churches of St Peter & St Paul with St Mark's, and Busbridge & Hambledon Church. The next stage of the approval process is an Extraordinary Parochial Church Meeting at St Peter & St Paul on Sunday 2 October and at Busbridge & Hambledon Church on Sunday 16 October. Please pray for the leaders and congregations of these churches at these important meetings.

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 2 October – 8.00am Holy Communion, followed by a light breakfast in the Octagon for those attending the service

Sunday 2 October – 10.00am All-Age Harvest Thanksgiving Service with the Baptism of Olivia followed by an Extraordinary Parochial Church Meeting (EPCM) chaired by the Venerable Paul Davies, Archdeacon of Surrey

Sunday 9 October – 10.00am Holy Communion Service

Sunday 16 October – 10.00am Holy Communion Service

Sunday 23 October – 10.00am Holy Communion Service

Sunday 30 October – 10.00am Holy Communion Service

Service of Said Holy Communion with a Thought for the Day homily every Tuesday at 12.00pm.

Godalming Minster

The Archdeacon of Surrey, the Venerable Paul Davies, has called an Extraordinary Parochial Church Meeting (EPCM) on Sunday 2 October at 11.30am after the 10.00am service, in St Peter & St Paul's Church.

This meeting follows the decision by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in July 2022, in addition to the PCCs at Busbridge and Hambledon, to unite to become one parish, Godalming Minster. This meeting is for those on the Electoral Roll of St Peter & St Paul's Church with St Mark's Church. We value prayers that we may continue to receive God's guidance and direction as we serve Him.

Walk the Wey - Saturday 8 October

Following the successful Walk the Way sponsored walk last year, Bishop Jo is inviting you to join her once again, but this time for Walk the Wey. Last year's walk raised £4,300 to help the disadvantaged and vulnerable across the Diocese of Guildford through the Bishop of Guildford's Community Fund, and she would love your help in supporting even more community projects.

This year the walk will be along the Wey Navigation towpath on Saturday 8 October, starting either in Godalming for a relaxed 6-mile walk to Guildford, or from West Byfleet for a longer 12½-mile walk to Guildford via Pyrford and Send. There will also be an alternative start point at Send for those preferring a shorter 6-mile walk. The two groups from Godalming and West Byfleet (or Send) will meet up at St Mary's Church in Quarry Street, Guildford for refreshments at the end. Parishes are encouraged to get together groups of walkers to support this initiative.

St Peter & St Paul's Church will be the starting point for all walkers from Godalming. The group will be gathering in church from about 11.45am and leaving by 12.30pm. To register an interest in taking part in the walk please contact claire.isherwood@cofeguildford.org.uk giving your name, parish, mobile number and likely starting point.

Children's Ministry - Meeting on the 9 and 16 October

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.

Baby Group

The Baby Group (newborn to crawlers) is a popular group meeting 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.

Alpha Course

The course commenced on Thursday 15 September at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church. For more information contact Sheila.curate.godalming@gmail.com or register on our website at <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/alpha-course>.

Godalming Community Gospel Choir Christmas showcase

The GCGC Christmas showcase will take place on Saturday 10 December at 7.30pm at St Peter & St Paul.

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 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, 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.

www.parishofgodalming.org.uk

St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

Along with other Anglican churches, in November St John's will begin engaging with the "Parish Needs Process" which is intended to identify and resource avenues for future development.

We kept the memory of the late Queen Elizabeth with a short commemoration on Sunday 11 September and a Requiem Mass the following week. The Rector also led prayers at the Accession Proclamation at the Pepperpot on Sunday 11 September, and we were privileged to host one of the official Town Council Books of Condolence in the church.

On Tuesday 18 October at 7.30pm, St John's is hosting a St Luke's Day Healing Service on behalf of Churches Together.

On 23 October we're holding our second Forest Church, though a bit earlier in the day than our summer one, at 3.00pm – see the website for details in coming weeks. However, there will be no Compline Online in October due to clergy leave – it'll resume in November.

www.farncombe.org.uk

Busbridge&Hambleton Church

Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance as members of the electoral rolls prepare for Extraordinary Parochial Church Meetings to vote on uniting the parishes of Godalming, Busbridge and Hambleton. The meetings at Busbridge and Hambleton take place on 16 October. The EPCM of Godalming parish will take place at St Peter and St Paul's on 2 October. For information see www.bhcgodalming.org/minster.

www.bhcgodalming.org

Godalming Baptist Church

Induction Service for Rev Peter Jackson

At the beginning of October we are delighted to hold the Induction Service for Rev Peter Jackson who has accepted the call to be Pastor/ Minister of Godalming Baptist Church. We pray every blessing for Peter as he begins his ministry in Godalming.

Bereavement Day led by Rev Peter Jackson, Saturday 29 October 9.30am to 4.00pm

Peter will also lead our Life issue on bereavement on Saturday 29 October. This session was oversubscribed in February so it was decided to repeat it as it was such a worthwhile day. Peter has a wealth of experience, empathy and expertise on the subject of bereavement, and the day is equally suitable for those who have been bereaved at any time and for those who want to understand more about bereavement in order to become more sensitive and helpful to others experiencing loss. There is no charge but donations towards the work of Phylliss Tuckwell Hospice would be much appreciated. To book a place please contact Sally Pollard on 01483 428646 or pollard3@hotmail.co.uk.

Growing Old Disgracefully!, Saturday 8 October

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).

Thanksgiving for the life of Jeanne Jarvis

We also have an opportunity this month to give thanks for the life of Jeanne Jarvis, who served faithfully on the mission field in Mexico for many years. The thanksgiving Service for the life of Jeanne Jarvis will be held at GBC on Saturday 22 October at 2.30pm. For catering purposes please let us know if you are planning to attend.

Heaven can wait Friday 4 November, 7.00pm

Connect film night *Heaven Can wait* at GBC Friday 4th November 7.00pm. There is no charge but donations appreciated towards The Foodbank and Ukraine. Please contact Sally Pollard or Catherine Lawton to book a place.

Outing to Haskins Garden Centre, Thursday 10 November

Friendship Lunch/ Church/Community Outing to Haskins Garden Centre (for Christmas shopping!) and then on to Worthing on Thursday 10 November. Booking forms will be available from the church reception, Monday to Friday mornings from 9.00am to 12.00pm.

The Big Quiz night, 19 November, 7.30pm–9.30pm

An epic evening of poverty-beating fun in aid of Tearfund. Tearfund works in more than 50 countries working through local partners to help individuals, families and whole communities lift themselves out of poverty and reach their God-given potential.

Come and join a team or come with a team of 5 or more. Please bring your own snacks and drinks, although some will be provided. For more information or to book please contact Catherine Lawton: catherine@lawtonfamily.net. If you copy & paste the following link you will be able to go to the Just Giving donation page: www.justgiving.com/Catherine-lawton4. Please feel free to give donations on the night.

www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

Godalming United Church

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

Service recordings: www.guc.org.uk, <https://bit.ly/GUCYouTube>.

We went ahead with our charity cream tea for the Gambian Ophthalmic Clinic on Saturday 10 September – feeling that following the late Queen's death people would appreciate the opportunity to sign our foyer condolences book and have a gentle chat. £411 was raised, meaning that 27 Gambians will have their sight saved.

Following the disastrous floods in Pakistan we have been holding a retiring collection for Christian Aid.

During September and October, Adam has been leading a twice-weekly Bible study – "Basics of Christianity" – something for all, from newer Christians to "veterans". Four weeks from 26 September to Wednesday 20 October; Mondays at 12.00pm, interchangeably with Wednesdays at 7.30pm.

Harvest Festival on Sunday 2 October at 10.30am – gifts of non-perishable foodstuffs – followed by a bring-and share lunch – the first for three years!

There will be a Mission Day at the United Church on Saturday 15 October from 10.30am–3.00pm led by a Community Chaplain. Tea and coffee provided; bring your own lunch.

www.guc.org.uk

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

Pope Francis' intention for October is that we pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

Welcome to Fr Rajesh Minz

We welcome Fr Rajesh Minz to our parish on the weekend of 1–2 October, to celebrate weekend Masses with us for the first time. He is now resident in the Haslemere parish and will be swapping with Fr Jonathan for one weekend a month, usually the first weekend.

Family Fast Day, Friday 7 October

Standing in solidarity with vulnerable people, we will have an appeal on behalf of CAFOD and a collection to raise funds for those who are threatened by the global food crisis, so that families around the world survive today and have food for all their tomorrows.

Weekly Holy Hour

Every Wednesday, starting on 5 October, Deacon Jeremy will lead a holy hour, which offers an opportunity for some spiritual and prayerful nourishment, and will include benediction, holy rosary, reflection and silent prayer. At St Joseph's, Milford, 6.00pm to 7.00pm.

SVP Mass for the Sick

SVP Mass for the Sick with Anointing at Ladywell on Saturday 29 October at 3.00pm, followed by refreshments. Please feel free to bring family and friends with you and sign up via the parish calendar.

RCIA Course: New Beginnings

If you think that now might be a good time to explore (without pressure) becoming a Catholic Christian, please speak with Fr Jonathan or Ian Honeysett, to find out about our next RCIA course.

Sycamore Shorts

A new group for parents on Friday mornings, 8.55am to 9.30am, at St Edmund's primary school. A 'drop in at drop off' and a chance to explore an aspect of faith, chat over coffee and pray for the children, with Fr Jonathan.

Pizza and Prayer on Sunday evenings with Fr Jonathan

For young people in Year 9+, at St Edmund's, 6.30pm-8.00pm. Check parish calendar for dates.

Mass times and regular parish events and activities:

Weekend Masses

Weekend Masses are celebrated at St Edmund's (6.00pm Vigil Mass) on Saturday evenings; and on Sundays at St John's Farncombe at 8.45am, with Children's Liturgy (and with Coffee after Mass on 2 and 16 October); 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:

www.stedsgod.com.

Parish gatherings

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

- Bumps & Babes on Mondays at 10.30am at St John's, Farncombe
- SVP Afternoon Tea on Wednesday 12th October 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 2 October
- Prayer Group on Monday evenings at 7.45pm (phone Richard on 01252 703830).

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

Ladywell is a Centre for Franciscan Spirituality, and makes available the Beauty, Generosity and Goodness of God. As a place of welcome and hospitality it provides contemplative spaces for rest, silence, solitude, reflection and prayer. A range of options are available:

Shorter Retreats

- One Day Retreat – Spend a day of quiet with the Lord. If you would find it helpful you can be accompanied by a trained spiritual guide
- Monthly Days of Prayer – Quiet days with spiritual input
- Short Overnight Retreats – The option to stay overnight for two or three days retreat is also available
- Private Retreats – for those who want to have some quiet time alone to pray and rest (you can decide how long you wish to stay but these retreats are usually between three and eight days).

Longer Retreats

- Directed Retreats – provides an opportunity to share where you are in your life, the challenges you face and the graces you hope for. Your spiritual director will offer you some scripture passages, poetry or other resources to help your prayer and relationship with the Lord.
- Preached Retreats – with a Leader who offers one or two talks each day together with prayer and reflections on a given theme. These retreats can vary from 3–6 days in length.
- Preached retreats are fully catered while private or directed retreats can either be fully catered or self-catering.

For more information contact the Franciscan Centre on 01483 675575.

<https://franciscancentre.org.uk/retreats/>

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.

www.quaker.org.uk/meetings/godalming

Feba

Feba will be having its monthly prayer meeting on Zoom on Wednesday 5 October 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>.

Trinity Trust Team

We are back up to speed with all our regular FREE term-time groups and activities that include:

- Wowza after school club for children at Godalming Junior school (Monday)
- Loseley Fields Youth Café, Monday 6.30pm to 8.00pm (for school years 7+)
- Fusion Christian themed group for children in school years 3 to 6 at Godalming Baptist church on Wednesday evenings (open to all, from 6.00pm to 7.00pm)
- Fuse youth/discipleship group for school years 7 to 13 also at GBC on Wednesday evenings (and open to all from 7.30pm to 9.00pm)
- Christian Union on Thursday lunchtimes at Broadwater and Rodborough schools
- Friday Club at Aarons Hill (St Mark's Church after October half term) 5.00pm to 7.00pm.

This academic year, Isaac and Annette are taking a course in "Building Youth & Children's ministries" run by the Guildford Diocese team, and Andy has started the Foundation Year in Biblical Teaching at Cornhill in London, courses that will shape our thinking and planning for the various age ranges we support.

Flexible hours/opportunities within the team:

We would love to hear from anyone who has the experience and passion for youth ministry, or knows someone who has, and might be interested in joining the team. We will be happy to work with the hours that you might be able to offer as we have a flexible approach to recruitment to reflect the world of work around us. Do get in touch if interested:

andytrinitytrustteam@hotmail.co.uk

Please pray for:

- Continued opportunities to prosper the gospel in schools and communities in the coming school year and for new partnerships within local churches
- The right individuals to come forward to seek to join the team and wisdom and discernment when recruiting new team members
- All those who currently donate to TTT (both corporately and individually).

We continue to thank all those who play a part in and support the youth ministry of the Trinity Trust Team. Our thanks and blessings to you all. Andy & the team.

www.trinitytrustteam.co.uk

Items for next month's Link-up

Please send items for the November 2022 edition of *Link-up* to Matt Farrow: farrow.matt@gmail.com by **Friday 14 October**, for publication on Friday 21 October.