

St Mary's Thorpe

A House of Prayer for All



We will **Live** by a rule and rhythm of prayer,
Learn from all generations and
Love the diversity of people welcomed.

Church Family News, week of 23rd August

Greetings

Firstly can I say a sincere thank you to all those who contributed to making such a success of our patronal festival, especially those who led our worship and provided our food. It was a glorious day in every aspect. In Sunday's gospel reading Jesus asks his followers 'Who do you say that I am?' It's a pertinent question for us today also - Who do we say Jesus is? We might know the stories about Jesus, attend services, we might pray, we might be well versed in Christian doctrine - but the bottom line in the Christian faith is this question of who we say Jesus is. If we say that to us he's a prophet, a good man, a moral teacher, a charismatic leader, that may be so, but that only puts him on a par with many other historical figures. However, if we say that to us he is what he claimed, the Son of God, God revealing himself to us, then that's a very different matter - not least because it makes our worship, our prayer, our seeking guidance and wisdom a whole lot more vital and life-giving. The Alpha course is an excellent way for us all to explore this question together - do join us over the Autumn term (details in notices). *Fr.Stephen*

This week

TODAY 8am Said Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion
11.15am EPCM—meeting in church
6-6.30pm Compline

Monday from 11am Friendship Group at the Red Lion for anyone who would like to meet other people.

Wednesday 9am – 3pm Parish Office Open
11am Holy Communion - when we will be joined by walkers from Chertsey on the Day of Pilgrimage walk
Server: Grace Warden: Jenny
Welcome: Joy
Refreshments for all 11.30 -12.30

Friday: Father Stephen's day off

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Wednesday 2nd September 7.30pm Deanery Prayer Meeting at St Mary's.

Thursday 3rd September 7.45pm - A meeting and rehearsal led by Camilla for those who would like to explore the possibility of joining a newly formed choir. A decision on the best rehearsal evening will be made at the meeting.

Sunday 20th September 10am Harvest Festival Family Service followed by a 'Bring and Share' communal lunch

Tuesday 29th September 'Quiet Day' at St Columba's House

Fr. Stephen will be leading a 'Quiet Day' at St Columba's House, Woking, from 10am to 3.30pm. All welcome, see <https://www.stcolumbashouse.org.uk>

Notices

Alpha Course - exploring faith

We're hosting an Autumn Alpha course on Thursdays from 4-5.30pm in the Rutherwyke Room (from 24th September). After tea and cake Fr.Stephen will give a short talk on an aspect of the Christian faith, leading into an open discussion and question time. Please take a flyer and pass it on to family, friends, neighbours. Seventeen people did the course last Autumn and everyone really benefitted. All Welcome, for more details contact Fr. Stephen, and to register for a place contact Mary in the Church office: stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com or 01932 567603

New staff volunteer starting in September

In September we welcome Brad, who will be working with us until July 2027 to experience every aspect of ministry in a Parish Church. Fr. Stephen will be supervising him and after a training day with the Diocese on a Monday he will be helping at St Mary's and around the parish from Tuesday to Thursday and involved with Sunday services. He is kindly being hosted by John and Grace Brown. Brad has just completed a Masters at Royal Holloway University and served in the Chapel there as well as being a part-time youth leader in Barnes. We very much look forward to welcoming him.

Confirmations on Tuesday 1st December , 7pm at Christchurch, Viginia Water Confirmation preparation meetings with Fr Stephen on Wednesdays at noon from 23rd September.

Tea and Talk second Mondays of each month

On September 14th We are very fortunate to have an interesting speaker from TESIS with lots to share with us. On October 12th David Howard will be sharing the process of the organ he is building.

SUNDAY WORSHIP 23rd August

Year A

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

We gather for worship, welcoming everyone as Christ would, learning from him through the Bible and being spiritually nourished by him through Holy Communion.

BANNS of MARRIAGE to be read for the third time for Zachary Thomas Thornton-Hayes and Kayleigh Emily Jade Bifield, who are to be married on 26th October.

Those serving us today are:

8am said Holy Communion

Server: Andy Warden/Reader: Bev

10am Sung Holy Communion

Server: Susi Warden: Maragaret H Welcome: Phil

Reader: Diane Chalice: Server/ Allison

Collect (prayer for the week)

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

HYMNS Today we use the **ORANGE** hymn book

Introit: All creatures of our God and King (omit 4,5,6) 6

Gradual: Brother, Sister, let me serve you 88

Offertory: Take up thy Cross 626

Communion: The head that once was crowned 644

Recessional: All hail the power of Jesus' name 16

Organist: Kevin Cobbold

Psalm: 124

Response: Our help is in the name of the Lord

NT Reading-: Romans 12: 1-8

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

We pray to the Lord

- ◆ For Ukraine, the Middle East and all warring countries
- ◆ For those who have lost their homes or suffered fire damage
- ◆ For farmers struggling to gather a good harvest
- ◆ For those who have been persecuted in any way
- ◆ For those who have taken their own lives
- ◆ For those on our Diocesan Calendar of Prayer: The Church of the Province of West Africa; and in our own diocese: For those moving into the new housing estate in Thorpe Lea. For carers and all in care homes in our local area

For those on our August prayer list: Sandra, Graham, Rueben, Katie, Patricia, Mike, Freda, Lucas, Phil, Jenny and Jamie.

For all recently departed.

For those whose anniversary of death falls at this time:

Edward (Ted) Huxley, John (Jo) Carter, Edward Hereward-Rothwell, Dudley Whitfield.

All are welcome to stay for refreshments in the Rutherwyke Room after the service.

LARGE PRINT SERVICE BOOKLETS are available at the back of church. If needed, please ask the steward on duty.

Colouring sheets are available for the children

Copies of Fr Stephen's sermons are available
Email: vicar@stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

Fr Stephen and others are available to talk or pray with anyone; please just ask.

God bless you this week.

Safeguarding: See it. Hear it. Report it.

Safeguarding is an essential part of our pastoral care. We all have a part to play in helping to keep our community safe. We strive to ensure that safeguarding is a top priority in our church.

safeguarding@stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk

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