



St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

Autumn 2017 NEWSLETTER



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On the first Sunday of this month we celebrated the feast of Lammas when a loaf is presented made from the first wheat harvest of the year and before we know it all the crops will have been gathered in from local fields and we will be in Church giving thanks at Harvest Festival on the 1st October! Where does the time go? It's hard to believe that this time last year our Church was covered in scaffolding in preparation for the new roof and now not only is the roof complete, we have new lighting inside and out as well. The year moves on apace and whatever the plans or expectations you may have for the next few months this is a good month to take stock and in the present moment and give thanks for the beauty of nature that surrounds us. Prayer is something we can all do wherever we are whatever we are doing – it's not just for Church on Sunday. During September look out for the launch of our Partners in Prayer initiative. This will begin with prayer for Hannah (Youth and Children's Minister) and her work. There are also some opportunities coming up to join quiet days at St Columbus in Woking. So now to help with your forward planning – grab your diary and make a note of all that is to come over the next few months and if you don't have your diary to hand remember you can always keep up to date by visiting the website (www.stmaryschurchchidd.org.uk)

Friday 1st September – HMS Chiddingfold returns to Portsmouth after her latest tour. If you would like to join with other villagers to welcome the ship's company home please sign the list in Church or contact Beverley Draper on 01428 684686 / beverleydraper24@googlemail.com to reserve your seat on the coach, or for more information.

Sunday, 10th September is our Patronal Festival – our Church birthday!

We will be celebrating all day **with Parish Communion at 10 am** when we are honoured to have as our **Guest Preacher** **The Rt. Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford.**



Then from **12.30 pm** there will be a **BBQ at the Rectory (village hall if wet)**. All are welcome. There will be a bouncy castle and games for children. Please sign the list in church or email stmaryschidd@btinternet.com

Sunday 17th September 6.30pm, Inaugural Service for the Mayor of Waverley

We are delighted to hold this special service for **Cllr Simon Inchbald, the new Mayor of Waverley**. All welcome, refreshments served afterwards.

Sundays 17th September, 8th October and 12th November are the autumn dates for Messy Church

If you and your children haven't experienced Messy Church before please do join us at the **Village Hall between 4 pm and 6pm** for lots of fun. The cost is £2 per person to cover craft items and tea.



Friday Night Thing

Friday, 15th September sees the return of #Friday Night Thing

5.30pm–7pm in the Church Room. Games, activities & tuck for young people in school years 5 - 8. Cost £1 (plus a max of £1.50 tuck money). Email hanbpye@gmail.com or call 07724 179004 with any queries.

Tuesday, 19th September, 8-9 pm in Church Room 'Meeting God in the Mess and Stress' The fifth in our series 'A New or Renewed Faith' – opportunity to explore faith and revisit long held beliefs. All welcome whether you have been before or not. The session will be led by Hannah Pye (Youth & Children's Minister)

Sunday, 24th September is Education Sunday. There will be a special Family Service at 10.00am celebrating education in Chiddingfold.

Sunday 1st October is Harvest Festival. There will be services at 8.00 am (Holy Communion), 10 am (Parish Communion) and 6.30 pm (Evensong). Gifts of non-perishable food and toiletry items will be accepted at all services in aid of the Godalming Food Bank.

1st - 5th October Winter Appeal for Refugees (Samara's Aid): please leave good quality clothing, footwear and bedding at The Rectory. Offers of help to sort and pack gratefully received. For more information please contact sarahbrough@btinternet.com

Sunday, 15th October – in St Mary's Church there will Service for Healing & Wholeness at 6.30 pm.

We join with our fellow churches for a service of prayer for healing and wholeness – for individuals, communities and the wider world. Please invite anyone who think might benefit from this.

Wednesday, 18th October – Changing Seasons Quiet Day at St Columba's House, Woking, 10am-4pm, led by Tricia Phillips with a cost £25. In this day of reflection and prayer we will take time out to draw near to God, allowing God to speak to us about our changing circumstances and to give us a renewed perspective on our past, present and future.

Saturday, 21st October – An opportunity to learn more about belonging to a church choir - come along and join in some singing with others from 10 - 11 am in the Church Room. Everyone welcome, age 7 upwards.

Sunday, 22nd October – Welcome Lunch for this year's new residents to the village - Village Hall, 12 noon – if you have new neighbours knock on the door and make sure they get invited!

Sunday, 29th October - In Memory Service at 6.30 pm. Come to remember loved ones departed at this special service of light and hope.

During November look out for more details about our Shoebox appeal - this year we are planning something new!

Wednesday, 1st November – Creative Quiet Day at St Columba' House, Woking 9:45am-4pm, led by the Community of Hopeweavers with a cost of £25. An opportunity to experience some sanctuary space with the Hopeweavers' Community in the comfortable house and grounds of St Columba's House. Gentle creativity and cake included.



Sunday, 12th November– Remembrance Sunday – The Mayor of Waverley will attend, together with officers and crew from HMS Chiddingfold. Service begins at 9.30 am, we gather around the war memorial at the front of Church for an Act of Remembrance at 11am followed by wreath laying.

Saturday, 18th November – 10.30-3.30 pm- Quintessentially English Sale - this very popular event will be held in the Village Hall – shop early for those 'not on the high street' Christmas gifts. If you have any artisan or vintage items to donate, please leave them at The Rectory anytime.

and so the Christmas preparations begin ..

Saturday, 2nd December – Christmas Tree Ball Tickets sell out very quickly for this annual event so to ensure your evening at the Crown please contact one of the following - Gerald Williams (beechwood38@btinternet.com or 07813 899971, Julie Flenley (07919 213219 or julieflenley@aol.com) or Lily Cook (elizabeth@spritzmarketing.co.uk)

Sunday, 3rd December –Service of Advent Readings and Carols at 6.30 pm in Church when we begin the journey towards Christmas.

... and finally here are some reminders of regular events that may have slipped off your radar

Choir – practices resume at 7 pm on Friday nights from 1st September. New members always welcome – please contact Roger Crocker (roger.crocker@btinternet.com) if you would like to learn more.

Churchyard Working Party – first Saturday of every month at 9.30 am – bacon butties to tempt willing hands to help keep the churchyard tidy. There's lots to do in the autumn so please do come if you can.

Hearing Aid Clinic – on 9th September, 17th October, 21st November and 19th December for free servicing, refreshments and a chat.

Prayers – take time out on a Saturday morning at 9am and/or on Tuesday at 5pm for 20 mins of prayer in the timeless peace of our beautiful Church.

Parish Breakfast – on the third Sunday each month. Come and have breakfast in the Church Room from 8.45 until 9.15. £3 donation to cover the cost of food and drink.

This newsletter is compiled by Jane Bell and any feedback, comments or suggestions are most welcome - jane.bell@btinternet.com