



St. Mary's Church
Chiddington

Autumn and Advent 2018 NEWSLETTER



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Wow it's October already! Autumn is here – leaves are falling, the bonfire tripod is up and before we know it the clocks will go back; then comes beginning of the new church year with Advent and the expectation of what is to come. Change is all around as we enter this last quarter of the year. Some change we embrace and look forward to – some change not so much. For welcome changes let us thank God for the gifts he has given us and for change we find difficulty in understanding or accepting let us pray for guidance to see us through.

During this time change at St Mary's It is thanks to our Churchwardens and Youth & Children's' Minister that we have much to look forward to over the next few weeks. Let's support them in every way we can to enhance our faithful community not only by attending what is planned but also, if possible, offering to alleviate some of the pressures they face by helping out in any way we can and by extending invitations to others to experience the fellowship offered at St Mary's. Put the kettle on for a cuppa and may be a biscuit (it'll be time soon enough for a mince pie!) and get those diaries out -

Sunday 7th 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 (please check use by dates) and toiletry items will be accepted at all services in aid of the Godalming Food Bank. Many people who use the Food Bank live alone so small tins and packets are particularly well received. Homemade produce cannot be accepted.

Sunday, 7th October – Welcome Lunch for this year's new residents to the village - Village Hall, 12 noon – if you have new neighbours please knock on the door and make sure they get invited by letting Faith know (faith.reynolds41@gmail.com)

Sunday 14th October and Sunday 9th December are 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 the cost crafts and tea.

Sunday 21st October – Service of Prayer and Healing at St Theresa's – 6.30 pm

All are welcome as all our village churches join together in worship.

Parish Breakfast (27th Oct, 18th Nov, 6th Dec) Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast in the church room from 8.45 until 9.15. £3 donation to cover the cost of food and drink.

Saturday, 3rd November – 10.30-3.0 pm- Quintessentially English Winter Sale

Thirty fabulous stalls selling vintage and artisan items for you and your home. Come and join us in the village hall. Entrance £1 (children free). Refreshments. Proceeds to St Mary's Church. Donations of pretty and vintage items welcome – contact a churchwarden for details of where to leave items and donations of cakes.

Sunday, 4th November – In Memory Service – 6.30 pm
Remembering loved ones no longer with us.

Saturday, 10th November – An opportunity to come along and sing with St Mary's Church Choir from 10 to 11 am in the Church Room. Everyone welcome.

During November look out for more details about our Shoebox appeal this year – good excuse to buy some new shoes to make sure you've got that shoe box ready!

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Sunday, 11th November – Remembrance Sunday – On the centenary of the Armistice our service begins at 9.30 am. This year our church bells all around the Country the bells of St Mary's will ring out from 12.30 pm as they did for the first time in four years to mark the end of the First World War. There will also be a beacon lit on the village green later in the day – look out for the details in the November Parish Magazine.



Friday Night Thing On selected dates 5pm–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). Unfortunately, due to lack of volunteers to keep the adult to child ratio this very successful meeting time for young people has had to move from a weekly to a fortnightly event. If you could help give our young people back their weekly early Friday evening just by being in the Church Room please email Hannah (stmarysyouth@outlook.com or call 07541 496996).

Sunday, 2nd December – Christmas Tree Ball – for those who have made this a sell-out event make sure you write the date down!

Sunday, 3rd December – Service of Advent Readings and Carols at 6.30 pm

We begin the church's new year with carols and readings as the journey towards Christmas Day begins.

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

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

Hearing Aid Clinic – on 16th October, 20th November and 18th December anytime between 10.00 am and 12 noon for servicing, refreshments and a chat.

Prayers – take time out on a Saturday morning at 9.00am and/or on Tuesday at 5 pm. for 20 mins of prayer in the church led by clergy and members of the congregation.

