



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 646

November 2026

£1



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell



St Mary's Ewell

www.stmarysewell.com

Remembrance Sunday



8 November 2026

**10.45 at the War Memorial for a service of
Remembrance and wreath laying followed
by a memorial service in church**

We will Remember them

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Fr Mark Stafford writes

November: A Month for Steadying Ourselves and Strengthening Community

November has a way of slowing us down. The brightness of early autumn fades, the clocks have gone back, and the evenings draw in earlier each day. The year seems to pause, inviting us to take stock. After the busy energy of September and October new school terms, fresh routines, university departures, and the settling of family life, November offers a quieter, steadier rhythm.

It is a month that encourages us to notice things we might otherwise rush past. The garden settles into its winter rest. The air carries that familiar damp, earthy scent. The morning light arrives reluctantly. And many of us find ourselves reaching for thicker coats, warm drinks, and the comfort of familiar routines. November is not dramatic, but it is deeply grounding.

For families with children and young people, this is often the point in the term when perseverance matters most. The novelty of September has worn off. The excitement of new classes and new teachers has settled into the reality of homework, deadlines, and darker evenings. Some young people are thriving; others are quietly carrying more than they let on. University students are deep into essays, lectures, and the emotional balancing act of independence. College students are navigating coursework, placements, and the slow, steady steps toward adulthood.

But November is not only about young people. Many adults find this month emotionally mixed. The darker evenings can feel cosy for some and heavy for others. The year's achievements and disappointments begin to surface. We notice what has changed, what hasn't, and what we still hope for. November is a reflective month, not mournful but honest.

In late October we celebrated All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, moments to remember those who have gone before us and to hold in prayer those who grieve. Remembrance Sunday follows soon after, with its solemn beauty and its call to peace. These days remind us that memory is sacred, and that hope is something we carry together.

And although Advent does not begin until the very end of the month, November is often when we quietly begin to prepare not with decorations or shopping lists, but with thoughtfulness. We start to ask ourselves what kind of December we want to have. Do we want a frantic one, or a meaningful one? Do we want a Christmas shaped by pressure, or by peace?

This year, as part of that gentle preparation, we are offering something special for anyone who would like to explore the Christian faith more deeply. Please see the Invitation: **"Christmas - What's it all about"?** on the next page.

November is a month when community becomes especially important. The darker evenings can feel isolating for some, and the steady pace of the month can highlight loneliness or tiredness. One of the gifts of parish life is that we do not walk through these seasons alone. We pray for one another, support one another, and share the small joys and challenges of everyday life.

If you know someone who might appreciate a visit, a phone call, or an invitation to the lunch club, November is a wonderful time to reach out. A simple act of kindness can brighten someone's week.

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com
Registered Charity Number 1128409

CLERGY

Vicar: Fr Mark Stafford 020 8393 1297

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Day-to-day financial queries

Donna Boosey 07791 993261;

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Stewardship Recorder

Mrs Sarah Holmes;

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Private Prayer

The Church is generally open daily for private prayer between 9am and 5pm

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

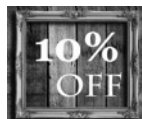
The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

The parish office is staffed periodically during the week. Emails and phone messages will be answered when the office is open.

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If you would like to support us by regular giving, the easiest way is through the Parish Giving Scheme, a simple and secure method for parishes to receive donations by direct debit. You can register for and administer your giving online here:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/ewell-st-mary-the-virgin-epsom/>

or you can phone:
0333 0021260.

The scheme handles gift aid automatically and at no cost to St Mary's.

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER?

We will be celebrating **All Saints' Day** at the 09:30 service on Sunday 1 November.

Our **lunchtime recitals** continue on Tuesday 3 November at 13:05, with Bach plus **Dupré** followed by tea and cake. Organ music for Remembrance is on Saturday 14 November, also at 13:05.

We are delighted to announce that our free soup **Lunch club** will re-open this month. It is in Ewell Hall Thursdays from noon until 2:00pm. It starts on 5 November and will run through until February. It would be great if you could join us for soup, a roll, a chat and a chance to socialise!

Please do spread the word. There is no cost and no need to book, simply come along. The lunch club has become a cherished part of our parish life, offering community, warmth, and kindness at a time of year when those things matter more than ever.

Remembrance Day Sunday 8 November - We will be gathering outside Church at around 10:45 to meet the Remembrance Day parade and at 11:00 we will have an Act of Remembrance and wreath laying at the War Memorial in our churchyard. This will be followed by a memorial service in Church – please feel free to come and join us for this Act of Remembrance and Worship.

St. Mary's Crafters & Knit and Natter 11 November— join Sara Holland, for crafting, chatter and cake. 19:30 - 21:00 at Ewell Hall.

Our Family **Christmas Fund Raiser** will be held on Saturday 21 November from 10:00 to 16:00 in and around the church. The money raised for the non-profit organisation Neurospicy Future CIC will be used in support of neuro-divergent teens and adults.

This month's **Online Quiz** will be on Wednesday 25 November at 20:00. You will need to register in advance using a link that will be given in the Weekly Notes or you can email zoom@stmarysewell.com. Why not join us for this fun and friendly event?

Ewell Yule is on Friday 27 November.

Our **Advent Carol Service** is on Advent Sunday 29 November at 17:30. Join us for Advent Readings and Carols.

An Invitation: "Christmas - What's It All About?"

Exploring the Christmas Story through the Lens of Luke's Gospel

This year we are offering something special for anyone who would like to explore the Christian faith more deeply.

As December approaches, we will be running a short three-week course exploring the Christian faith, focusing on the Christmas story as told in Luke's Gospel. Luke gives us one of the most beautiful, human, hope-filled accounts of Jesus' birth full of ordinary people, surprising encounters, and God's quiet work in unexpected places.

Across the three sessions, we will look at:

- Mary's encounter with the angel
- The journey to Bethlehem and Jesus' birth
- The shepherds, the message of peace, and what Christmas means for us today

The course is designed to be welcoming, accessible, and suitable for anyone whether you are new to church, returning after a while, or simply wanting to reflect more deeply. You may want to bring along a friend or relative who has been asking about faith and Church!

It runs on Tuesdays 19:00 for refreshments (1, 8, and 15 December) 7:30pm start. It is then repeated on Thursdays at 14:30 following the lunch club (3, 10, and 17 December). Why not come for lunch and stay for the course?

Although the course itself begins in December, November is the perfect time to decide whether you'd like to come, or to invite a friend. It is a gentle, friendly space — no pressure, no prior knowledge needed, just an opportunity to explore faith and ask questions in good company.

Do check the calendar on the back page for the full list of our services and events.

Every blessing

Fr Mark



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PILGRIMAGE, PLACES AND HOLY LIVES

The theme of this term's study group in September was pilgrimage, holy places and holy lives and how they have shaped and deepened our own spiritual journeys. There were three elements to the course: a daily prayer guide "Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives - A Gospel Journey with the English Saints (Church House Publishing), which explored eight places which were important in the spread of Christianity in England and the stories of the saints who lived there; a Parish Away Day at Chertsey Abbey; and four weekly gatherings which invited us to explore this subject not just as ideas or something interesting to study but to discover our own journeys with God.

Pilgrimage begins with an invitation from God, it is primarily a journey of the heart, noticing His presence and discovering that the Lord walks with us, guides us and restores us along the way. It begins with noticing, maybe a moment of curiosity, maybe a conversation, followed by a calling - responding before you see the whole picture. This is about trust, not certainty. It is not an easy path.

Holy places are places of encounter. God often chooses to reveal Himself in the ordinary. They shape our memory, identity and belonging. They are where we feel close to God and where He meets us. We reflected upon places that have been holy to us such as Walsingham and small churches in often remote places. The sense of countless pilgrims over the centuries leaving their imprint. Family graves and places of nature, such as Bourne Hall ponds, were also mentioned.

Holy lives are not perfect lives but they are lives shaped by love, kindness, courage and faithfulness.

Lives formed by Christ. The saints are our companions and fellow travellers, reflecting His light. Holiness begins with baptism, a belonging, a welcome into a community. We are being called. It is caught rather than taught. Jesus gives us a glimpse of what holiness is in The Beatitudes which is a list of ordinary characteristics, not achievements or things that will impress others. Holiness is love in action no better exemplified than by the sacrifice of St Maximilian Kolbe, who offered himself to take the place of another inmate at Auschwitz who was one of ten who had been condemned to death by starvation following the escape of a fellow prisoner.

Pilgrimage is communal and individual. In the final session we were asked to design a Parish Pilgrimage with three stops, each including a short prayer or intention; a theme of welcome, gratitude or hope; and a shared purpose such as praying for the community or noticing God's presence. As individuals we formulated a Rule of Life for the Journey and to write down commitments for the next season of spiritual life, such as a weekly walk with God, a short daily prayer or a step towards courage or reconciliation.

Our thanks to Fr Mark for another informative and thought-provoking course, which made us think about the importance of pilgrimage in our own lives. We are all on a pilgrim journey and God is always with us but are we paying attention?

AGT



Your food donations are vital - please help if you can.

Urgently needed:

tinned meat, custard, ketchup/brown sauce/mayonnaise, jam/honey/marmalade/peanut butter/chocolate spread, porridge, tinned fish, UHT milk (semi-skimmed or whole), rice pudding, cooking sauce, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes, rice, tea (bags), sugar, longlife juice, squash, tinned spaghetti, instant coffee, packet soup, sponge pudding, chocolate biscuit bars, noodles, male deodorant, hair conditioner, washing powder, adult toothbrushes, shampoo and tampons.

Please no more of these items as we are at capacity:

tinned soup, dog food, cat food and pasta.

*** Please note that we are unable to take refrigerated or frozen items. Make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol ***

You can donate food at: St Mary's Church Ewell, Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose Epsom and Banstead, Asda Burgh Heath and Tesco Leatherhead, or directly to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, (behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG. Open Monday to Friday 9am - 2pm except Bank Holidays).

You can make a monetary donation via the Foodbank website www.epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk.



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Prayers for November



At this time of year, the trees are shedding their leaves, and many fields have returned once again to bare earth. Nature itself appears to be dead or dying. It is certainly a time for quiet reflection.

By tradition, November is a month for remembering. On November 1, we remember all those called to be saints. November 2 is All Souls Day when we take time to remember loved ones who have died. Although now called 'Bonfire Night' November 5, was traditionally a time for remembering a past historical event, the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. November 11 is Remembrance Day when we remember all those killed in war. While we reflect upon all these things, let us also remember in faith the one who died and rose again, our dear Lord, Jesus Christ. Whatever has befallen us, our families, our friends and neighbours, the wider world during the past year, we can still cling to that which gives us hope.

Lord God, we pray for the leaders of all Nations asking you to pour out your spirit of hope, love, and reconciliation on them and on us. Give strength and courage to those who particularly bear the heavy responsibilities for the peace of the world. Give us all a longing to bring freedom from fear and freedom from want to all peoples. Strengthen us that we may be witnesses to Your love in this generation. May we be active in our faith and work with all to break down the barriers which divide people. We pray that, whatever faith we may profess, we may also learn to respect those who sincerely hold another faith and build a community where there is harmony and understanding, that all may live together in peace. **AMEN**

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS FUNERALS

**And now, Lord, what is my hope?
Truly my hope is even in thee
(Psalm 39, used in the BCP Burial rite)**

2 October Margaret Elizabeth Forbes Johnson,
aged 94

Ashes interment

30 September Peter John Kenneth Herd, aged 89

BACH PLUS ONE

Tuesday 6 October

J.S. Bach and Florence Price

Jonathan Holmes - organ

Regular readers of EPN will have noticed over the months a number of unfamiliar musicians' names. Some have been composers; others, the names of people who had some kind of influence on these composers, perhaps as teachers or as members of their wider family. This month, here is a new name to British audiences, that of Florence Price: unfamiliar, maybe, but, on the basis of what Jonathan played on 6 October, she deserves to be much better known. But first of all, who is she?

In the U.S.A. she is probably a familiar name in musical circles. That is because she was the first woman of African-American heritage to achieve success as a classical musician. Photographs show a very glamorous-looking figure. She was also an accomplished organist, pianist and composer. Yet that success did not come cheaply.

Price was born in 1887 in Little Rock, Arkansas. That means she could count among her contemporaries such diverse figures as Helen Keller, the deaf-and-blind disability campaigner; and H.L. Mencken, the historian and writer. All her life, she had to contend against hostility and discrimination, not through lack of talent but purely on grounds of her race and sex. Yet she was able to gain entry to the New England Conservatory of Music, where she studied with George Chadwick. Later she moved to Chicago, working as a silent movie theatre organist. A pivotal moment in her career occurred when her Symphony in E minor was premiered by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. That was in 1933.

It was an interesting experience to hear music by Price and Bach in the same recital. Though separated by more than two centuries, and of widely differing heritage, both are church musicians, playing and composing music for their respective communities. Bach was, of course, a German Lutheran; Price was brought up on African-American folk music and spirituals. We could detect strong allusions to all these aspects in Jonathan's programme. There also seemed, to the writer at least, a strong sense of the key of E minor!

Price's *Suite No. 1 for Organ* (of 1942) is music that certainly takes no prisoners! The work is also quite short. There are four contrasting movements. The opening *Fantasy* is highly intense and harks back to traditional African spirituals. Then a *Fughetta* – a title that just means 'little or short fugue'. The sorrowful melody contrasts with jazz. Next, an *Air*. The music is based on more spirituals and sounds more cinematic. Lastly, a Toccata, or, as Price amusingly spells it, *Toccato*. Short and great fun.

The key of E minor is strong in Bach's mighty *Prelude and Fugue, BWV 548* nicknamed 'The Wedge' on account of its Fugue subject or tune which opens out like a pair of scissors. The music ends suddenly in the major key, called 'Tierce de Picardie' which we often hear in hymns during Lent.

TT





ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP FAIRTRADE SUNDAY

On Sunday 4 October, we celebrated Fairtrade Sunday at the 9.30am Holy Communion Service. We were very pleased to welcome Bishop Peter and his daughter Claire to lead our worship. Bishop Peter retired as Bishop of Bath and Wells and now leads an ordination training course for the diocese. Claire has been working at The Fairtrade Foundation for the past 4 years as a technical expert in Livelihoods.

Did you know that:

- There are 5,000 different Fairtrade products available in the UK. (37,000 products available in the world.)
- There are 1.9 million farmers working with Fairtrade.
- Green & Black's chocolate was the first Fairtrade product in 1992.
- All tea and coffee in Greggs is Fairtrade.
- All bananas in Sainsburys. Co-op, are Fairtrade?

To quote from the Fairtrade Foundation website:

Do it Fair: Around the world, the people who grow, pick, stitch and make things we buy are facing the same challenges: unfair pay, unsafe working conditions, and a climate crisis threatening their livelihoods. Fairtrade exists to change this, and to push for the rules that make fairness the rule, not the exception

What we do at Fairtrade: Fairtrade is more than a label on your coffee or bananas - it's a way to make trade work better for the people behind our favourite products.

We work with small-scale farmers and workers around the world to build a fairer trade system - one where they can earn a decent income, work in safe conditions, and invest in their futures as they see fit.

Here's just some of what we do:

Fairer prices: We set a Minimum Price, a safety net that protects farmers and workers when market prices fall, but still allows them to earn more when prices rise.

Fairtrade Premium: This sets us apart. Farmers and workers receive the Premium - extra money which they decide how to invest, whether it's for schools, healthcare, or farming improvements.

Fairer working rights: Our standards include rights at work, safe conditions, and democratic structures in producer cooperatives, ensuring farmers and workers have a stronger voice.

Building sustainable futures: We support smallholder farms to adopt climate-smart practices, improve crop quality, and invest in their long-term resilience.

Ethical business partnerships: We work with brands, retailers, and governments, advising on ethical sourcing, certification, trade policy, and supply chain integrity.

Campaigning for trade justice: Through grassroot campaigner groups and lobbying, we build public support and push for fairer trade policies and practices.



Will YOU look for the Fairtrade mark on products when you are next shopping?

For further information, please read more on the Fairtrade Foundation website

www.fairtrade.net/uk-en.html

Helen Crossley

If you have an ECO tip or would like to join our ECO Group, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with our chairman, Fr. Mark on 020 8393 1297 or vicar@stmarysewell.com.



PUBLISH YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETING IN EPN

In December EPN we plan to include a page of Christmas greetings to EPN readers from members of our church family

If you would like us to include a greeting from you, please email it to epn@stmarysewell.com no later than Saturday 15 November. You will need to post early for Christmas!

An early Merry Christmas &
thank you in anticipation!

EPN production team

The Ewell Parochial Trust provides financial support to individuals, families, and community groups experiencing genuine need within the parish of Ewell and the Lower Kingswood area. The Trust offers small grants designed to make a meaningful difference where help is needed most. If you feel you might benefit from financial assistance, you can apply by emailing eptfinance@stmarysewell.com with a brief outline of your circumstances and the type of support you are seeking. We will then send you a grant application form, and the trustees will review your request promptly and with care.

PCC REPORT

At the PCC meeting on 14 September members were informed that Ewell Windows have installed one sample 'lead' panel in the road facing window of Ewell Hall. The Conservation Officer has yet to visit to inspect the sample prior to planning permission being re-submitted. All windows at the back will be ordinary UVPC whilst 3 will be 'lead'.

Fr Mark and Godfrey will meet with the architect and builder to 'block' the works required for the church prior to quotes being sought and identifying tasks which can be tackled 'in house'.

Fr Mark stated that the Pilgrim Places course is going well and that the away day was a success for those who attended. Plans are in place for a three week Advent course.

It was reported that the recent Deanery Synod meeting had hosted a visit from a speaker about 'Deanery Greenery' which was very well received, and that the next meeting will focus on the role of children's workers.

The Junior Choir are back rehearsing and will be singing at the Day for All on 26 September. Rev Sue Ayling reminded members about the upcoming event and especially encouraged them to submit entries for the photography competition.

The next meeting will be on 26 October.

Liz Divall, PCC secretary

RAY LOWE CONCERT



We hadn't seen Ray Lowe at St Mary's since last year, but he provided us with an evening worth waiting for on 10 October. Ray combined two of Sinatra's noted concerts in one evening for the welcoming audience and included well known hits such as 'Fly me to the Moon', 'The

Lady is a Tramp' and 'My Way' as well as an unexpected rendition of 'You are the Sunshine of my Life' a hit also made famous by Stevie Wonder. Ray is a born entertainer and intersperses songs with witty stories about Frank but also about himself.

The audience were happy to join him in singing Happy Birthday to young Henry and also to Jane's mother who will be turning 100!

By the end of the evening, we were all high kicking to 'New York, New York' (well it was mainly Father Mark....)

We were ably assisted by Julian and Susannah on the bar who were kept busy all night.

We have several great events happening in December, so please do come along and support St Mary's.

Lucy S

ST. MARY'S QUIZZES

Our next on-line quiz is on Wednesday 25 November

As always, you will need to register beforehand.

You can use links provided in the Weekly Notes or you can register by emailing zoom@stmarysewell.com.

RUNNING FOR HOPE: SUPPORTING CRAWLEY OPEN HOUSE FOR THE LONDON MARATHON

I am taking on a big challenge over the coming months as I prepare to run the London Marathon in 2027. As part of my training, I ran the Reigate Half Marathon a couple of Sundays ago, finishing in 1 hour and 36 minutes!

I am running the marathon to raise funds for an incredible charity based down in Sussex: Crawley Open House.

For over 30 years, Crawley Open House has been a lifeline for individuals suffering the effects of homelessness, hardship, and social exclusion. Every single night, they provide a safe, warm place to stay for up to 60 men and women across their high-support hostel and community move-on houses. Beyond emergency accommodation, their weekday Resource Centre offers hot meals, medical appointments, life-skills training, and dedicated outreach support to help people overcome severe challenges and transition into stable, independent living.

As an independent charity, they rely heavily on community support and donations to keep their doors open to those who unexpectedly find themselves with nowhere else to turn.

I am aiming to raise as much as possible to ensure they can continue providing this life-changing support. Every penny makes a real difference to someone in need.

If you are able to support my journey and donate to this vital cause, please follow the link to my fundraising page:

<https://2027tcsllondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/david-boosey-lm2027>

Thank you so much for your support and encouragement!

David Boosey

A colorful poster for a 'Sing Along to The Sound of Music' event. It features a woman in a red dress jumping joyfully, holding a shopping bag and a suitcase. Below her, a group of children in yellow dresses are dancing. To the right, a man in a suit is standing. The background shows a scenic view of a town. Text on the poster includes: 'SING ALONG TO THE SOUND OF MUSIC', 'ADULT TICKET £10 CHILDREN £5', 'Saturday 5th December 2026', 'St Mary's Church, London Road, Ewell KT17 2AY', 'DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM FOR 7PM START', 'DRESS TO IMPRESS LIKE YOU'RE IN Austria!', 'Bar (drinks and snacks) + Prizes + Raffle', 'Tickets available at: <https://epsomphab.sumupstore.com>', and 'In aid of the Epsom and Ewell Mayors Charities 2026/27'.

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Sunnybank Trust

Charity Number: 1145665

A DAY FOR ALL - 26 September 2026

The theme of the day 'Autumn Glories' was reflected in the glorious sunshine and blue sky which brightened the day. People of all ages, with families or on their own, came along to enjoy themselves. Following tradition, the wonderful sound of the church bells launched the day and the opportunity was again given for people to see how the bells are rung. Because of the popularity of the visits to the bell tower last year, more slots were available and interest was so great that all were filled.

Some families, especially those with young children, headed straight for the animals! The return of Kingswood Shetland & Friends - the two Shetland ponies, Biscuit and Blossom, together with their small friends, guinea pigs, rabbits, a gecko called 'Peachy' and a bearded dragon called 'Toothless' - proved extremely popular. The charity uses animal therapy to help many young people facing challenges in life - see <https://tracksthroughpastures.org/>. One member of the team who came said "All the children engaged well with the animals, they asked lots of interesting questions about habitat and food habits for the animals. The parents were very involved and helped with pony walks around the ground. Everyone had fun and showed great compassion to all the animals". The other member said "All the kids were super curious and enthused to see the animals. Lots of parents also got involved and wanted to hold the animals too! Many asked where the animals came from and we received loads of positive feed-back.

Everyone enjoyed some wonderful music through the demonstration of Wind Instruments and the playing of our talented young musicians on the organ. Some inspiring singing by both DIVAS choir and the recently formed St Mary's Junior Choir delighted those who had come along to support them as well as other visitors to the day. The illustrated talk by Through the Roof, a Christian disability charity, provided much food for thought. Inspired by the example of Jesus, they want to see everyone valued equally, fully belonging, and able to contribute their gifts and skills <https://throughtheroof.org/>.

The provision of magic tricks by the Vicar resulted in wonder and lots of smiles. As always, the Children's Craft Activities, the SWOP shop, the Prayer Corner, the Mouse Trail and the Prayer Walk were much enjoyed. The Photo Competition

provided interest throughout the day and the winners can be viewed on the opposite page

As usual, lots of positive feedback was received.

One of the church members helping said "I thought it was a glorious day and felt that people were really able to relax together and just enjoy the company, music, animals and refreshments all in the setting of our beautiful church and grounds. God blessed us with perfect weather. It's one of my favourite days in the year."

One of the Prayer Tree team said "It was a real pleasure & privilege, once again to be at your "A Day for All" with the Prayer Tree. Interactions with people, as ever, were special. One or two conversations stood out as feeling particularly significant.

A church member said "At the "A Day for All" I joined a team helping with craft activities. The children enjoyed making pumpkins from orange paper and creating spiders and their webs using paper plates and wool. We welcomed a steady stream of little ones, all eager to join in and have fun. It was lovely to see them getting creative and making happy autumn memories."

A church member helping serve lunch said "One thing about A Day for All is how relaxed and welcoming it is to everyone. The café-bound visitors had a choice between the ever-popular soup and bread lunch or the ever-lasting supply of teas, coffees and cakes. Suitably refreshed, every person flowed back to dabble in all the other activities on offer."

One of the planning team said "This year's A Day for All was an absolute joy. Seeing so many people come together to make the event a success, not to mention the happy faces of families and individuals enjoying all the varied activities, was truly heart-warming. An incredible community spirit came alive during the afternoon which was the perfect tonic for these troubled times".

Many thanks to the planning team, to the many volunteers who made the day possible and to everyone who came along - you all made it such a great day!

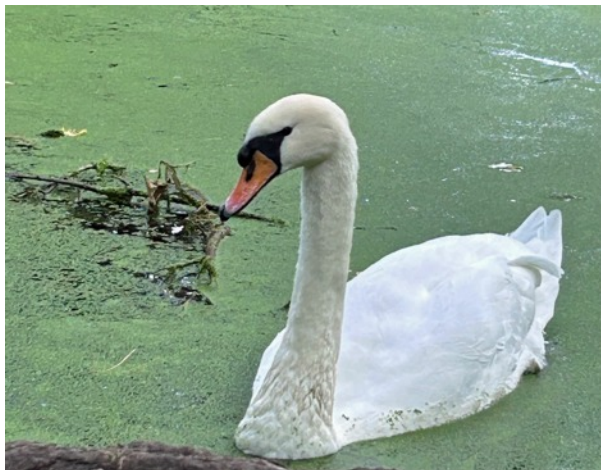
Sue Ayling



A DAY FOR ALL 2026

PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

16 and above: Winner - Sam Denning



Under 16: Winner - Ted Denning



16 and above: Second - Sue Ayling



**Under 16: Second - Athena Demetriou
Brown**



16 and above: Third - Lucy Stafford



Autumn Glories

Many congratulations to all our photo competition winners

Many thanks to everyone that entered our competition or who voted for photos on the day

CHRISTMAS DOOR WREATH WORKSHOP SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Ewell Hall, London Road, Ewell. KT17 2AY
10am- 1pm **£30**



Have you always wanted to know how to make a foliage Christmas Door Wreath? Then why not come along for a fun workshop and leave with your own creation for your front door. Basic materials and some greenery will be provided. You can bring some foliage, ribbon, baubles and other accessories to personalise your wreath. (Further details on application.) Please contact Lucy M at flowers@stmarysewell.com for further details, or see me at church after the 9.30am service. Places are limited so do book early. Payment is required in advance to secure your place by the 22 November.

NOVEMBER CONCERTS

November 3 1.05 pm

Tuesday lunchtime organ recital

Bach and Dupré

Jonathan Holmes

Director of Music

Jonathan continues his lunchtime Bach recitals

Saturday 14 November 1.05 pm

Organ Music for Remembrance

*All Concerts have a suggested donation of £10
which can be gift aided. Children Free.*



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



September 25 and the day of the MacMillan Coffee morning. Fr Mark and I were at the hall at 8am putting banners up and setting up chairs and tables. Fabulous contributions were received by many of the ardent bakers from the congregation ably assisted by Kathie on the teas and coffees and Lucy's friend Kirstie on the cake stall.

Mavis had produced a fabulous cream and jam filled Victoria sponge as well as an award-winning carrot cake (it was delicious, I tried it). Unfortunately the Victoria sponge didn't make it to the Church Hall but ended its' short life on the stairs of Holman Court - absolutely tragic!

We had a good turn out with many familiar faces plus several new ones and we managed to raise in excess of £300. A big thank you to all that contributed their time and delicious offerings and to those that came to support us.

Lucy S

New! Knit & Natter

Bring your project and enjoy the company!

A relaxed evening to knit, crochet, craft and chat

Bring along whatever you enjoy making and share ideas, skills and friendship with others.

Whether you are an experienced maker or just fancy a friendly evening out, you are very welcome.

St Mary's Craft Group

Creativity • Friendship • Fun

Each month we explore a different theme, making cards, decorations and other crafts to take home.

Try new techniques, learn new skills and enjoy good company along the way.

Upcoming dates:

Wednesday 14 October

Wednesday 11 November

7.30pm – 9.00pm

£2 for Knit & Natter or £5.00 for Craft group

(covers all materials)

Tea, coffee and cake included.

Held at Ewell Hall

For more information:

Sara Holland LLM

llm@stmarysewell.com

EASYFUNDRAISING FOR ST. MARY'S

Do you make on-line purchases from on-line retailers and if so do you know about Easyfundraising?

More than 8000 on-line retailers (including Argos, John Lewis, Booking.com, British Airways, Tui, Expedia, Sainsbury's and Tesco) offer charitable donations through **Easyfundraising**, for purchases made via their website. Presently St Mary's has 44 people signed up to Easyfundraising and we have received £1863 in charitable donations from their purchases.

We can raise much more if more people register and shop via www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Please select **St Mary the Virgin Parish Church - Ewell** as your nominated charity and remember to make purchases via the EasyFundraising website.

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'...giving to anyone who has need.'

St Mary's is part of the ACTS435 network of Churches. ACTS435 is a Christian online giving charity that anonymously connects those who want to give with those who are in need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. Please visit the web site below to help explain how ACTS435 works or speak to Fr Mark.

www.acts435.org.uk/our-mission/how-we-work/

Calendar for November



Said Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Saturday and shown online. (Saturdays will be specifically Prayers for Peace)

- S 01 ALL SAINTS' DAY**
 0800 Said Holy Communion (1662) (Lady Chapel)
 0930 JAM (Jesus & Me) (Hall then Church)
 0930 Sung Holy Communion
 1400 Holy Baptism
- M 02 Day** Home Communion
 Shoe Boxes Collection Day
- T 03** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 1305 Lunchtime Organ Recital: Bach + Dupré
- W 04** 1930 Ewell Yule Meeting (Parish Room)
- Th 05** 1200-1330 Lunch Club/Warm Hub (Hall)
 1445-1545 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 07** 1000-1200 Churchyard 4 Workparty
- S 08 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
 1045 Parade Procession to War Memorial
 1100 Act of Remembrance and Wreath laying
 1115 Remembrance service in Church
- T 10** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- W 11** 1930 St Mary's Crafters & Knit & Natter (Hall)
- Th 12** 1200-1330 Lunch Club/Warm Hub (Hall)
- S 14** 1305 Organ Music for Remembrance
- S 15 SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY**
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 0930 JAM (Jesus & Me) (Hall then Church)
 0930 Sung Holy Communion
 1730 Service of Evening Worship
- M 16** 2000 Julian Group on Zoom
- T 17** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 1930 Ewell Yule Meeting (Parish Room)
- Th 19** 1200-1330 Lunch Club/Warm Hub (Hall)
 1445-1545 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 21** 1000-1600 Christmas Fundraiser Fair
- S 22 CHRIST THE KING (Next before Advent)**
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 0930 JAM (Jesus & Me) (Hall then Church)
 0930 Sung Holy Communion
- M 23** 1930 PCC Meeting (Preceded by Mass at 1900)
- T 24** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- W 25** 2000 Quiz on Zoom
- Th 26** 1200-1330 Lunch Club/Warm Hub (Hall)
- F 27 Day** EWELL YULE
 1330-1645 Jonathan Holmes playing the Organ
- S 29 ADVENT SUNDAY (Year B)**
 0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
 0930 JAM (Jesus & Me) (Hall then Church)
 1730 Advent Carols and Readings
- M 30 Day** Home Communion

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