



Sunday, 26th October to Sunday 2nd November

This Sunday
Last after Trinity
Theme: God Stood by Me

Lectionary Readings

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

Luke 18:9-14

8am Holy Communion

Leader & Preacher: Rev Stuart Cleaver

Supported by Sarah L

10am Holy Communion

Leader: Rev Clare Challis

Preacher: Clive Main

Today we welcome Clive Main, who retired from parish ministry in London in 2023, and now lives in Emsworth with his wife Judith where they worship at St James. Clive's big involvement outside Emsworth is teaching English to asylum-seekers in Portsmouth three times a week.

Welcoming: Diane & Roger

Prayers: Zoë

Readings: Jill

Sound & Vision: John

Prayer Ministry: Mel & Carol

Refreshments: Rachel & Lesley

Next Sunday 2nd November
4th before Advent
Theme: Celebrating God at Work"

Lectionary Readings

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, (5-10),11-12

Luke 19:1-10

8am Holy Communion

Leader & Preacher: Rev Clare Challis

Supported by Alison

10 am All Age Service

Leader & Preacher Rev Clare Challis

Welcoming: Diane & Roger

Prayers: Carol M

Readings: Daphne

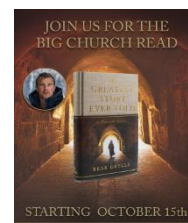
Sound & Vision: John

Prayer Ministry: Daphne & Raymond

Refreshments: Jane & Jan

Big Church Read – The Greatest Story Ever Told

Hopefully some of you will have joined with a Home Group to begin the Big Church Read. If you aren't currently in one of our home groups, there's still time to dip onto one for a few weeks, without making any long-term commitment. Please speak to the Home Group hosts or Rev Clare for more information.



Date & Time	Group
Tuesdays at 2.30pm (starting this Tuesday 28 th)	Rev Sarah
Tuesdays at 7.30pm	Daphne & Raymond
Wednesdays at 2.30pm	Jane & Carol
Wednesdays at 7.30pm (Start date to be confirmed)	Diane & Bill
Thursdays at 7pm	Zoë & John (family friendly)

Autumn Working Party

Date: Saturday 8th November

Time: 9:30am to 3:30pm (or just the morning or afternoon)



You are warmly invited to join us for our Autumn Work Party at St John's Church. Together we'll be tidying the churchyard, caring for the grounds, and carrying out some general maintenance to keep this beautiful shared space looking its best.

This year's work party also helps us prepare the churchyard for the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, which is always so well attended and supported by our local Uniformed Organisations. It's a lovely way to make sure the church and grounds are looking their best for this important community occasion.

The churchyard and car park are used by many in our village — walkers on the public footpath, families on the school run, and visitors alike — so this is a great opportunity to come together, lend a hand, and make a difference for everyone who enjoys the area.

There will be plenty of jobs for all abilities, from light gardening and sweeping to small repairs and general tidying.

Come for the whole day or just pop in for the morning or the afternoon — every bit of help counts!

Refreshments and a light lunch provided, along with friendly company and plenty of fresh air.

Bring gloves, and gardening tools if you have them, and a smile!

We are also looking for people who would like to lead a small team of people - you will need to be

available from 0830 to 1600 on the day - do check the box on the booking form if you would like to do this.

Under-18s are welcome to attend, but need to be under the supervision of their parent/guardian.

Sign up online:

[Work Party Signup Page](#)



Or look for the event on the church calendar on the website:

[Autumn Work Party](#)

For more details, contact Andrew Challis.

Remembrance Sunday 9th November

St. John's has applied for permission to close Redhill Road from the roundabout to the church car park for the duration of the Remembrance Sunday service. Should permission be granted, this will mean that the procession route from church to the War Memorial can take place without coming into contact with moving vehicles.

Remembrance Exhibition

The Remembrance Exhibition at Christ Church Portsdown will continue until Saturday 8th November and is well worth a visit. There will also be special lunchtime activities at 12 noon (concert, talk, crafting, films...) every day except Sundays. Admission is FREE and light refreshments are available so do go along!

Bere Grove Open Day

Part of the Blendworth Hills Retirement Village, Bere Grove Care Home will be holding an Open Day tomorrow (25th October if you are reading this newsletter on the day of issue). Take a look around whilst listening to live music and enjoying tea and refreshments. Community space for meetings and events is also available to hire by the outside community, and forthcoming events open to all include:

5 Nov – History Talk, Remember Remember 5 November

15 Nov – Menopause Awareness Café 10-12am

18 Nov – Community Police Clinic 1-2pm

27 Nov – Diabetes Awareness Talk 3-4pm

7 Dec – Christmas Fair 2-4.30pm

Dementia Festival

Dementia Friendly Petersfield are organising this year's Dementia Festival on 31st October 2025 between 10am and 1pm at Churcher's College, Petersfield.

This free event will have over 20 organisations available providing information, and support, to anyone living with dementia, their families, friends, and anyone who wishes to find out more about dementia.

Operation Christmas Child

Although a little later than usual, there is still time to fill a shoe box with gifts to send to less fortunate children around the world. Leaflets offering guidance on what items can be included will be available in church soon, or you can visit the Samaritan's Purse website [here](#) for details. A minimum £5 donation is requested, to cover the cost of sending your box, and if you make payment online you can follow the progress of your box to find out where it is sent. Alternatively, you can fill a 'virtual' box online without the need to go shopping!

St. Wilfrid's Church, Cowplain will be acting as a drop off point again this year and donations can be left between 10th and 16th November. The church is usually open between 9-4pm for donations during the week. If you can't get to St. Wilfrids, please bring your boxes to St. John's on or before Remembrance Sunday, 9th November, or drop to 12 Castle Road by 11th November.

Please pray that this huge operation runs smoothly and reaches those most in need. Thank you for your support once again this year.

Curtain Up! Wreath Making Tuesday 25th November 7pm

Regular hirers of St. John's Centre, Curtain Up! Productions, are



holding a wreath-making workshop at All Saints Church Hall, Catherington on 25th November. Click [here](#) for more details.

Tearfund Quiz Night and Fundraiser

We have been invited to join the Quiz Night, being held at Christchurch, Portsdown on Saturday evening, 15th November. Watch this space for more information about the event, but in the meantime save the date - pop it into your diary and join Carol and Valerie for this fun evening. It would be great to have a St John's Team. More information will be published when available.

Handel's Messiah

Returning to Chichester Cathedral on Tuesday, 16th December, this dramatisation will be performed from memory, as the singers bring music and story to life in this enthralling and moving production. The performance will be accompanied by the musicians of the Wild Arts Ensemble, playing period instruments, and will be conducted by Orlando Jopling.

Men's Breakfast

If you would like to find out more about our plans to start a Men's Breakfast at St John's, please contact chrischurchley1@gmail.com for more information. The aim will be to meet a couple of times a 'term' and give men the opportunity to meet up at various local venues to enjoy breakfast and get to know each other. You don't have to commit to attending every time, so do give it a go. Male friendship and a full English – what more could you ask for?

THIS WEEK

Monday, 27th October

There is **no Little Fishes** during half term, but we look forward to seeing you again on Monday 4th November.



Monday Evening Zoom Prayers

7.30pm – 8.15 ish.

Zoom ID 852 8403 5699 Passcode qtPJV

Wednesdays

Morning Prayer 9 am in the church.

Upcoming Bookings for Church Centre

At the moment, there are no weekend bookings in the church centre during October, but regular bookings are held throughout the week. Full details can be found [here](#)

NEXT HALF TERM

Quiet Morning

Friday 7th November 9am

Autumn Working Party

Saturday 8th November 9.30am

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 9th November 10am

Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November
at the flagpole on the Green

Croissant Sunday

Sunday 16th November 9am

Christ the King Sunday

Sunday 23rd November 8am & 10am

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 30th November 8am & 10am

In Loving Memory Service

Sunday 7th December 3pm

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Carols in the Green

Sunday 21st December 2pm

Nativity Service

Christmas Eve (time tbc)

Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 11pm

Christmas Day

Family Service at 10am

Prayer Requests

- Jason and Wendy at URC as they care for family member with ill health.
- Simon A as he continues to recover from his illness.
- Mandy and Terry, as Mandy has now received a diagnosis and is awaiting surgery. Please pray for an early date for this surgery.

If anyone has any prayer requests that they wish the whole church family to know about, please email the Parish Office or speak to Rev Clare on Sunday.

Please send any news for next week's sheet to the Parish Office by Wednesday

admin@saintjohnschurch.org.uk
