



St Mary's Church, Thorpe

Autumn 2021

Quarterly News



CHARITY NO: 1176929

Welcome *St Mary's Church is at the heart of Thorpe Village in Church Approach beside TASIS England off Coldharbour Lane. Our Village Church has been a central presence for Thorpe and surrounding communities since early medieval times and continues to offer a very warm welcome for all. We look forward to you visiting us for worship and your special occasion soon.*



A Message from the Revd Damian Harrison-Miles, *Vicar of Thorpe Parish.* It is such a joy to be 'back to normal' at Church, to enter via the North Porch, and to sing and enjoy a choir! Refreshments after Sunday worship (11am Coffee & Chat – come along!) have resumed out on our patio as well as inside the Rutherwyke Room. So, are we back to

normal? I don't think so! Indeed, many in our community are still fearful of Covid - it has not gone away. Vaccination has improved the situation and I for one give thanks for the brilliant work of science and health care in affording us this time of relaxed rules. Here, at St Mary's Church, we have taken a cautious approach and have slowly lifted some of our protocols and monitored the situation so that we are prepared to re-introduce them at a moment's notice, if necessary. Keeping everyone as safe as possible is always our priority. We have been busy, investing in our church and facilities, replacing all our lighting with LED & installing an energy-efficient boiler for the hall's complex. We have sought to reduce our energy consumption and we now use only renewable electricity and are committed to reducing our carbon footprint as quickly as possible, which is a challenge given our church building is over 1000 years old! Accessibility has been improved with widened footpaths to create safe inclusive entrances to all our buildings. Work on the last section of path down to St Mary's Gate is underway, completing our patio and paths project – a real achievement. We also hope to install digital technology so schools and community groups can use the church, and worshippers can engage with our beautiful liturgical tradition, centred on the Eucharist, in the most contemporary way. None of this sounds like the old normal, as we seek to be church in new ways. Friends, the pandemic has taught us new ways of communicating and we are delighted to continue to live-stream our main Sunday Service as well as Festivals, and you can now watch worship "on demand" on our website at any time of day. We have moved our Wednesday Said Eucharist (Holy Communion) to a new time of 11am and will hold a monthly lunch, sometimes in aid of a charity with a guest speaker invited to inform us. We are also re-launching our pre-school and toddler age group Noah's Ark – something we have all missed. Finally, Thorpe Parochial Church Council has affiliated with the national organisation, "Inclusive Church" because we truly believe that everyone is welcome at St Mary's – just come along! Perhaps the new normal for our Church is just that, ensuring that in every way possible we are always there for our community of Thorpe, building on our experience of this pandemic and looking forward with hope to the future. May God bless you and yours this Autumn 2021, *Revd. Damian Harrison-Miles.*

WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, THORPE

Sundays

8am Holy Communion (Said Eucharist)

10am Sung Parish Eucharist

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays monthly

11:30am Family Service (Mass)

4th Sunday monthly

12noon Holy Baptisms

Wednesday

11am Said Eucharist



The Parish Office is usually open on a Wednesday from 9am – 2pm.

Office Phone Number (Not staffed daily – but leave a message) 01932 567603

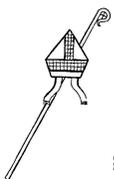
Email: stmaryschurchthorpe@outlook.com

Did you know St Mary's is just around the corner from you...?

We serve Thorpe Village, Thorpe Lea, Thorpe Green, Chertsey Lane, Norlands Lane, Penton Hook, Thorpe Park, and surrounding communities. Visit our church website for more information about your local village church.

www.thorpechurch.com

For support with planning a wedding, funerals at the crematorium, church, and graveside, to have your child baptised (christened) or just to chat please contact Fr Damian Harrison-Miles at St Mary's Vicarage on 01932 565986.



Confirmation Service at St Mary's Church - Sunday 12th

September, 6pm. On our Patronal Festival (The Blessed Virgin Mary) we will welcome The Rt Revd. Jo Bailey Wells, Bishop of Dorking, to preach and preside, along with candidates from other Churches, and a joint choir with All Saints' Church, Woodham.

ates for confirmation are invited to complete an application form which is available from our website: www.thorpechurch.com and at the welcome desk in Church. The service is followed by a bring & share buffet party in the Rutherwyke Room. *All are invited to the celebration!*

Noah's Ark – Pre-school age / toddler group for parents / grandparents / carers with children. We re-start on Thursday 9th September (9am-12nn). For more information email the Parish Office or call 01932 565986.

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES 2021

Sunday 3rd October

in St Mary's Church, Church Approach, Thorpe Village, TW20 8TQ

8am Said Harvest Eucharist (Holy Communion)

10am Parish Harvest Festival Eucharist

11:30am Harvest Family Service, 6pm Compline by candlelight

In celebration of Harvest, we are collecting canned meat and tinned vegetables/tomatoes dried pasta, rice, biscuits, and cereals in aid of White Lodge Centre.



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY – 31st October

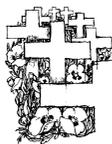
8am Said Eucharist (Holy Communion)

10am Festival Parish Eucharist

11:30am Family Mass, 6pm Compline by Candlelight



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES - 14th November



8am Said Eucharist (Holy Communion)
10am Thorpe Remembrance Service (also ONLINE)
10.55am Community Service of Remembrance
At Thorpe War Memorial, Village Road including the
(Act of Witness at 11am). **“We Will Remember Them.”**

MEMORIAL SERVICE – Sunday 21st November – 6pm

*A beautiful simple service of celebration as we remember and give thanks to God for those who have died over the past 2 years, those whom we love but see no longer, with prayers, music, readings, poetry, and an opportunity to light a candle in memory of our loved ones.
The service is followed by tea and cakes.*

THORPE MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCHES

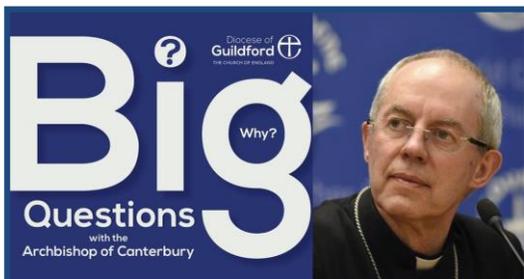
Our next lunch is Wednesday 29th September from 12noon in St Mary's Rutherwyke Room. Lasagne and salad provided or bring a food contribution or £5 donation. All Welcome to the Party.

CHURCHYARD TIDY DAY – YOUR HELP WOULD BE APPRECIATED!

Saturday 6th November, 9:30 until 12noon. Could you lend a hand? Thanks.

Date for your diary! THORPE WINTER WONDERLAND FAIR

Back by popular demand, our **WINTER FAIR** will be held in and around the Church and churchyard on Saturday 27th November from 12:30 – 5pm with stalls and entertainment, BBQ & mulled wine, Grand Prize Draw and so much more to delight and entertain.



A unique opportunity to put questions to the Archbishop of Canterbury and hear him speak on how to find security and hope in uncertain times.

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER
8 – 9PM, ST JOHN'S EASTER
CENTRE, TW20 9HR.

Book your place at:

www.BigQuestions-Runnymede.eventbrite.co.uk

From St Mary's Church Registers June, July & August 2021

Baptisms: 13/06 Penelope Grace Marriott, 27/06 Freya Olivia Atreed

Funerals: 14/06 Stuart Harvey Peel, 15/06 Beryl Perham, 22/07 Joseph Perrin Stevens, 30/07 Curtis Richard Enser, 10/08 June Edna Penny & 25/08 Margaret Rooney. **Thanksgiving for Marriage:** 02/06 David & Jocelyn Barker & 26/06

William and Deborah Keeling. **Weddings:** 10/07 Christopher Andrew Corfield and Ann Frances Underwood, 23/07 John-Paul Bowman & Charlotte Louise Tomlinson, 23/07 Daniel John Mundy & Tamsin Charlotte Boughey.

EMMAUS

at St Mary's Church, Thorpe

Ask Questions and find out more about **faith** with us, where there is always a **warm welcome** for all.

Would you like to know about Christianity?

Do you have questions about faith?

Do you have questions about life, bereavement, forgiveness, heaven and much more? Yes?

We hope you will take part in our **EMMAUS COURSE** at **St Mary's Church, Thorpe** as we seek answers together.

WHEN: TUESDAY EVENINGS

THIS AUTUMN 2021

TIME: 7:30 – 9pm

WHERE: RUTHERWYKE ROOM (Behind St Mary's Church).

This group is **FREE** – *Just come along!*
Car Parking at the Vicarage, Church Approach.

All are welcome to join in the debate.