

Parish of Seale, Puttenham & Wanborough

SUNDAY Supplement

www.spw.org.uk rector@spw.org.uk



Sunday 31st December – First Sunday of Christmas

Today's Services

10.30 am United Communion at St Laurence, Seale

Today's Readings

Morning HC: Galatians 4.4-7 ; Luke 2.15-21

Prayer for the week

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FROM THE RECTORY DESK

Dear Friends,

We were so grateful that Bishop Paul provided help at two of our Christmas services and also to those who rallied to help with music and choral support. It was a challenging time yet we recorded record numbers of people and children worshipping with us. We give thanks to God for his blessings on our efforts.



In January we adjust to the new pattern of services consisting of a 9 am and 10:30 am with evening compline by zoom. These changes are necessary to allow us to staff our services and continue with musical provision, they will also significantly help us to reduce our costly energy footprint, heating four churches that can have few people attending. We will benefit from a stronger sense of being a gathered united parish community and enjoy the fellowship that will bring. We shall be adding a monthly all-age service at 3:30pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month which will boost our outreach to younger families. We ask for your prayers and support as we move forward with these new initiatives.

We concluded Alpha with a desire for more and are currently working on a monthly faith building initiative to deepen our understanding of Christian discipleship and the talents we can offer the church. More on this shortly.

A lot of exciting things happening in the church New Year, we hope 2024 will be a very blessed year for you all which despite the many sad and dispiriting things happening in the world around us, we rejoice that we have a God who does not change and who is faithful to all who cry out to him.

As we step out into 2024, we pray for hope to light our way, we ask that this year may be filled with renewal and regeneration, that we may leave behind the burdens of the past and find strength to face the challenges that may come our way with unswerving faith and the blessings of opportunity.

A Blessed New Year,

Rector



Caroline Yarnold, recovering at home
Christopher Tuckwell, recovering at home
All our parishioners smitten with Covid
Faith and worship in 2024
Our mission and Giving.

Under GDPR rules we need permission to name verbally or in print anyone who is ill and needs our prayers, so please let us know if we can pray for you.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Tue 2 Jan

No Shepherd's Rest Café today. Reopens on Tuesday 9th January.

Services next Sunday – 7th January

The Epiphany

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 9.00 am | Morning Prayer at The Good Shepherd, The Sands |
| 10.30 am | Holy Communion at St John the Baptist, Puttenham |
| 6.00 pm | Virtual Compline, by Zoom |

FUTURE EVENTS

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed 19 Jan | 2.00 – 4.30 pm | Tower Café at St John the Baptist, Puttenham. |
| Wed 31 Jan | 2.00 pm | Bible Hub at The Good Shepherd, The Sands
Studies in John's Gospel |



Please contact the Rector if you are unable to attend church and would like to receive Communion at home. Also, contact the Rector if you would like a visit from our Lay Pastoral Visitors.

GIFTING TO THE CHURCH

BY BANK TRANSFER OR STANDING ORDER: to the SPWPCC bank account, which is at Lloyds Bank, Farnham, sort code 30 93 20, account number 02210758, (do include your name for reference).



BY CHEQUE: Send to the Treasurer, c/o The Rectory, Elstead Road, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1JA. Contact the Churchwardens for Gift Aid forms and increase the value of your giving.

CONTACTLESS: now available at Seale, Puttenham and Wanborough.

ONLINE: once or monthly [by following this link, where you will find a Gift Aid option.](#)

PARISH GIVING SCHEME To change your regular Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) donation, please write to: Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD, email to info@parishgiving.org.uk or phone 0333 002 1260. It helps to include the PGS reference number, which can be found below your address on PGS correspondence. If you would like to start a regular PGS donation, or have any questions, please contact Mike Cloughley, our PGS coordinator: Telephone number: 01252 793639 Email: cloughley@btinternet.com



Please contact any member of the Ministry or Pastoral team if you are anxious, lonely or would like a spiritual or social chat.

THE RECTOR: 01252 783057 or Rector@spw.org.uk

CHRISTOPHER TUCKWELL LLM: 01252 718676

PASTORAL TEAM: Linda Thatcher & Kathleen Smith



SAFEGUARDING AND DBS OFFICER

ANNE CONCANEN: 01483 811017

You can contact Anne confidentially if you have any safeguarding concerns.