

### **Welcome to St. Mary's**

If you are new, welcome! We'd love to keep in touch. Please email us so we can get to know one another ([rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com](mailto:rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com)) and do sign up for our weekly e-newsletter. That way you can receive all the latest news and resources for prayer, worship, and ways of getting involved in this wonderful community.

### **Collect**

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Hebrews 11.29-12.2**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets –who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **Luke 12.49-56**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.' He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?'

### **For our Prayers**

#### **Church**

We pray for the Church's unity, that drawn deeper into God's love Christians may be drawn closer to each other, and that the Church may be a sign on earth of a reconciled humanity. We pray especially for Christians whose faith brings conflict with their families and friends, or for whom it brings discrimination or persecution: we pray that God may keep them steadfast in faith, protect them from all evil, and give them community and encouragement through the Church.

#### **World**

We pray for all situations of division and tension in the world, praying for a just peace especially in Ukraine. And we pray for truthful speech in our common life, for integrity among all those who hold public office or influence in the world and for compassion and justice in the ordering of society.

#### **Our Neighbours**

We pray for those involved in education in Chiddingfold, and especially this week for students receiving exam results, and those faced with making decisions about their future. Within the parish we pray especially for those who work at Elliot's Coffee Shop, and at St Mary's we pray for all those who look after the finances of the church, praying for wise stewardship of what we have been given.

### Those in Need

We pray for comfort for the distressed, for light and hope for those facing dark or bleak situations, and for healing for all who are sick. May God grant them hope and healing, along with trust in his gracious promises. We pray too for those who are ill, especially for Ken Murray and Will Creswell.

### The Departed

We give thanks that Christ has conquered death, and pray that all the departed may come to share in the joy of his heavenly kingdom. We pray all the recently departed; for our own departed relatives and friends; and for all whose anniversary of death falls this week.

### The Week Ahead


- Wednesday** 10:30 – 11:15 am Midweek Communion  
8:00 – 8:45 pm Bellringing Practice; Contact: [jj.cowburn@btinternet.com](mailto:jj.cowburn@btinternet.com)
- Saturday** 9:00 am Morning Prayer (zoom); Contact: [gillbeckwith@me.com](mailto:gillbeckwith@me.com) for an invite
- Sunday** Sunday 21 August  
10:00 am Parish Communion



### Coming Soon...

- Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:** 9:30 am – 12 noon Churchyard Working Party – all welcome!
- Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September:** 10:00 am Patronal Festival followed by Parish BBQ
- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September:** 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Heritage Open Day  
10:15 – 11:45 am Fresh Produce Sale
- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September:** 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Volunteer Registration Session
- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September:** 1:00 – 3:00 pm Jack Salway's Open Garden Day

### Notices

**Heritage Open Day – Chiddingfold during the time of Queen Elizabeth II:** What local events do you remember most about the last 70 years? The great storm perhaps? On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, St. Mary's Church and Chiddingfold Archive will be open for all ages to explore and share memories about how many significant events have impacted on village life. Refreshments will be available.  [heritage open days](https://www.heritageopen.org/)



**New Bell Ringers Needed:** Tower captain John Cowburn leads the team of bell ringers, and we welcome new recruits – all ages and stages! Come along to a practice on a Wednesday evening from 8:00 – 8:45 pm. For more information contact: [jj.cowburn@btinternet.com](mailto:jj.cowburn@btinternet.com) or 685940.

**Summer Sundays:** From August 7 to 28 inclusive, we move into Summer Sundays. That means at St. Mary's we shall have one service of communion at 10:00 am and worship together as one congregation. Services of Holy Communion and Evensong will resume on September 4<sup>th</sup> for the Patronal Festival.

**Volunteer Registration Session:** Are you currently volunteering in a role at St. Mary's or would you like to become involved in one of the activities we run? Come along to this drop-in session in the Church Room at 11:30 am on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September to find out what paperwork or training you need in order to be supported in a role.

**Venue Available for Hire:** If you're searching for a venue to hold a family celebration, toddler's group, fitness class or meeting, or a fabulous event in a unique location – look no further than St. Mary's Church Room. For details contact our new Booking Clerk, Elizabeth Ottley, on 685797 or [stmarysbookingsclerk@outlook.com](mailto:stmarysbookingsclerk@outlook.com).



**Food Banks:** Please help support local families in need. You can bring donations to church or to the Roberts Store.

**Advice and Support:** We're here to help if you are struggling to make ends meet. For confidential advice and support contact: [rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com](mailto:rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com).