



OCTOBER 2023 | ISSUE NO. 2

# PARISH OF SANDERSTEAD CHURCH NEWS

All Saints & St Antony's in the Parish of Sanderstead



## Colossians 3: 12-14

'to put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.'





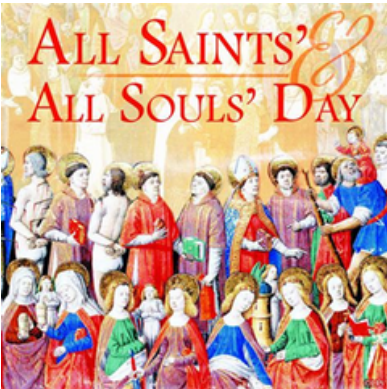
# Reflections from the Rector (designate)...



I write this at the beginning of the Church of England's 'Generosity Week' which marks a time for giving thanks to God and for the Church to consider their financial giving in response to God's call for us to give generously, sacrificially and joyfully.

The church teaching last week ( 24th September) and for much of October will largely focus on the generous nature of God.

Two of the most generous people I know, died quite recently. One was a new congregation member at St Antony's, Angela Dunn. The other was my dear mother. Their generous spirit and actions always inspire me to be generous whenever I remember them.



The Church's calendar is put together such that the call to remembrance follows the teaching on generosity and thanksgiving. This year, the first Sunday in November is All Saints Day and marks the beginning of the busiest season in the church's

calendar, which culminates with the Christmas services. On All Saints Day, we also commemorate the Faithful Departed. All Saints Day celebrates men and women in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is a time to be encouraged by the example of the saints who knew well the struggles of human living.

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed celebrates the saints, those whom we love and see no more, who have gone before us. We remember them in a more intimate way. It allows us to remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life, or who nurtured us in faith.

One of these services ( All Saints Day @9.30am) will have mostly church congregation members attending. The other (Memorial Service @3pm) will have friends and family of those who have had funerals and Internment of Ashes for loved ones over the past year.

This is one service in which the church reaches out to those who mourn, where God's life giving mercy, comfort and peace is expressed in the liturgy of All Soul's Day. We send out letters to invite those families to church, many of whom would not normally enter a church to worship. Welcome and hospitality is offered to encourage visitors to feel comfortable and at home.

There is some work for us to be done in finding out how best to encourage the unchurched to come to church and become part of the church family.

But there is no disputing that services of remembrance, including Remembrance Sunday in November, do draw in those who are not regular church goers, as do the Christmas services.



There's something about these services which speaks into their lives, comforts and gives them hope for the future. These are also times when people tend to want to be more

respectful, kind, gentle, peaceful, generous and showing goodwill towards others.

My prayer is that the church family at All Saints and St Antony's will resolve *'to put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.'*

Colossians 3: 12-14

Grace and peace *Revd Carol*





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## Poetry Corner

## Beautiful Rebirth

“

*He took it all upon himself...  
our every sin and iniquity  
giving love to His last  
breath on the hill, we call,  
Calvary.*

## Home Communion Pastoral Team

On Sunday 17th September, nine congregation members were Affirmed and blessed as they committed themselves to serving God in Home Communion Pastoral Ministry.

This is a ministry of visiting the Sick and Housebound on behalf of All Saints and St Antony's churches in the Parish of Sanderstead, offering a Service of Holy Communion with Scripture reading and prayers as well as administering the already consecrated Sacrament. The new ministrants have either received hands-on training or will receive training, by accompanying Revd Carol on Home Communion Visits and will continue in this ministry under the direct supervision of Revd Carol Bates, Incumbent.



There are an increasing number of faithful parishioners who have attended All Saints, St Antony's and St Edmund's ( the previous churches within the Sanderstead Team Ministry). However over the years, due to sickness, old age and other infirmities, they are unable to travel into a church building for a Sunday morning service.

The Canons of the Church of England allow for the distribution of already consecrated bread and wine to people in this situation. The task may be performed by any Priest, Deacon or Reader licensed to the parish. It may also be performed by those laity who have been given permission by the Bishop to distribute the Sacrament in their parish.

Sylvia Smith, Lyn Davison, Kevin Wright, Ann Turner, Tom Griffiths, Rosemary Kempself, Sue Wragg, Richard Wragg and Libby Eldridge have all been approved by Bishop Rosemarie to serve the wider community in this way, under the direct supervision of the Parish Priest. Please continue to keep the Home Communion Pastoral Team in your prayers as we begin this ministry together across the parish and wider community.

*Revd Carol*



## *The butterfly effect.....*

Some years ago my family gave me a butterfly kit. This involved me sending away for my caterpillars in March and waiting for them to arrive. When they came in their special container I thought at first the 5 minuscule 4mm insects I had been sent were dead.

However once settled in, I could almost watch them grow before my eye. Within a week or so they were about 4cm, black and hairy and within 10 days, they had climbed to the top of their tub and attached themselves to the paper disc under the lid and turned themselves into a chrysalis.

They are very vulnerable at this stage so I had to carefully transfer them whilst pinning the paper disc to a pop up net that came with the original kit.

The next stage for them to change into a butterfly, took another 10 days, however you could see slight changes that were taking place in the pattern and colours through the chrysalis shell.

To see the wonderful and somewhat emotional moment when they emerged as a butterfly is truly breathtaking, but as instructed after giving them a drink of some homemade nectar, I released them to complete their life cycle.

The timing for us may be different, but like the caterpillar and chrysalis, we start off as something rather unremarkable and then as we feed on God's word, we begin to change from inside.

It takes time and patience as we go through the various stages and we are vulnerable to outside influences. However when we are ready we will emerge like the butterfly, changed from the inside out and be a continuing part of the miracle of God's creation, ready to fulfil our purpose in his kingdom.

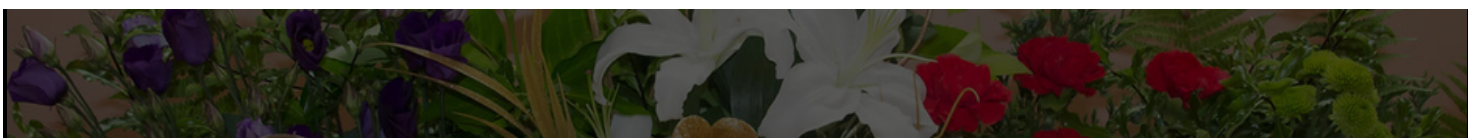


“

*It takes time and patience as we go through the various stages and we are vulnerable to outside influences.*

*However when we are ready we will emerge like the butterfly,*

*Pauline Foster*







# Holiday Club 2023

The Holiday Club held at All Saints was a great success. We welcomed 50 children between the ages of 4 and 11, on 29th and 30th August.

## Bubble snakes



Our theme was Pauls Missionary Journeys. The children's first task was to build a ship in their groups, large enough for them all to get in. They took up the challenge with their usual enthusiasm, coming back to

their ship between activities to add extra bits, as well as sitting in the ship to eat their lunch!



## Wise words from Revd Jeremy

Revd Jeremy told the children about Pauls adventures: imprisonment, shipwrecks, riots, miracles and more. Each time he reminded the children that Paul always had Jesus by his side and that this also was the same for them.

“ Jesus by my side: Jesus as my friend



## Building ships

They dug for fossils and treasure, as well as making discus, javelins and hammers for the Olympics'. Bubble snakes were fun but messy! We played games, sang songs, danced and praised God with enthusiasm. We wrote prayers that we sent up to heaven using the parachute.



## Painting the Sistine Chapel

The parents joined us on the second day to hear the children singing. At least 30 wonderful helpers were involved in all sorts of ways both before, during and after the Holiday Club for whom we are very grateful.

*Judith Robinson*



# Messy Church & Classes

## MESSY CHURCH

*Judith Robinson* *All Saints Messy Church*  
*Co-ordinator*



Messy Church closed for the summer in July with a picnic and games on the Gruffy. 32 children came with parents and carers. Numbers are encouraging, and we have a good number of regular families, with Mums, Dads and Grandparents coming with their children. This year we have been hearing about the Parables that Jesus told. From September Messy Church will move to the 2nd Sunday of the month 3.30-5.00, and for a trial period will be held in the church halls. Younger children in the large hall and older children in the small hall. We hope this will enable us to have some games. We always welcome new helpers, especially for the older children who have games and a 15-minute Bible time. If you are interested in helping and would like to find out more about what we do, please talk to Judith Robinson or Sue Thomas ([children@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:children@sanderstead-parish.org.uk))

Revd Carol would like to start a Sunday School for children during the morning service. Perhaps once a month initially from October. There have been a few children coming on Sunday mornings over June and July and their parents would welcome something for their children. If you would be willing to either lead or help with a Sunday School please talk to Sue Wragg ([suewragg30@gmail.com](mailto:suewragg30@gmail.com)) Or text /WhatsApp ' I want to be a Sunday School Leader/Helper' to : 07712 577682

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES.

There are 3, possibly 4 people from All Saints who are interested in being Confirmed. Confirmation is a second opportunity for us to commit ourselves and our lives to God after baptism, and is normally celebrated within the Eucharist.

Unlike most Baptisms where, quite often the candidates are too young to understand the questions answered for them by parents and God-parents, those who come for Confirmation answer questions about their faith for themselves.

Confirmation is administered by a Bishop, who speaks for the larger church community to which candidates are being called to belong.



The structure of the Confirmation classes follow the Eucharist Service:

- Week 1 : Gathering & Confession**
- Week 2 : The Word of God : The Bible and The Creed**
- Week 3 : Prayer**
- Week 4: Holy Communion & Blessing for Dismissal (sending out / Mission of God)**

The first of the Confirmation classes was held at the end of July. The following 3 sessions will be held in October and will be followed by the Confirmation service, at St Mary's Sanderstead on Sunday October 29th at 5pm.







## 16th Purley Scouts Group



The 16th Purley (7th Sanderstead All Saints) Scout Group has been going for 86 years and is made up of one Scout Troop, one Cub pack and one Beaver colony. You may have seen us at a parade service, or at the Gruffy Fair which we've been running every June for over 50 years, in order to fundraise to subsidise our activities and maintain our hall and equipment.

*Kate Balzer*

**Group Scout Leader**

[gsl.16thpurley@gmail.com](mailto:gsl.16thpurley@gmail.com), 07460 484749

**16th Purley (All Saints') Scout HQ, Cranleigh Close, Cranleigh Gardens, CR2 9LD**

Camps, hikes and days out are organised throughout the year by the sections. Each year, we have an annual summer camp for a week for both Scouts and Cubs while the Beavers have an annual one night (indoor) sleepover. Members of the sections work to complete badges and awards with the aim of achieving the highest available award for their section.

Although we have a long friendship with All Saints Church, we own and look after our own HQ in Cranleigh Close and all our members make the promise most meaningful to them.



We regularly join with other local groups within 'Sanderstead Scouting' and the wider Croydon District making use of facilities and shared skills, forming friendships and having fun together. As such we'll be at the Community Day on the recreation ground.

If you'd like to find out more please look out for our new website (soon to be launched), contact us using the details below or speak to us when we visit for Parade services. Our Beaver and Cub sections have waiting lists, but it's always worth asking, and we're always keen to welcome new helpers.

Once again, thank you for inviting The Children's Society to All Saints. I thoroughly enjoyed the uplifting service and meeting many of you afterwards. Please continue to pray for the vital work of The Children's Society. If you would like to find out more about the work of The Children's Society or support through volunteering, donating or fundraising please explore the links above.

*Gemma Webb*

**Beavers 6-8 Thursdays 5.30-6.30pm**  
[beavers.16thpurley@gmail.com](mailto:beavers.16thpurley@gmail.com), 07817 771338

*David Freeman*

**Cubs 8-11 Wednesdays 6.45-8.15pm**  
[cubs.16thpurley@gmail.com](mailto:cubs.16thpurley@gmail.com), 020 8657 2554

*Andrew Brackenbury*

**Scouts 11-14 Thursdays 7.30-9pm**  
[scouts.16thpurley@gmail.com](mailto:scouts.16thpurley@gmail.com), 07450 888323



# Parish Away-day Summary - part 1

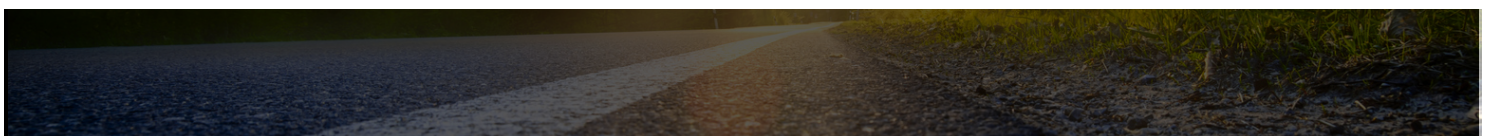
The vision process started with a couple of Bible readings taken from Corinthians chapter 12: 12-26 and John chapter 12: 34-35. Respectively about the body of Christ, with each part serving a different function without envy or spite and in its proper place; the latter about loving one another so that all would know we are disciples of Christ. These were important to have as fundamental Christian values whilst trying to envision the future. We also had a time of worship led by the band from St Antony's which got the day off to a good start.

- Tell – proclaim the good news,
- Teach – nurture faith
- Tend – respond to human needs with loving service
- Transform – seek to change and challenge unjust structures in society
- Treasure – strive to safeguard creation and sustain the earth.



Breaking into groups of about 6-8 people, we were presented with a map of the parish and asked to think outside of church, identifying the places where people are meeting/ congregating in the parish. This generated a whole list of parks, restaurants, coffee shops, schools, care homes and other places that the church could consider reaching out to in the wider community. Mission is about going out to people.

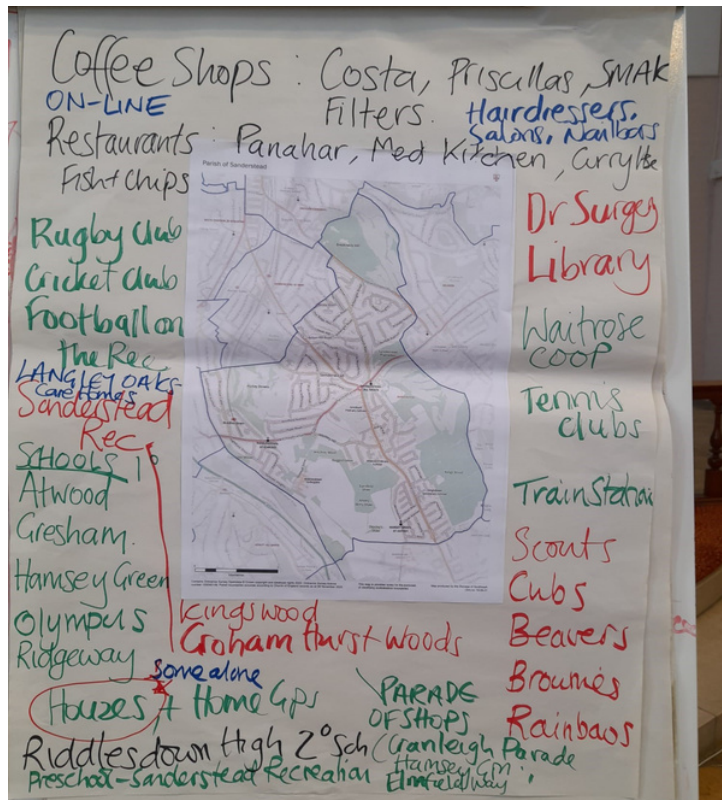
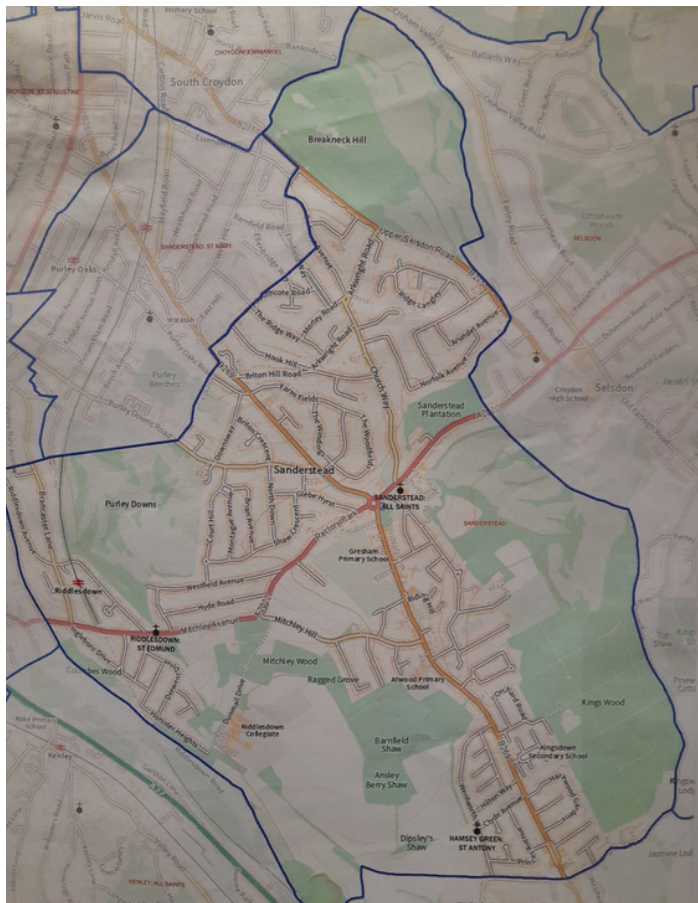
We then listened to a presentation by Jo Gavin, the Children and Young People's worker/ Mission Action Planner for the diocese Southwark. This talk focused on the churches commitment to be Younger, Humbler, and more diverse. She said it was important for the church to reach a shared vision and work together, especially now there are now two congregations in the parish. Once a vision could be reached, then we could begin to think about priorities. She stressed the importance of looking outwards not backwards, and that our priorities should fall within the 5 marks of mission:







# Parish Away-day Summary - part 2



After some refreshments, we then had the opportunity to reflect on our own personal gifts and callings and share ideas on :

- 1)Fruits of what we are already doing in terms of mission.
- 2)Opportunities for mission.
- 3)Obstacles and challenges to mission.

We then broke into our small groups and were asked to agree on 3 words that we felt described the church's Vision. Following on from this, we were to agree on 3 main priorities for the church to work on over the next 2-3 years.

*Zechariah Bates*

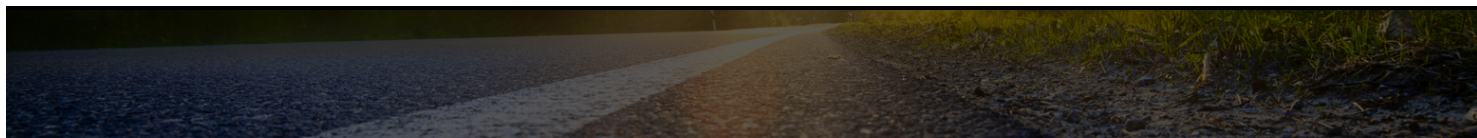
## Next steps

All the information shared from the day would be taken by Jo and Revd Carol to distil the common themes for mission that were being presented. Options for a Vision statement based on some of the words and comments from the day would be put together by Mike Fixter.

Church Warden would also assist this process. The final Vision Statement and priorities would be taken to the PCC to be agreed.

Once agreed, working groups would be set up to agree on some specific, measurable, achievable and realistic targets for each priority area, that the church can focus on achieving over the next 2-3yrs.

The day ended with prayer and a blessing over us all.





## 13th September 2023 PCC meeting

Key topics discussed included:

- Julie Marsh has been appointed as a Safeguarding Officer and is currently undertaking the necessary training
- Bishop Rosemarie has visited St Antony's and is pleased with progress
- The disabled toilet is due to be replaced with one at the correct height
- Barbara Webster-Dudley has been affirmed as "Doorkeeper of St Antony's" keeping an eye on the building and those using it, locking up and making sure that the services run smoothly
- St Antony's has been registered as a Place of Welcome and will launch a drop in facility on Weds 11th October. It will be open every week from 11.00 – 3.00. For the months of December, January and February it will also serve as a Warm Hub with support from the local Rotary Club.
- The draft Job Description for the Pioneer Minister has finally been received and sundry suggestions were made. It will be further updated after the forthcoming Awayday
- A summary of the questionnaires relating to the Awayday was reviewed and would be available on the day
- The recent Children's Holiday Club was very successful and would be followed by sessions for local schoolchildren depicting the Christmas Story. Volunteers are still sought to start a Sunday School at All Saints, initially once a month
- Richard & Sue Wragg will be appointed as Eucharistic Ministers
- The Treasurer reported that we made a small deficit in the first 8 months of the year, but it was nevertheless agreed to increase our contribution to the Parish Support fund for 2024, slightly above the cost of providing a full stipendiary minister. The Pledge 2024 documentation was reviewed and approved
- Quinquennial reports had been received for both All Saints and St Antony's. The most urgent items would be addressed this year with category two matters actioned in 2024
- A deep clean for the All Saints Halls was agreed, to be undertaken at some point after the Pantomime.

*Dick Hibberd* Secretary to the PCC



### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We have volunteered to co-ordinate Christmas lunch in All Saints Halls this year and we need your help. In the first place we need volunteers to help on the day, preparing and serving the meal and giving lifts to our guests. Please contact Dick and Corrie Hibberd if you can help.

Invitations will be sent out to people in the parish who have attended before. If you know of anyone else who lives in Sanderstead Parish who would otherwise be on their own on Christmas day, please contact Paul in the office for an invitation. Donations of items for the meal will be gratefully received, and a list will be provided in due course.

**Dick:** 07775 824743, [dick.hibberd@gmail.com](mailto:dick.hibberd@gmail.com)

**Corrie:** 07891 693315, [corinna.hibberd@gmail.com](mailto:corinna.hibberd@gmail.com)

**Both:** 020 8657 4562





## NEWS from our drop-in PARISH “COFFEE POT”

“Coffee Pot” was set up originally for the lonely, but it is for anyone who wants to be welcomed and valued. It is held at All Saints Church Hall , Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead on alternate Fridays 20 Oct / 3 & 17 Nov / 1 & 15 Dec. at 10.00am – 12 noon.

If you haven't already previously joined us, we hope you will experience the warm atmosphere, Coffee or Tea, a selection of generally home-made Cakes, made by our wonderful Team, and chat about your news or perhaps discuss our 'Thought for the Day.' Many offer a donation for which the Church is grateful towards the running costs.

This would also not happen without our fabulous Church Helpers, who generously give their time to serve and welcome you.

*Margaret Quiney*



## Gardening Team at Work



Early in September, we had a willing group of helpers who turned up on one of the hottest days in year to do various gardening jobs and clear rubbish in our churchyard and lower graveyard. Although hard work, it was very rewarding to see the difference just a few hours made.

The next date for gardening/rubbish pick up, will be on **Saturday 14th October**. Please bring gloves and wear suitable footwear. Also a pair of secateurs would be useful. Black sacks will be provided.

It would be wonderful to have a willing team to help. Thank you.

**Ann Turner**  
Tel: 020 8675 5224  
email: [annturner@go-plus.net](mailto:annturner@go-plus.net)

*Ann Turner*





# St Antony's Café Church



## WENDY HOLT'S MOVE

My name is Wendy Holt, and I've lived in the area since 1963. We were members of St Edmunds for many years, in fact I preached as a lay Reader there for 30 years or more, including more recently at St Antony's.

I wanted to let my friends know that I have recently moved into a care home called Cranmer Court on Old Farleigh Road, Warlingham. I would be delighted if anyone wanted to drop in and see me.

My older sister Rosemary has lived in the same care home for over a year.

I'm still preaching occasionally at St Antony's, where I attend a friendly and enjoyable "cafe church" informal service on Sunday afternoons.

*Tom Griffiths*

After a long gap due to the shrinkage of congregations, and of course, Covid, something new is occurring at St Antony's in Wentworth Way. A Sunday afternoon meeting has been running for about 8 weeks. What is it, you may wonder. What is a 'Café Church'? What happens there? And who turns up to take part?







# Vote for a new name - Thank you for your suggestions



## 'SIGNPOST NEWS'

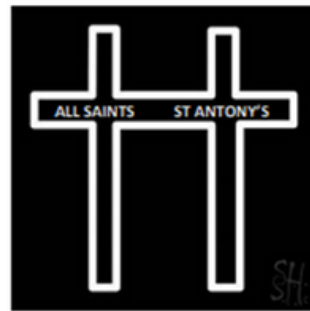
Pat Seely sends her love to her church family at All Saints, some of whom come to visit her regularly and keep in contact with her by phone. Pat enjoys reading all the news on what is going on in the Parish Newsletter and remembers when it was called, 'Signpost.'

As it is a sharing of news, Pat suggests the new title should have the word, 'News' in its name?

*Pat Seely*

- 'SIGNPOST'
- 'THE LINK'
- 'DIRECTIONS'
- 'THE BEACON'
- 'GRASSROOTS'
- 'THE CORD'
- 'CONNECTED'

*Ann Turner*



The Cross Tie The Newsletter linking All Saints and St Antony's Churches in the Parish of Sanderstead Suggested logo.

*David Chillman*

'ALL SAINTS ST ANTONY'

## 'SANDERSTEAD PARISH POST'

SPP for short

*Fanny and Marc Smith-*



## HARVEST -- Sunday 8th October

9.30am – Parish Eucharist at All Saints - PARADE service  
3pm - Café Church at St. Antony's

We will be thanking God for his generosity to us – please consider God's generosity to you and how you might respond, in particular to the Parish Pledge 2024. You should all have received your envelopes.

Responses to Paul Foster [ppf26.pf@gmail.com](mailto:ppf26.pf@gmail.com) or to the Parish Office by 26th November.

*Rosanne Morris*

**Charity Craft Sale**  
11.00am on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
At: All Saints Church Halls, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead

\*\* Come and join us for Coffee and Cake \*\*

Browse through our selection of handmade gifts and buy something a little different for friends and family, or just spoil yourself with a little gift!

In aid of **Nightwatch** All proceeds to Charities  
In aid of **DementiaUK**

'Crafty People' Craft Group at All Saints Church Sanderstead  
<https://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk>

*Sue Chillman*

# Notices

## All Saints' & St Antony's in the PARISH of SANDERSTEAD



All Sunday 9.30am services at All Saints Church are livestreamed.  
[www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

### OCTOBER 2023 - All Saints' Church

<u>Sunday 1 October</u> Trinity 17	9.30 am	Traditional PARISH EUCHARIST with Healing Prayer Speaker: Revd Carol Bates
<u>Sunday 8 October</u> Trinity 18	9.30 am	PARISH EUCHARIST Speaker: Revd Carol Bates
<b>PARADE SERVICE</b>		<b>HARVEST</b> 
<b>MESSY CHURCH</b> for children, parents / carers.	3.30 - 5pm	<b>Messy Church</b> in the Large Hall Crafts, games, stories, singing, refreshments... <b>Activity Time</b> in the Small Hall for older children, aged Year 5 and above (table tennis etc).
<u>Sunday 15 October</u> Trinity 19	9.30 am	Traditional PARISH EUCHARIST Speaker: Revd Carol Bates
<u>Thursday 19 October</u>	12.30 pm	Midweek Holy Communion
<u>Sunday 22 October</u> Trinity 20	8.00 am	SAID EUCHARIST Speaker: Bishop David Atkinson
	9.30 am	PARISH EUCHARIST - modern songs & Healing Prayer Speaker: Tom Griffiths
<u>Saturday 28 October</u>	9.00 am	PARISH PRAYER In St. Catherine's Aisle
<u>Sunday 29 October</u> Last Sunday after Trinity	9.30 am	PARISH EUCHARIST Speaker: TBC

### St. Antony's Church

<u>Sunday 1 October</u>	3.00 pm	CAFÉ CHURCH - Trinity 17
<u>Sunday 8 October</u>	3.00 pm	CAFÉ CHURCH - Trinity 18 HARVEST
<u>Monday 9 October</u>	2.00 pm	T4U
<u>Sundays 15 &amp; 22 Oct</u>	3.00 pm	CAFÉ CHURCH - Trinity 19 & 20
<u>Monday 23 October</u>	2.00 pm	Said Eucharist followed by T4U
<u>Sunday 29 October</u>	3.00 pm	CAFÉ CHURCH - Last Sunday after Trinity

*Proclaiming Jesus, changing lives, serving our community*



