

CALENDAR

Wednesday	01-May-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 11.00am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Taizé at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	02-May-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall [upstairs room]
Friday	03-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	05-May-24	9am All Age Eucharist Service at St John the Baptist 10.30am Baptism Service at St Andrew's
Monday	06-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	07-May-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	08-May-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 11.00am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	09-May-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion) 6.30pm Evening Prayer for Ascension Day at St Mary's, St Margarets
Friday	10-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	12-May-24	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10:30am Rogation Sunday Service at St James & Beating the Bounds walk (starting at approximately 11.30am)
Monday	13-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	14-May-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	15-May-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 11.00am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Taizé at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	16-May-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall [upstairs room]
Friday	17-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday <i>Pentecost</i>	19-May-24	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Pentecost Praise at St Andrew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Monday	20-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	21-May-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	22-May-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 11.00am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	23-May-24	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshere Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	24-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	25-May-24	8.30am Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall
Sunday <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	26-May-24	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Holy Communion Service at St Andrew's
Monday	27-May-24	<i>Bank Holiday</i>
Tuesday	28-May-24	9.30am Prayer Group 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	29-May-24	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 11.00am Life Group at the Goldsmith's house Midday Taizé at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	30-May-24	10.30am Life Group at The Wilshere Hall
Friday	31-May-24	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer 12pm Make Lunch Club at The Wilshere Hall



The 3 Churches Benefice

NEWS & NOTICES ~ MAY 2024

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works hath made...*



As we reach May, spring really has sprung! The lilac is in full bloom, the bluebells are opening and suddenly the lawn is sprouting buttercups! There is so much beauty in God's creation, and some lovely warmth to be had when the sun pops out for a few minutes. We are so blessed in the nature that surrounds us in our villages, and it is so good to stop and thank God for his abundant world.

This month, with our Rogation Sunday Service at St James, we have a chance to remember the farming foundation of our villages, and to pray for all those who grow and supply our food, for their welfare and for the health of the earth God of which has made us stewards.

Changing seasons have been reflected in our Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM) with three of our Churchwardens stepping down and one new Churchwarden, Peter Melrose, taking on the role at St Andrew's. Across the Benefice we are needing to look at new ways of working together to continue to care for our buildings and manage the many jobs that need to be done to run our churches smoothly. Our thanks go to Lyn Paddon, and to Janet Dance and Rosemary James for their care and dedication as they step down, yet continue to serve on their PCCs.

'God in creation' is the theme for 'Teddy Club' this month, as we start a new chapter alongside the long-running Baby & Toddlers group run by Bobtails Nursery. Teddy Club has moved from the Parish Hall to The Wilshere Hall, every Thursday 9-11am during term time. It was lovely to see the Hall filled with parents and little people from 3 weeks to 3 years old, and to share a story and a song of God's amazing creation.

*...then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest
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NEWS & NOTICES

Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall

The next Breakfast at The Wilshere Hall is on Saturday 25th May at 8.30am. These breakfasts run every last Saturday of the month and everyone is welcome!

Teddy Club comes to The Wilshere Hall

We are really excited that Teddy Club has started up in its new home at The Wilshere Hall, St Andrew's Church. The sessions run from 9-11am every Thursday during term time, with a suggested donation of £1. This is for children up to 3 years old accompanied by their parent/carer. Fun activities, singing, stories and much more! [Please note: Life Group will move to the upstairs room during term time].

Rogation Sunday ~ Sunday 12th May

There will be a special Rogation Sunday Service on Sunday 12th May, 10.30am at St James's Church. This will be followed by the traditional Beating the Bounds countryside walk (starting at approximately 11.30am). Why not come along and bring a picnic! Please note: this service will replace the normal 10.30am service at St Andrew's.

Ascension Day Service ~ Thursday 9th May

There will be a special Evening Prayer for Ascension Day on Thursday 9th May, starting 6.30pm at St Mary's, St Margarets. All are welcome.

Baptism ~ Sunday 5th May

During our service at St Andrew's on Sunday 5th May, there will be a baptism.

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Ministry Team is always happy to pray for anyone, so do call or email if you have prayer requests. At St Andrew's we have Prayer Ministry after the 10.30am Sunday Service for anyone who would like prayer. Please do come to the front for the Team to share your concerns, and pray for and with you.



MAKE LUNCH CLUB

Make Lunch Club will meet in the half term holiday!
Join us for fun, friendship and some yummy food too.

Friday 31st May
12 to 2pm
The Wilshere Hall



Email makelunch@3churches.net to book your place!

FROM THE CHURHWARDENS

Cream teas at the church ~ Sunday 23rd June

On Sunday 23rd June, from 2.30 to 4.30pm, cream teas will be served at St John the Baptist Church. This is to commemorate 100 years since Harold Abrahams, whose grave is in the churchyard, won a gold medal for winning the 100m at the Paris Olympics.

St John the Baptist Patronal Evensong ~ Sunday 23rd June

Also on Sunday 23rd June, St John the Baptist Patronal Evensong will be held at 6.30pm, followed by smoked salmon and Pimm's.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

Baptisms

- Abigail Hayes on 5th May at St Andrew's.
- Cyrus Hocking on 2nd June at St Andrew's.
- Olivia Martinez on 16th June at St Mary's, St Margarets.
- Myles and Milly Torrington on 23rd June at St Andrew's.
- Ruby and Theodore Marson on 7th July at St John the Baptist.
- Mason Rush on 21st July at St Mary's, St Margarets.
- Fatima Carmara Clarke on 1st September at St John the Baptist.

Weddings

- Laura Saunders & Matthew Jenks on 10th August at St Andrew's.
- Keeley Smith & Jon Dann on 19th October at St Mary's, St Margarets.
- Penelope Elsom & Jack McBride on 14th December at St John the Baptist.

Deaths

- David Shaw on 19th March.
- Wendy Tudor on 10th April.

UPCOMING DATES IN JUNE

- 2nd ~ Baptism as part of the Sunday Service at St Andrew's
- 16th ~ Baptism as part of the Sunday Service at St Mary's, St Margarets
- 23rd ~ St John the Baptist Patronal Festival (see above notice)
- 30th ~ 5th Sunday Benefice Celebration Service for Elizabeth and Martin Goldsmith at St Andrew's followed by a Benefice Lunch in The Wilshere Hall.

USEFUL LINKS

Online Zoom Services & Events
www.tinyurl.com/3churcheszoom

A Church Near You
Benefice Page
<http://tinyurl.com/3churchesBenefice>

The 3 Churches Website
www.3churches.net