

Dear Friends

There is really only one subject I can write to you about today. There are moments when what we are called to do is, quite simply, to thank God. This is such a moment.

Two years after the Hamas attack on Israel and the subsequent two years of war which has left Gaza devastated, a ceasefire has begun. There has been a partial withdrawal of Israeli troops and the return of Israeli hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners.

We don't know what the future holds but for the moment the horrors that began with the Hamas attack, followed by the deaths of thousands of Palestinians, including an unbelievable number of children, has come to an end.

I remember watching on TV, after the Hamas attack, an interview with a brave Israeli mother whose 20+ yr old son had been killed. She said that she did not want even one more child to die and that what the Israeli government was planning to do they were not doing in her name. How bitterly disappointed she must be with what followed but how thankful she must feel that for the time being at least the killing has stopped.

Christians believe that when Jesus returns he "shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more".

Meanwhile we know that any peace is provisional and easily broken. **There can be no real peace without justice** and justice seems in short supply at the moment. However, hopefully the deeper work of peacemaking can begin and Jesus tells us what such peacemaking involves over and above justice, namely repentance (as in Metanoia, a change of heart, a change of direction), forgiveness and reconciliation. As followers of one whom we call the Prince of Peace let us pray that this miracle might happen. In the words of Henry Williams Baker:

O God of love, O God of peace,
Make wars throughout the world to cease;
The wrath of sinful ones restrain;
Give peace, O God, give peace again

Remember, Lord, Your works of old,
The wonders that our forebears told;
Remember not our sins' dark stain;
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

Whom shall we trust but You, O Lord?
Where rest but on Your faithful word?
None ever called on You in vain:
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

Where saints and angels dwell above,
All hearts are knit in holy love;
O bind us in that heav'nly chain:
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

Blessings, Allan

Resources/Good News

Black History Month

The theme for Black History Month UK 2025 is “Standing Firm in Power and Pride,” a powerful tribute to the resilience, strength, and unwavering commitment to progress that defines the Black community across the globe. This year, the theme highlights the profound contributions made by Black people be they leaders, activists, or pioneers who have shaped history, while also looking towards a future of continued empowerment, unity, and growth.



Sources at Surrey History Centre

Surrey Heritage supports this international awareness campaign as part of a continuing aim to record and celebrate the lives of Surrey’s diverse communities. To find out more, follow the link below.

[Black history month: sources at Surrey History Centre - Surrey County Council](#)

Check Your Vehicle

As the autumn weather sets in, now is a good time to do some simple checks to hopefully avoid a vehicle breakdown. Follow the link for some very helpful tips.

[How to check your vehicle - National Highways](#)





70 years at MERROW METHODIST CHURCH



When

SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 7PM

Questions covering the years 1955 - 2025

General Knowledge.

Light Entertainment.

Sport



History.

Geography.

Spelling

!?.

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!?

Musical Intros. What Comes Next – Lyrics,

Quotations.

This Weeks News.



!?!? ? !?!? ? !?!?

WE WILL BE SERVING A PLOUGHMANS SUPPER.

ALL TEAMS OF 8 ARE WELCOME.

NO CHARGE FOR TICKETS BUT DONATIONS INVITED ON THE
EVENING TO THE OAKLEAF ENTERPRISE CHARITY

SAM'S ZOOM AROUND GREECE

Back in May, as a large part of my Sabbatical, I went on a 10-day pilgrimage around Greece.

I'd now like to offer friends around the Circuit the chance to share some of the sights and experiences I had, as I travelled with my fellow pilgrims, in the footsteps of St Paul.

To that effect, please find below some Zoom link details for **THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER at 7.30pm** (I'll open the meeting at 7.25pm), for about an hour or so.

You'd be very welcome to join me!

Yamas! (That's 'Cheers!' in Greek)

Sam.



Image of St Paul - Taken at Hosias Loukas, in the 11th century church

ZOOM LINK:

Topic: Circuit Zoom - Sam's Sabbatical Travels in Greece

Time: Nov 6, 2025 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84676600289?pwd=wxk4b8JLdfYYZkSgzRgXTeGTxThMyO.1>

Meeting ID: 846 7660 0289

Passcode: 600496

THREADS THROUGH THE CROSS

25 SEPTEMBER – 3 NOVEMBER 2025

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL



Talented textile artist

Jacqui Parkinson

presents

‘Threads through the Cross’

- a stunning series of panels
exploring the life and teachings of
Jesus, from his birth to his final weeks,
culminating in Pentecost.

Jacqui’s intricate stitching and vibrant
design bring Christ’s story to life.

The exhibition is free to view
– please don’t miss it!

COFFEE AND CAKE

AT ST. MARY’S

QUARRY ST. GUILDFORD GU1 3UP

**SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER
2025**



Thursday 25 September

Thursday 23 October

Thursday 27 November

(first Advent Reflection)

10.30 – 12.00

- each month features a different charity

Everyone welcome

Practical Aspects of Spirituality

Catherine Lomas

Priest and Iconographer

Saturday 25 October 2025

09.30 – 12.00

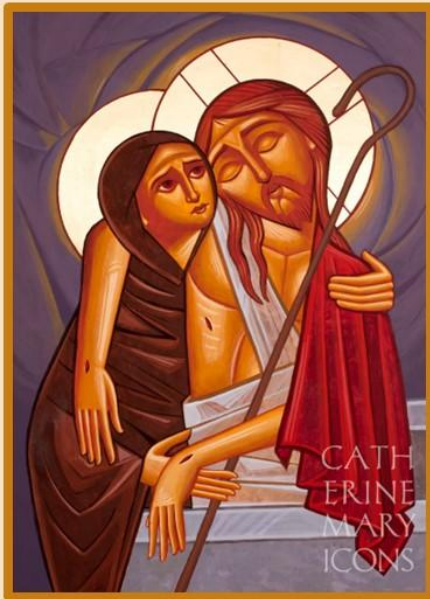
Refreshments from 09.15

PLUS

Optional Workshop (booking required)

13.00 – 15.00

*with practical demonstrations
and insights into icon design*



St. Mary's Church Guildford GU1 3UP

If you would like to attend please email gmc.info@hotmail.co.uk

POP-UP PLAY CAFÉ

Wednesday 29 October 9.30 – 11.30

... call in at

ST. MARY'S

Quarry St
Guildford GU1 3UP

- space to play
- time to relax
- coffee and cake

All ages welcome



Saturday 18 October 2025 2.00-4.00pm

Knaphill Methodist Church, The Broadway, Knaphill GU21 2DR

(between Boots & the old Lloyds Bank)

Clothes4U

a clothes bank supporting the local community

To claim your FREE clothes, collect a voucher from 30+ places in Surrey.

Email us to find out where they are: clothes@knaphillmethodist.co.uk

Due to huge generosity lately from the residents of Knaphill and beyond, clothes donations are not being accept at all for the time being.



STOUGHTON METHODIST CHURCH

(On the corner of Stoughton Road and Grange Road)

COFFEE CORNER

Tuesdays from 10 am – 12 noon



7th October

14th October

21th October

28th October

4th November

11th November

18th November

25th November



Enjoy Coffee & a Chat, Coffee & a Game, or Coffee & a Book

The choice is yours!

Everyone welcome – bring a friend!



70 years at
MERROW METHODIST CHURCH

COME TO THE

MERROW CHURCH CONCERT

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 7PM

*MERROW
METHODIST
SINGERS*

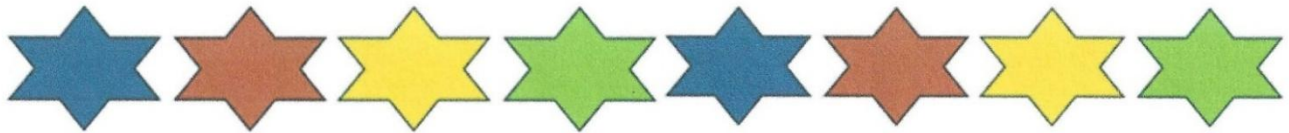
Sketches

Piano

Poetry

Surprises!

There is no charge but donations will be invited on the night to be
made to
The Matrix Trust.



**Saturday morning events at the
Addlestone Methodist Church Café on
Station Road**



***Come along between 10am and
12 to enjoy tea/coffee and cake
and join in with activities***

EVERY MONTH

1st Saturday – Fun Bingo

*Donations to Sam Beare Hospice or
Open Doors Charity*



**2nd Saturday – A time to sing – favourite
hymns & songs**

3rd Saturday – give popular games a go



**4th Saturday – Hymns, songs
and time for prayer**

Check notice board for any changes