

**Serving God
Engaging Community
Nurturing Faith
Developing Disciples**

St Mary's Church Send

Outlook 2026

October



Harvest Festival 11 October

See page 8

Free - Please take a copy



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ST.MARY'S PARISH - OUTLOOK 2025

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Greetings from St Mary's



By the time you read this, many of us will have gathered twice in the Church Rooms on Monday evening to engage with the Bible Course and try and understand more deeply God's purpose and love in Creation. Following on from James' "Greetings" last month, we turn our attention to celebrating harvest in the church and the school, remembering our responsibility for the care of creation and the invitation to engage more deeply with our responsibilities in this world. It is appropriate then that The Bible Course leads us in an exploration of the Creation story in Genesis, the first book of the bible, and to ponder God's promises to us in the light of earlier failures.

The failure of crops due to drought, predicted in Joseph's dream and the wisdom he showed in making provision so no one need go hungry, has specific resonance for us this year after months of viewing parched ground around Surrey and reminds us of the huge challenges for our farmers this year in the coming months, as well as the deepening efforts required by the World Food Programme to meet the needs of so many hungry and destitute people across the globe.

The threat of the predicted El Nino and the accompanying droughts and floods that may ensue, certainly focus the minds of those with responsibility to forward plan and make provision for climate emergencies. Richard Stilgoe's poem *The Very First Music, The Very Last Music*, written over thirteen years ago, is a brilliant, chilling reminder of the wheel of creation and the possibilities that can occur through our actions in the name of progress without a thought to the stewardship of Creation. Do take time to listen or read it, freely available on the internet, if you do not know it.

Rather fittingly, this year marks the 800th anniversary since the death of St. Francis of Assisi, renowned for his love of the natural world. He is commemorated on October 4th. Followers of his way of life seek to respect the world and the sacredness of creation, placing themselves on an equal footing with everyone, actively engaging with church and society through service to the local community.

Our community is host to a prison and so we remember Prison Week during Morning Prayer, 11-18 October. The resources for that week suggest we look to Matthew 22.9-10 "the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good and the wedding hall was filled with guests." The King who meets us as we are, who sees beyond the present. The scandal of grace.

The table is laid, the chair awaits. A banquet overflowing with goodness. A place for everybody. That is definitely the case in the Church Rooms on October 11th for our harvest lunch. Come and join us. Sadly, numbers here are limited.

Go well,

Kate

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 11 October at 10.30am

St Mary's Church

Church Lane, GU23 7JL

EARLY WARNING

A Harvest Lunch is planned for Sunday 11 October in the Church Rooms following the Harvest Festival service in church.

On Friday 23 October a "Connection Quiz" is planned at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms - cost £10.

Watch out for posters with full information!

If you are interested in attending the Harvest Lunch or the Connection Quiz, please contact Andy Smith on 07786150122 or andy.d.smith@talk21.com

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

10 October 2026



World Mental Health Day is an annual awareness day observed every 10th October. It is the World's Federation for Mental Health initiative with the objectives to raise awareness of mental health matters around the world, to mobilise efforts in support of mental health, and to reduce stigma. Their theme this year is "Lived Experiences Heard: Real voices, Real Change". This theme aims to reflect the unique challenges and uncertainties many of us are navigating. It's their way of acknowledging the pressures of the current times, while highlighting the importance of mental health and wellbeing.



Small Steps



St Mary's Church warmly invites you to a Parent/Carer & Tinies Group in the Church Rooms, 171-176 Send Road, GU23 7EU on Wednesday mornings, drop-in anytime from 10-12. We meet on October 7 and 14.

Anyone interested, come and see our set-up or contact Kate by email or text: kmpearmain@gmail.com or 07767 753823.



CRAFT AND CHAT



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 28 October. between 2pm and 4pm in the Church Rooms. If you have a crafty hobby - knitting, sewing, embroidery, card making, drawing etc - why not call in and meet us. There is no charge to come along, just £1 for a cup of tea and cake. We look forward to seeing you!

ST MARY'S STROLLERS

We will next meet at the gazebo on Send Recreation Ground at 2pm on 21 October. Why not join us for a stroll around the local footpaths. This is a small friendly group and gives people a chance to walk locally in the company of others while enjoying the fresh air. We finish up at the Church Rooms for tea and cake!

For more information contact editor@sendparishchurch.co.uk



Who said this?

October is fresh-faced April beautifully aged to wisdom.

Answer inside back page



Next time in the Coffee Shop
Monday 19 October
Special stall: Orange & Green
Tombola



Proceeds to: Lads Need Dads

St Mary's Church Coffee Shop is held in the Church Room on the third Monday of each month from **9:30am to 11:30am**. If you haven't been to the Coffee Shop before why not call in! We make good coffee and delicious home-made cakes. We do not charge for refreshments but instead suggest a donation, however small, to the charity of the month. All the coffee, tea, cakes and items for the stall are donated, so every penny goes direct to the chosen charity. Each month we have a themed stall and in October it will be *Orange & Green Tombola*. Items for the stall can be given to any of the Coffee Shop Team at church or brought along on the day. We look forward to seeing you!

Lads Need Dads, founded in 2015 and based in Tendring, North East Essex, is an award-winning Community Interest Company providing early intervention and long-term support for boys aged 10-18 growing up without a consistent father figure or positive male role model. They believe every boy deserves consistent support, trusted relationships and opportunities to thrive. Through positive male role models, structured programmes and long-term mentoring, they help boys build confidence, emotional resilience, stronger connections and a positive sense of identity.

September total for ShelterBox £310.00
Thank you for your very generous support

St. Mary's Memory Lockets

If when we think of lockets and the precious memories contained within them, how sometimes the glass gets cracked or the photos fade, we continue to treasure the contents as a valued part of who we are. On the last Sunday of the month at 3pm, St Mary's will play host to tea in the chapel area of the Church Rooms for an hour. If you are holding tight to personal memories of loved ones, to broken dreams or a way of life now lost to you and would like to share some memories in a small informal group please consider coming along. You might like to bring an item or photo along that is meaningful to you and that reminds you of past times. Be assured of a warm welcome and a compassionate listening ear and tea/coffee and cake.

What's not to like!

On 25 October we will be holding a Remembering Service in the Church Rooms at 3pm instead of the usual Memory Lockets meeting.

Anne Haynes Charity

Late summer sees many of the young people in Send and Ripley taking the next step in their preparation for earning their own living. For some this means apprenticeships, for others it means some further or higher education course. But all of these are eligible for an **"Anne Haynes Grant"**.

This fund has been available since 1702 when Dame Anne Haynes donated a sum to assist children in apprenticeships. The Charity Commission now says of the charity "the interest earned is distributed to young people to help in their further education". A meeting is held annually in the Autumn to administer the available funds which is shared among the young people who qualify and apply for the grant.

The criteria for young people to qualify is that they must live in the Parish of Send or Ripley, they must be under 21 and the money must be used to further their education and prepare them for the workplace.

Two trustees have been appointed to administer and distribute available funds from the charity. Rowland Cornell represents Ripley Parish and Arthur Thomas represents Send Parish.

If any young person, their parent or guardian wishes to apply for funding, please apply with details by email to:-

Arthur Thomas [for Send Parish] jillarty1@gmail.com or

Rowland Cornell [for Ripley Parish] rowlandcornell@ripleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

NEURODIVERSITY BASKET

New - for every service at St Mary's there is now a neurodiversity basket in the porch, containing items such as ear defenders, small whiteboards for creativity and fidget spinners. Please help yourself to anything in the basket that will help you to feel comfortable and to get the most out of your time at St Mary's. The basket is for the young and the not so young. We want everyone to feel welcome and included at St Mary's.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

When we think of Harvest Festival, it brings to mind churches decorated with sheaves of wheat, flowers, fruit and vegetables, Harvest suppers, and singing "Come ye thankful people, come". However, there are many festivals celebrated around the world at this time of year, all of them giving thanks for the local harvest, whatever that might be.

Lugano, in Switzerland, sits along the shores of Lake Lugano beneath the shadow of magnificent mountains just south of the alps. Over the first weekend in October, the Lugano Autumn Festival is held, celebrating grapes and fine wines, in addition to hosting folkloric music. One of the highlights is the grottini, eating stations that are run by local vendors where you can sample typical Ticinese specialties like polenta with stew, roast pork, minestrone, and gnocchi, along with Ticino wines and many other local delights.



At the beginning of November, a two-day festival is held in Magione, a town in the Umbria region of central Italy. The event is held to celebrate both the feast day of St Clement and the local olive harvest, bringing together everyone involved in the production of olive oil. A priest blesses the new oil at a special Mass, and the town hosts a lavish medieval dinner at its 12th-century castle. Visitors can sample and buy fresh local olive oil, traditional foods, and seasonal products directly from regional growers.

Almost every culture has at least one traditional celebration to give thanks for food and successful crops. From the North American Thanksgiving celebrating the autumn crop yield with family feasts centred around turkey, squash and corn, to the South Asian winter festivals thanking nature and celebrating crops like rice, turmeric and sugarcane, literally thousands of people are raising their voices in thanksgiving.

So when we are singing "Come ye thankful people, come", just give a thought to those other nations around the world giving thanks for their harvest.

SEND MU

Our next meeting will be on Monday 5 October when we will be playing Scrabble and possibly some other board games! Why not come and join us for a bit of fun! We meet at 10.30 and coffee will be served from 10.15. Everyone is welcome! For further information about MU, please contact:

Rachel (rachelwlk.mobile@gmail.com)
or Helen (helengalvin467@gmail.com)

SEND MU CELEBRATES 150 years

On Saturday 12 September, Send MU hosted an afternoon celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Mothers Union. The afternoon started with a short service, compiled by Kate Pearmain, which included prayers written by MU members from across the globe. Before the service, Kim Derby, Joint Vice-President, spoke on the importance of faithfulness.

The service was followed by a delicious cream tea, with thanks to the volunteers who made the scones and the generous donations of other refreshments.



We were honoured to have on display a painting of Mary Sumner (founder of the Mothers Union). In April 2017 this previously unknown portrait of Mary Sumner was discovered in the attic of Manorhead Nursing Home in Hindhead, Surrey. Guildford Diocese MU raised the money to have it restored and Edwin Catt, Vice-President and Trustee, had worked to get it made ready for display at the centenary celebrations.



Some surprise visitors before the service began were a group of bikers from London & Southeast Motorbike Club. They were visiting churches in Surrey where filming had taken place. St Mary's last claim to fame in this respect was the filming of the TV series Emma.

The blessing used at the end of the service and written by Audrey Costidell, MU Toowoomba West, Australia, are beautiful words with which to finish.

You are the wine, You are the bread.
You are the sacrifice, the pierc'd head.
Filled with the Spirit, we kneel to serve.
You are the sinew, the hands, the nerve.
You are the potter, we are the clay.
You are living water, the light of day.
You are the pathway, the truth, the life.
We are the body, you are the Christ.

SEND GARDENING SOCIETY by Linda Davis

October is both a month of transition and a kaleidoscope of colour. Nights are getting longer; the weather intensifies as dramatic skies accompany higher winds and the temperatures get colder. There are remnants of green but the season is dominated by rich fiery colours reflected in the changing leaves and ripening fruits. The full moon in October is known as the Hunters Moon, which is symbolic of a time to fill up food stores with meat and crops. It is a month of change in the garden, with many insects and animals going into hibernation whilst others build up their strength for winter. As gardeners, we are responsible for ensuring the wildlife in our gardens has the best chance of survival. That means providing as much food, water and shelter as possible from now until spring.

Grass naturally enters a state called dormancy during prolonged hot, dry weather becoming wilted, patchy and brown. It is a clever survival mechanism that allows the plant to conserve water until conditions improve and beneath the surface the roots are usually still alive and well. With a little patience and the right care, most lawns bounce back remarkably well once the weather cools and the rain returns. The first step recommended by lawn experts would be to rake the surface and remove any dead grass and loosen the surface. Use a garden fork to pierce the turf at intervals to allow it to breathe. After aeration, the next stage is to overseed the lawn with fresh grass seed, lightly covering with top soil and keeping the area moist until new grass establishes. Avoid applying high-nitrogen lawn feeds immediately after a heatwave. When grass is stressed, forcing rapid new growth can do more harm than good.

Once tomatoes stop ripening naturally on their vines, pick any that have reached full size and make green tomato chutney, or place in a box, drawer or paper bag with a banana. The banana will produce ethylene, which promotes ripening. Avoid feeding plants late in the season, as this will encourage soft, sappy growth that is more vulnerable to damage by frost and by wet and can encourage fungal diseases to develop. A hardy broad bean such as 'Aquadulce Claudia' can be sown now for an early crop next year, either direct into the soil or in pots for planting out next month.

Plant garlic cloves in well-drained soil in full sun, 15cm apart with their tips 5cm below the surface. When the weather is consistently cool, sweet peas can be sown in deep pots for early flowers next summer, the focus is on producing strong roots rather than lots of top growth. Pot up hyacinths and daffodils for Christmas flowering. Bulbs advertised as 'prepared' have had a period of chilling to fool them that winter has passed and it is time to grow. Keep the potted bulbs in the dark until the emerging shoots are 2-3cm long and then bring them into a bright position. Enjoy every last moment before the clocks change. There is still time in the early morning and evening to enjoy quiet moments of contemplation and reflection outdoors.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday 7th October when Tim Woodland will be speaking to us about 'Summer bulbs'. We can be reached by e-mail at f.veybrookcollett@gmail.com or by phone on 01483 765730 (Secretary Fiona Collett) or by coming along to our next meeting. We are not experts, just a bunch of people who enjoy tending our gardens and trying new ideas. We hold bi-monthly meetings at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of alternate months at the Church Rooms, with speakers who are experts and teach us something about the art of gardening.

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From Home Counties Carers

Vivace Chorus - Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem 14 November 2026 at G Live, Guildford

A promotional image for the concert. It features a close-up of several white lilies with yellow centers, set against a purple background. The word 'BRAHMS' is written in large, red, serif capital letters at the top. Below it, 'EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM' is written in smaller, black, sans-serif capital letters. Further down, 'Lauridsen: Lux Aeterna' and 'National Symphony Orchestra' are listed. Below that, 'Conductor: Barbara Höffling' is mentioned. At the bottom, the date and time 'Saturday 14 Nov 2026 at 7.30pm' are displayed, followed by 'G LIVE GUILDFORD'. The Vivace Chorus logo is at the bottom left, and a small text at the bottom right says 'For further details and to book go to vivacechorus.org'.

Immerse yourself in an evening of truly uplifting music: the power and beauty of Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem along with his sublime lesser-known Nänie and Lauridsen's modern classic Lux Aeterna. Vivace, conducted by Barbara Höffling, will be joined by the National Symphony Orchestra and soloists Beth Yates (soprano) and Peter Coleman (baritone). Join them on Saturday 14th November at 7.30 for an unforgettable evening. See vivacechorus.org for more details. Tickets available at G Live from £25.

Sunday Club and YAC news October 2026

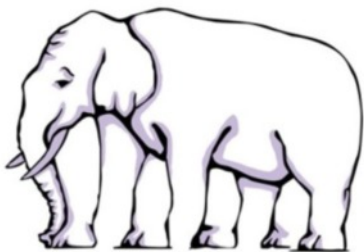
Both groups met on Sunday 13 September for the first meeting of the academic year. Our Bible reading was from Exodus 14:19-31 which is the story about the miraculous parting of the Red Sea to allow the Israelites to escape from the Egyptian army. The title was Go with God.



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At Sunday Club we began by identifying some everyday signs, such as the chequered flag at a race track, which indicate that it is possible to GO, then played a version of "Simon says". After listening to the Bible story the members of the group drew and coloured in the Red Sea with the water held back and were challenged to recreate the pillar of cloud that God used to make a barrier between the fleeing Israelites and the pursuing Egyptians using marshmallows, which of course everyone was able to enjoy eating afterwards. They then drew around their feet and thought about what God might be asking them to do during the following week, such as being kind and helpful towards others.

In the evening YAC members enjoyed drinks and a snack, then read and discussed the same Bible story before having some fun looking at optical illusions such as this one.



How many legs does the elephant have?

This is the link to a video showing how to create your own "hand" optical illusion.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNEXzvnD7ml>

The session finished with everyone sharing ideas for a prayer to read at the service at Send Primary School on Sunday 20 September to celebrate the school's tenth birthday.

The next meeting in the month on the 27 September continues the story of Moses and the Israelites as they travel thorough the desert finding their journey very difficult and complaining against Moses as they fear they will die there.

Neither group meets in October on account of the celebration of Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church on 11 October and the fact that we have a two week half term this year. So the next meeting will be on 1 November.



Let us know at sundayclub@sendparishchurch.co.uk if you'd like to join us! Sunday Club is for age 3-12 and YAC is for secondary school aged children.

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<https://www.fairtrade.net/uk-en/products-and-producers/fairtrade-products.html>

HAM FOR DINNER

(J. John)

A young woman was preparing a ham dinner. After she cut off the end of the ham, she placed the ham in a pan for baking.

Her friend asked her, "Why did you cut off the end of the ham?"

She replied, "I really don't know, but my mother always did, so I thought you were supposed to."

Later, when talking to her mother, she asked her why she cut off the end of the ham before baking it, and her mother replied, "I really don't know, but that's the way my mum always did it."

A few weeks later while visiting her grandmother, the young woman asked, "Grandma, why is it that you cut off the end of a ham before you bake it?"

Her grandmother replied, "Well, dear, it would never fit into my baking pan."

The Bible Course

NEW EDITION



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WHERE

St Mary's Church Send
Church Rooms
Send Road,
GU23 7ET

WHEN

Eight Monday evenings
7.30pm – 9.00pm
Dates:
21st & 28th September
5th & 12th October
2nd, 16th, 23rd & 30th November

About the Course

A friendly and welcoming course exploring the big story of the Bible and how it fits together. Whether you know a little or a lot, you are very welcome to come along.

To register your interest or
find out more, get in touch with
Rev Louise Vincer ☎ 07913 843526
✉ vicar@sendparishchurch.co.uk
[@sendparishchurch](https://www.instagram.com/sendparishchurch)



**COME ON YOUR OWN
OR BRING A FRIEND!**

October Services and Events

St Mary's church serves the whole parish community. People of all faiths and no faith are welcome. For questions about faith or life events please contact Rev Louise: vicar@sendparishchurch.co.uk

4 October - Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion

Monday 5 October

10.30-12 Send MU (see page 8)
7.30-9.00 The Bible Course - session 3 (see page 17)

Wednesday 7 October

10am-12 Small Steps (see page 5)

11 October - Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Harvest Festival followed by lunch in the Church Rooms

Monday 12 October

7.30-9.00 The Bible Course - session 4

Wednesday 14 October

10am-12 Small Steps
2pm Strollers (see page 5)

18 October - Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion

Monday 19 October

9.30-11.30 Coffee Shop (see page 6)

Friday 23 October

7.40pm "Connection Quiz" in the Church Rooms

25 October - Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion
3pm All Souls Remembering Service in the Church Rooms

Wednesday 28 October

2-4pm Craft & Chat (see page 5)

For Morning Prayer details please see the weekly Green Sheet which you can subscribe to by emailing news@sendparishchurch.co.uk

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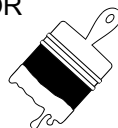
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