

CALENDAR

Sunday <i>All Saints'/All Souls'</i>	02-Nov-25	9am All Saints' All Age Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am All Saints' All Age Service with Baptism at St Andrew's 3pm All Souls' Service at St John the Baptist
Monday	03-Nov-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshire Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	04-Nov-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	05-Nov-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall All Souls' Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	06-Nov-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshire Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall
Friday	07-Nov-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday <i>Remembrance</i>	09-Nov-25	9am Remembrance Sunday Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Service of Remembrance at Amwell Lane War Memorial 10.30am Service of Remembrance at St Andrew's
Monday	10-Nov-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshire Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	11-Nov-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	12-Nov-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	13-Nov-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshire Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	14-Nov-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	15-Nov-25	7pm The Big Quiz Night for Tearfund at The Wilshire Hall
Sunday <i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i>	16-Nov-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Morning Prayer at St Andrew's 10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets 4pm Make Church at St Andrew's *NEW*
Monday	17-Nov-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshire Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	18-Nov-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	19-Nov-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall Midday Prayer at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	20-Nov-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshire Hall 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall
Friday	21-Nov-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Saturday	22-Nov-25	10am Benefice Breakfast at The Wilshire Hall
Sunday <i>Christ the King</i>	23-Nov-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's
Monday	24-Nov-25	9am Monday Coffee Morning at The Wilshire Hall 9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Tuesday	25-Nov-25	9.30am Prayer Group at Sue Hardwick's house 7.30pm Life Group on Zoom
Wednesday	26-Nov-25	10.30am Community Hub Drop-in at St Mary's, St Margarets 10.30am Life Group at The Wilshire Hall Midday Holy Communion at St Mary's, St Margarets
Thursday	27-Nov-25	9am Teddy Club at The Wilshire Hall 10.30am Benefice Coffee Morning (The Red Lion)
Friday	28-Nov-25	9.30am Online Benefice Morning Prayer
Sunday <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	30-Nov-25	9am Eucharist at St John the Baptist 10.30am Holy Communion at St Andrew's 4pm Advent Carols at St James'



The 3 Churches Benefice

NEWS & NOTICES ~ NOVEMBER 2025

*The wise man built his house up upon the rock,
The wise man built his house up upon the rock,
The wise man built his house up upon the rock,
And the rain came tumbling down!*



Our second session of Make Church focused on the story that Jesus told about the foolish and wise builders. It's a well-known story, which Jesus told as the conclusion to his Sermon on the Mount. Matthew records Jesus's teachings in chapters 5 to 7, and concludes them with him saying: 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.'

We had a lot of fun with sand and rocks, and lolly sticks and water, to show that when you build lolly stick houses on the sand and then pour watering cans of rain over them, they fall down. My thanks to all the helpers, especially Peter, who tidied up afterwards! 'The rain came down and the floods came up, and the house on the sand fell flat.'

It has been wonderful to start and develop our new Fresh Expression of Church over the last couple of months. The turnout has been fantastic, with over 20 children and 20 adults at each session, and we are building a team to support the work. Really importantly, this is a new worshipping community; most of these families have not been coming to church, some we have met through Make Lunch, and many are returning baptism families.

It was really good to engage, not just with the children, but with parents and grandparents as well, and to encourage them to reflect on how you build your house on the rock that is God. How do we build our lives with God's love at the centre?

One of the things that has always struck me about this story is that the rain came, the floods rose, the wind blew and beat against both the houses. There is no special treatment for those who believe, the troubles of this world come to everyone, but we stand or fall based on our foundation, on whether we believe and trust in God. And the really great mercy of God is that he picks us up when we fall, forgives us when we sin, and comes looking for us when we get lost.

Our next make Church session is Sunday 16th November at 4pm. Maybe you'd like to come along and see what is happening, what God is up to in this exciting time!

Vicar of the Benefice: Rev'd Dr Sarah Forrest
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NEWS & NOTICES

The Three Villages Magazine ****FREE****

If you or someone you know is not be able to get out and collect a copy of the print magazine, you can now call or text (07488 914972) for a copy. Copies are available to collect at the back of each church.

Benefice Breakfast

Please note that our Benefice Breakfast has been moved to Saturday 22nd November this month. Usual time and place otherwise!

The Big Quiz Night for Tearfund ~ 15th November

The Big Quiz Night for Tearfund will be held on Saturday 15th November, 7pm at The Wilshire Hall. Join us or an epic evening of poverty-beating, community-building fun! Every penny raised will go to Tearfund. The details: £5 per person with teams of up to 8 people. Bring your own drinks & snacks. Get tickets in advance (peter.melrose@ntlworld.com) or purchase (in cash) on the door.

All Saints'/All Souls' Services

We will be holding the following services on Sunday 2nd: All Saints' Service, 9am at St John the Baptist and 10.30am at St Andrew's; and an All Souls' Memorial Service, 3pm at St John the Baptist. We will also have an All Souls' Memorial Service on Wednesday 5th, midday at St Mary's, St Margarets.

Warm Welcome Spaces

Once again this year, we are offering Warm Welcome Spaces. There will be: Morning Coffee Morning on Monday mornings, 9–11am at The Wilshire Hall, offering a warm drink and a fun activity and The Community Hub Drop-in on Wednesdays, 10.30–11.30am at St Mary's, St Margarets, offering a cuppa and chat, as well as practical help if needed.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES



9am Remembrance Sunday Eucharist Service
at St John the Baptist

10.30am Service of Remembrance
at Amwell Lane War Memorial

*This is an outdoor service, so please wrap up warmly and
bring umbrellas if needed.*

10.30am Service of Remembrance
at St Andrew's Church

*This service will start inside the church and then move outside to
the war memorial, so please come prepared for the weather.*



FROM THE CHURHWARDENS

St John the Baptist Choir

We are looking for new members to join the choir! If you are interested, please do get in touch with Jill Hall for more information.

St John's Quiz Night Success

At St John's recent Quiz Night, just over £950 was raised. Thank you to everyone who came along to support this event: it was a great success!

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL SATURDAY 6TH & SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER



If you are able to volunteer to help on Saturday or Sunday, please do get in touch. We are also looking for raffle prizes, so if you have any donations we will be around setting up on Friday 5th December, or please do drop them to the vicarage in the week or so before. Thank you for all your support!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

Baptisms

- Ellis Anthony during the morning service on 2nd November at St Andrew's.

Deaths

- Daphne Everett on 2nd August.



UPCOMING DATES IN DECEMBER

6th & 7th ~ Christmas Tree Festival, 2–6pm at St Mary's, St Margarets, with 'Carols Amidst the Christmas Trees' at 5pm on 7th

14th ~ Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm at St John the Baptist

21st ~ Make Church, 4pm at St Andrew's

21st ~ Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm at St Andrew's

24th ~ The Christmas Journey, 3pm starting at St Margarets Train Station

24th ~ Christmas Eve Midnight Holy Communion, 11.15pm at St Andrew's

25th ~ Christmas Day Service, 10.30am at St John the Baptist

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