



Fifth Sunday in Lent — 10:00am Service of the Word

Hebrews 1: 1-4, 1 Thess. 5:20-21, Luke 16:16-31

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever .
Amen .

Hymns

448 Meekness and majesty
528 Only by grace
462 My Lord, what love is this
465 Name of all majesty

Prayer List

This week, we are thanking God for Angela and Dougie Snape and members of our parish; we pray for healing, strength and discernment.

Preacher: Peter Evans

Lead: Natalie Galer

Sunday Service Zoom Link

ID: 896 6125 2194; Passcode 050845

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Name</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 01/03/26 | Jenny Ponsillo |
| 08/03/26 | Roger and Mary Smith |
| 15/03/26 | Penny and Pete Smith |
| 22/03/26 | Angela and Dougie Snape |

Highlight from last Sunday's Sermon: The Point of Scripture by Robert Stevenson

John 1:1-17, John 5:37-40

Last week Sunday, we explored the dual nature of Christian evangelism by using the imagery of spiritual light found in the Gospel of John. The individual believer acts as a small, portable lamp sent out into the world while the church community serves as a powerful beacon that draws people in.

The childhood analogy of a battery-powered puppet emphasised the necessity of the Holy Spirit to recharge a person's inner strength for service whereas collective worship creates a luminous signal visible against the backdrop of spiritual darkness.

Ultimately, the message here is that both personal deeds and communal praise are essential, complementary methods for spreading faith. These two approaches reflect the Holy Spirit's work in nurturing individual character while empowering the church to manifest the presence of Christ.

Please visit and subscribe to our [YouTube Channel @StfrancisGuildford45](#) for more.

Funeral of the late Rt Rev'd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford

Dear family in Christ,

The Rt Rev'd Paul Davies, Bishop of Dorking, has announced the funeral arrangements for the Rt Rev'd Andrew Watson, following his death last week. The service will be held tomorrow on Monday 23 March at 12 noon in Guildford Cathedral, within a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

To ensure wide participation, each deanery will host a church livestream so people can join the worship remotely. In-person attendance has been arranged for Bishop Andrew's family and friends, Church of England bishops, licensed clergy of the Diocese of Guildford, representatives of diocesan and national ministries, civic

leaders across the region, and parish representatives from each deanery in the Diocese.

In the Guildford deanery, a livestream will be available at **St Nicolas' Church, Guildford**.



Prior to his death, Bishop Andrew requested that donations in his memory be given to support the mission and ministry of Guildford Cathedral. You may wish to donate using the QR code or weblink :

<https://andrew-watson1.muchloved.com>

Sunday School: Wake me up!

disciples
Jesus
Lazarus
Martha
Mary
mourners

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| a | a | i | y | y | r | a | M | x | a |
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| p | v | c | x | z | a | o | r | o | a |
| v | p | i | w | x | z | b | t | m | z |
| k | j | p | s | y | c | l | h | b | a |
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Emmanuel St. Francis St. Clare's

BIG CHURCH WEEKEND

1-3 May 2026

Prayer & Discipleship
Fun, Food & Community
Worship & Teaching

Guest Speaker
Laura Gallacher

Transformed

*£20/adult, £5/child
*pay-what-you-can

emmanuelchurch.co.uk/calendar

Alpha Course



The last session of the Alpha course for this set will run on **Tuesday 24th March** here at St Francis Church starting February 3rd for 10 weeks (6:30 – 8:30pm). Please sign up at the back or visit our webpage for more information and registration (stfrancisguildford.co.uk/alpha/). You could also sign up in the sheet at the back. Please

Practicing the Way

This is a discipleship course for everyone with practical advice on how to live like Jesus in the modern world. It will run on **Wednesdays** starting February 4th for 8 weeks (7:30 – 8:30pm). Please sign up at the back or visit our webpage for more information and registration, please sign up on the sheet at the back. Please speak to Richard Horn for more info or visit www.practicingtheway.org

We need God in all we do; prayer is key

Please Pray for Growth:

'God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship and power to our witness. Help St Francis, St Clares and Emmanuel Churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

The prayer room by the narthex is open daily from 9am—5:30pm. If you feel burdened, come in to pray for yourself, for someone else, for issues that worry you or simply step inside to reflect in the presence of God. Each week, we pray for families in church and the community. You could send requests to prayers@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Important Dates (February 2026)

| Date | Event (Time) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 | Workers Prayer Meeting |
| 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 | Alpha Course (7:15pm) |
| 4, 11, 18, | Practicing The Way (7:30pm) |
| 6 | World Day of Prayer |
| 8 | Café Church (10:00 am) |
| 9 | Tea & Skittles |
| 3, 17, 24, | Hear Here Audiology Clinic |

Making Sense of Anxiety

When: Saturday 11th April 3-5.15pm

Where: St Clare's Church, Cabell Road, Park Barn, GU2 8JW.

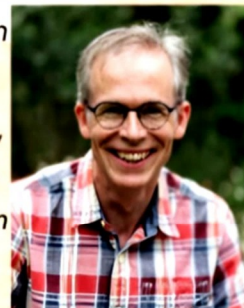
Cost: FREE - donations kindly accepted in support of Emerge Mental Health Charity for their work with young people.

Anxiety can be bewildering and exhausting, but if we can learn to make sense of it and understand how our body responds to being anxious, then we discover how to be in control of our anxiety rather than it be in control of us.

Please register your interest by emailing: pastoral@emmanuelchurch.co.uk



Martin is a local GP with an interest in mental health. He is author of the book, 'Your Worry Makes Sense' and posts regularly about mental health on Instagram and TikTok as [@doc_martin_gp](https://www.instagram.com/doc_martin_gp)



Suitable for all ages and stages, young people warmly invited.



ST FRANCIS CHURCH

Beckingham Road, Guildford, GU2 8BU

www.stfrancisguildford.co.uk

Minister: Rev'd Oluwapelumi Adeyemi
[minister@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk]
Tel: 07508254495

Assistant Minister: Rev'd Diane Peters
[curate@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk]
Tel: 07889638710

Deputy Church Warden: Robert Stevenson
churchwarden@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Assistant Warden & Bookings Manager:
Val Holt (day off: Wednesday)
hallbookings@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Pastoral Care:
[pastoralcare@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk]

Treasurer: Seth Johnson
[treasurer@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk]

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Stephen Schofield
Email: safeguarding@emmanuelchurch.co.uk |
Tel: 07421443031 (9am – 3pm)



Newsletter Contributions & Enquiries

For contributions or enquiries on Baptism, marriage etc, please contact Valerie by phone (01483571018) or in person on Wednesdays from 12-4:00pm or via email: admin@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

For your testimonies, God-incidents or coincidences witnessed or experienced, please submit entries of **150 words** to: testimonies@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

You may choose to remain anonymous, however, please note: by submitting your story, you agree we can share your testimony via the print and digital platforms of St Francis Church.

Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture and the welfare of all people safe at St Francis Church. We have adopted the Church of England's 'Promoting a Safer Church Policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Minister (Pelumi), the Warden (Robert) or the Parish Safeguarding Officer (Steve)

Other programs

Morning Prayers on Zoom

Tuesdays (9:30 – 9.40am)

Do please join us if you can. *ID: 829 9475 0223; Passcode 104258*

Hear, here NHS Clinics

Tuesdays (9:30-11:00 am)

A Diocese of Guildford project in partnership with Sight for Surrey and the NHS, where our NHS audiology-trained volunteers provides community-based hearing aid maintenance.

Community Foodshare

***Open Mondays – Saturdays (9 am – 4pm),
Sundays (12:00-4:00pm)***