

Our Vision for 2023: Deeper Wider Greener

"I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." Ephesians 3:17-18

In a slight adaption of the apostle Paul's words, two strands to our vision continue to emerge with another one interwoven between them, summed up by deeper, wider, greener. Look out for how this is embedded in our church activities and actions...

Ways to contact the church

Would you like us to pray for you? God hears you, but it is good to know you have other people who care, joining with you! Phone us, email us, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are respected.

Would you like to speak with a priest?

Revd Sally Buddle 07778 681664

Email: stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com

Key contacts

Church administrator: Sarah Bennett

stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Ros Lawson and Mike Winterbotham

stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com

Safeguarding: Sarah Bennett

stnicholascompton.safeguarding@gmail.com

Make a donation?

Thank you - you can use the sum-up card machine at the back of church or send a cheque to the address below.

For more information

Visit our website <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8109/>

St Nicholas Church, The Street, Compton, GU3 1EG | Reg Charity: 243929

St Nicholas Compton

August 2023



Hi Everyone,

Greetings from Compton, wherever you are in the world!

You may be aware that the wardens and I have decided to try to 'pause' from church meetings during August. Hopefully that will create space for us all to rest and reflect over the summer.

Regular worship on Sundays (based around Matthew's gospel) and during the week will of course continue, as will our ministry to Robertsons Nursing Home.

So, I thought you might appreciate some suggestions of what to read to refresh you spiritually during your 'downtime'....

<https://www.stpauls.co.uk/summer-reading>

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/features/summer-reading-guide-18-books-to-add-to-your-list/15976.article>

And do have a look at the Pilgrim Prompts section later in this newsletter for some other ideas (thank you Sarah Bennett!)

But many of us continue to be as busy as ever and for some, the holidays are a very difficult time. You might like to search here <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/st-marks-food-bank/> for details of how best to support families who struggle over the summer without free school meals.

We're looking forward to September as we plan to restart Fledglings (incorporating Forest Preschool) and Muddy Church, continue to support our great bellringers who are going from strength to strength, as well as relaunching our small groups.

Summer blessings in Christ,

Rev Sally

What's On in August

Church Services

Aug 2 nd (Wed)	10.30am	BCP Holy Communion
Aug 6 th	6 pm	Evensong
Aug 13 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Aug 19 th (Sat)	2pm	Wedding of Andrew & Sam
Aug 20 th	10.30	Holy Communion
Aug 27 th	10.30	Holy Communion

Sept 3rd 10.30 Muddy Church celebrates Harvest

All our Communion Services are followed by delicious coffee and engaging chat!

Inside Out meets **Sat 5 Aug & Sat 2 Sept 10am-12 noon** to keep the church and churchyard looking good – do put the dates in your diary! Contact stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com

Bell Ringing Practice: Morning practice once or twice a month on Tuesdays at 10am. We ring on Sundays from 10.00 – 10.30. Contact phil.gorton@btinternet.com

Our Toddler Group, Fledglings, is taking a well-deserved break during the school summer holidays, so let's give thanks and pray for Catherine, Mike, Julia & the team as they rest. Please invite new families to join us at Pucks Oak Barn on Monday mornings from Sept 11th onwards. Contact fledglingscompton@gmail.com

Small Groups: We will be relaunching small groups in late Sept/early Oct – please contact Sally if you would like to be part of this...

Future Dates for your diary

Sept 17 Harvest Festival

Pilgrim Prompts

Was there truly an anchorhold here in Compton? Was the anchorite (or anchoress) a recluse bricked up in a small cell never to see daylight or have a conversation with a human again? Or were they at the heart of their community? Perhaps we'll never know for sure. Traditionally anchorholds had three windows connecting the anchorite to the community: a window onto the Church where the anchorite could receive the Sacrament, a window onto the world where people came for spiritual advice or prayer, and a window or door for use by the servant who took care of the food and practical needs.

I wonder if it is possible to look beyond that picture of the medieval cell to our modern day lives and challenge ourselves:

- Could you withdraw from the world to pray and 'just be' – maybe just 10 minutes day, maybe attending a Quiet Day or retreat?
- Is your life 'anchored' in your local community? Is it governed by a rule of life which you can share with others?
- Could you fast? Holy hermits knew that fasting detaches us from the things of this world and increases our desire for the things of heaven. Fasting could be as simple as watching one less Netflix episode and taking that time to read a daily bible passage instead.

In August we pray for ...

Our Church: *Sun 6 Aug* Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo; *13 Aug* Iglesia Anglicana de Chile; *20 Aug* The Church of England; *27 Aug* Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui.

Diocese: All those who work in the hospitality sector, those away on holiday, our soon-to-be Bishop of Dorking, Archdeacon Paul Davies

Our Monthly Charity: St Mark's Foodbank

Our Parish: The Village Club, Spiceall, Bowling Green & Almsgate.

Those in particular need: Richard D, Sally G, those caring for others, those known personally to us, and only to God.