

# St Nicholas Compton

February 2024



Greetings!

**We are fast approaching the season of Lent** which this year combines the usual Ash Wednesday with Valentines Day - so look out for some interesting juxtapositions...

Lent (from the old English lengthen and referring to the season of spring and longer daytime) is a time of spiritual renewal and reflection in preparation for observing Good Friday, the death of Jesus and celebrating Easter, Jesus' resurrection.

The purpose of Lent is to draw closer to God through intentionally setting aside time for prayer, repentance, and self-examination. During Lent, some of us may also choose to give up certain activities that we don't always find helpful and/or seek to cultivate new ones so we become even more fruitful.

**So, you are very welcome to join us in church for traditional 'ashing' on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14 at 10.30am**, followed by the start of our **small group that will meet every Wednesday morning throughout Lent.**

In other news, **Muddy Church will be celebrating pancake day early on Sun Feb 4** - after our morning fun on the theme of 'All you need is love' in the churchyard, pancakes will be served for **lunch at the Rectory. Fledglings, our Monday morning Toddler group**, continues to go from strength to strength with families and children enjoying the natural world interpreted through the light of God's love.

And two dates for your diary -

**Bellringing competition** in church - **Sat 9 March 2-4pm** (Compton involved - please come along to support & see overleaf for details)

**A bit of a party** - We're gathering as a church family on **Sun 17 March** in the afternoon for fun & food - do plan to join us if you can.

Lenten blessings, Rev Sally

## What's On in February

Feb 4 Sun	10:30	<b>Muddy Church</b> - <i>All you need is love</i> followed by pancake lunch @ the Rectory
	18:00	<b>Evensong</b>
Feb 7 Wed	10:30	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b>
<b>Feb 8 Thurs</b>	<b>09.45</b>	<b>Grandparenting for Faith @the Rectory</b>
Feb 11 Sun	10:30	Holy Communion
Feb 14 Wed	10:30	<b>Ash Wednesday service</b> - Lent begins
Feb 18 Sun	10:30	Holy Communion
Feb 25 Sun	10:30	Holy Communion
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Sun 3 Mar	10.30am	Muddy Church

## Regular Events

**Muddy Church** - every 1st Sunday (see above.) A space for wandering & wondering with God.

Our **Toddler Group, Fledglings**. All welcome at Pucks Oak Barn on Monday mornings in term time. Contact [fledglingscompton@gmail.com](mailto:fledglingscompton@gmail.com)

**Small Groups** Every week during Lent. Please contact our Rector Sally if you would like to be part of one of these...

**Inside Out meets Sat 3 Feb & Sat 2 Mar 10am-12 noon** & every 1st Saturday to keep the church & churchyard looking good. Contact [stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com)

**Bell Ringing Practice:** Morning practice twice a month on Tuesdays from 10am. We ring on Sundays from 10.00 - 10.30am. Contact [phil.gorton@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.gorton@btinternet.com)

## Dates for your Diary

**Mar 9 Sat** - Guild Bellringing competition in church 2-4pm

**Mar 17 Sun** - **A bit of a party** 2-4pm

## Bell ringing striking competition

At 2.00pm on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March, eight teams of ringers will convene at Compton for the Guildford Diocesan Guild six-bell striking competition. The Guild consists of four geographical districts and two teams from each will take part.



This year, as a result of a previous qualifying competition, the Compton band will be one of those representing the Guildford District.

The test pieces are quite short – about five minutes each – and each team chooses their preferred method. After a short warm-up to enable the teams to get used to unfamiliar bells, they will ring their piece with as few faults as possible. The judges will be listening with very sharp ears!

If you are curious about bellringing, or would like to support the Compton ringers, do drop in for a while. The competition is expected to last for about two hours, after which the ringers will adjourn to Godalming church for more ringing and a well-earned tea.

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**Grandparenting for Faith – Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> February** – 9.45 for 10 til 12. Join us at The Rectory. Watch an online seminar on ‘Grandparenting for Faith’, with tea, coffee and a chance to chat, and discover more about passing on being a Christian to your grandchildren.  
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In February we pray for ...

**Our Parish:** Those who live in The Avenue, Bowling Green

**Our Community:** Compton Village Hall and its Committee

**Among our local Deanery churches:** St Mary’s, Chiddingfold

**Those in particular need:** Jo, Richard D, Sally G, Jenny & Martin’s son-Stephen, those caring for others, known personally to us, & known only to God.

## Our Vision for 2024: 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...

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## 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 ALWAYS respected.

**Would you like to speak to or pray with a priest?**

Revd Sally Buddle 07778 681664

Email: [stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com)

### Key contacts

Church administrator: Sarah Bennett

[stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com)

Churchwardens: Ros Lawson and Mike Winterbotham

[stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com)

Safeguarding: Sarah Bennett

[stnicholascompton.safeguarding@gmail.com](mailto: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 us at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/8109/>