

The church of St Nicholas Compton is an outstanding church of special significance and interest, is Grade 1 Listed and over 1000 years old. Standing close to what today is called the Pilgrims Way, travellers have been using the ancient tracks to visit this site for a long time.

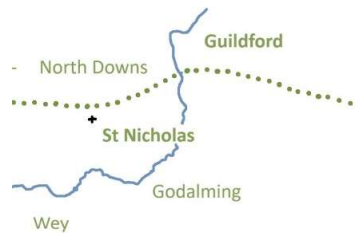
Over the years, the church has been a place where quiet contemplation, prayer, worship and family history have begun, been interwoven and played out for over a millennium.

Today, we are a community of local Christians, pilgrims & visitors who have discovered this as a very special place on our journey, a profound experience of learning, faith, mystery and peace.

Our prayer for visitors is that you may experience Jesus who promised

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

The Prayer Tree can be found in the SE corner of the church.



More information on the history is available in the Alan Bott Leaflet 'A Short Guide to the Parish Church of St Nicholas Compton' & in his book 'Compton Parish church', both available to buy in the church.

Don't forget your pilgrim's stamp – it's on the shelves by the main door!



You are very welcome to join us

We gather every Sunday morning at 10.30am and for various events during the week. Join us for Fledglings (toddlers), Muddy Church, Holy Communion, Evensong, bellringing, small groups and much more. Full details on our website: stnicholascompton.org

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?

Rev'd Sally Buddle: 07778 681664: stnicholascompton.rector@gmail.com

Do you have an enquiry?

For baptisms, weddings, funerals or just a general enquiry, contact our church administrator, stnicholascompton.office@gmail.com

For queries relating to the building including access, contact our churchwardens: stnicholascompton.wardens@gmail.com

For Safeguarding concerns contact: safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk or ring 999 if urgent

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.

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

Churchyard Conservation

The churchyard today appears to retain the broadly oval shape perhaps of the Saxon church grounds. The churchyard is much loved and carefully managed; it is a habitat for wildflowers and wildlife, as well as being a resource for the church in many ways, from Muddy Church, playing and learning, a breakout space for the congregation and a place of quiet reflection or study. The churchyard is no longer open for burials, but a list of those for whom this is the final resting place can be found on our website and in a folder in the porch.

Welcome to St Nicholas Compton, Surrey



Please take this short guide with you as you look around the church

This information & more is available digitally by scanning the QR code



We offer several ways for you to enjoy God's presence in this beautiful historic church

- Spirituality Trail
- History Trail
- Prayer Tree
- Pilgrim Stamp

Both Trails start at the Font, just to the left inside the main door.

Spirituality Trail

1 The Font The water of baptism symbolises washing away our wrongdoing, being filled with the Holy Spirit and joining the family of God.

We are all pilgrims on a journey, so is there any aspect of your life where you would like a new start?

2 The Nave This is where our congregation, from babies to the elderly, gathers every Sunday to worship God together.

Maybe take a moment to praise & worship God yourself...

3 & 4 Sanctuary Not one, but two! In this special part of the church, we remember God's presence & transforming love, with us through the bread and wine of Holy Communion.

How do you best sense God's presence in this place?

7 Prayer Tree In the Bible, God promises to answer our prayers. So it's good to pause to pray and to be encouraged by the prayers of others.

Why not write your own prayer and add it to the tree?

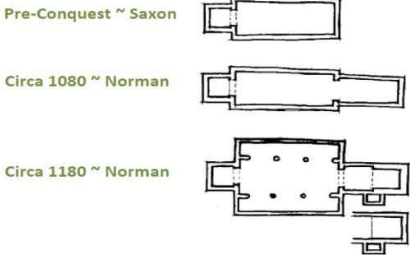
10 Outside Our beautiful churchyard is managed to conserve its ancient grassland species. It also contains many graves and family memorials.

Take a moment to wander & wonder at God's marvellous creation...

Please see overleaf for details of our services, activities and events that help us to celebrate and share God's love.



The church building has changed and grown over the years



History Trail

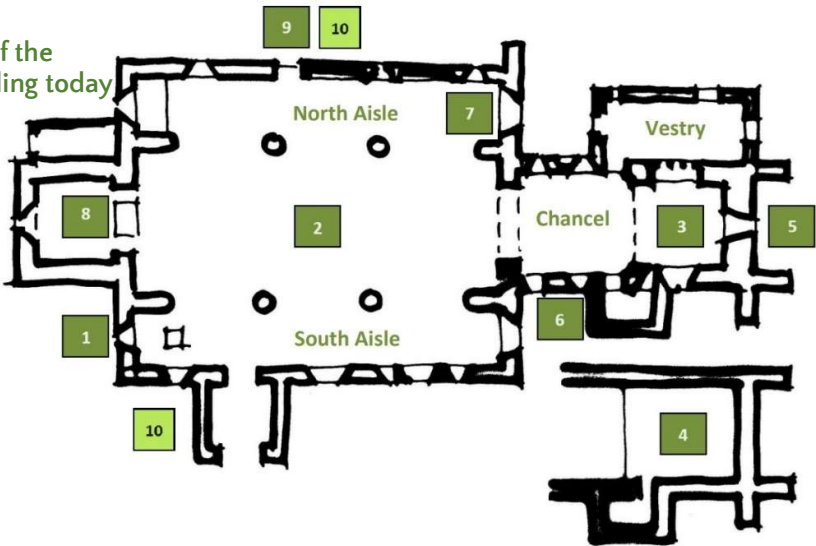
1 The Font, where people are baptised, and above a window from 17th century of St John the Baptist baptising Jesus Christ, showing the symbolism of the Baptism below the Dove descending.

2 The Nave is where the congregation gathers for services. The east wall above the fine chancel arch has a distinctive and intriguing 15th century 'cube in perspective' decoration, once the backdrop to a Rood screen. The Lives of the Saints are very important to Christians. Most of the windows in the aisles have stained or painted glass depicting images of Saints, their symbols and stories. The Norman arches have splendid carved capitals.

3 The Sanctuary (where the Altar is sited and where the congregation receive Holy Communion) at Compton is very rare. It is an example of a two-storied Double Sanctuary considered unique in England.

4 The Upper Sanctuary has a nine-arched wooden balustrade, said

The layout of the church building today



to be the oldest surviving decorative timber work in Britain

5 Virgin and Child panel, probably early 13th century. It is possible that parts of the church were once used as, if not even built as, Chantry Chapels and as cells for Anchorites, see the Bott guide and book. Church buildings are important locations for commemorations - there are numerous examples of coloured glass, metal and stone memorials around the church.

6 The church is dedicated to St Nicholas and there is an early 20th century window showing him as the patron saint of sailors, and with three balls representing his bestowal of dowries to three impoverished sisters.

7 Prayer Tree.

8 A shingled Broach Spire was added to the Saxon Tower in the 13th or 14th

century. The Tower now houses a working clock dating (1688) and six bells which are expertly rung on Sundays, special occasions and in competitions. **The organ**, built by Kenneth Jones of Dublin, was installed in 1995. Housed in a solid oak case, it has two manuals and pedals, 14 speaking stops and 818 pipes. It has tracker key action and mechanical stop action.

9 The reopening of the **North Door** was completed in 2024 giving a new connection with the outside.

10 Churchyard. Whilst the church building itself bears witness to Christianity through the ages, the church of today is very much alive to the presence of God and open for all to discover His love.

Early Christianity	270-342	595	1066	1086<	1128	1138	1138-53	1170	1348-50	1381	1382	1540	1588	1643-51	1662	1837-1901	1914-18	1939-45	1936-61	Modern Surrey
	St Nicholas of Myra	St Augustine arrives	William the Conqueror Invades	Guildford Castle	Waverley Abbey	Farnham Castle	The Anarchy	Martyrdom of Thomas a Becket	Black Death	Peasants Revolt	Wycliffe's Bibles	Henry VIII Reformation	Spanish Armada	Civil Wars	Book of Common Prayer	Victorian Era	World War 1	World War 2	Guildford Cathedral	