



St John the Evangelist, Dormansland Newsletter – March 2026

<https://lingfieldparishchurch.org/>

Thought for March

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, 'Where are you?' He answered, 'I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.' Genesis 3:8–10

Lent is traditionally a season to reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross and its implications for our daily lives. So, here's a question for your thoughts and prayers this month...

Where are you?

"The love, tenderness, and desire for intimacy that will lead to Jesus' infinitely costly Good Friday sacrifice is right there in God's question. God is not asking because he needs directions. He knows precisely where they are. As he knows precisely where we are. Despite their rebellion, he doesn't kill them, he doesn't drag them angrily from their hiding places by the scruff of their necks. He comes down 'in the cool of the day', as was his habit, and invites them into a conversation. He wants their fellowship. As he wants ours." (LICC)

Perhaps God's question is a question for us here at St John's, however long we've been following Jesus. Lent, after all, is a time to reflect; to let God strip back the layers so we might know him better. Where am I in my relationship with him? What might I be hiding?

Perhaps I am too busy, too afraid, or too ashamed to walk with him 'in the garden in the cool of the day'? How are my relationships with others? Am I afraid of someone, too wary of their power, or too needy of their approval? Or perhaps I am harbouring anger, envy, jealousy, or indifference to someone. Are there things I have not done that I ought to have done? Things I have done that I ought not to have done?

God's question is an invitation to penetrate those burdens and allow him to bring to light those things he wants to help us with. Where are you? If you aren't sure, if perhaps there are things hidden that you don't even know are there, then one of David's prayers gives us a way forward: "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139:23–24) And he will. Because 'the way everlasting' is what he has wanted for us – from the beginning.

Join our Lenten lunches, our Holy Week services and let's allow God to find us.

Services at St John's in March 2026

Sunday 1st Mar. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Family Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 8th Mar. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion with Sunday Smilers, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 15th Mar. – 8am – Service of the Word, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 22nd Mar. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 29th Mar. – 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Palm Sunday Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Messy Church
Tuesday 31st Mar - 3:30pm



Breakfast Hub
1st Saturday of the
month, 9am-11am at
St Peter & St Paul,
Lingfield

Compline on Zoom

Every Wednesday at 8pm
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74615258857?pwd=QXfPyoDEbLeuxPq5sCNBcQDsftCgyX.1>
Meeting ID: 746 1525 8857
Passcode: compline

Meeting Up & Warm Hub
We meet in the Centenary Room
Tuesday 3rd & 17th March. – 10am-12pm

Wine & Wondering
Tuesday 31st Mar – 7:30pm
at The Star Inn, Lingfield

Saturday Lunches

A free simple lunch is offered in St Bernard's on the last Saturday of every month from **12.30 pm**. The next one will be on **Saturday 28th March**



Friday Prayer

Jesus prioritised prayer in his busy life. We are setting aside an hour each Friday to pray from 4pm in St Andrews Chapel for the needs of the parish and the wider world.

Online Home Group Gathering

Join Melinda for a contemplative-focused home group that meets every other Wednesday from 11:00am to 12:00pm on Zoom.

This is a space for reflection, connection, and quiet encouragement on our journey of faith. All are welcome.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83085759497?pwd=YlUmUGGMAT8slZNg0VbjYgZ2ivQZD.1>

Meeting ID: 830 8575 9497 **Passcode:** 57N5yU

Home Groups

These groups meet in people's homes on a regular basis. They involve times of Bible study/or discussion, a time of prayer and mutual support. The group meets at various homes on a **Wednesday** afternoon beginning at **2:30pm**. Please see Jackie Harrison for further information.

2026

2026 holds some exciting new or different-to-usual ventures for St John's and we would love any help you can offer!

Open The Book: We are going to be taking a team into Dormansland School once or twice a term to do some Open the Book assemblies. The book being, of course, The Bible. If you would like to be part of this team, please talk to Revd Annie asap.

Bubble Church: This is a new style of children's service which will probably be in addition to our usual All Age Service, which includes puppets, Bible stories and action songs. Early days but if you would like to join the team to take this forward and join us for training, please talk to Revd Annie

Toddler Group: We are about to welcome a toddler group into the church, meeting in the Centenary Room on Wednesday mornings. Volunteers to help would be gratefully received. Please see Revd Annie