



St John the Evangelist, Dormansland Newsletter – October 2026

<https://lingfieldparishchurch.org/>

Thought for October

Recently at the 5 o'clock service we thought about these verses from 2 Corinthians 3: 2-3

"You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."

Paul is defending his ministry against opponents who apparently came to Corinth with letters of recommendation from Judea and demanded that he should produce his letters to prove he was not an impostor. His answer is that the Corinthians themselves, as believers in Christ, are Paul's eloquent testimonial that proves his apostolic status and authority.

We thought about Paul's analogy of our lives as a letter from Jesus Christ, and what kind of letter we might be to those to whom we are sent? We all ought to think about that question. And then ask ourselves, will my presence in their lives today be irksome, like a bill, or irritating, like an advertising circular? Will it be demanding, like a tax return, or will it be a petty complaint about something or other. Will the recipient of the letter we represent today leave the recipient feeling diminished and distressed? Or will my arrival in the life of the other person today be invigorating and encouraging? Will it tell them something new about life that perhaps they are longing to hear but hardly dare to believe in? Will it make them laugh? Will it lift their hearts? Will it make them feel more alive than they did before.

And of course, taking this analogy a step further, will Jesus Christ send you a letter today? Will someone cross your path who has something to show you about God's love and compassion? Will you recognise Jesus' handwriting in the presence of that person?

Let's pray: Lord, let the writing on my 'letter' today be clearly yours and not my own, so that those who receive it may readily recognise the Sender's love. Amen

Services at St John's in October 2026

Sunday 4th Oct. – 8am – Service of the Word, 9am – Bubble Church, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 11th Oct.- 8am – Said Communion, 10am – All Age Service with children helping lead service, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 18th Oct. – 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion with Sunday Smilers, 5pm – Informal Worship

Sunday 25th Oct. - 8am – Said Communion, 10am – Parish Communion, 5pm – Informal Worship

Messy Church
Tuesday 27th Oct. - 3:30pm



Compline on Zoom

Every Wednesday at 8pm

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74615258857?pwd=QXfPyoDEbLeuxPg5sCNBcQDsITCgyX.1>

Meeting ID: 746 1525 8857

Passcode: compline

Meeting Up & Warm Hub

We meet in the Centenary
Room

6th & 20th Oct. – 10am-12pm

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 Wednesday afternoons beginning at **2:30pm**. Please see Jackie Harrison for further information.

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 31st October**.

All Souls Service at St John's

At 11.30am on Sunday 1st November St John's will be holding a service to remember loved ones who have made it to heaven before us. This will be a special service for the community of Dormansland when names of those we wish to remember will be read out during the service. Please either email vicar.dormansland@gmail.com or write names on the list at the back of church.

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.

Harvest Lunch

This year our Harvest Service and lunch is taking place on **Sunday 11th October**. Please add your name to the list if you would like to join us.

Toy Swap

Saturday 10th October, 10:30am-12:30pm, at Dormansland War Memorial Hall.

If anyone has good quality clean toys they would like to donate for the Toy Swap, please leave at the back of St John's church or email Rosemary at rwilliams2013@icloud.com
Refreshments available.

Christmas Market

On **Saturday 14th November St Peter & St Paul** are holding their annual Christmas Market. Open 11am-3pm, come along to support the local businesses selling their products. You can also enjoy a nice turkey roll and a glass of Mulled Wine! We will also be holding a raffle at 3pm! See you there!

Air Ambulance Fundraiser

On **Sunday 11th October at Lingfield Farmer's Market**. The air ambulance is a service we all hope we'll never need, but one that can save our lives if we do. Your help in bringing the community together to support it would mean a great deal. You can find more details here:

<https://www.lingfieldfarmersmarket.co.uk/airambulfundraiser>