

St Mary Magdalene Church, Littleton

Weekly Newsletter

29 August 2026

Our church is committed to making all activities as open and accessible to all

The Testimony Project

Throughout the Bible, it is estimated that there are between 600 and 800 separate stories or accounts. Research also suggests that humans are 22x more likely to retain information if it is delivered through a story than if we hear factual information alone. Stories provide us with context, witness evidence and “real life”.

Stories are fascinating. I am sure that we can all recall our favourite stories as children, from nursery stories through to our first “chapter” books, and through into adulthood, whether we consider ourselves to be “readers” or not. My favourites range from the Narnia series through to Mallory Towers through to

Our own stories are critical to both ourselves and others. The Bible contains so many stories of human experience, and Jesus spoke in parables to teach and explain. In speaking with a church friend this week, she commented that she had always wondered why the Bible stops, when there are so many more stories available to demonstrate faith and wonder and human experience. That is where the St Mary Magdalene Littleton Testimony Project comes in. This is an opportunity for you to share your story with existing and new Christians and those who are

searching for something that they can't identify – with the aim being to perhaps refresh our own faith, show how God has woven His story into our lives, and to inspire people who are wondering who God is and how He works in our lives. The project would be a Living Testimony – our stories change as we go through life. We will include stories from different people to show that God's plan is as diverse as His creation.

The process is not scary – it will involve a semi-structured interview that can be in person or online. We will spend some time hearing your story and I will ask some questions to structure it. We can change your name or the names of the people in the story. Ultimately, though, there is no substitute for the reality of life and how God has formed you to be the person you are. In Psalm 139, we are told that we are “fearfully and wonderfully made”. And therefore, so is your story. Let's share your story – and the collective story of our church – to encourage and inspire others in their faith journey.

If you would like to take part, you can see me in church, call me, or email me and we will arrange a convenient time to get together to discuss the project and your part in it.

Rebecca

RECTOR: Revd Tim Rose

CURATE: Revd Jared Bannister

CONTACT US:

Website

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Safeguarding

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THIS WEEK

Sunday Services 30 August **9.30 ONLY**

Cornerstone 31 August 10-12 in the OSB

Holy Spirit Group 1 September at 7.30pm

Wednesday Fellowship 2 September 10am

Prayer Meeting 2 September at 8pm on Zoom

Book Club 3 September at 8pm

Sunday Services 6 September **9.30 and 11.15**



This Sunday's Readings & Collect –

Psalms 96

John 15:5-9

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



CONFIRMATION & BAPTISM

We are delighted that Bishop Graham Tomlin will be joining us on Sunday 20 September.



If you would like to be Baptised or Confirmed please speak to Tim.

Rotas

New rotas have been emailed out to you all. Please make a note of the dates and, if you are unable to do any of these, please arrange a swap with someone else on the team.

Volunteers

If you would like to help in any aspect of church life then please do speak to Tim or one of the Churchwardens, Rebecca or Belinda. There is always plenty to do and it is so rewarding to be fully involved in the life of our church family.

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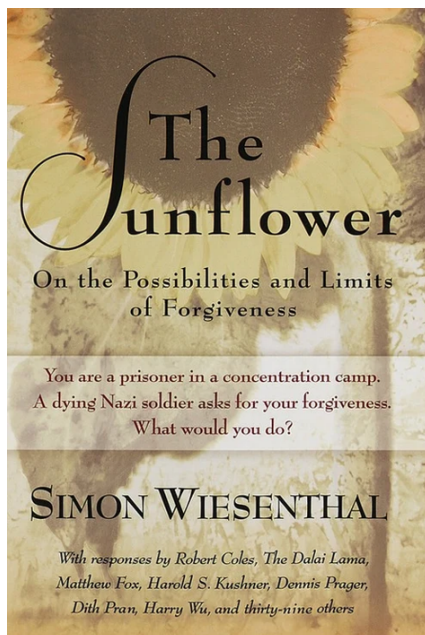
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IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

We hope you have all had a good Summer and have had some well earned rest and relaxation.

In the next couple of weeks we will swing back into action with our usual groups and services, as well as some special events. So here are some dates for your Autumn diary with further information to follow.



The Book Club will be starting again with this new book on 3 September at 8pm and will meet fortnightly. Please speak to Andi Janes for more information.

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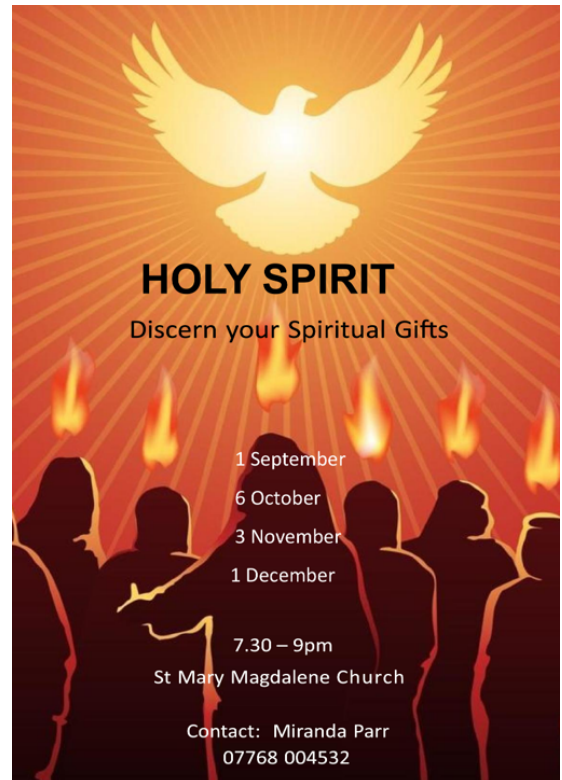
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CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Creche (in Vestry), Sunday Club (in School) and Youth (in OSB) will resume at 11.15am on 13 September. They will meet each Sunday except on the first Sunday of the month when we have an all in service in the school.

Older Youth will also meet in the evenings at 7pm. More details from Tim.

CURATE: Revd Jared Bannister

Beer & Bible will continue to meet fortnightly on Tuesdays at 8.15pm in The Barley Mow.



Cornerstone has continued throughout the Summer to meet on Mondays 10-12 noon in the OSB.

We have had a couple of trips out this Summer. A boat trip from Runnymede to Windsor and an Afternoon Tea.



Please do come along and join us for tea, coffee, homemade cake and good company.

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 3 October at 7.30pm in the OSB



SERVICE OF LIGHT

Sunday 1 November at 3pm followed by tea and cake.



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Sunday 8 November 10am



WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday 21 November 9.30am in the OSB



SSH...THE 'C' WORD!

Nativity 20 December 2pm

Littleton's Favourite Carols 22 December 7.30pm

Christmas Communion 23 December 10am followed by Vigil until 10pm

Crib Service 24 December 10am

Midnight Mass 24 December 11.30pm

Christmas Day Service 25 December 10am