

Bishop's Gathering for Cranleigh Deanery

Celebrations and prayer requests

We give thanks for the leadership of Revd Sarah Hutton as Area Dean are very grateful to representatives of the parishes in Cranleigh Deanery for submitting the following 'things to celebrate' and prayer requests for use at the Bishop's Gathering hosted by St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh on 29 June 2029.

Alfold & Loxwood

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd James Forward and team.

We celebrate: We are 3/4 way through our Year of Prayer - meeting every Monday morning from 9-12 to pray. We've seen God working powerfully through this. We prayed for 25 people on our Alpha Course and on week 1 there were exactly 25! One person has become a Christian having had no exposure to the gospel/ church at all before. There or four others have made some kind of recommitment following on from Alpha.

We pray for: those new folk to become integrated and feel like they belong to the church family and for our kids work, particularly for Youth Group which we will try to launch in September.

Bramley and Grafham

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd William Davie and team.

We celebrate: God has enabled us in Bramley and Grafham to pull together after a difficult few years and look to the future, rebuilding our community and our links with wider village life. This has in particular seen a better and stronger relationship with Bramley Infant School which will hopefully continue to be mutually beneficial.

We pray for: more people to start attending on whose heart God has put the needs of Bramley and Grafham. This includes but is not limited to younger families and people who are willing to step up into leadership roles such as church warden or treasurer. This will enable us to move forward into a period of growth.

Cranleigh

We give thanks for the appointment of our new Rector, Revd Natlie Worsfold, and for the leadership of Erik Heemskerk and the team during the vacancy.

We celebrate: We have new people turning up out of nowhere (some commenting that they simply woke up and felt they should go to church even though they'd never been before) and wanting to be baptised and/or confirmed, we had a wonderful Baptism and Confirmation service on the 31st of May. A junior teenager group has started, our ministry and outreach in care homes and Elmbridge village. The church coming and sticking together during the

vacancy. New people stepping up in leadership and ministry.

We pray for: Natalie in her new ministry. Receptivity to changes. For people to deepen in discipleship and keep on growing in faith and in being part of the church.

Dunsfold and Hascombe

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Fr Shane Griffiths and team.

We celebrate: the very special and much loved character of each of our church buildings and celebrate the opportunities we have to work together often to reach those outside our regular congregations. A particular success has been the growth of our Pub Ministry at The Sun Inn in Dunsfold where we meet together for bible study and pizza! Our numbers have grown greatly over the last year and people are gaining the confidence to offer to lead sessions. From our most recent course, two of the attendees were recently confirmed at our Cathedral.

We pray for: Please pray for our continued working together on Eco church projects. Strengthen the collaboration we have with our wider communities as we rewild our churchyards. Being an area that has no schools can be a challenge to involve our young families but pray that we can continue to engage with them through Funday@4 services and encouraging them to extend our creation care initiatives.

Ewhurst and Ellens Green

We give thanks for the dedicated ministry of Revd Rosemary Mason as Priest-in-Charge during the three-year vacancy and for the appointment of Revd Elizabeth Richardson as the new Priest-in-Charge. We pray for God's blessing on her ministry and for the continued flourishing of the parish.

Shamley Green

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Sally Davies and team and pray for your blessing on her ministry and for continued growth in the worshipping community in the parish.

The Tillingbourne Benefice: Albury, Chilworth, Peaslake, & Shere Churches

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Tim Heaney and team including Revd Sarah Hutton and Revd David Oakden.

We pray for our first ever benefice joint PCC Away day on July the 11th where the PCCs from our 3 parishes will meet to discuss our shared vision of "being with God. being with each other, being with the world" and how that might look in our different parishes and churches. Our opening speaker is Sam Wells who will help us to focus on 'being with' theology throughout the rest of the day.

We pray for Chilworth which consists of two very different churches, St Thomas and St Martha's. St Thomas is very much part of the community, it is the centre of the village, hosts the foodbank larder box, enabling us to be known and linked with families in food poverty.

We have our recently started Toddlers group, again linking us to the community. We have growing links with our Infant school, where I am meeting lots of new people and having God conversations. Our garden group are also getting involved with school life.

St Martha's is our pilgrim church, becoming well known for its music events, and a place to get married. We host many schools during the year who wish to visit this iconic venue, with some now visiting annually. Its annual Horsemen's service becomes a bigger happening each year and an outreach moment. Both of our churches St. Martha's the beacon of the hill and St. Thomas the lantern in the valley, are seeing signs of new growth, and all we do is undergirded with prayer.

Please continue to pray for us that we may reach those in need, and that we will be encouraged with new people coming to know God. That I will be able to start some new youth work within the parish and benefice.

Wonersh and Blackheath

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd David Peters and team.

We celebrate: We have seen God working in building our community with new members, new families and a vibrant kids church. We have celebrated full immersion baptisms in the church, three confirmed at the cathedral and two ordained priest at the weekend. We are excited!

We pray for: The Children's leader has recently decided to return to teaching and so we are looking for a new Children and Family Leader. We are also looking at developing a group for kids with additional needs and also a regular group for those living with or caring for those with dementia.

The Youth Catalyst Team would love to serve your church. Do get in contact if you need any youth ministry support, from establishing a youth ministry to training your team, and check out some of the diocesan or more local events that are for your young people. Please contact sophie.blake@cofeguildford.org.uk for more information.

Bishop's Prayer Network



Thank you for praying with us this evening. Bishop Paul warmly invites you to join the Prayer Network he is establishing to support a renewed diocese-wide commitment to pray. Please enter your name, email and parish at the address below or scan the QR code, ideally this evening, to receive prayer bulletins.

cofeguildford.org.uk/prayernetwork