

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Eph 3: 20-21

WELCOME to St Richard's News update 1 Dec 2024

Sunday 1 Dec – Morning service 10.45am

ADVENT 1

(with Creche, Sunday Club & lasers!)

Exodus 15:1-27 Worshipping and whinging

(Mark Rapley preaching & Andrew Nicholls leading)

Evening service at All Saints – 6.30pm - HOLY COMMUNION - Luke 1: 26 - 38

Notices...

Mo Rose

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of **Mo Rose**. It was such a delight to see Mo answer God's call to come back to church a couple of years ago and declare her love for the Lord. Please pray for Mo's family and especially her granddaughter Jodie who was especially close to her.

Opportunities to Help

Carols by Candlelight Service – participation

Our Carols by Candlelight is a great service where we really get into the 'spirit' of Christmas with the coming of our saviour Jesus Christ. Mark has discovered the **Hand Bells** that The Campaigners youth group used, if you would like to be part of the group stay afterward the morning service. Do you have a favourite Christmas – Jesus themed – **poem** that you would like to read, then let Mark know. We may also have our **singing group** back, if you would like to be part of that speak to David.

MINCE PIES

It's always lovely to be able to offer mince pies after some of our Christmas services! **Can you donate a box?**

Please leave any donations in the church kitchen clearly marked **"for St Richard's"**



What's on this week...

MONDAYS

- **Men's Sausage Roll Club – most Monday mornings**

If you're free on Monday mornings and would benefit from good company and conversation, then why not join this group. They meet in various places so for more information and the latest rendezvous have a chat with John Wayte.

- **Southern Crowborough Craft Group – Re-starts in the New Year**

TUESDAYS

- **Little Seeds Toddler Group 10am till 12pm**

Meeting during term time, this provides a welcome meeting place for local parents and carers to socialise and bring their little one to enjoy playing and organised activities. First timers are welcome to come for a taster session just give Sarah a buzz to let us know you're coming.

- **Heroes (R-Y2) and Adventurers (Y3-Y6) at All Saints**

During term time we partner with All Saints in their youth groups. Meeting from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. Hero's meets in the Parish Halls Adventurers in the downstairs hall accessed from the back of All Saints church. For more info email Sarah Thrift sarah@allsaintscrowborough.org

WEDNESDAYS

- **Midday prayer at St Richard's – every week 12noon till 1pm**

Join with us as we think through what we heard on Sunday and to pray for our church, the community of southern Crowborough, the churches in Crowborough, the CofE and the world.

- **The Barnabas Support Group – This month on Wed 11 Dec - 10.30am – 12noon (usually every third Wednesday) **Come and hear the Ukulele Band!****

in the Downstairs Rooms at All Saints Church to bring together those with dementia or memory loss problems and their carers for encouragement, sharing together, and information. All are welcome to come and join in these Coffee Mornings. **For more information, please speak to Frances Sadd.**

*Barnabas Dementia
Support Group*

THURSDAYS

- **Pastoral Surgery.**

A key aspect of church life is our spiritual health and wellbeing. Slots are available Monday evenings from 7.45pm and Thursday afternoons from 4pm at St Richard's lounge. A time to chat through things, share time in prayer and fellowship, whatever may be helpful for you.

FRIDAYS

- **Ladies bible study – during term time at St Richard's 10:15 -11.30am.**

An hour together to enrich our bible knowledge and grow in faith. Speak to Trish if you think you'd like to join us!

Dates for your diary

- Friday 6th December – **Christmas Quiz Night** – 7.30pm - £2 per ticket.
Book a table (up to 8 people) please contact the church office.
There is SPACE for one more team!
- Sunday 8th December – **Carol Singing around Nightingales**
- Saturday 14th December – **Christmas Family fun afternoon (for ages 0-13yrs) 2-3.30pm.**
Book tickets [HERE](#) or contact the church office.
- Monday 16th December – **Carol singing around Alderbrook**
- Sunday 22nd December – **10.45am Scratch Nativity 7pm Carols by Candlelight.**
- Tuesday 24 December – **Christingle Service** – 4pm.
- Wednesday 25 December – **Christmas day All age Celebration service** – 10am

Nightingales Carol Singing – 8 December

Everyone is welcome to join us as we sing carol around the Nightingales development. We meet from 4.45 for 5 pm start at 30 Kingfisher Drive.

Quiz Night and Family Fun Afternoon

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE via the links above in Dates for your diary.

Both these events give us an opportunity to connect to our friends and community whilst having fun. It also gives us an opportunity to connect them to the truth claims of Jesus. We cannot make anyone a Christian, but we can lead them to the living water for them to drink.

Please pray for Mark as he speaks at both events and that a curiosity will be created in those who do not yet know Jesus to come along to our Hope Explored and Christianity Explored courses in January

Christmas Lunch at All Saints

12.30pm - 3.30pm on 25th December.

All welcome, but you need to book using this link

<https://allsaintscrowborough.churchsuite.com/events/qoh3p917>

Opportunities to serve and help others

Crowborough Foodbank

St Richard's is a Foodbank collection point, for a list of acceptable items check out their [website](#)

Crowborough Pantry

This open to anyone, regardless of circumstances, and aims to help both the planet and the community, by sharing donated food which would otherwise likely be wasted. You'll find them around the corner in Beechview Parade, Open:

Mondays: 10am until 11am

Tuesdays: 2.30pm until 4pm

Thursdays: 6pm until 7pm

Saturdays: 10am until 11am

Sundays: 6pm – 6.30pm



Next Sunday 8 Dec

ADVENT 2 - Morning service at 10.45am

(With Crèche, Sunday Club & Lasers!)

Revelation 4. Behold our God: The throne in heaven

(Mark Rapley Preaching & Abi Lattimer leading)

Assisted Dying bill.

MPs are seeking to bring in a bill to legalise assisted dying – to be debated by Christmas. Christians should oppose this dangerous bill and protect the lives of the vulnerable. Visit Christian Concern to find out more [here](#). They have helpful guidance on contacting our local MP and other ways to oppose this bill. If you struggle to know what to write to an MP [click here](#) to edit and send an example letter:

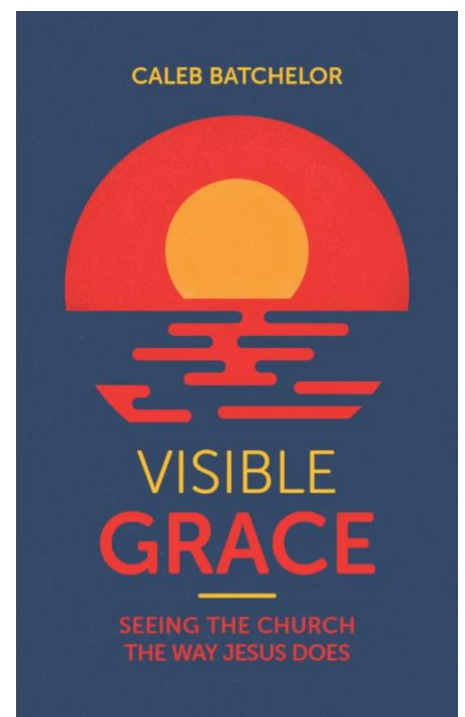
Recommended book:

Visible Grace

Seeing the Church the Way Jesus Does

Caleb Batchelor

Unfortunately, apart from the Spirit, we don't naturally see the church as Jesus does. We know grace is there – somewhere – but as hot tempers, cold relationships, bitterness, unremarkable sermons, lacklustre programs, and unmet expectations fill the page, grace seems invisible. We must confront sin. We must disagree. But as we learn to see the church the way Jesus does, we'll become less focused on other people's failings and more alive to God's remarkable grace in their lives.



Opportunities to Grow in our Faith

Bible by the Beach 2025 - 2nd-5th May 2025. www.biblebythebeach.org Weekend tickets reduced if booked before **30th Nov**. Places can be secured with a £40 deposit. Please contact Suzanne Hall on 01892 652081 if you are interested.

Keswick Convention 2025

“Be Transformed”

Week 2: Saturday 19th – Friday 25th July 2025

Ten years ago, St Richards travelled to the Lake District and attended the Keswick Convention. Well, we thought it was time we returned.

Interested have a chat with Philip and Sue Rowland-Smith.

