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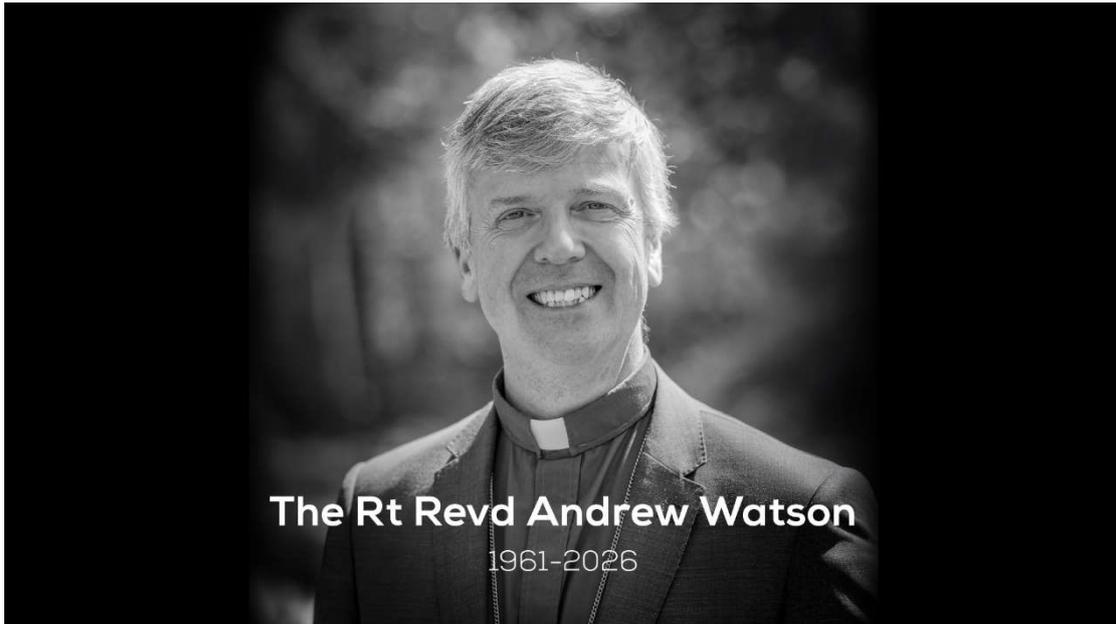
# ST MICHAEL'S PIRBRIGHT & ST MARK'S WYKE

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KNOWING GOD AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**



The Bishop of Dorking, The Rt Revd Paul Davies has announced the death of The Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford.

Bishop Andrew died peacefully on Tuesday 3 March surrounded by family, less than one month after he received a terminal diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Prior to his death, he had shared his prognosis with the wider diocese, and he reassured them that he was “cheerfully persisting towards a good death”, and that his “faith in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, had only grown stronger”. He also reflected that he had been blessed with a loving family and the opportunity to fulfil a series of ministries in his “beloved Church of England”.

Announcing the death in a letter to the diocese, Bishop Paul said:

“Whilst his family mourn the loss of a much-loved husband, father, grandfather, son and brother, we mourn the loss of a much-loved diocesan bishop – as well as

Revd George Watkinson Vicar of Pirbright & Wyke [georgealbionwatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:georgealbionwatkinson@gmail.com)  
Parish Office 01483 811777 [office@stmarkswyke.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarkswyke.org.uk) or [pirbrightoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pirbrightoffice@gmail.com)

Churchwardens

St Michael's, Pirbright:

Lizzie Klintworth - [liz\\_klintworth@hotmail.com](mailto:liz_klintworth@hotmail.com)

Helen Whitworth - [helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com](mailto:helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com)

St Mark's, Wyke:

Judy Kennedy - [judithkenn@hotmail.com](mailto:judithkenn@hotmail.com)

Simon Gimson - [treasurer@stmarkswyke.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stmarkswyke.org.uk)

an inspiring fellow disciple, dear brother in Christ, precious friend and special colleague.”

“In the midst of the shock and sadness of the last few months, Bishop Andrew has been an inspiration. For me, personally, he has taught me so much about how we should live and, in these past months, about how we should die.”

In his letter, Bishop Paul also encouraged the diocese that Bishop Andrew would want everyone to remain focused on “Jesus as our source of comfort, hope, salvation and strength.”

Last week, an all-day prayer vigil was held at Guildford Cathedral, in which almost 2,000 clergy and lay people from across the diocese and beyond, joined together in a huge show of support and prayer for Bishop Andrew and his family.

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury, very recently visited Bishop Andrew in his home.

She said: “It is with great sorrow that I received news of Bishop Andrew’s death. Andrew was a man of deep Christian faith who lived his life in the service of Christ and others. In the face of death, he demonstrated a calm reassurance of God’s saving grace.

“Over four decades of ministry, Andrew made an enormous contribution to the life of the Church of England – and, through his concern for Anglicans and other Christians around the world, the global church. He was a gentle man and generous with those who held differing theological views. He will be greatly missed, not just by his family and friends, but by the whole church.

“At this time of grief and loss, I hold Beverly and their sons and daughters in my prayers, asking that God would comfort and strengthen them. I pray too for Andrew’s friends, colleagues and all those whose lives he touched. May Andrew rest in peace and rise in glory.”

The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, Dean of Guildford Cathedral, said: “It is with profound sadness, and with hearts full of gratitude to God, that the Dean and Chapter of Guildford Cathedral mourn the death of Bishop Andrew. We have lost a shepherd, a servant, and a dear friend.

“A man of the Gospel, Bishop Andrew led not by command but by example, giving of his time and wisdom with an open hand and open heart. We give thanks for his life and ministry, and we grieve his passing — but not as those without hope.

*“Run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.” — Hebrews 12:1–2*

Diocesan Secretary, Geraldine Newbold added: “This is a very sad time for our diocese. Bishop Andrew was such a wonderful, caring man, who was genuinely interested in people and loved spending time with parishioners. He was also incredibly gifted and knowledgeable, and we all learnt a lot from him. His love of God, of his family, and the wider diocesan family, shone through in all he did. It has been a privilege to work with him and we will miss him dearly.”

Bishop Paul assumed interim leadership of the diocese just before Bishop Andrew’s death.

In his letter, Bishop Paul commended the following prayer to be used by parishes on Sunday.

*Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for Andrew,*

*our brother and bishop:*

*for his faith and faithfulness to you*

*in life and in leadership.*

*As we mourn his death*

*and commend him to your everlasting arms,*

*give us the same faith, hope and love,*

*rooted in the death and resurrection of your son, Jesus.*

*We pray especially for Beverly,*

*Hannah, Sam, Joe, Lydia and the whole family.*

*Comfort them with your Holy Spirit and protect them in their grief.*

*And bring us, at the last, with Andrew and all your children,*

*to that eternal joy where you live and reign in glory forever,*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

## **About Bishop Andrew**

Bishop Andrew was born in 1961 and grew up in Buckinghamshire and Hampshire, where his father was a Director of Music at Stowe School and Winchester College. Music was a major part of his upbringing, and he played the bassoon in the National Youth Orchestra as a young teenager. His passion for music continued into his adult years. He composed a choral Mass (for choir and organ) to celebrate both his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 60th anniversary of Guildford Cathedral in 2021.

Andrew read law at Cambridge University where he also held a music exhibition. Following his graduation in 1982, he worked at St Mary's, Islington as a youth worker and caretaker. He returned to Cambridge in 1984 where he took a second degree in Theology whilst training for ordained ministry at Ridley Hall. He was ordained in the Diocese of Worcester in 1987 and served his curacy in Redditch.

He subsequently moved to the Diocese of London, serving first in Notting Hill and then as vicar of St Stephen's Twickenham – where he facilitated several church plants in surrounding parishes.

In 2008, Andrew was appointed as Suffragan Bishop of Aston in the Diocese of Birmingham before his translation to Diocesan Bishop of Guildford in 2014. His 18 years as a bishop has been marked by an unwavering commitment to deepening discipleship, the revitalisation of churches, and the transformation of communities. As the grandson of CMS missionaries in China, Andrew had a strong commitment to the global church, especially in places where Christians face discrimination and persecution. Since his admission to the House of Lords in 2022, he has been a particular advocate for freedom of religious belief.

Bishop Andrew is survived by his wife Beverly, four children (Hannah, Sam, Joe and Lydia) and three grandchildren, as well as his mother and three siblings.

## **With sadness we hear of the death of Bishop Andrew**

It is with great sadness that we heard this week of the death of Bishop Andrew. He has been a faithful and inspiring leader within our diocese for many years, and he will be deeply missed by so many.

Personally, Bishop Andrew has been a great encouragement and inspiration to me in my ministry. His faith, wisdom and steady leadership have shaped the life of the diocese in profound ways.

While his passing brings real sadness, we also hold onto the hope of the Gospel that Bishop Andrew himself proclaimed so clearly throughout his life. As he wrote in his recent letter, he now rests with Jesus Christ. Even so, our prayers are very much with his family and all who mourn his loss, as this is always a difficult time for those left behind.

I will share a little more about Bishop Andrew during our services this Sunday as we give thanks for his life and ministry.

## Parish Drop In Sessions

A reminder that we will be holding two informal **drop in sessions this Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> March)** for anyone who would like to ask questions about the ongoing conversations around St Michael's and St Mark's joining together as one parish.

- St Mark's Church Hall following the 11:15am traditional service (around 12:30pm)
- St Michael's Church Hall, Pirbright at 3:00pm

These sessions are simply an opportunity to come along, ask questions, and talk things through in an open and relaxed setting. Everyone is very welcome.

With every blessing,

Revd George

## In your Prayers this week, please pray for:

### For the sick and their families at:

**St Michael's** – Gaynor Davenport, Barbara Douglas, Damian Jon Major, Theo & family, Mac Smith, Peter West, John Sim, Imogen and her family, George and Eileen Munro, Jackie, James Clay, Nic Flemming, Tim Straker, Joy Underwood, Kate & Ian Bailes.

**St Mark's** - Robyn Horsburgh, Jack Short, John and Clare Sherwood, Diana Marchant, Amelia Tilbury, George and Val Chant, Mavis, Tara Sherriff (Robert's niece), Simon T.  
**And all others who need God's healing touch including those known to us and not named, but in our prayers.**

### For the friends and family of those recently deceased:

**Guildford Diocese** – Bishop Andrew and his family

**St Mark's** - Robin Chalk

We pray for peace for their families and friends during this time of mourning.

## Readings for 8<sup>th</sup> March:

- Old Testament – Exodus 17:1-7
- New Testament – Romans 5:1-11
- Gospel – John 4:5-42

	<b>St Michael's</b>	<b>St Mark's</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30am Traditional Holy Communion Service	11.15am All Age Service in Church hall
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	8.00am Said Communion (BCP) 9.30am Contemporary Service	11.15am Traditional Holy Communion Service
	5pm Taizé service in alternative churches. See below for timetable	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday</b>	10.15am Said Communion	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30am Traditional Holy Communion Service	8.00am Said Communion (BCP) 11.15am Contemporary Service in Church hall
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	10.00am Church on the Green	11.15am Traditional Holy Communion Service
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	Joint service at 10am.	

## Taizé Services – 5pm

<b>St Mark's</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
10 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2026
13 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	8 <sup>th</sup> November 2026

## APCM's

**St Michael's, Pirbright – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3pm in the church room**

**St Mark's, Wyke – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the church room**

All are welcome to attend and hear about the life and activities of the church over the past year. There will also be elections for:

- Church wardens
- Deanery Synod members
- Any new PCC members

More information will be listed on the church noticeboards.

## Wyke

### Book group

Gill's book group is reading 'Dancing to the heartbeat of God' - The Archbishop's Lent Book. If you would like to join a discussion about it, we will meet on:

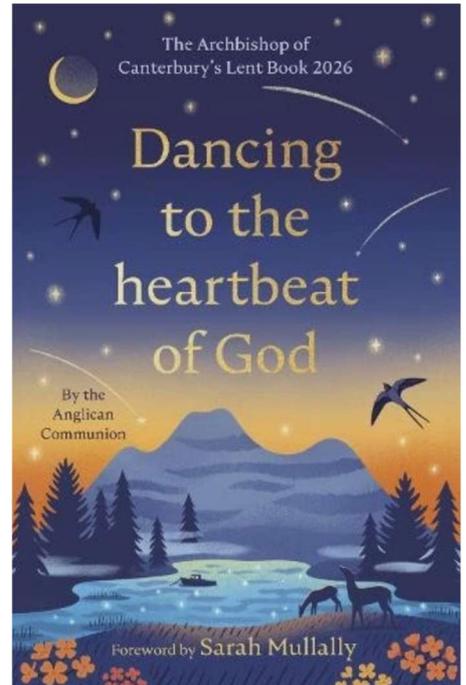
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm

at Oakcroft, Guildford Road, Normandy.

Gill has 2 spare books at £10 each if anyone wants to buy.

Thanks

Gill



### Quiz Night

A special date for your diaries! A QUIZ NIGHT at St. Mark's church hall on Saturday, 18th April at 7.00 pm. Please come and join us for an evening of entertainment, challenge and fun! Exciting raffle prizes!

Do please book early to avoid disappointment! There will be a list for signing up in church, or please email/call the office. Thank you.



### FOR SALE!

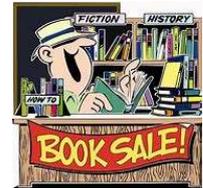
Holy wood chippings are available - three bags for £10. Contact the office on 01483 811777 or speak to Liz Oliver.

## Early Easter Mini Market this Saturday from 10am to 12noon!



Please come and join us for delicious home-made cakes, freshly brewed coffee and refreshments.

Browse our bric-a-brac/vintage ware, produce and books (old and new) or simply chat with old and new friends!



### Giant Easter egg raffle!

**Request from the Mini Market team, donations for our produce stall are needed please!** Home-made cakes, biscuits etc., flowers, plants, edible items and garden produce would be most gratefully accepted, either on Friday afternoon or on the Saturday morning of the mini market. Thank You!



## Hearing Aid Clinic

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 10am-12noon in the Coussmaker room.



## St Mark's Social on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

The talk, from a leading firm of solicitors, will feature **Wills and Power of Attorney**, followed by informal question time.

**St Mark's Social**  
10<sup>th</sup> March 10am-12 noon  
St Mark's Church Hall

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Coffee, Cake & Chat

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Please join us for an informative talk about Wills and Lasting Power of Attorney, by W Davies Solicitors, a leading personal and business law firm in Surrey and London.

Pirbright



**PIRBRIGHT**  
*Singers*

An evening of jazz-inspired choral music

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2026 AT 7.30PM**

**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS  
CHURCH, PIRBRIGHT**

**Will Todd *Jazz Missa Brevis*  
Bob Chilcott *A Little Jazz Mass***

● ● ●

**Featuring the Crane Jazz Ensemble:**

Eralys Fernandez <i>Piano</i>	Matt Jacobson-Barker <i>Alto Sax</i>
Marianne Windham <i>Bass</i>	Steve Dawes <i>Trumpet</i>
Tom Holister <i>Drum Kit</i>	Will Spencer <i>Trumpet</i>

**TICKETS £15**  
Cash or card on the door  
Under 18s free

**DOORS OPEN AT 7PM**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH ROOM**

## Church Plant Sale Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 11-2pm 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Can you believe it! The church plant sale celebrates 25 years this year. Jay Kleinberg and Julia Douetil started growing and selling plants to raise the money to pay for the church insurance, all those years ago, and the event has grown into what it is now. Please put the date in your diary and come down to Pirbright Church and celebrate with us. As we gear up for the event, can you help by donating any good quality plants by dividing your perennials, or taking some cuttings. We also need any small pots or multi pack growing boxes to grow on our seedlings. If anyone has any unwanted gifts, bottles, tombola prizes, could we have them for our plant sale. Please contact Helen 07777659138 or [helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com](mailto:helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com) if you can supply any of the above. Thank you!



## Date for your diary!



**ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL**



**A FLORAL CELEBRATION**

**CREATE A FLORAL DISPLAY INSPIRED BY ANY  
CREATURE**



Open to all in Pirbright and Wyke

All abilities encouraged

PRIZES AWARDED FOR THE BEST

**THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE DISPLAYED IN PIRBRIGHT  
CHURCH ON SATURDAY 6TH JUNE AS PART OF  
PIRBRIGHT VILLAGE FAIR.**



CONTACT HELEN—07777659138

[helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com](mailto:helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com)



## Both Churches

### Ladies Breakfast

The next breakfast is on Saturday 28th March 9-10.30am, at St Michael's Church Hall. Please let Ruth know for catering if you plan to come. 07939129170



### Taizé

The next bi-monthly Taizé service takes place this Sunday in St Michael's at 5pm. All welcome as always. A chance to pause for some quiet reflection, prayer and music.

Jill



## Lent Course

Emmanuel Church in Normandy is running a Lent course which we have been invited to. Please see the adverts below for more information.

**The Desert Mothers and Fathers**  
A Lectio 365 series | 2026

A 7-week series starting 20th February. Join us weekly at 11:30am as we walk together toward Easter through teaching, reflection, and prayer.

- 20<sup>th</sup> Feb: Reigniting my Passion for Jesus
- 27<sup>th</sup> Feb: Intensifying my Hunger for Holiness
- 6<sup>th</sup> March: Loving Silence and Solitude
- 13<sup>th</sup> March: The Freedom of Renunciation & The Foolish Way of Wisdom
- 20<sup>th</sup> March: Choosing the Way of Humility
- 27<sup>th</sup> March: Entering Holy Week

Come journey with us this Lent here at Emmanuel Church, Normandy. For more information please look at our website [www.emmanuelchurchnormandy.co.uk](http://www.emmanuelchurchnormandy.co.uk)



Lets journey through  
**Lent together**

This Lent, don't walk the road alone. Join us for a shared journey of reflection, prayer, and community as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Come as you are—let's pause, grow, and travel this season together.

**Lent**

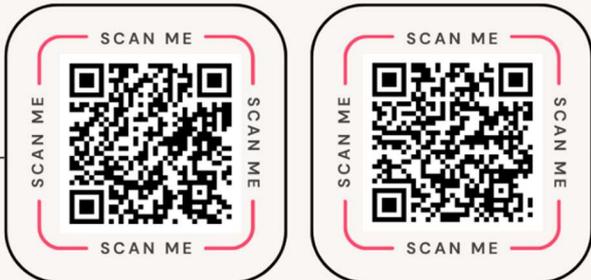
Pause. Breathe.

Make s p a c e for God

Please contact the office if you need transport – 01483 811777.

ST MICHAEL'S PIRBRIGHT & ST MARK'S WYKE

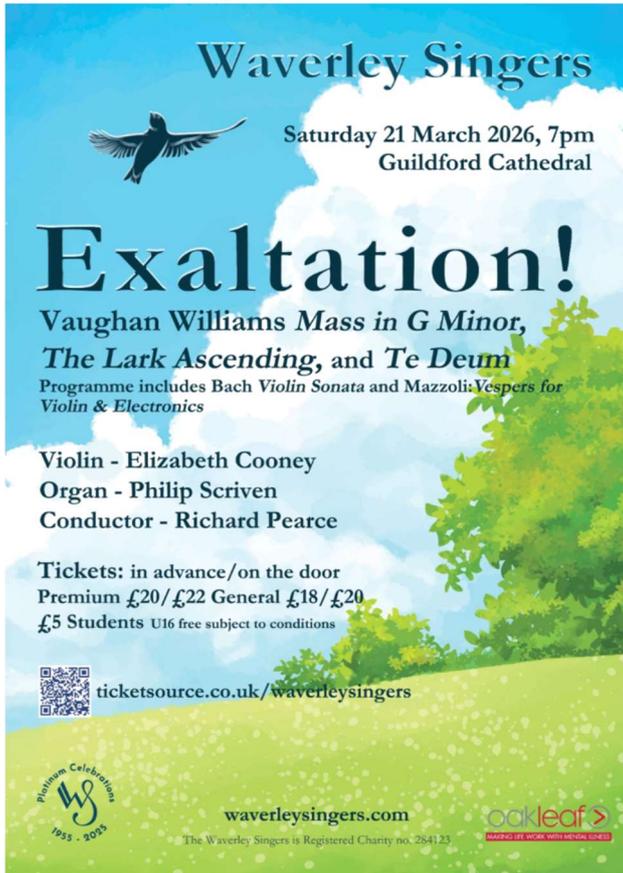
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**Waverley Singers**

Saturday 21 March 2026, 7pm  
Guildford Cathedral



**Exaltation!**  
Vaughan Williams *Mass in G Minor*,  
*The Lark Ascending*, and *Te Deum*  
Programme includes Bach *Violin Sonata* and Mazzoli *Vespers for Violin & Electronics*

Violin - Elizabeth Cooney  
Organ - Philip Scriven  
Conductor - Richard Pearce

Tickets: in advance/on the door  
Premium £20/£22 General £18/£20  
£5 Students U16 free subject to conditions

 [ticketsource.co.uk/waverleysingers](http://ticketsource.co.uk/waverleysingers)

 [waverleysingers.com](http://waverleysingers.com) 

The Waverley Singers is Registered Charity no. 284125

## **NAVIGATING RETIREMENT: THE NEXT PHASE OF LIFE**



***Led by Peter Shaw***

***Saturday 14th March 2026***

***10 am – 12.30 pm***

*(Coffee available from 9.30 am)*

**at Godalming Baptist Church,  
Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1BA**

Are you at a decision point approaching retirement or thinking through how best to use your time and energy now you are retired?

This morning will be an opportunity to explore the choices and frustrations that come to the fore at this stage of life.

How best might you deploy your experience, time and energy in ways that are creative and fulfilling?

How can we experience retirement as an exciting entry into the next phase of life?

The morning will be led by Peter Shaw who spent 32 years in the senior civil service, and has subsequently been coaching leaders and teams over the last 20 years. He is a Licensed Lay Minister at Godalming Minster. Participants in similar sessions led by Peter at Godalming Minster and St Saviour's Church in Guildford have found them very valuable, and **this session is suitable for those with any or no faith.**

**The session will be free of charge, but voluntary donations are invited towards the vital work of Tear Fund**

**To help with managing numbers, please reserve a place by contacting Sally Pollard  
email: [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk), tel: 01483 428646  
by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March****