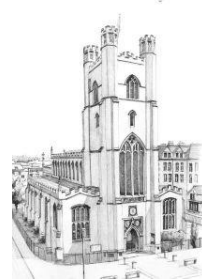


# Great St Mary's eMag

## 1-31 August 2025: Issue 179



Dear friends

In the last edition of eMag, I wrote about the ebb and flow of activity and rest—how many things at Great St Mary's pause for a while in the summer, creating space to reflect, reset, and notice what we might otherwise miss. Since then, I've been thinking about making bread, because it's something I can only do when I give myself time to do it – it can't be rushed. There's something about that rhythm of active and passive, of working the dough with strength and focus, and then stepping back to let it rest. But of course, the resting stage isn't really passive at all. On the surface, nothing seems to be happening. But deep within the dough, the yeast is busy transforming it—stretching, lightening, preparing it for what it's meant to become.

There's something spiritual about this. It reminds me that our times of rest and stillness—those moments when we feel like we're doing “nothing”—can be some of the most fruitful. Sometimes it's only when we stop wrestling with a problem that the answer gently appears. Sometimes it's only in pausing that we hear the quiet voice of God. And sometimes, though we may not see any change at all, something essential is quietly rising within us. It takes trust to rest. Trust that the world will keep turning without us. Trust that God is at work even when we are not. Trust that growth does not always look like effort. Trust that transformation takes time.

If your summer includes time for rest, I hope it may be more than simply a break—I hope it may be like dough resting on the windowsill, quietly being changed and becoming what it's created to be. And if this season doesn't allow for rest—if responsibilities keep you kneading and working—then I hope you may still find small moments of stillness in the midst of it, like brief pauses between stretches of effort.

May God bless us all, in our doing and our being, in our working and our waiting.

Every blessing

Ally

Ally Barrett

Associate Vicar



**Please send any eMag contributions at least two weeks prior to publication, to [news@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:news@gsm.cam.ac.uk)**

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# Worship Schedule

**August services - see Term Card for details**

## **Sunday 3 August (Trinity 7)**

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist
- **5pm** Choral Evensong  
*celebrating the music of Orlando Gibbons, around the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death*

## **Sunday 10 August (Trinity 8)**

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist
- **5pm** Evening Prayer (said)

## **Sunday 17 August (Trinity 9)**

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist
- **5pm** Evening Prayer (said)

## **Sunday 24 August (Trinity 10)**

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist
- **5pm** Evening Prayer (said)

## **Sunday 31 August (Trinity 11)**

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist
- **5pm** Choral Evensong: *Koor Huys*

## **Regular Weekday Worship during August**

- Mondays 12.30 pm **Christian Meditation** in Michaelhouse  
*followed by soup lunch*
- Wednesdays 12.30pm **Holy Communion**

## **Livestreaming of Services**

The services can be accessed via the Great St Mary's YouTube page on

<https://www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys>

Some recent services:

[Sung Eucharist Sunday 27 July 2025](#)

**Please note:** If you have any comments regarding the on-line live-streaming, please email [office@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:office@gsm.cam.ac.uk)

# News & Events

## Children's Church during the Summer Holidays



There is no Children's Church on Sundays during the summer holidays, but as usual there will be mats laid out for little ones in front of St. Andrew's chapel - with toys and books and objects to help them engage with what's going on in the service. For older ones, the sidespeople will be giving out children's bulletins each week, which have activities in them based on the day's readings. They're aimed at children of reading age - who might be able to sit through most of the service but need something to do during the sermon...!

Children's Church begins again on **Sunday 7 September**

## Postponed Children's Church (Plus!) Picnic: all are invited!

The picnic on 20 July was rained off, but we are going to try again in the hope of September sunshine! The new date is Sunday 14 September, after the 10 o'clock service, at Lammas Land (a lovely park near the river with a playground, splash pool, and plenty of open space). Everyone is invited - whether or not they regularly attend Children's Church, and whatever their age! If you would like to come, just make for Lammas Land in your own time after the 10 o'clock service (either before or after coffee), and we'll find each other there. You will need:

- A picnic
- Something to sit on
- Swimming costumes and towels (for the children)

## Children's and Youth Ministry Consultation: we want to hear from you!

Rosie has been running an informal consultation about children's and youth ministry at Great St. Mary's to help guide her work here, and to help us all think about our approach to it. She has consulted various groups in person, but would like to hear from as many of you as possible. So there are now online surveys for anyone who has been unable to respond so far. If you haven't yet participated in the consultation, do please take a few minutes to complete the survey, whether or not you think of yourself as having much to do with children and young people at Great St. Mary's. Thank you!

Survey for children & young people: <https://greatstmarys.churchsuite.com/-/forms/kgaevyu>

Survey for parents/carers of children & young people: <https://greatstmarys.churchsuite.com/-/forms/xkg3q6cj>

Survey for wider congregation: <https://greatstmarys.churchsuite.com/-/forms/a5yqkpfz>

## Choral Evensong

celebrating the life and music of

**Orlando Gibbons**

(1583-1625)



**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 5.00pm**

**At Great St Mary's**

**All welcome**

## **Mon 4 August, 10am-noon - Summer at the Museums Creation Celebration! Crafts & play for children & families.**



Join us at Great St Mary's on **Monday 4 August**, between 10am and Midday, for a variety of family-friendly craft activities on an environmental theme - a 'creation celebration', if you will. Maybe you'd like to make a butterfly or other bug? Or you could try your hand at designing an 'eco' building (a church, school, supermarket – or choose a building of your own!). We will have a wide range of art supplies available, and we minimise our use of environmentally-unfriendly materials such as plastic (there is no glitter here!), so you can use your imagination to create freely. You will also be able to learn about local habitats in Cambridge, and the plants and animals that thrive there.

As always, we will have a play area set up for babies and toddlers, and there will be a selection of picture books and nature-themed reading for those who prefer to explore through books. All children must be accompanied by an adult throughout. You are welcome to attend one or both dates (we will have some differing activities, so there will be new things to do). No need to book, but if you'd like to let Natalie know that you might attend it will help us to gauge numbers - email [nataliel@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:nataliel@gsm.cam.ac.uk).

## **Wed 6 August - First Wednesday Lunch**

Lunch will be in the Michaelhouse Chancel, 1-2pm. It follows on from the 12.30 Holy Communion service in GSM but there is no obligation to attend that! It is a simple lunch of soup and bread, together with fruit and home-made cake/biscuits and we invite a contribution of £5. If you find standing in a crowd at coffee on a Sunday morning a bit tricky, this might be the place for you to come and sit and chat.

## Sat 9 August - Women's Breakfast



Women's Breakfast is at 9.30am, starting with Communion in the Montefiore Room at Michaelhouse

Followed by breakfast

All are welcome - you can just turn up.

Please contact [office@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:office@gsm.cam.ac.uk) for more information.



## Summer & Autumn programme 2025

Saturday 9 August, 11am-12pm

Age is but a number!

Saturday 11 October, 11am-12pm

The Spiritual Needs of the Older Person

Saturday 8 November, 11am-1.30pm

Last requests and funeral planning workshop



## Age is but a number!

The medical challenges of  
ageing and how to approach  
and prevent them

**Saturday 9 August**

**11am - 12pm**

**in Michaelhouse Chancel**

coffee/tea from 10.30am

*For more details or to express interest  
in attending email [clares@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clares@gsm.cam.ac.uk)*



**Dr Gordon Campbell** will share insights from his experience as a consultant in Old Age Medicine.



**Dr Andrew Watson** will offer advice from his work as a General Practitioner about how we can live as well as possible with these conditions and how to prevent them from progressing. He is also the Great St Mary's Safeguarding lead for vulnerable adults.

This will be the first of three talks on pastoral matters, hosted by the Great St Mary's Pastoral Care Group. The initial plan was to arrange in-house training for the Great St Mary's Pastoral Visitors. We quickly decided that as these subjects are so relevant to us all we would make them open to all. There is no need to book, but to register your interest or find out more, please email Revd Clare Stephenson ([Clares@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:Clares@gsm.cam.ac.uk)). Other dates for your diary are:

Saturday 11 October at 11am in Michaelhouse Chancel

**The spiritual needs of the older person** (hour long talk)

Revd Marie Lucchetta-Redmond, Local Anna Chaplaincy Coordinator, Ely Diocese.

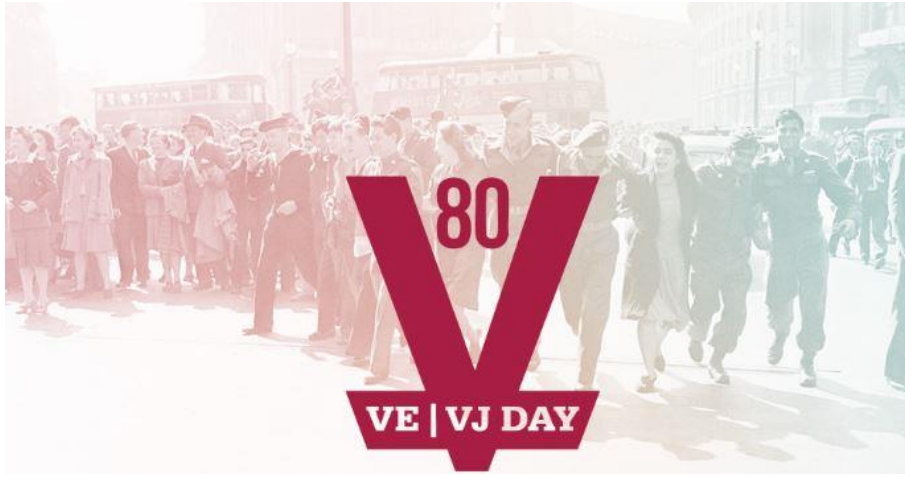
Saturday 8 November at 11am in Michaelhouse Chancel

**Last wishes and funeral planning** (longer workshop; end time tbc)

Sonja Lafferty, Assistant Funeral Manager from Peasgood and Skeates Funeral Directors with contributions from Revds Ally Barrett and Clare Stephenson.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August at 11am**

**A service to Commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V J Day**



The 80th anniversary of VJ Day (Victory over Japan Day) and the end of the Second World War will be marked by various events in the UK on August 15, 2025, including a national two-minute silence at noon.

There will be a Service of Remembrance at Great St. Mary's at 11am, paying tribute to all those who served in the Far East and the Pacific. All are welcome to attend.

### **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 9am – Men's Breakfast**

Starting with Communion in the Harvey de Stanton Chapel (Michaelhouse)

Followed by breakfast in the Montefiore Room.

All are welcome - you can just turn up.

Please contact [office@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:office@gsm.cam.ac.uk) for more information.

### **Sat 30 Aug - Something Understood at the Fitz**



'Something Understood', the GSM Poetry Group, invite you to join them for their annual foray into the world of the visual arts.

Saturday 30 August, 10.00am at the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Sam Race will help us to explore some of the Dürer prints.

We will meet just before 10.00am at the courtyard entrance (to the south of the main facade of the museum).

Folding chairs will be available.

Please let Juliet know if you would like to come, as places will be limited. Email: [juliet@jmcj.org](mailto:juliet@jmcj.org)

# Pastoral Care

## Pastoral Visiting and Prayer at Times of Need

If you would appreciate a pastoral visit at home or to receive prayer (either by the Home Intercessors group or as part of the intercessions in GSM services) please do talk to one of the ministry team either in person or contact them via email

on [clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk)

If you would like to know more about either the Home Intercessors or the Pastoral Care Groups from the point of view of joining either group, do please talk to Ally or Clare (or send an email to [clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk) ).

**In a pastoral emergency the phone number remains 01223 747277 (messages left on this number will be responded to within 24 hours)**

## Year's Mind

*Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Norah Money	1 August	2012
Colin Cunningham	4 August	2011
Hugh Fleming	5 August	2006
John Gleave	6 August	2006
Ian Campbell Dodds	7 August	2010
Ann Peacocke	8 August	2023
Robert Goff	14 August	2016
Don Ensom	18 August	2013
Austin Maynard	20 August	2004
Susan Spencer	25 August	2021



## Service

### Eco Tip - Big Butterfly Count

Have you noticed how many butterflies there are around this summer? Why not take part in the Big Butterfly Count, a nationwide citizen science survey to see how well they are doing. You just do a 15-min count at one location. You can do as many as you like up until Thursday 10 August.

Counting butterflies can be described as taking the pulse of nature and it depends on citizen scientists to help us assess how much help nature needs. The data from this and other counts will also help to identify important trends in species that will assist in planning how to protect butterflies from extinction, as well as understanding the effect of climate change on wildlife. All the information is here: <https://butterfly-conservation.org/events/the-big-butterfly-count-2025>, which includes an identification chart of the species to count.



## GSM Bookstall

Thanks to the family of Pauline Davison, some rather good books are appearing in the two bookcases currently, especially modern English fiction, biography and poetry. Grateful thanks to all who continue to donate - either with books, or by buying them! Children's books welcome during the school holidays too.

## News from the churchyard

Do you recognise this view of our church?

Yes, I'm sure you do. But it has changed: the huge black bins have been moved. This is entirely due to the hard work, persistence and skilful diplomacy of our Operations Manager, Kate Baird.

Thank you Kate!

## Coming up...

GREAT ST. MARY'S

### Children's Church (Plus!) Picnic

SUN **14** SEPT

AFTER THE 10 O'CLOCK SERVICE, AT LAMMAS LAND  
(PARK WITH PLAYGROUND & SPLASH POOL)

Everyone is invited - whether or not they regularly attend  
Children's Church, and whatever their age!

You will need: a picnic, something to sit on, swimming  
costumes and towels (for the children)



**Children's Church (Plus!)  
Picnic - Sun 14 Sept**

# **Clare Priory Quiet Day**

## **Saturday 20 Sept**

### **Ephphatha: be opened!**

### **A Quiet Day at Clare Priory**



Our starting point will be Jesus' healing of a man who could neither hear nor speak. 'Be opened!' he commanded. Suppose we responded to that command today... How, for instance, might we be helped to lean into listening - to our deepest selves and to each other, to the natural world and to its Creator? And how might our speaking be changed?

The day will be led by Canon Susanna Gunner ([susannagunner.com](http://susannagunner.com)) who will use art, poetry and music to enrich biblical and other texts. There will also be plenty of free time for individual praying and pondering, walking and wandering in Clare Priory's beautiful spaces, inside and out.

Please book early, to enable us to plan and avoid disappointment. Cost is £20 for the venue which includes tea and coffee morning and afternoon and £16pp for travel on the 16-seater mini-bus – when full lifts can be arranged.

Contact for more information from Anne Lindley [annejindley202@gmail.com](mailto:annejindley202@gmail.com)  
01223 560567 or 07760161306 (or leave a message).

Elsewhere

# "50 Faces of Holy Land" Exhibition

## Ely Cathedral until 10 August 2025

Previously displayed in the Houses of Parliament, the poignant and impactful "50 Faces of the Holy Land" exhibition showcases the resilience and faith of the Christian community of the Holy Land – traditionally defined as the area of Israel, Gaza, the West Bank and Jordan.



To mark the 50 Faces of the Holy Land exhibition's time in Ely, special prayers were said at Evensong at the Cathedral on 29 July. This reflective service brought the local community of the Cathedral together, along with the wider community of Ely, to pray for peace.

*Tickets: Entry for services is free. At other times, entry to the exhibition is included with your Cathedral [visitor ticket](#) or pass. Visitor tickets can be purchased online in advance or on arrival on the day. Please check for any [changes to opening hours](#) before visiting. The exhibition is in the Lady Chapel.*

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