parish of finchampstead & california

Website: pfc-church.uk click Subscribe to get the PFC email newsletters
Quick web links: What's On | Giving | Resources (ePewsheets)
Parish Office Email: office@pfc-church.uk
Parish Office, Baptism, Wedding, or Funerals, please call 0118 9730133
Parish Office opening hours: 10am-12noon Monday-Friday
Church Centre bookings for St James'; Sue Sampson 0118 9732069
Parish Centre bookings St Mary & St John's; Ashlyn Webster 07774 820891
Please note, the Rector's day off is a Friday

1 November | Notices – items in by 10am Wed

SJ-St James, **SJCC**-St James' Church Centre, RG40 4LU
SE–St Eligius, RG2 9NB. **SMSJ**-St Mary & St John's,
SMSJPC-SMSJ Parish Centre, Vicarage Close, RG40 4JW

Sunday 1st November All Saints & All Souls	
8.00am	Holy Communion CW (SJ)
9.30am	Family Communion (SJ)
9.30am	SMSJ & SE Holy Communion *with Sunday Stars children's group* (SE)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
6.00pm	All Souls Service *followed by refreshments in the Church Centre* (SJ)
Monday 2nd	
9.30am	Fledgelings Baby & Toddler Group (SJCC)
Tuesday 3rd	
11.00am	Tuesday Men's coffee Group (SJCC)
Wednesday 4th	
9.30am	Seedlings Baby & Toddler Grp (SMSJPC)
2.30pm	Scripture & Stillness (SMSJPC)
7.00pm	Arborfield Striders Couch to 5k (SE)
Thursday 5th	
9.30am	Little Stars Baby & Toddler Group (SE)
Saturday 7th	
7/7.30pm	*SOLD OUT* Quiz & Supper – tickets only (SJCC)
Sunday 8th	***Remembrance Sunday***
8.00am	Holy Communion BCP (SJ)
9.30am	Café Church (SJCC)
10.50am	Whole Parish Remembrance Service at St Eligius Church (SE)
3.00pm	Remembrance Service & Parade at War Memorial, Finchampstead Memorial Park with refreshments afterwards in the Memorial Hall (refreshments provided by parish churches)

Please note, there will be no 11am Parish Communion at St James, and no 9:30am Holy Communion at St Eligius on this day

Baptism Congratulations! To Eliana, Katrina, and Amy who were all baptised at St James last month.

Manor Farm fruit sales continuing Orders for strawberries, raspberries, blackberries to me by Weds nights or take potluck at SE on Saturdays 10am-12noon, or at SJ on Sunday mornings after services. carolynfox@aol.com 07779724090

Names for Prayer If you would like the Prayer Chain to hold you or someone you know in prayer for a few days, or you would like a name to be included in the list below for 6 weeks, please contact the office – 0118 9730133.

Book Donations at St James Church Centre Thank you for all donations so far. The bookstore is now full. A future announcement will be made when more books are needed.

'Couch to 5k' with Arborfield Striders, every Wednesday evening, 7pm at St Eligius. This is a sociable and supportive group where all abilities are welcome. No charge.

Remembrance Sunday Services – Sunday 8th November
Please note the change of schedule for Remembrance Sunday to incorporate a Whole Parish Remembrance Service at St Eligius, starting at 10.50am to incorporate the 2 minutes silence at 11. All welcome. Also, the Parade and Service at Finchampstead War Memorial at Finchampstead Memorial Park at 3pm.

Scripture & Stillness - Wednesday 11th November, 2:30pm at St Mary St John's Parish Centre (Vicarage Close, RG40 4JW) will include Holy Communion. All are welcome.

Ladies Breakfast - Sat 21st November, 9am, SJCC Please drop me a message to say you are coming so that I provide enough breakfast - carolynfox@aol.com/07779724090

Christmas Concert – A Solo Vocal Recital – Sunday 29th November, 5-6pm at St Eligius Church Tatiana Kochetova, one of our regular pianists at St Eligius, will be performing pieces by Mozart, Schubert, Franck, & Borodin. Tickets - £16. See posters in church to scan QR code to book tickets.

'Christmessy' – Sunday 13th December, 3pm-4.30pm, SJCC Family fun afternoon with crafts, scavenger hunt, Christmas story, carols, refreshments, and a special visitor! £3 per family and no need to book. Do come and join the fun if you can!

Did You Know? Recycling options at St James Church Centre
Back meeting room - recycling boxes on the shelves for batteries and stamps. Also, Gill Coombs very kindly collects the following for recycling: Biscuit, cake, & chocolate wrappers (no cardboard), crisp, multipack, & nuts packets etc (please keep flat), sweet pouches, Pringles tubes (please squash), surface wipe packaging, face wipe packaging, floss containers, pouches from dishwasher & washing tablets, pump & spray part from spray bottles & soap dispensers, and used pens & felt tips (no pencils). Please put recycling for Gill in the box by the fridge in the kitchen.

Volunteering Opportunities – help is needed at the following: Little Stars Baby & Toddler Group @St Eligius on Thursdays from 9:30am-11am (term-time only). Any help is greatly appreciated – this could be weekly, or monthly. Please let Revd Gemma know if you can help.

Village Fete – Saturday 26th June 2027! If you would like to be part of the team to plan and organise this major fundraising event for the parish, please contact Elisabeth on 07952 862728 or Rowena on 07890 039802. Thank you.

Save the Date
17 Nov 2pm Hope Café SJCC
21 Nov 9am Ladies Breakfast SJCC
10am Nurture Nature Working Party SJCC
29 Nov 6pm Advent Carols SJ
13 Dec 3-4:30pm 'Christmessy' Family Fun! SJCC

Parish Intercessions List – Please pray for: Sophie Hall, Stephanie Prosser, Alison Woodrow, Anne Wolton, Julia Arscott, Eric Neville, Janet Clements, the Pedersen family, Marc & Sam, Ethan, Patsy Theobold, Nicola, Paula Vicary, Christine Duncan, Maureen Brown, Anita, David Owen, Vanessa Curtis, Kay & Paul Hammond, Joshua Pryce, Norman Pearce, Theresa, Charlotte, Belinda Norman.
And all those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

Readings and Prayers for 1 November 2026: All Saints

Psalm 34:1-10

This Psalm is a hymn of confidence for those who trust God.

1 I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
2 My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.
3 O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
5 Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
6 This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,
and was saved from every trouble.
7 The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.
8 O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.
9 O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
10 The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Revelation 7:9-17

A vision of the saints in heaven.

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, 12 singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' 14 I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. 16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; 17 for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes.

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Collect

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.