

# ST BARNABAS RANMORE

*The Cathedral in the Woods*

RH5 6SP



monthly newsletter

**NOVEMBER 2025**

## WELCOME

**W**ELCOME to our Matins service for All Souls which will be led by Rev'd Dr Anthony Rustell. A valuable time to remember loved ones we have lost. There will be time for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat afterwards.

In the past, our Remembrance Sunday liturgy has comprised a shortened version of Matins but this year, next week, The Rev'd Caroline Lazenby will preside over a slightly adapted Sung Eucharist interspersed with a Requiem Mass and The Whyte Effect will sing the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré.

**F**AURÉ composed this in 1888 when he was in his forties, quite probably in response to the recent death of his father. Shortly after its first performance, Fauré's mother also died, giving the work an added poignancy. In its sequence of movements the Requiem departs significantly from the standard liturgical text. Fauré included two new

## SERVICES

*Sunday 9th November at 10.30 a.m.*

*Requiem Mass with Act of Remembrance*

*Saturday 15th November*

*from 10.30 a.m.*

*to 1.00 p.m.*

**Christmas FAYRE**

*Sunday 16th November at 11.00 a.m.*

*Matins (BCP)*

*Sunday 23rd November at 11.00 a.m.*

*Sung Eucharist (BCP)*

*Sunday 30th November at 11.00 a.m.*

*Advent Carols*

*Sunday 7th December at 11.00 a.m.*

*Matins (BCP)*

*Sunday 14th December at 11.00 a.m.*

*Sung Eucharist (BCP)*

*Saturday 20th December at 3.00 p.m.*

*Christingle and Navity Play*

*Sunday 21st December at 11.00 a.m.*

*Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols*

*Wednesday 24th December at 7.15 p.m.*

*Episcopal Holy Communion on Zoom*

*Thursday 25th December at 11.00 a.m.*

*Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day (BCP)*

sections, the lyrical Pie Jesu, and the transcendent In Paradisum with its soaring vocal line. He also omitted the Dies Irae and Tuba Mirum, which for most composers was an opportunity to exploit full dramatic forces. Consequently, the prevailing mood is one of peacefulness and serenity, and the work has often been described as a requiem without the Last Judgment.

In a 1902 interview Fauré said "It has been said that my Requiem does not express the fear of death, and someone has called it a lullaby of death. But it is thus that I see death: a happy deliverance, an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than as a painful experience."

The only movement we will not be singing is the Offertorium (which is long), and the balance of the movements are not all in their original order.

Please do come and hear this remarkable, and very accessible, choral work. Eloise Yates will also sounding *The Last Post* and *Reveille* during the traditional Act of Remembrance which will form the central focus of the service.

*Nicholas Yates, Leader Whyte Effect*

## LEST WE FORGET

WE read the names of the men 'who went forth from this parish at the call of duty' every year and nearly twenty years ago a member of the congregation, the late Margaret Maynard, saw that although the short lives of the three Cubitt brothers were

## A DAY IN AUTUMN

It will not always be like this,  
The air windless, a few last  
Leaves adding their decoration  
To the trees' shoulders, braiding the cuffs  
Of the boughs with gold; a bird preening  
In the lawn's mirror. Having looked up  
From the day's chores, pause a minute,  
Let the mind take its photograph  
Of the bright scene, something to wear  
Against the heart in the long cold.



*R S Thomas*  
*Anglo-Welsh priest & poet*  
*1913-2000*

*poem contributed by Sally Lowe*

well documented little was known about the other men except within their families.

She began several years of research which has resulted in her superb website [www.ranmorewarmemorial.info](http://www.ranmorewarmemorial.info) and the leaflets in the chapel and the moving stories of Fred Buckland and the others in the frame on the north wall of the nave.

Perhaps the most moving and simplest memorial of all is the small wooden battlefield cross for Capt Harry Cubitt on the wall in the chapel and the larger one in the doorway made when he was moved to his final resting place.

At the end of the war a commission was established to bring these battlefield crosses home when the cemeteries had been established and the headstones made. These simple wooden

crosses can be found in many parts of the country.

*The collection will go to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We will remember them.*

## OTHER SERVICES

REV'D Anthony will preside at services of Sung Eucharist on the 16th and 23rd and Lay Minister Chris Watts will lead Advent Carols on the 30th and Matins on December 7th.

## A REMINDER

TIME for a reminder that the Christmas Fayre, an important fund-raising event, will open at 10.30 a.m. in the church on Saturday the 15th November. Please bring your friends and family along and they could find that special Christmas present or relax with a cup of tea and a piece of cake or a glass of mulled wine.

### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**Christmas FAYRE**  
*and coffee morning*

**SATURDAY**  
**NOVEMBER 15th**  
10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Cakes & Produce **RAFFLE**  
Crafts & Jewellery **Tombola**  
**BOOKS**

at **St. Barnabas' Church**



Ranmore Common – RH5 6SP

We do rely on your generosity for donations for the tombola and raffle prizes and items for all the other stalls.

## BENEFICE FINANCES

DURING the recent clergy vacancy, the Benefice of St. Martins Dorking, St Marys Pixham and St Barnabas Ranmore was excused the considerable cost of paying the parish share to the Diocese.

Now that we have Anthony, our Priest-in-Charge, in post the parish share has been reintroduced to the Benefice. This annual "voluntary" charge for the Benefice is in the order of £70,000 this year. We are in discussion within the Benefice and with the Diocese about the financial strain the parish share is creating and how it may be managed. The outcome of these discussions will be shared with everyone.

*The Churchwardens*

## Spirituality Matters ...

### A window on God

YOU may be a church attender. You may pray regularly. You may love the liturgy, the music, the building you worship in. But at times we decide we don't want to go to church, prayer feels dry, the usual words of the service seem – just that – usual, and God seems far away. Or maybe none of these things other than a sense of something missing and we long to relate to God in a new way; to relate to God in freshness or maybe really finding God for the first time.

And so our spirituality is in disarray and what are we to do?

Here is a question for you:

Have you ever thought about who is God for you?

Depending upon how God has been presented to you, whether as a child or later in your life, your view may have changed over the years. Perhaps you experience feelings at various levels of intuition, or have an interest in mystery and your perception is wider than the world as it is presented; possibly you can understand and read a situation as being very meaningful, but also very ordinary.

To lay burdens down for a time and to rest with God, sometimes in silence, sometimes finding just the words to articulate feelings, we give ourselves a chance to consider the question. Other considerations that may arise out of a time of reflection may make you consider, depending on who God is for you, that you find your decisions and choices are influenced by Him. At the centre of spiritual direction conversations is finding out where the heart lies in relation to the Holy Spirit and to discern the movement of the spirit in our life, to make connections and to broaden our vision. Rather

like taking the trouble to climb to the top of the tower to see the broader and deeper perspective that the view from the top affords us by not lingering on the ground floor with no, or very limited, view.

A sense of God's presence in our lives might then help us to decide whether we need to take some kind of action, to take some responsibility for our own faith and to engage in different ways with those around us.

*Rev'd Caroline Lazenby*

## Brockham Choral's

Christmas Concert is on the 6th December at 7.30 pm in St. Martin's Church, Dorking RH4 1UX. Musical Director, David Swinson with his magical wand takes the choir and audience, with the Martineau Brass Quintet and organ on a musical Christmas ride.

Featuring special guest soloist Alex Wright from Trinity Boys Choir, who recently appeared at Glyndebourne.

Music includes *Christus Natus est* by Cecelia McDowall, Handel, Rutter & Leroy Anderson. Tickets £15.

Children, Students under 18 FREE from

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/brockham-choral](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/brockham-choral);

[www.brockhamchoral.org](http://www.brockhamchoral.org);

## Who's Who at St. Barnabas

Priest-in-Charge:

Rev'd Dr Anthony Rustell 07919 154641

St Barnabas is part of a United Benefice with St Martin's Church Dorking. Please contact the Church Office with enquiries about baptisms and marriages at email: [smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com)

or phone 01306 884229

Churchwardens:

Dr Robin Luff 01306 884093

Mrs Stephanie Kingham 01306 888368

**This newsletter and other information is available on our website...**

[www.achurchnearyou.com/ranmore-st-barnabas](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/ranmore-st-barnabas)

Contact the Editor [dick.gover@gmail.com](mailto:dick.gover@gmail.com)

to receive the newsletter in your email inbox.

You can also follow St Barnabas on Facebook.

There is more information on the website

[www.StBarnabasRanmore.com](http://www.StBarnabasRanmore.com)

You can find much about the history of Ranmore, the Denbies Estate and St Barnabas Church on the website created by the late Margaret Maynard.

[www.ranmorewarmemorial.info](http://www.ranmorewarmemorial.info)