FAMILY SERVICE

ALL SAINTS' DAY

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2026

THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

Everyone Welcome!

Welcome to our Family Service for All Saints' Day followed by a service of baptism in the river.

If you are hard of hearing, we have a hearing loop in church. Please turn your hearing aid to the appropriate position to use it. Large print copies of this service booklet are available.

Sunday Club and STAY aren't running today as it is Family Service.
Sunday Club (Reception to Year 6) usually runs on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month in the Ark during term time.
STAY (Year 7 upwards) usually runs in the Ark on the 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month in the Ark during term time.
The children's area is open and toys are available for younger children there. Please would parents supervise their children using this area and tidy toys away afterwards.

Please do join us for refreshments in The Ark following the service.

To request more information about our church activities please scan the QR code to the right or contact the church office by telephone or email - details on the back page.

If you would like to make a donation to the ministry and mission of this church you can do so by leaving a donation in the collection plate, using the contactless terminal by the main church door or scanning the QR code here:

Please do not make any recordings during the service

The responses and prayers in **BOLD** *type are said by the whole congregation*

Please stand when the hymn (A&M 308) is announced

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

2. Some march with events to turn them God's way;
some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood:
our world is their parish: their purpose is God.

3. Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own:
they shame our complaining, our comforts, our cares:
what patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!

4. Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!
A world without saint forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
the way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

WELCOME

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Please sit for the notices

CONFESSION

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

God of love, we remember before you the things we have done which were wrong, and the good things which we have not done. We pray for forgiveness and a new beginning, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We are assured of God's forgiveness:

The God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PRAISE

Please stand

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus:
giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:
let us sing to God with thankful hearts.

Open our lips, Lord:
and we shall praise your name.

We sing

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt
Praise the Father, Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

2. To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died
Praise the Father, Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

3. And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored
Praise the Father …

4. And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me
Praise the Father …

Please sit for our reading

Matthew 5: 1-12

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE TALK

We stand to sing (A&M 489)

From heaven you came helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow him,
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King.

2. There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours, ' he said.

This is our God, the Servant King ...

3. Come, see his hands and his feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.

This is our God, the Servant King ...

4. So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God, the Servant King ...

Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please sit

The Choir will sing the anthem 'May the road rise to meet you' (Chilcott)

PRAYERS

We sit or kneel to pray for the world, the church and our community.

These responses may be used:

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

And at the end of the prayers 'Merciful Father' *to which we respond*

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

We stand to sing (A&M 719)

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your word, Lord,
And let there be light.

2. Lord I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine ...

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus shine ...

Please sit.

Birthday cards are given out.

We stand for the final blessing.

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn (A&M 296)

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed;
thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness, still their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
and win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

6. The golden evening brightens in the west:
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest,
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

7. But lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

8. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

We will now go to the wharf for the baptism service.
Those who would prefer to go straight to the Ark for coffee, please do so.

THE BAPTISMS

Henry Butler
Ruby French
Leah Wambui Humphrey
Abbie Newell
Eli Prince
Lee Sharkey
Michelle Wanjiru Toye
Leon Windett

The minister says

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these people and uphold them in their new life in Christ?
With the help of God, we will.

Those who come to be baptised must affirm their allegiance to Jesus Christ and his way of love, forgiveness and compassion. They must also affirm their rejection of all that is evil. Therefore, I ask you these questions:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and from our neighbours?
I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
I come to Christ.

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.
Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the way of Christ.
Amen.

The minister says

Praise God who made heaven and earth, **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptised in the river Jordan,
we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.
We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.
We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us affirm, together our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God, and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The minister says

I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

We say together the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Hymn

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

SENDING OUT

Everyone who is baptised has a mission: to share God's transforming love with the world.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please join us back in the Ark for refreshments

Messy® CHURCH

Come and join us!

The next Messy Church is

Sunday 15 November
from 3pm - 4.30pm
in St Andrew's Ark

**There will be a range of craft activities,
teaching, a story, songs
and a light meal for the children**

For more details please contact
childrenswork@sonningparish.org.uk
or telephone the Parish office 0118 969 3298

Parish News

ALL SOULS SERVICE - TODAY AT 4PM
We shall be remembering loved ones departed at this service.
If you would like to have a name read out and light a candle in memory of your loved one, please give their name to the welcome team as you arrive in church. Drinks will be served after the service.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE - Next Sunday 8 November will be the annual Remembrance service in church at 10.30am. There will be no Sunday Club. STAY meets in the evening for the STAY Youth Service at 6pm.

JUNIOR CHOIR 'COME AND SING' - This will take place on Sunday 8th November from 2pm to 4pm in church. Ages 7+ welcome to come and sing and see what it is like as a member of our junior choir. No experience is necessary, just bring enthusiasm and a voice! For more information please call the church office on 0118 969 3298 or email music@sonningparish.org.uk

RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB - Tuesday 10th November. The menu is meatballs with rice (vegetarian option available) followed by fruit crumble and coffee/tea for £12.
To book please phone Hilary in the parish office on 0118 969 3298 or email office@sonningparish.org.uk

LADIES BREAKFAST: The Ark on Saturday 21st November, 9-11am. It is an opportunity to meet and chat in a relaxed atmosphere with a short talk, everyone is welcome and please feel free to bring a friend. There will be lots of lovely food with tea and coffee. Cash donations towards the food will be welcome on the day. For catering purposes, can you please let us know if you are coming and if you have any dietary requirements. Either email sundayatsix@sonningparish.org.uk or you can let Helen know on 07714 715716.

CAKE SALE: Each summer the STAY young people go away to Satellites Christian Youth Festival in Shepton Mallet. We spend the week worshipping Jesus and having lots of fun with 4,000 other teenagers and leaders. To make this happen we need to raise funds to cover our leaders costs of £2,000. We have three CAKE SALES planned and the first one is on November 29th. If you bake please would you consider baking a cake. If you eat cake, please bring cash or we have a card machine, on Sunday 29th November. Please email Westy on youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk for baking details. Thanks so much. *Westy & the youth team.*

Prayer Team and Pastoral Visiting

The Ministry Team are always happy to visit, pray for or take home Communion to those in need. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to arrange this.

We remember any who have died who are known to us

We remember any whose anniversaries fall around this time:
Marianne Tring, Kathleen Nichols,Terence Surlis, Jeremy Smith, Andrew Watters, George Horne, Anne Lane, David Fillingham, Peggy Saunders, John Benstead

The Week Ahead

Wednesday 4 November

10.00am	Holy Communion	The Ark
6.00pm	Remembrance Service Rehearsal	Church

Thursday 6 November

7.30pm	Bellringing practice	Bell tower

Friday 6 November

6.30pm	Youth and Senior choir practice	St Sarik
6.45pm	STAY on Friday	The Ark

Sunday 8 November

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Church
10.30am	Remembrance Service	Church
2.00pm	Come and Sing with the Junior Choir	Church
6.00pm	STAY Youth Service	Church

Parish Contacts

Vicar: Revd Jamie Taylor 0118 969 3298 - *vicar@sonningparish.org.uk*
Churchwardens: Ruth Jeffery & Helen Craig - *churchwarden@sonningparish.org.uk*
Youth Minister: Chris West 07946 224 106 - *youthminister@sonningparish.org.uk*
Youth & Children's Minister: Corinne Robertson - *currently on maternity leave (in her absence please email queries to childrenswork@sonningparish.org.uk)*
Parish Office Manager: Hilary Rennie 0118 969 3298 - *office@sonningparish.org.uk*

The Parish Office is open from 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday. At all other times please leave a message or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

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