

life at st saviour's

pray/serve/give/gather



I love St Saviour's! I love the church that we are, and I am excited by the church we are becoming. I feel so so privileged to lead this community that has been impacted by the love of Jesus, and where we work out what it means to live out 'Life in the Kingdom of Heaven' in every aspect of our lives.

We believe God has given us a vision to **equip** disciples in every area of our lives, to **invest** in the emerging generations (0-30yrs) and to play our part in seeing **transformation** in our parish and town. In this booklet you'll see a few brief snapshots of the many ways we have recently been seeing this vision become reality. It's an opportunity to celebrate all that God is doing in and through us.

This is also a call to action. Being part of a church community involves 4 things - **praying** for the church, **serving** in the church, **giving** to the church and **gathering** together as a church. These mean different things for each of us throughout different seasons of life. They are key for our life together - not just for the running of church, but also for our own personal discipleship, and you can read more about each of them at the end of this booklet. The stories here also show some of the ways your contributions have enabled our church to be the community God has called us to be.

Thank you for being with us on the journey together and remember: 'we're all in this together'!

With love,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham". The signature is stylized with a long, sweeping underline.

Graham Shaw | Rector of St Saviour's



our vision - equip

to **equip** our diverse, multigenerational church community to follow Jesus wholeheartedly in every season of life



Developing Christ-shaped Leaders

As part of our vision to equip disciples, we have been investing intentionally in developing Christ-shaped leaders by running a leadership development course. We've been equipping those already leading at St Saviour's, as well as growing new leaders - the majority of those on the course have been from the emerging generations. Topics have included: bringing positive change, leading a healthy team, handling disagreement well and how to lead for the long term. It has also given them tools to become transformative leaders in their workplaces, homes and communities.

Growing in confidence with the Bible

In the Autumn, we ran the Bible Course, with over 20 people taking part from across our church family. Participants came with a wide range of biblical understanding and experience, creating a rich and welcoming space for learning together. The course helped people grow in confidence with Scripture and supported our wider vision of equipping one another for lifelong discipleship as followers of Jesus.

Parenting for Faith

Over the summer, we ran a Parenting for Faith course, equipping parents to support their children in developing a deep and lasting relationship with God. Bringing parents together created a valuable space for sharing ideas, experiences and encouragement within our church family.



equip

invest

our vision - invest

to **invest** in the emerging generations (0-30yrs) to help them become lifelong disciples of Jesus who will impact the wider church and the world for generations to come

Growth in number and discipleship of others

We've seen some great things in our **childrens ministry** this year, including many families from the wider community engaging in events such as Crafternoons, the Light Party, the Pancake Party and our showing of The Snowman at Christmas. Our Deep Sea Discovery Holiday Club was a particular highlight, welcoming over 100 children and offering many their first opportunity to explore faith and discover God's love.

It was a joy to see our team of youth at the holiday club flourish as Small Group Leaders and Activity Coordinators, stepping confidently into roles of responsibility. Another highlight of our growing **youth ministry** was joining together with other local churches for our annual summer Way Camp.

Genuine Community

We continue to have new **students and young adults** arriving at church each Sunday- some rediscovering faith, others exploring for the first time. A recent highlight has been our Weekend Away in Kent, 30 students and young adults gathered for worship, teaching, and community building, off the back of this one student shared that it was the first time she has felt she's found genuine friends who are Christians. Thank you Jesus!

Our Additional Needs Ministry - Trekkers:

"The one to one support, specialist equipment, the care and love shown in the welcome makes **Trekkers** a very special place. My child lights up every time they go to Trekkers, and knowing how happy they are allows me to enjoy and engage in the church service" - Parent of a Trekkers child



150+ Under 18's registered for Sunday groups



320 families registered for our Baby & Toddler group since Feb 2025



Global, national and local mission

We love our **mission partners** at St Saviour's, and they play an important role in seeing transformation in our parish, our town and beyond. Our recently reformed Mission Committee has been helping support our partners through encouragement, finances and prayer, as well as keeping us as a church updated with the impactful work they all do. A recent highlight has been a group from St Saviour's raising money for our local mission partners through running the Guildford 10K. You can find our more about who our partners are on our website.

Meals for those in need in our local community

Our Meals for You ministry continues to be a vital community lifeline, providing nutritious, home-cooked meals to those in need. With a dedicated team of over 40 volunteers, we have prepared more than 30,000 meals and peeled 400kg of potatoes for local households and shelters.

Supported by our annual fundraising quiz, this ministry is a practical expression of Jesus' love, offering prayer and care to our neighbours. Thank you for the donations that make this work possible!



Alpha

Exploring faith for the first time

We're delighted to have welcomed over 30 people onto our **Alpha course**, all keen to explore the Christian faith, with more than half of those taking part under the age of 30. It's a real encouragement to see such openness and curiosity, and a wonderful sign of new life among us, as people of all ages are invited to ask questions, find community, and encounter the good news of the gospel.

our vision - transform

*to play our part in **transforming** Guildford, and especially our parish, by offering Jesus' light and hope.*

transform



pray

Being a member of a church involves praying for the church.

We believe God hears our prayers and, through the power of the Holy Spirit, impacts lives.

We would love you to join us in praying for the vision and direction of St Saviour's, our leadership team, church family, and ministries in Guildford and beyond. Our regular vision and prayer evenings and prayer weeks are a great way to gather together to do this.



scan the QR code to find out more:



serve

Being a member of a church involves serving in the church.

God has given each of us gifts, skills, and passions, and the church depends on people offering their time and energy. Serving builds community, strengthens our faith, and often blesses us as much as those we serve. We encourage everyone to serve in a way that fits their season of life.



scan the QR code to find out more:



give

Being a member of a church involves giving financially to the church.

Giving enables us to support those in need, fund ministries in our church and community, and pay for the everyday costs of church life.

Giving is also good for our souls, helping money not to have an unhealthy hold on us. The New Testament encourages generosity, which looks different for each person depending on their circumstances.

scan the QR code to find out more:



gather

scan the QR code to find out more:



Being a member of a church involves gathering together as a church community.

This can be on a Sunday, serving together with others or one of our many other places for connection. A key part of this at St Saviour's is meeting in small groups called PODs (Places of Discipleship). For many, they are the heart of the church — places of encouragement, care, accountability, and fun, where we learn what daily Christian living looks like.



If you're new to St Saviour's and would like to be connected in with our community, including receiving regular updates about all that is happening, please scan the QR code:



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