

What's On: September 2025

Maybe it's just being in Oxford, but of all the various 'new years' – the calendar year in January, the financial year in April or even the Church's year at the start of Advent – September always feels like the *real* start of the year. Here in the Benefice I'm *still* often taken aback by how busy it gets as soon as September gets underway. We begin with the very large and very noisy St Giles' Fair, which began as the church's patronal celebration way back in medieval times, now often makes it harder for us to get to church for our actual patronal service on the 7th! Nevertheless, it's a wonderful opportunity during the fair itself to welcome all sorts of people into the building who may not otherwise darken our doors.

Then, as always, that's followed quickly by Ride & Stride (both our churches have reason to be grateful to the Oxford Historic Churches Trust) and Oxford Open Doors, the PCCs both resume their activities, the autumn 'Jazz at St Giles' series commences with the Ben Holder Trio and we begin with the new parish 'worship and faith meetings', as we start to plan for Epiphanytide and Lent.

The benefice book group which began at the start of the year continues to go from strength to strength, and Siân is adding another group on Exploring Faith and Spirituality from time to time on a Tuesday evening.

Amidst all this activity, whether at work, at home or at church, I hope you are able to find moments to rest this September and remember: you are not valued by God because of what you do, but because of who you are – one of God's children, infinitely cherished and infinitely loved.

Revd Daniel Walters, Vicar

Note: Throughout September, you are welcome to attend Morning Prayer at the Vicarage at 8:30am (Tuesday – Friday) and Evening Prayer in St Giles' Church at 5:30pm (Monday – Saturday).

St Giles' Church is also open for private prayer from 12pm-2pm (Monday – Friday).

FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

9:00-11:00am Little Fishes (toddlers' group), St Margaret's Church

7:30pm Teen Film Night (ages 12-18), St Margaret's Church

SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER (St Giles' Day / Trinity 12)

8:00am BCP said Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

10:30am All-age Eucharist (Back to School), St Margaret's Church

10:30am Sung Holy Communion (Patronal Festival), St Giles' Church

5:30pm Blessing of St Giles' Fair (outside St John's College)

6:30pm Choral Evensong, St Giles' Church

MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

10.00am-4.00pm Model fair exhibition, St Giles' Church

TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

St Giles' Church open for the Fair

WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

2:30pm Memory Café, St Margaret's Institute (*contact Tricia*)

FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

9:00-11:00am Little Fishes (toddlers' group), St Margaret's Church

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Daytime Ride & Stride. Find out more at ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride

3.00pm Games Club (school years 3-6), St Margaret's Church

7.30pm Jazz at St Giles' – Ben Holder Trio (tickets at bit.ly/47fxrrx)

SATURDAY 13 – SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Oxford Open Doors – see bit.ly/3J1OCTA

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER (Holy Cross Day)

8:00am BCP said Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

10:30am Parish Eucharist with blessing for leavers, St Margaret's Church

10:30am Sung Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

6:30pm Choral Evensong, St Giles' Church

TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

5:15pm Exploring Faith and Spirituality Group, St Anne's College

7:30pm St Margaret's PCC Meeting

THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

7:15pm Benefice book group, St Anne's College

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

9:00-11:00am Little Fishes (toddlers' group), St Margaret's Church

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

2:30pm SAMMYs (music and crafts for 0-7 year olds and families), St Margaret's Church

SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER (St Matthew's Day)

8:00am BCP said Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

10:30am Listening Service, St Margaret's Church

10:30am Sung Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

6:30pm Choral Evensong, St Giles' Church

TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

7:30pm St Giles' PCC Meeting, St Giles' Church

WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

2:30pm Memory Café, St Margaret's Institute (contact Tricia)

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

9:00-11:00am Little Fishes (toddlers' group), St Margaret's Church

SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER (Michaelmas / Harvest Thanksgiving)

8:00am BCP said Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

10:30am Parish Eucharist (Michaelmas), St Margaret's Church

10:30am Sung Holy Communion (Harvest Thanksgiving), St Giles' Church

6:30pm Choral Evensong (Michaelmas), St Giles' Church

MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

5.30pm Ceremony to sign the new organ agreement in St Giles'

TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

7:30pm St Margaret's Worship & Faith planning meeting, the Vicarage

FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER

9:00-11:00am Little Fishes (toddlers' group), St Margaret's Church

7:30pm Teen Film Night (ages 12-18), St Margaret's Church

SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER (Harvest Thanksgiving / Trinity 16)

8:00am BCP said Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

10:30am All-Age Eucharist with Baptism (Harvest Thanksgiving), St Margaret's Church

10:30am Sung Holy Communion, St Giles' Church

6:30pm Choral Evensong, St Giles' Church

CONTACT DETAILS

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Don't forget to visit our Benefice website for all the latest news and dates:

www.StGilesStMargarets.org