

Sunday 11 October 2026

19th Sunday after Trinity

Collect

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings

Old Testament Exodus 32. 1 - 14

New Testament Philippians 4. 1 - 9

Gospel Matthew 22. 1 - 14

Post Communion

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of
your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week 18 October 2026

20th Sunday after Trinity

Service Times

St Mary 8.00 am & 11.00 am

St Francis 9.30 am

Christ the Worker 11.00 am

Readings **For 18 October 2026**

Old Testament Exodus 33. 12 - end

New Testament 1 Thessalonians 1. 1 - 10

Gospel Matthew 22. 15 - 22

Message from the Rector

Human beings can be remarkably fickle. We become preoccupied with our own fragile egos, our deep insecurities, and our fear of being rejected or of not being wanted or needed. All our lives we carry the big questions: Who am I? Why am I here? Can I be forgiven? Why do I keep getting things wrong? Is there life after death? Does my life have any real meaning?

We begin asking these questions as teenagers, if not earlier, when we are neither child nor adult and are trying to find our way in a complicated and confusing world. As adults we go on asking them.

This week's reading from Exodus shows that fickleness at work. The Israelites had seen God's power and his mighty acts, yet after a short time in which they felt abandoned, they melted down their gold and made a golden calf to worship. It is an uncomfortable truth, and one we need to face in our own lives. How we face it tells us a great deal about ourselves.

In the Gospel, though, we meet a God who is extravagant and generous. The king has prepared a wedding banquet for his son: "My oxen and my fattened calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." The invitation is open to anyone and everyone. Yet those first invited were dismissive and would not come.

How often do we respond the same way? Faced with God's glory and his generous provision, we can be hesitant, unwilling, even cynical, as if we have seen it all before.

Paul offers another way. Writing to the Philippians, he urges them to rejoice in the Lord always, to bring their worries to God in prayer, and to fix their minds on whatever is true, honourable, just and lovely. The peace of God, he promises, will guard their hearts.

God's heart is wide open, and he is calling us in. Will we let our sin, our insecurities and our fickleness stop us from responding fully? God longs for us to enjoy life in his presence. Everything is ready. Come to the feast.

Chris

St Mary the Virgin Langley

DON'T MISS

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

COME AND JOIN US SHARE DETAILS WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS!

Fun Stalls

Refreshments

21 November 2026

Father Christmas from 3.00pm

Kedermister Library Open

2.00 - 3.30pm

St Mary Church
St Mary's Road Langley SL3 7EL

There are lots of ways to help on the day and/or leading up to the event!
Please see information displayed in churches for more information. Thank you!

ST MARY LANGLEY

SUNDAY CLUB

Sundays 11.00 am StM Centre

25	October
15	November
22	November
6	December

LANGLEY MARISH

YOUTH GROUP

Saturdays 3.15 pm - 5.00 pm

21	November
12	December

OUT NOW!

Around Langley

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

via our website and in print more copies available on request from the editorial team

DEADLINE for
DECEMBER 2026 - JANUARY 2027
CONTENT is
THURSDAY 12 November 2026
Thank you!