

The Clergy Team



Robert Cotton - Rector

Tom Pote - Curate

Brian Roberts - Associate Minister

Rod Pierce - Associate Minister

Jonathan Hedgecock - Associate Minister

Most people see us in action on Sundays at one of our services in either Holy Trinity or St Mary's churches, but we also pray in Holy Trinity every day of the week (except for Fridays). On Sunday mornings we celebrate the Eucharist (also known as the Holy Communion), the special meal of bread and wine Jesus invited his disciples to share just before he died. On Sunday evenings we hold a service called Evensong. As the name suggests, this involves singing with our fantastic choirs. During services we preach sermons in which we explain passages from the Bible and speak of God's love for us.

When we're not in church we work out and about in Guildford. One of our responsibilities is what the church calls 'the cure of souls' and our rector Robert Cotton and the other clergy share in this task around the **parish**. What does this mean? It means that we are here for and care for everyone in the **parish**. That's not just the people who come to services on a Sunday, but everyone who lives here. We really enjoy meeting people who are curious about the church, what we do and how they might be part of it.

The clergy coordinate pastoral care so each week we spend time visiting people who are unable to come to church, often taking Holy Communion to them, as well as to those who are unwell or in hospital. Pastoral care isn't just for people who are sick – it covers just about every type of need.

During term-time, Robert and our curate Tom Pote often attend school assemblies at Holy Trinity Pewley Down, the local infant and junior school connected to our parish. We have excellent links with other schools where Robert is a governor, and many of these use our churches for special services throughout the year, especially at Christmas.

Another special part of our job is to baptise (christen) people and take weddings. These are moments of celebration in our lives and we love to share in them with you, your families and friends. We also do funerals. Losing loved ones is one of the hardest things we ever face, but we are here to plan the service with you and to help you to say goodbye.

Finally, people often ask us what 'Rector' and 'Curate' mean. Rector is a title for the priest in charge of a parish. In some places we call them vicars, but the job is the same. Curates are ministers in the early years of their ministry who are learning the ropes from the rector. Robert and Tom work every day, except Fridays, but not all clergy work for the church all the time and here we are fortunate to be assisted by three associate ministers, Jonathan, Rod and Brian, who help with pastoral care, organising parish activities and taking services. We have a great team of colleagues to work alongside. Who they are and what they do is on the '**About Us**' page.

Would you like to know more? Why not get in touch or come and visit us on a Sunday? We'd be delighted to see you just as you are, no need to dress up, and you can be assured of a warm welcome!

Contact:

Robert Cotton rector@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 575489

Tom Pote curate@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 511725

Parish Office office@holytrinityguildford.org.uk | 01483 567716