



St Mark's Church, Reigate

July 2025

Letter from the Vicar, Father Martin Colton

Dear Friends

As July arrives and summer unfolds in all its colour and warmth, we find ourselves in a season of long days, garden gatherings, and – we hope – some sunshine! The school year begins to wind down, holidays are being planned, and there is a noticeable easing of pace in many of our lives. For some, this brings much-needed rest; for others, the shift in routine brings its own kind of busyness.

In the church calendar, July often feels like a quieter time, nestled between the joyful celebration of Pentecost and the reflective season of harvest that will come later in the year. But quiet does not mean empty. Just as gardens grow most rapidly during these months, so too can our faith deepen in the stillness.

I wonder, as you enjoy walks in the countryside, time in the garden, or even a few peaceful moments in the shade, whether you might find new space to notice God's presence. Perhaps in the simple rhythm of nature, or in the welcome of a cool breeze on a warm day, we can hear again that gentle invitation to "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

July brings its own joys: summer fetes, festivals and of course, the faithful rhythm of our worship and fellowship. If you're around during the holidays, we'd love to see you. If you're travelling, please know you go with our prayers. Let us use this season not only to rest our bodies but to refresh our souls – through prayer, through Scripture, and through the quiet joy of knowing we are held in God's loving care.

With every blessing.