

# PARISH OF ESHER

CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER with ST GEORGE'S, WEST END

*Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1 DECEMBER 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Peter Bedford, Juliet Philip
Musician	Stuart Whatton
All Age Eucharist & Christingle (live streamed)	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwardens	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Helen Griffin, Volunteer required
Reading, Prayers	Our young people
Refreshments	Jennifer Meade, Wendy Tanqueray
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Barbara Wadley
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Chorale Prelude on 'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland', BWV 659</i> (Bach)
SG hymns	38, 75, 42
CC hymns	160, 75, 42
SG & CC setting	Addington
Christingle song	<i>Hope of Heaven</i> (Mark & Helen Johnson)
Communion music	<i>It's rounded like an orange</i> (John Keys); <i>Go, tell it on the mountain</i> (African-American trad)
Closing music	<i>Lift Up Your Eyes, O Jerusalem</i> (Eugene Lindusky)
THE ADVENT WREATH PRAYER	
Lord Jesus, light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a King; be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today. <b>Amen.</b>	
THE COLLECT	
Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. <b>Amen.</b>	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. <b>Amen.</b>	

## Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Christingle Service is a beautiful reminder of the Light of Christ coming into the world at Christmas. It's also an opportunity for us to be bearers of that Light too, as we pray for and offer financial support to Eikon, the Surrey-based charity helping children with wellbeing and mental health needs. Each year the organisation works with countless young people enabling them to feel safe, heard and supported.

One such young person was Lola.

She writes:

*I began to realise something was wrong during the second lockdown of the Covid pandemic. I started to feel nauseous from anxiety and felt very uncomfortable in my own skin ... I started my support sessions with Eikon and found that being able to speak to someone about the emotions overwhelming me and having someone give their time and patience was incredibly comforting. I didn't feel judged. Instead I felt relieved. That was now a year ago and, through support, I am coming to understand how to overcome the problems that sometimes take over me. I am much happier than I have been in a long while.*

Our prayers and support can help provide young people like Lola with the support and skills they need to live their best life.

God bless,



## READING Jeremiah 33.14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

## GOSPEL Luke 21.25-36

Jesus said to his disciples:

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.' Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

## PARISH NOTICES

**Christingle Service** - This wonderful service takes place this Sunday, 10.30am, in Christ Church. We welcome and give thanks to the ECS choir who are joining us. Thanks to our volunteers for making the Christingles and to Waitrose and Tesco for the oranges! Today's collections, via cash and card, will be donated to The Children's Society.

**Advent Appeal 2024** - Eikon is a Surrey-based charity helping children with mental health and wellbeing needs. Each year the organisation works with countless young people enabling them to feel safe, heard and supported. This year's Parish Advent Appeal will support Eikon's vital work. For details about Eikon go to: [ww.eikon.org.uk](http://ww.eikon.org.uk). Please donate what you can via envelopes, online or by card. Do Gift Aid if you can.

**Sunday School** - There is no Sunday School as it's an All Age Christingle service. Kath is offering children's activities in Christ Church.

**Christmas Crazy Crafts** - This will take place at the Lower Green Community Centre (Farm Road, Esher KT10 8AU) on Saturday 7 December, 10am-1pm. Entry is free and kids get a goodie bag and some festive fun!

**Youth Group** - For our final Youth Group of 2024, there'll be festive activities and biscuit decorating. Youth Group returns 5 January. Email [youth@esherparish.org.uk](mailto:youth@esherparish.org.uk) for details.

**Holy Communion** - The sacrament is distributed by 'simultaneous administration' – the priest touches the communion wafer in to the wine surface before giving it to the communicant.

**Book Group** - The group will meet at Christ Church for its traditional Christmas literary tea party at 4pm on Monday 16 December. The first meeting of 2025 will be on Monday 27 January when we'll discuss Bernhard Schlink's hailed novel *The Reader*. For details contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 07968 765188.

**Fellowship Group** - The group is meeting in Christ Church on Monday 2 December, 10.30am.

**Christmas Tree Lighting Up** - We were very pleased to have continued our new tradition on Friday when we launched the season of good cheer by lighting up the Christmas Tree in Christ Church. The choir sang carols in our warm, candlelit church whilst mince pies and mulled wine were served. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.

**Christmas Shoeboxes** - Dozens of 'Link to Hope' Christmas shoeboxes were sent on their way this week to people in desperate need in Ukraine, Moldova, Bulgaria and Romania. Many thanks to all who filled boxes.

**Music on the Green** - Our last free event of 2024 will be our annual Come & Sing Carols on Wednesday 18 December, 1.15pm, when festive fayre will be served from 12.30pm.

**Festival of Lessons & Carols** - This year this service will be on Sunday 22 December in Christ Church at the usual time of 6pm.

**Parish Christmas Lunch** - Sunday 8 December at West End Village Hall, 1-4pm – £35pp with drinks generously provided by Sally and Tom Radford. See flyer for details and form.

**Christmas Leaflet** - We still have some leaflet bundles to deliver to homes across Esher. Please contact Will Stevens or the Parish Office if you can help with any roads.

**Parish Giving** - Donate today via cash, the card machine in Christ Church or online by scanning the QR code on the little pewcards.

**Parish Communications** - Every Friday we send an email with Sunday's pewsheets and order of service. Those on the Parish Electoral Roll automatically get the email. If you'd like to receive please complete an Electoral Roll form or a contact form in either church.

**After School** - Parishioners Charlotte and Ben are looking for someone to collect their son (4 years old) from Esher Church School on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3.15pm. (£30 a week). Contact them on 07716 836803.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Pam & Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Ruramayi, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Sienna Ravel

RIP Anniversaries: Frank Dane, Dudley Paget-Brown, Dorothy Bicker, Muriel Ross, Stephen Semple, Francis Walden, Stuart Williams, George Thirtle

RIP: Duncan Edge, Marny Park, Elizabeth Arnold, Joan Halward

Banns of Marriage: Thomas Geoffrey Scrace & Neha Dipak Visavadia

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Readings for Morning Prayer taken from the Church of England Lectionary.

December	Time	Reading
Monday	2	Isaiah 42.18-end; Ps 50; Revelation 19
Tuesday	3	Isaiah 43.1-13; Ps 80; Revelation 20
Wednesday	4	Isaiah 43.14-end; Ps 7; Revelation 21.1-8
Thursday	5	9.30-10.30am
Friday	6	Isaiah 44.1-8; Ps 42; Revelation 21.9-21
		Isaiah 44.9-23; Ps 25; Revelation 21.22-22.5

## LOOKING AHEAD

December	Time	Event
Sunday	1	9am Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am Christingle Service, Christ Church
		4.30pm Youth Group, Christ Church
Monday	2	10.30am Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		7.15pm Choir practice
Tuesday	3	All day Booking: Claremont Fan Court School, Christ Church
Wednesday	4	All day Booking: Claremont Fan Court School, Christ Church
		7pm Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	5	All day Parish Office closed
		9.30am Morning Prayer, Zoom
Saturday	7	10am Christmas Crazy Crafts, Lower Green Community Centre
Sunday	8	9am Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am Parish Communion, Christ Church
		12.30pm Interment of Katy Louise Wake, Christ Church
		1pm Parish Christmas Lunch, West End Village Hall

## CONTACTS

<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS <b>what3words location</b> ///frosted.forum.firms St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF <b>what3words location</b> ///sugars.hulk.chip <b>Website</b> www.esherparish.org.uk <b>Facebook</b> www.facebook.com/EsherParish <b>YouTube</b> www.youtube.com/esherparish <b>Instagram</b> www.instagram.com/esherparish/	<b>RECTOR</b> Revd Darren McCallig 01372 461088 rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday	<b>HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS</b> Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 Ven David Gerrard
	<b>CHURCHWARDENS</b> Helen Coulson 07506 701454 Jane Tyrrell 07971 698299	<b>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES WORKER</b> Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk

Parish Office Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk

Parish Administrator Melanie Williams Office Hours 9am to 3.15pm, Monday to Wednesday & Friday

Live Streaming Please be aware that all services held at Christ Church are live streamed via our YouTube channel.

Please submit information and notices for inclusion in the Sunday pewsheets by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.