

# PARISH OF ESHER

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

SHARING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE IN ESHER

*Reconciling - Sustaining - Guiding - Healing*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 DECEMBER 2018

## WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES

If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time please introduce yourselves to a member of the clergy or one of our churchwardens or sidespeople. This sheet gives some words that will be needed in the services and notices about the life of the church communities. Please do take it home.

## TODAY'S SERVICES

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> led by William Allberry
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Sung Communion</b> at St George's led by David
Reading & Prayers	Harriet Brooks
Chalice	Sue Langley
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b> at Christ Church led by Fiona Owen and Dave Whymark
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sides	Sue Dunne, Oliver Dickinson
Reading	Dave Whymark
Prayers	Parish Children

## MUSIC

<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Sung Communion</b>
Hymns	45, 30, 41
<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b>
Hymns	Make way, make way; Hope of heaven; Shine, Jesus, shine
Musicians	Keith Howell-Jones, Stuart Whatton

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## READING 1 Thessalonians 3.9-end

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

## **PSALM 25.1-9**

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

## **GOSPEL Luke 21.25-36**

'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

**A Christingle & Christmas Tree Thank You!** - To Dawn Davidson and all helpers for making the Christingles and for helping with the Christ Church Christmas tree. Also to Waitrose for donating the 150 oranges and to our secret Christmas tree donor, too! Thanks to all.

**2018 Advent Appeal** - This year we are raising money for the Children's Society, a charity specialising in providing direct support to the most vulnerable 10-18 year olds across the country. They focus on five areas of work - young carers, drug/alcohol abuse, runaways, refugee/asylum seekers and child sexual exploitation. Please give generously to this worthwhile cause through today's collection or using an envelope in the pews. Thank you.

**#FollowTheStar this Christmas** - Christmas brings up so many expectations, emotions and memories. We have one nativity story but we all seem to have very different Christmases. The Church of England's Christmas campaign #FollowTheStar doesn't ask you to be perfect but to just come as you are to take the life-changing Christmas journey. To embark on the journey sign-up for emails at <https://www.churchofengland.org/followthestar>.

**Sermons** - All sermons are now being uploaded to the Parish website under latest news.

**Parish Christmas Lunch** - The Christmas Lunch will take place on Sunday 9 December at 12.30pm at the Bear. Two course menu, filter coffee and gratuity. Price £25 per person. Space is limited to 44 guests but there are still some places left. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested please speak with Peggy Howell-Jones or contact the Parish Office.

**Ever wondered if you could help** - Yes, you can either by being a sidesperson, a reader, an intercessor or a chalice assistant. And you would be very welcome too. If you are interested please do speak to a churchwarden or sign-up. To be a chalice assistant you will need to be trained and we will be arranging a short training course in the new year for all those who wish to volunteer. It would be great to involve more people in our services at Christ Church and St George's so please do think about how you can help.

**Mince Pies needed!** - Our annual Festival of Lessons & Carols is at 6pm on Sunday 23 December - a great occasion to prepare for the good news of Christmas. We shall be serving mince pies and mulled wine after the service. If you can help with providing mince pies please sign-up on the sheet. Many thanks.

**Posada Dolls** - To make room at home for Mary and Joseph for one night during Advent do sign-up in Christ Church. Pass the Posada dolls to the next person on the list. Thank you.

**Music on the Green Come & Sing Carols** - Please come and enjoy festive food with your favourite carols at Christ Church on Wednesday 19 December at 12.30pm.

**Interregnum** - The Parish of Esher is in a temporary period of being without a Rector, known as an Interregnum ('between reigns') or a Vacancy. The legal responsibility for the parish rests with the churchwardens, Sandra Argent and Beverley Eastwood-Taylor, and supported by the PCC. We will follow a process laid down by the Church of England to find and choose a new Rector. We will fully engage the parish, we will keep you informed of progress and will seek your views, feedback and opinions as and when appropriate.

***Please stay for coffee or tea after the service.***

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Those who are ill:** Naomi Shaw, Tara Duffy, Jackie Hinton, Shirley Marshall, Yasmin Ingram, Betty Walker, Margaret Williams, Beverley Eastwood-Taylor

**RIP Anniversaries:** Muriel Ross, Francis Walden, George Thirtle, Charles Watson, Cicely Martin

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

*Taken from the Church of England Lectionary - readings for Morning Prayer are given below. All are welcome to use Christ Church for daily prayer.*

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

December		Time	Event
Sunday	2	3.30pm	Tomita Piano Student Concert, Christ Church
		5.30pm	Voyagers, Esher Church School
Monday	3	2.00pm	Buttons & Bows Carol Concert, St George's
Tuesday	4	8.00pm	Prayer for our Churches, St George's
Thursday	6	9.00am	Claremont Fan Court School Pupils Carol Service
		7.30pm	Claremont Fan Court School Parents Carol Service
Saturday	8	7.30pm	KT Tenuto Christmas Opera, Carols & Musicals, Christ Church
Sunday	9	12.30pm	Parish Christmas Lunch, The Bear
		5.30pm	Pioneers, Christ Church
Wednesday	12	7.30pm	Esher High School Christmas Concert
Thursday	13	10.00am	Fellowship Group
Saturday	15	11.15am	Moore Place Care Home Communion
Sunday	16	5.30pm	Voyagers, Esher Church School
Monday	17	6.00pm	Christ Church Choir Carol Singing, Arbrook House Care Home

## CONTACTS

RECTOR Vacancy	<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> Website <a href="http://www.esherparish.org.uk">www.esherparish.org.uk</a> Twitter <a href="http://www.twitter.com/esherparish">www.twitter.com/esherparish</a> Christ Church Open Every day, 9am to 3pm
<b>PARISH OFFICE</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email <a href="mailto:office@esherparish.org.uk">office@esherparish.org.uk</a> Office Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10-12am	

***All main events at Christ Church unless stated otherwise***