

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

EPIPHANY

6 JANUARY 2019

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

8.00am	Holy Communion at Christ Church led by Andrew Cowie
9.00am	Sung Communion at St George's led by David
Reading/Prayers	Joan Howell-Jones
Chalice	Will Stevens
10.30am	All Age Service at Christ Church led by All Age Worship Team
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sides	All Age Worship Team
Reading	All Age Worship Team
Prayers	All Age Worship Team

MUSIC

9.00am	Sung Communion
Hymns	96, 94 (omit v4), 105
10.30am	All Age Service
Hymns	105, 82, 494
Musicians	Keith Howell-Jones

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming
as our saviour, so we may be ready to
greet him when he comes again as our
judge; who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

READING Isaiah 60.1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon
you. For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples; but the
Lord will arise upon you, and his glory
will appear over you. Nations shall
come to your light, and kings to the
brightness of your dawn. Lift up your
eyes and look around; they all gather
together, they come to you; your sons
shall come from far away, and your
daughters shall be carried on their
nurses' arms. Then you shall see and
be radiant; your heart shall thrill and
rejoice, because the abundance of the
sea shall be brought to you, the wealth
of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come. They
shall bring gold and frankincense, and
shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

PSALM 72.10-15

10 May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

11 May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

12 For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

13 He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

15 Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him. May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all day long.

GOSPEL Matthew 2.1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go

and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

PARISH PRAYER

We ask that everyone prays for our Parish and our upcoming Vision Day on Saturday 12 January. Thank you.

God our Father, you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be His body in this place: Send us your Holy Spirit at this time of uncertainty and change, to fill us with vision and energy and faithfulness in prayer, that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our community.

Give your heavenly wisdom to those who are to choose a new incumbent for this parish, that she or he may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your Son, Jesus.

Amen.

PARISH NOTICES

Happy New Year & Thank you - May we, the Churchwardens, Sandra and Beverley, and the PCC wish you all a Happy New Year for 2019. A big thank you for our shared ministry together over the last year. A special big thank you to the pastoral team, choir, organists, bellringers, flower arrangers, gardeners, coffee and rota teams for all their help, dedication, hospitality and overall organisation during 2018. It is all so very much appreciated. Thank you.

Candlemas Service - This service will be held at Old St. George's Church in Esher on Sunday 3 February at 6pm. Our Candlemas celebration recalls the day on which Jesus was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, and in our celebration we offer ourselves for cleansing. We celebrate both the joy of Jesus' coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion. All are welcome to join us for a reflective and atmospheric evening. The Christ Church choir will be singing.

Interregnum - The next key milestone in the interregnum process is the Vision Day, which will be held on Saturday 12 January 2019, and will be led by Rev. Danny Wignall from the Diocese. The purpose of the Vision Day is to discern God's future direction for the parish. The Parish Profile and Statement of Needs will then be written expounding on the vision and hopefully inspiring the right person to come and lead our churches forward. All being well, we will advertise for a new rector in the spring. Do please pray for the Vision Day, and all those involved.

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. If you would like to volunteer as a chalice assistant it is necessary to undertake training now arranged for the morning of Saturday 19 January. 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.

Noah's Ark - Noah's Ark will set sail again on Sunday 13 January.

Please stay for coffee or tea after the service.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Tara Duffy, Jackie Hinton, Shirley Marshall, Betty Walker, Yasmin Ingram, Margaret Williams, Beverley Eastwood-Taylor, Lindsay Handcock, Margaret Miller

RIP Anniversaries: Phyllis Crabbe, Francis Krejsa, James Bath

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.

January		Time	Reading
Monday	7		Isaiah 63.7-end; Ps 99; 1 John 3
Tuesday	8		Isaiah 64; Ps 46; 1 John 4.7-end
Wednesday	9		Isaiah 65.1-16; Ps 140; 1 John 5.1-12
Thursday	10		Isaiah 65.17-end; Ps 149; 1 John 5.13-end1
Friday	11		Isaiah 66.1-11; Ps 150; 2 John

LOOKING AHEAD

January		Time	Event
Tuesday	8	8.00pm	Prayer for our Churches, Christ Church
Thursday	10	10.00am	Fellowship Group
Saturday	12	10.00am	Vision Day
Monday	14	7.15pm	Choir practice resumes
Wednesday	16	12.30pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Constance Chow & Phoebe Yu (piano duet)

CONTACTS

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

All main events at Christ Church unless stated otherwise