

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8 FEBRUARY 2026

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Barry Hengist at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd Barry Hengist
Churchwarden	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Reading, Prayers	Joan Trower, Bridget Williams
Musician	Robert Cunningham
Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd Barry Hengist at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Barry Hengist
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Sean Seymour-Cole, Bob Lonnon
Reading, Prayers	Myfanwy Tranmer, Jan Sayer
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Robert Cunningham, Josephine Griffin
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Wendy Tanqueray

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Andante from Sonata no. 6</i> (Mendelssohn)
SG / CC hymns	706, 546, 810 / 532 (omit v5-6), 546, 810
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Anthem	<i>Arise, shine</i> (Elvey)
Closing music	<i>Kleine Praeludium in E</i> (Bruhns)

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart
of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished
at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Welcome to the Parish

Our two churches, Christ Church and St George's, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through our doors to celebrate marriages, welcome newborns into our Christian faith and to grieve their losses - all of it embraced by the worship and prayer offered each week.

Every Sunday we explore the richness of our Christian traditions through words and music, silence and sacrament.

Some of us grew up in church and have never left, some of us grew out of church but are testing the waters again, some of us have more questions than answers but whatever the reason, we all belong here.

You can find full details of our services online. Most Sundays we worship at 9am at St George's, West End and at 10.30am at Christ Church, Esher.

We look forward to welcoming you.

READING Romans 8.18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.25-end

Jesus taught his disciples, saying: 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Other Lectionary Texts

Genesis 1.1-2.3

Psalm 136

PARISH NOTICES

Thank You - To Revd Barry Hengist for visiting us and leading our services. It is a joy to worship with you.

Vacancy Update - The shortlisting of potential candidates will take place on Monday 9 February. We will then host successful candidates for interviews on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 March.

Sunday School - This week we'll be leaning into our Sunday School value of 'service' by making flower centre-pieces for the tables at the Lower Green Community Café.

Youth Group - At our February session, Friday 6 February, 5.30pm, we'll look at what we're passionate about, what people say about us and how we can let compliments land, something we're not always great at!

Lent Course - The course, based on the book *Let Me Go There - The Spirit of Lent* by Paula Gooder, will start on Sunday 22 February at noon in Christ Church. It'll consist of hourly sessions on consecutive Sundays until Easter facilitated most weeks by Christine Steeds. She may need someone to step on at least one Sunday. You may wish to purchase an e-book, or buy a paperback online.

Flower Coordinator - Carol Calvert has confirmed she'll be 'retiring' at Easter after 32 years of managing the Christ Church flowers and flower team. Carol says it is a glorious thing to do so we hope someone will be tempted. To understand what's involved Carol will be very happy to chat.

The Last Brightness of Everything - Stewart & Carol Henderson along with Yvonne Lyon will present this lauded music, poetry and narrative script performance at Christ Church on Saturday 28 February 2026 at 7.30pm. Advance tickets at £16.96 from Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/yc3fabw7>) or £18 on door on the night. Refreshments provided.

The Chosen - We have started showing *The Chosen* in Christ Church. Hope all who attended last Tuesday found it interesting. We look forward to you joining us for this acclaimed dramatisation of the life of Christ on the big screen. Each episode can be watched separately without having to watch from the start. The next showing on Tuesday 10 February, 7.30pm, will be Episode 1.2. Watch, reflect and discuss. Free to all.

Sending Thanks - Brian Elliott would like to send his thanks for all the kind thoughts, wishes and messages, and hopes to see you all again very soon.

Book Group - At our meeting on Monday 9 February, 4pm, in Christ Church, we will be discussing *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* by George Orwell. Set in 1930s London, (but topical today?) its theme is what money – and the presence or absence of it – does to people. All readers welcome!

Music on the Green - On Wednesday 18 February at 1.15pm, Myfanwy Grace, our choir soprano and in-house music theatre professional, will perform a selection of famous melodies from top West End and Broadway shows. Do come and support Myfanwy's first solo recital at Christ Church.

Ash Wednesday - Our Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist will be taking place in Christ Church on Wednesday 18 February at 8pm.

Come, Heavy Sleep - Enjoy a Renaissance music concert on Friday 20 February, 6pm, at Old St George's, Esher, to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of John Dowland. David Yardley, countertenor, and Augustin Cornwall-Irving, lute, will treat us to vocal and instrumental music by Dowland and his contemporaries Campion and Morley. Free admission with retiring collection.

Fellowship Group - We meet next in Christ Church at 10.30am on Wednesday 4 March.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Louise Tyzack, Caroline Kerr, Armand Sarkissian, Phoebe Ainsworth, Josh Baines, Mike Elder, Brian Elliott, Gudrun & David Jensen

RIP Anniversaries: Alan Williams, Marion Cormie, Richard Loughrey, Phyllis Riley, Laurence Green, Leonard Schwarz, Mark Pond, Patricia McKenna, Greta Olle

RIP: Dany McLeod

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

February		Time	Reading
Monday	9		Genesis 29.31-30.24, Ps 30, 2 Timothy 4.1-8
Tuesday	10		Genesis 31.1-24, Ps 36, 2 Timothy 4.9-end
Wednesday	11		Genesis 31.25-32.2, Ps 34, Titus 1
Thursday	12	10am	Genesis 32.3-30, Ps 37, Titus 2
Friday	13		Genesis 33.1-17, Ps 31, Titus 3

LOOKING AHEAD

February		Time	Event
Sunday	8	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	9	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
		7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	10	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday	11	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	12	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday	15	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	16	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	17	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS what3words location //frosted.forum.firms St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF what3words location //sugars.hulk.chip Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish YouTube www.youtube.com/esherparish Instagram www.instagram.com/esherparish/	RECTOR In Vacancy	CHURCHWARDENS Will Stevens 07505 904089 Fraser McGuicken 07342 057763 churchwardens@esherparish.org.uk
	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 jandrewesher@gmail.com	DEPUTY WARDEN CHRIST CHURCH Sandra Argent 07973 909152 DEPUTY WARDEN ST GEORGE'S Charles Hawkshaw-Burn 07799 895083
	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk	SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Alison Mohamed safeguarding@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 9.30am to 3.45pm, 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.		