

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 SEPTEMBER 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Reading, Prayers	Gerard Harper
Musician	Theo Tang
All Age Eucharist with Blessing of the Bags	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Stewart Henderson, Joanna Rand & Muffin
Reading, Prayers	Kath Chapman, EHS pupil
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Bob Lonnon
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Theo Tang, Robert Cunningham
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Voluntary in G - no. 1 from 12 Short Pieces for Organ (Wesley)</i>
SG / CC hymns	696, 595, 818 / 595, 777, 818
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Communion music	<i>Adagio from the Sonata Pathétique (Beethoven)</i>
Anthem	<i>Bread is blessed and broken (John Bell)</i>
Closing music	<i>Basse de Trompette (Marchand)</i>
THE COLLECT	
Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	

Welcome to the Parish

The Parish of Esher is for everyone.

The two church buildings, Christ Church in Esher and St George's in West End, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through the doors to celebrate their marriages, welcome their new-borns and grieve their losses – all of it embraced by the beauty of the worship offered in these houses of prayer week in and week out.

On Sundays we explore the riches of the Christian spiritual tradition 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. All of us belong here.

You can also check-out some of our services on YouTube to get a flavour of what we're about, or just come along some Sunday at 10.30am in Christ Church or at 9.00am in St George's West End.

Whether you join online or in person, we hope you'll find a community committed to a thoughtful Faith, a hard-won Hope, and a generous Love.

You are very welcome.

READING Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

GOSPEL Mark 7.24-end

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go – the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

PSALM 146

1 Alleluia! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will
sing praises to my God while I have my
being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any
child of earth, for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they
return to earth, and in that day their
thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of
Jacob for their help! whose hope is in the
Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas,
and all that is in them; who keeps his
promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are
oppressed, and food to those who
hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the
Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the
Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord
cares for the stranger; he sustains the
orphan and widow, but frustrates the
way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, your
God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Alleluia!.

READING James 2.1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with
your acts of favouritism really believe in
our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a
person with gold rings and in fine clothes
comes into your assembly, and if a poor
person in dirty clothes also comes in,
and if you take notice of the one wearing
the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat
here, please', while to the one who is
poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at
my feet', have you not made distinctions
among yourselves, and become judges
with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved
brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen
the poor in the world to be rich in faith
and to be heirs of the kingdom that he
has promised to those who love him?
But you have dishonoured the poor.

Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it
not they who drag you into court? Is it
not they who blaspheme the excellent
name that was invoked over you? You
do well if you really fulfil the royal law
according to the scripture, 'You shall
love your neighbour as yourself.' But
if you show partiality, you commit
sin and are convicted by the law as
transgressors. For whoever keeps the
whole law but fails in one point has
become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters,
if you say you have faith but do not have
works? Can faith save you? If a brother
or sister is naked and lacks daily food,
and one of you says to them, 'Go in
peace; keep warm and eat your fill',
and yet you do not supply their bodily
needs, what is the good of that? So
faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

PARISH NOTICES

Blessing of the Bags & Ice Cream Sunday - In Christ Church this Sunday we will hold our popular All Age Service when everyone has an opportunity to have their school bag, briefcase or laptop bag blessed for the year ahead. Do stay on after the service to enjoy a free ice-cream from Daisy's Vintage Ices!

Sunday School - As this Sunday is an All Age service our Children & Families Worker, Kath, will be running a creche at the back of Christ Church with quiet activities for the children.

Youth Group - We're kicking off the new academic year with intention setting, games and reflection at Youth Group this weekend. Our sessions are for 10-13 year olds at 4.30-6pm on Sunday at Christ Church. For more information please contact Kath.

Music on the Green - Our autumn season of free lunchtime concerts will be starting on Wednesday 18 September, at 1.15pm, with light lunch from 12.30pm as usual. Musicians will be confirmed soon.

Fellowship Group - The group enjoyed much laughter in Christ Church last week. The next meeting is on Wednesday 2 October.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 9.30am.

Old St George's Church - On Saturday 7 and 14 September at 11am and 2pm there'll be guided tours as part of Heritage Open Days.

Especially Now - An exhibition of landscape paintings of places across England - some spectacular, some precious, some everyday! It highlights the important relationship we have with the countryside, much of which is vulnerable to development. 'Especially Now', paintings by Flin McCulloch, is at The Robert Philips Gallery, Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre, Manor Road, Walton on Thames KT12 2PF and is on from Wednesday 18 to Sunday 22 September, 10am to 4pm. This is also a lovely place to meet up for coffee or lunch!

Pet Service - This Service of Blessing for the animals that are our friends and companions will be taking place at St George's on Sunday 15 September at 4pm. Bring your pet, or a photo - all pets are welcome - dogs, cats, rabbits, goldfish, tortoises, budgies or ponies!

West End Village Show - For the Parish's biggest single fundraising event, this year we raised a total of £2044! St George's raised £730 on the cake stall and £354 on the gift stall - and the Teas in the Village Hall creamed in £960. This is only achievable when the congregations from both churches come together. The amount of time that so many of you have so willingly given to support this annual event shows what true team spirit we all have. Thank you to everyone - whatever your contribution. Andrea, Bridget and Helen

Book Group - On Monday 30 September, 4pm, we'll discuss Carlo Levi's memoir of southern Italy in the 1930s - *Christ stopped at Eboli*. For details contact Revd Jonathan Andrew - 01372 464380 / jandrewsher@gmail.com.

Jennifer - If you would like to visit Jennifer at home please contact Lizzie, her daughter, (07803 086074) beforehand to agree a suitable time to avoid over-tiring Jennifer.

Darren - The Rector's Adoption Leave will continue until Tuesday 19 November 2024.

The Bishops' Camino 2024 - Why not join Bishop Paul and Bishop Andrew on Saturday 12 October as they walk through the Surrey countryside to raise funds for the Bishop of Guildford's Communities Fund. For more details, to donate and to sign up to walk see: www.cofeguildford.org.uk/mission/growing-community/bishop-of-guildfords-communities-fund/.

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.

Parish of Esher services

Sunday 15 September, 4pm

Pet Service

St George's Church,
West End

**A Service of Blessing for the animals
that are our friends and companions.**



Bring your pet, or a photo of your pet, to St George's Church. We look forward to seeing you all - adults, children and your pets - dogs, cats, rabbits, goldfish, tortoises, budgies or ponies. Whatever your pet, make sure it is safe and in your control. If you need to check anything beforehand please contact the Parish Office.

Parish of Esher - Christ Church, Esher with St George's Church, West End
Tel: 01372 462282 Email: office@esherparish.org.uk Website: www.esherparish.org.uk

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Elizabeth Arnold, Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Pam & Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Armand Sarkissian, Vicky Jenkins, Ruramayi, Karen Harris, Jennifer Meade

RIP Anniversaries: Ian Walden, Michael Whitney, Alan Parry, Brian Flynn, Patricia Newman, Thomas Connor

RIP: Brian Hatfield, Wadad Gorton

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

September		Time	Reading
Monday	9		1 Kings 8.31-62, Ps 30, Acts 16.6-24
Tuesday	10		1 Kings 8.63-9.9, Ps 36, Acts 16.25-end
Wednesday	11		1 Kings 10.1-25, Ps 34, Acts 17.1-15
Thursday	12	9.30-10.30am	1 Kings 11.1-13, Ps 37, Acts 17.16-end
Friday	13		1 Kings 11.26-end, Ps 31, Acts 18.1-21

LOOKING AHEAD

September		Time	Event
Sunday	8	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Blessing of the Bags & Ice Cream Sunday, Christ Church
		4.30pm	Youth Group, Christ Church
Monday	9	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	10	8pm	Parochial Church Council Meeting, Christ Church
Wednesday	11	7pm	Bellringing practice
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
		4pm	Pet Service, St George's Church
Monday	16	7.15pm	Choir practice, 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 Revd Darren McCallig On Adoption Leave until 19/11/24. For parish enquiries contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 Ven David Gerrard
	CHURCHWARDENS Helen Coulson 07506 701454 Jane Tyrrell 07971 698299	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER 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 pewsheet by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.		