

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

12 NOVEMBER 2023

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Gerard Harper
Musician	Theo Tang
Act of Remembrance	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.50am at Esher Green
Crucifer	Will Stevens
Trumpeter	Thomas Doolan
Stewards & Volunteers	Duncan Hamilton-Martin, Sean Cole, Nigel Weiss, Paul Bangs, Clive Madden
Service of Remembrance	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 11.15am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwardens	Helen Coulson, Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Andy Tyrrell, Charles Hawkshaw-Burn Martin Fuller
Reading	Elaine Brindley from Esher Church School
Musicians	Oliver Macfarlane, Stuart Whatton

MORNING SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Nimrod, from Enigma Variations</i> (Elgar)
SG hymns	746, 635, 579
CC hymns	635, 581(omit v4), 621, 578
SG, CC settings	Addington, Coulson
Anthem	<i>For the fallen</i> (Douglas Guest)
Closing music	<i>March, from Overture to the Occasional Oratorio</i> (Handel)

THE COLLECT

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

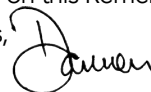
Eighty years ago this month – in November 1943 – a young Jewish woman still in her twenties was among those murdered in the Auschwitz concentration camp. The woman in question, Etty Hillesum, was not in any usual sense of the word 'conventionally' religious. And yet her diaries – published posthumously – reveal a profound interior life and a growing sense of the divine presence. For instance, in August 1941, she wrote: 'There is a really deep well inside me. And in it dwells God. Sometimes I am there, too. But more often stones and grit block the well, and God is buried beneath. Then He must be dug out again.'

What's more, alongside this deepening awareness – and as the evil of the Third Reich closed in on her own life – Etty's diaries also chronicle her extraordinary empathy towards her fellow human beings, her utter determination to abstain from hatred, and her compelling witness to the redemptive power of love. In March 1942 she wrote:

'All disasters stem from us. Why is there a war? Perhaps because now and then I might be inclined to snap at my neighbour. Because I and my neighbour and everyone else do not have enough love. Yet we could fight war and all its excrescences by releasing each day, the love which is shackled inside us, and giving it a chance to live.'

It's a powerful testimony – and still urgent and relevant – on this Remembrance Sunday 2023.

God bless,



READING 1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.1-13

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

TODAY'S OTHER LECTIONARY TEXTS

Wisdom 6.12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

Psalm 70

- 1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O Lord, make haste to help me!
- 2 Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonour who desire to hurt me.
- 3 Let those who say, 'Aha, Aha!' turn back because of their shame.
- 4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, 'God is great!'
- 5 But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!



The Parish of Esher

'Exploring the New Testament'

A series of Discussion Evenings for Advent

Over the past year we've held a series of evenings to consider the relevance of the Old Testament and the Gospels to our lives today. This Advent we'll finish out our tour of the Bible by looking at the remainder of the Bible - the Letters of Paul, the Acts of the Apostles and the Book of Revelation. We'll explore what these very different writings tell us about the experience and developing faith of the church in the years after Jesus's death, resurrection and ascension. We'll consider how, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the new Christian communities came to understand their role in building the Kingdom of God in the often hostile world of the first century. We'll reflect on how these 'voices' complement one another and started to create the tradition of faith which we still share today.

If this sounds intriguing, do come along. We'll meet in Christ Church on three Tuesday evenings at 8pm. There'll be a short and provocative introduction to get us thinking, and then over light refreshments we'll dig deeper. We'll suggest some questions for starters, but you may well have other things you'd like to talk about.

Our first session will be at 8pm on Tuesday 28 November when we'll look at Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. We'll try to get alongside Paul as he wrestled with helping his newly founded church live together in unity and love in the midst of their Jewish and pagan neighbours.

'Exploring the New Testament'

Our programme

For each evening we have suggested some preparatory reading. It's not compulsory, but could help 'kick-start' our discussions.

28 November - St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

- Unity in love
- Suggested reading:
 - An appeal for unity - Chapter 1, verses 10-31
 - Spiritual gifts in the body of Christ - Chapter 12
 - The primacy of love - Chapter 13

5 December - The Acts of the Apostles

- The beginnings of the Church
- Suggested reading:
 - An ideal society - Chapter 4, verses 32-37
 - Peter's vision - Chapter 10
 - A model for evangelism - Chapter 17, verses 16-34

12 December - The Book of Revelation

- Prediction or poetry?
- Suggested reading:
 - Messages to the churches - Chapters 2 and 3
 - The vision of the beast - Chapter 13
 - The new creation - Chapter 21, verses 1-7

Each evening will stand on its own, and therefore you're welcome to come as and when you can. All evenings will start at 8pm and, however much you want to talk, we'll aim to finish around 9.30pm!

If you'd like to know more, contact Revd Jonathan Andrew - jandrewsher@gmail.com / 01372 464380.



CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER
LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Wednesday 15 November 2023

Heliconia Duo

flute & classical guitar

Come and hear Bartók's Hungarian Folk Dances, Giuliani's Grand Duo Concertante and a selection of Latin melodies from this mellifluous duo.

Free entry & light lunch from 12.30pm. Concert from 1.15pm.

Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS

Join us in person or watch it on YouTube at 'Music on the Green Esher'

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

PARISH NOTICES

Remembrance Sunday - Today there are two services in the parish: a 9am Service of Holy Communion in St George's and a Remembrance Sunday Service in Christ Church immediately after the Act of Remembrance on Esher Green at 10.50am.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – If you still need to obtain your poppy we have a poppy box and collecting tin in church today.

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.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in the upstairs room in Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 6 December. All are welcome.

Exploring the Bible - Our Advent Study discussion evenings this year will complete our whistle-stop tour of the Bible. Over three Tuesday evenings starting at 8pm on 28 November, we'll explore St Paul's letters, the Acts of the Apostles and the Book of Revelation. For details, see the enclosed flyer.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - The Thursday Morning Prayer online gathering will take a break during the Rector's adoption leave.

Book Group - The next meeting, in Christ Church, will be on Monday 27 November at 4pm when we'll discuss William Golding's masterwork *The Spire*. If you'd like to join us, just turn up or contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewesher@gmail.com

Parish Giving - Donate today via cash, the card machine in Christ Church or online by scanning the QR code on the little cards that are slowly multiplying in Christ Church and will soon find their way to St George's.

Christmas Leaflet - We'll soon be needing volunteers to deliver to Esher homes. Please contact Will Stevens or the Parish Office if you can help. All help is gratefully received.

Darren - The Rector's Adoption Leave will begin on Tuesday 21 November.

Cherish, Nourish, Flourish - Please take a copy of the 'Cherish, Nourish, Flourish' leaflet home with you to read. It outlines some of the amazing things that have been happening in the parish in the past year, as well as some of the plans we have for the future. If you can give a new, or increase an existing financial gift to the parish, thank you. If at this moment you cannot, thank you for considering it. If you can give more time through volunteering in particular ways, thank you. Response forms can be found on the parish website and in both churches. Every contribution is needed, gratefully received and truly valued.

Sunday School - All children are welcome upstairs for Sunday School during the Christ Church service for Remembrance Day activities.

Prayer points

Our wonderful parish school, Esher Church School, has given us the following 'prayer points' to focus our prayers for them.

Pray for the new children joining ECS over the Autumn months for the transitions to go smoothly and they settle easily.

Pray for the school community as they juggle, open days, parents evenings, Christmas events over the next few months.

Pray for good health for the school community as they approach the winter months.

Youth Group - In a very vibrant session last Sunday we discussed our inner critic and the children were given practical ways to manage its impact. See or email Kath for more details on what we did (youth@esherparish.org.uk). Next session will be Sunday 11 December 4.30-6pm with a festive theme.

Girls aged 4-18 - Claygate Girlguiding has spaces. Register via www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Shoeboxes - 'Link to Hope' is a Christian charity that organises a shoe box appeal for those living in difficult circumstances in Ukraine Romania, Bulgaria, and Moldova. To help, please fill a shoe box with gifts and useful items for a family or an elderly person. Please bring completed boxes to church on Sunday 19 November to be blessed and sent on their way.

Christmas Tree Lighting Up - Let's launch the season of good cheer in Esher by lighting up the Christmas Tree in Christ Church at 5.30pm on Friday 1 December. The choir will be singing carols in our warm, candle lit church whilst mince pies and mulled wine is served. All welcome to this festive community event.

Christingle Service - This service will be on Sunday 3 December, 10.30am, in Christ Church.

The Children's Society - It's time for the annual Children's Society box opening. Contact Ann Willig (aewillig@gmail.com / 01372 463407)

Christmas Crazy Crafts - Our Christmas Crazy Crafts will be taking place at the Lower Green Community Centre (Farm Road, Esher KT10 8AU) from 10am on Saturday 2 December! Children will be given lunch and the cafe will be open. For festive family fun save the date!

Parish Christmas Lunch - We're delighted to be hosting our annual Christmas lunch at The Bear in Esher on Sunday 3 December at 1pm. Places are £39.50 each (drinks extra). Bookings must be made by Sunday 19 November. The menu and forms available in Christ Church.

Real Advent Calendar - This calendar, by the Meaningful Chocolate Company, is the UK's only fairtrade advent calendar and supports charitable causes. It comes with a free 24 page Christmas story-activity book and can be purchased for £4.50. They will be available to buy in St George's this Sunday and in both churches from Sunday 19 November.

Music on the Green - This month's fixture will be on Wednesday, 15 November, when the Heliconia Duo (flute and guitar) will treat us to a varied programme of music from Hungary via Italy to Latin America. Light lunch from 12.30pm, music from 1.15pm.

Weekly Organ Meditations - In St Mark's Church in Whiteley Village, our very own Barbara Wadley will be giving organ recitals every Thursday, 12-12.30pm. She'll be taking you on an organ journey playing a different composer and genre each week. Let yourself be inspired by Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic music which will feature everything in-between Albinoni/Bach/Beethoven to Widor/Whitlock/Zipoli. No refreshments served, retiring collection for the historic Norman & Beard Organ at St. Mark's. The series can be found listed on the UK recitals website: All Listings - Organ Recitals

St George's Church Leaf Harvest - Looking for all help on Saturday 11 November, 10am, to sweep the leaves at St George's in West End. At 11am we'll remember all who have lost their lives in war and pray for peace worldwide before heading home.

Parish Communications - Every Friday we send an email via ChurchSuite with Sunday's pewsheets and order of service. Those on the Parish Electoral Roll automatically get the email. If you would like to receive please complete an Electoral Roll form or complete a contact form in either church. You can also subscribe to a quarterly Parish e-newsletter, InSpire, via: www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=latestnews

Our Church Cat - Patch is now looked after by Sandra Argent, a previous churchwarden. Sadly Patch is unwell and needs expensive ongoing treatment. To donate please use the card machine or scan the QR code.



Parish of Esher events

Christmas Tree Lighting Up

Christ Church, Esher
Friday 1 December
5.30pm

**Let's launch the season of good cheer in
Esher by lighting up the Christmas Tree!**

The choir will be in full voice, singing some favourite carols in our warm, candle lit church whilst mince pies and mulled wine is served. We hope you and your family can join us for this festive and community occasion. All welcome.

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, Betty Walker, Michael Newbould, Malcolm Sayer, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, Gill Barnett, George Raine, Sebastian, Stuart Williams, Pam & Jim Green, David Gerrard, Armand Sarkissian, Hugh Miller

RIP Anniversaries: Harley Barnes, Inge Major, Joyce Foord, Joseph Underwood, Peter Page, Ernest Stanton

RIP: Lauren Addison, John Parker, Joyce Bromfield, Barbara Woolgar, Tsveta Dunne

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

November	Time	Reading
Monday 13		Isaiah 5.8-24, Ps 20, Matthew 4.23-5.12
Tuesday 14		Isaiah 5.25-end, Ps 21, Matthew 5.13-20
Wednesday 15		Isaiah 6, Psalm 23, Matthew 5.21-37
Thursday 16	9am-10am	Isaiah 7.1-17, Psalm 26, Matthew 5.38-end
Friday 17		Isaiah 8.1-15, Psalm 32, Matthew 6.1-18

LOOKING AHEAD

November	Time	Event
Sunday 12	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.50am	Act of Remembrance, Esher Green
	11.15am	Service of Remembrance, Christ Church
Monday 13	7.15pm	Choir practice
Wednesday 15	1.15pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Heliconia Duo
	7.45pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday 16	All day	Parish Office closed
	9am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday 19	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 13	7.15pm	Choir practice
Wednesday 22	7.45pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish YouTube www.youtube.com/esherparish Instagram www.instagram.com/esherparish/	RECTOR Revd Darren McCallig Tel 01372 461088 Email rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS Revd Jonathan Andrew & Ven David Gerrard
	CHURCHWARDENS Helen Coulson & Jane Tyrrell	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR Melanie Williams OFFICE HOURS 9am to 3.15pm, Monday to Wednesday & Friday Please submit information and notices for inclusion in the Sunday pewsheet by midday on the preceding Wednesday. Thank you.		