

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

EASTER DAY

20 APRIL 2025

CHURCH SERVICES	
Easter Day Service	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's West End (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn, Jackie Andrew
Musician	Oliver Macfarlane
Easter Day Service (live streamed)	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Janie McCulloch, Will Stevens
Reading, Prayers	Jill Woolgar, Jan Sayer
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Helen Griffin
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Plein Jeu from Messe pour les Paroisses</i> (Couperin)
SG & CC hymns	205, 200 (omit v4), 218
SG & CC setting	Coulson
Introit	<i>With a Voice of Singing</i> (Sumsion)
Communion anthem	<i>This joyful Eastertide</i> (Wood)
Closing music	<i>Litanies</i> (Jehan Alain)
THE COLLECT	
God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

In his book *Choose Life*, the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, reminds us that Easter is not just 'an odd fact from two thousand years ago'. On the contrary, Easter matters to every one of us 'and especially to everyone who makes the great decision to trust that what Jesus says is true and that what Jesus does makes all the difference.' In essence, believing in the Resurrection is:



'... trusting that there is a kind of life, a kind of love and trust and joy that is the very essence of Jesus' identity which is now coming to life in you. And as it comes to life, you begin to know that no amount of pressure and stress and suffering in your life has power in itself to break the bond that has been created between you and Jesus' life and activity. You are alive with a fuller and deeper life than just your own. Your resources are more than you could ever have imagined.'

In other words, 'Jesus rises from the dead so as to find not only his home in heaven but his home in us.'

Wishing you the joy and peace of the Risen Christ this Easter.

God bless

READING Acts 10.34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

GOSPEL John 20.1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him,

and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him. 'When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Other Lectionary Texts

Isaiah 65.17-end page 722 (OT)

Psalms 118.1-2, 14-24 page 594 (OT)

1 Corinthians 15.19-26 page 188 (NT)

Luke 24.1-12 page 95 (NT)

The page numbers are given for Bibles that are available from the sidespeople.

PARISH NOTICES

Happy Easter - Welcome to our Easter Day services today. May I, your churchwardens Helen and Jane, and the PCC wish you a very happy and blessed Easter.

New Electoral Roll - Under Church of England rules a parish's Electoral Roll must be completely renewed every six years and 2025 is that year. Everyone must re-apply with new applications welcome. The closing date is Sunday 27 April. There are forms in both churches and an online form is available via this QR code.



Easter Egg Hunt - Do join in our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Day, 11.30am to 12.30pm, to hunt for eggs in the grounds of Christ Church.

Sunday School - This week we'll be raising the Hallelujah from our Easter Garden. Plus we'll be making Easter cards and fabulous Easter bonnets to wear for the egg hunt.

Baptism - Jane Tyrrell's granddaughter Margo will be baptised in Christ Church next Sunday (27 April). Please join the family afterwards to celebrate with a special cake.

Music in the Tower 2025 - The stunning young guitarist Nathaniel Rosales-Merkies chose 'A Pendulum of Passion' as his theme, transporting us to Spain and Latin America (with some Bach masterpieces along the way!), interspersed with Hispanic readings curated by Jan Sayer.

Confirmation - A Deanery Confirmation Service will be held at St Peter's Hersham on Sunday 22 June at 5pm. Please speak to the Rector or to Kath if you're interested in being confirmed. The preparation sessions will begin in May.

Leave - The Rector will be on leave Monday 21 to Tuesday 29 April incl. The Parish Office will be closed Friday 18 to Sunday 27 April incl. For help please contact the churchwardens.

InSpire - Our Easter InSpire is out now. To subscribe to our newsletter, InSpire, go to: <http://www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=latestnews>

Lent Appeal 2025 - This year our Lent Appeal has been raising funds for our local hospice, the Princess Alice Hospice. Please use the appeal envelopes, pay by card or via this QR code and Gift Aid to enhance your donation.



Book Group - We'll next gather on 28 April, 4pm, to discuss *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt, which raises important questions on the 'rewiring' of children and young people's brains through excess screen time. For more details contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 07968 765188 / jandrewsher@gmail.com.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 9.30am. To join please contact the Parish Office.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 10.30am on Wednesday 7 May.

West End - The St George's gardening team wish to thank all those who have so generously donated plants for our new 'white' flower bed. It is a work in progress, but we are delighted with what we have already achieved, and hope that you will come and enjoy this peaceful garden, which we have created for the benefit of you all. Thank you.

Thanksgiving & Celebration Service and Supper on Sunday 4 May at 6pm - We are holding a special service for all our wonderful volunteers, who work so hard to keep our two churches running. After the service we hope you will join us for supper in Christ Church, provided free as a token of our thanks for all you do. Please complete the form, found at the back of the church, and return to Jane, Helen, Andrea, Bridget or the Parish Office. Alternatively, email the appropriate information to the Parish Office.

Lower Green Community Centre - They're in need of specific items for their Foodbank. Please see the list on the foodbank boxes at the back of both churches. Thank you so much.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Pam & Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Ruramayi, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Armand Sarkissian

RIP Anniversaries: Doreen Vandeputte, Mary Hartnell, Rosemary Kerrison, Josephine Semple, Oliver Gobat, Leanne Barrett, Lochie Buckingham

RIP: Vanessa Meckiffe

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

	April	Time	Reading
	Monday	21	Song of Solomon 1.9-2.7, Ps 111, Mark 16.1-8
	Tuesday	22	Song of Solomon 2.8-end, Ps 112, Luke 24.1-12
	Wednesday	23	Song of Solomon 3, Ps 113, Matthew 28.16-end
	Thursday	24	Song of Solomon 5.2-6.3, Ps 114, Luke 7.11-17
	Friday	25	Song of Solomon 7.10-8.4, Ps 115, Luke 8.41-end

LOOKING AHEAD

	April	Time	Event
Easter Sunday		9am	Easter Day Service, St George's Church
		10.30am	Easter Day Service, Christ Church
		11.30am	Easter Egg Hunt, Christ Church
Monday	21	All day	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
			No choir practice
Wednesday	23	7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	24	9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Saturday	26	2pm	Surrey District Bellringing visit, Christ Church
Sunday	27	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Eucharist & Holy Baptism, Christ Church
Monday	28	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
		7.15pm	Choir practice
Wednesday	30	7pm	Bellringing 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 01372 461088 rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188
	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 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.