

# PARISH OF ESHER

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

*Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love*

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

25 FEBRUARY 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Stephen Lee
Musician	Theo Tang
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Will Stevens, Ivy Tang
Reading, Prayers	Stewart Henderson, Jennifer Meade
Refreshments	Jennifer Meade, Sue Dunne
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Theo Tang
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Lent from Grand Dialogue in C</i> (Marchand)
SG hymns	593 (v1,6,7), 621 (omit v3), 652
CC hymns	593 (v1,3,6,7), 621, 652
SG & CC setting	Addington
Post sermon music	<i>Prelude no. 12 in F minor, BWV 857</i> (Bach)
Communion anthem	<i>O Lorde, the maker of al thing</i> (Joubert)
Closing music	<i>Prelude and Fugue in D minor,</i> <i>BWV 554</i> (Bach)
THE COLLECT	
Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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 Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

## **GOSPEL Mark 8.31-end**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

## ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

### Romans 4.13-end

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

### Psalm 22.22-end

22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them.  
24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.  
25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: 'May your heart live for ever!'  
26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.  
27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.  
28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.  
29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.  
30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.



Parish of Esher services

Sunday 10 March 2024

# Mothering Sunday Services

9am, St George's Church

10.30am, Christ Church

**We give thanks for our mothers and those who have played a nurturing and caring role in our lives. We also remember those for whom this day brings back difficult memories of sadness or disappointment.**

Parish of Esher - Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

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## PARISH NOTICES

**Betty Walker** - It is with great sadness that we recently received news of the death of Betty. Together with her late husband, Geoff, they were faithful members of our Parish worshipping community. We hold Betty's family in our thoughts and prayers. The funeral will be at Christ Church on Friday 15 March at 11am. The family have said that anyone who knew Geoff and Betty are very welcome to attend.

**Fellowship Group** - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 6 March. We welcome all to pray, to reflect on their faith and to put the world to rights!

**John Bosten Celebration Service** - Thank you so much to musicians, clergy and members of the congregation for coming in such wonderful numbers to the Celebration for John Bosten on Friday. John and I always felt that this is a very kind parish. Nick

**Lent Appeal 2024** - This year we are raising funds for much needed CCTV at Christ Church. For more details see separate Lent Appeal notice overleaf. You can donate via the card machine in Christ Church or online by scanning the QR code pew cards. You can also use the appeal envelopes including your details so we can claim Gift Aid.

**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.

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

**Book Group** - Our next meeting will be on Monday 26 February, 4pm, when we will discuss George Orwell's early memoir *Down and Out in Paris and London*. If you'd like to know more contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewsher@gmail.com

**Mothering Sunday** - At our Mothering Sunday services on Sunday 10 March we will give thanks for our mothers and those who have played a nurturing and caring role in our lives. We will also remember those for whom this day brings back difficult memories of sadness and disappointment.

**Lent Reflections** - Lent is a wonderful time to practice gratitude and lean into our faith through appreciation of what we have, and what's important to us - individually, as a community and as disciples of Jesus. We're encouraging everyone, children as well, to think about what they appreciate. Each Sunday we'll hand out a different question sheet to fill in and leave in church to go on our Lent Reflections board in Christ Church. We'll share all responses with the children and use to create our 2024 Lent Reflections cards to add to last year's collection which can be purchased now (£7.50 donation).

**Foodbank donations** - During Lent we are encouraging food donations that can be distributed locally. More details to follow. Please donate in the box in Christ Church.

**Christ Church Defibrillator** - During a recent first aid course it was emphasised to all of the importance of a defibrillator in saving lives – from 6% to 75% survival. We're fundraising now for this life saving equipment for Christ Church. St George's has one very close by at West End Village Hall. To donate to the Parish First Aid Fund scan the QR code here or in either church, use the card machine in Christ Church or contact the Parish Office



**Recycle4Charity** - A reminder that we collect old printer cartridges to raise cash for the parish. Just drop in to the green box in Christ Church.

**Lost Property** - If you have left anything in Christ Church, do contact the Parish Office.

# Our Parish Lent Appeal 2024

The Parish supported an international cause for its recent Advent Appeal, as is our custom. We're now supporting a local issue for our Lent Appeal.

The Diocese of Guildford is advocating local community needs, and we are following suit. As the old saying goes 'Charity begins at home' and we have a specific need following the unwelcome visit of an intruder a year ago. It was particularly unnerving for Darren and Jennifer who both happened to be in Christ Church at the time. The ensuing Police visit emphasised that our security was, to say the least, somewhat inadequate. So it is extremely fortunate the intruder made the decision to run off.

We have already made some improvements and at the recommendation of the Diocese, we called in a security company to survey Christ Church and to provide recommendations and a quote for the installation of a CCTV system with cameras at all our external doors.

We now have the required Diocese of Guildford approval to proceed with the work, but needless to say it is costly. We need to raise circa £5k to cover this cost, and this is the aim of our Lent Appeal in 2024.

Keeping Christ Church open outside of worship times is a key element in the link we have with the local community we serve. Our open doors provide people with a quiet place to pray, somewhere to sit and think and enables visitors to enjoy our historic and magnificent building.

We need to be able to open Christ Church in the safest way possible for visitors and for our staff and key volunteers working onsite.

It is for these reasons that we are aiming to raise the funds required for the CCTV cameras and installation, which will help to provide the extra security needed whilst the church is open for use by our community.

To donate to the Lent Appeal please scan the QR code here or on the pew cards in either church, use the card machine in Christ Church or contact the Parish Office. You can also donate via cash/cheque using the Gift Aid appeal envelopes.



Thank you for your support.  
The Parochial Church Council of Esher

## PARISH NOTICES

**Music on the Green** - Last Wednesday we enjoyed a programme drawn from five different countries on the theme of 'Love & Longing' programme, given by the guitar and lute duo of Emanuele Addis and Gus McQuade. Our next lunchtime concert will be on Wednesday 20 March when we welcome Alastair Penman and Jonathan Pease, bringing us a classically based programme, on saxophone and piano respectively, with composers including Debussy, Satie and Demersseman.

**Music in the Tower 2024** - This year our featured artist will be Emilija Karaliute, who is bringing us a programme entitled '*The Power of Nature - Melodies from the Forest*'. A former National Laureate of Lithuania, Emilija will perform on the kanklės, a Lithuanian folk instrument related to the zither, and the music will as usual be interspersed with specially selected readings to give food for thought at this contemplative time of year. There will be four performances in the Tower Room of Christ Church during the middle part of Holy Week – on Tuesday 26 March and Wednesday 27 March, at 1pm and 8pm. This year's admission price will be £15 per person, to include light refreshments after the performance. This annual event is always a highlight of the Esher cultural calendar and seats are strictly limited to twenty per performance. Please reserve your places now on the sign-up sheet in Christ Church or via the Parish Office!

**Weekly Organ Meditations** - Barbara Wadley's organ series continues at St Mark's Church in Whiteley Village, KT12 4ES, with a musical journey through composers A-Z. Thursday lunchtimes, 12-12.30pm. Free admission. Retiring collection for the historic organ. Refreshments provided. Everyone welcome.

**Sunday School & the Easter Garden** - This week, Sunday School will be preparing an Easter Garden at Christ Church. They will be burying the 'Hallelujah' in the grounds, just next to the car park barrier. 'Hallelujah', as a celebratory word, is removed from church liturgy during Lent. This is marked by this small but meaningful ceremony. Burying the 'Hallelujah' is a tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages, where it was inscribed on a board or plaque and buried just before Lent, then resurrected on Easter Day. I appreciate that we're slightly late doing this as Lent has already started, but for our Sunday School crew it's lovely to tie it in with making our Easter Garden. Do admire our little creation!

**Easter Eggs** - We will be offering some Real Easter Eggs in both churches soon. The Real Easter Egg is the only one that includes an Easter story book, which features a brand new design for 2024, supports charitable projects and is made of Fairtrade chocolate.

**Youth Group** - The next Youth Group will be on Sunday 3 March, 4.30-6pm, at Christ Church, when we will be exploring our own parish values of faith, hope and love.

**Kid's Activities at Old St George's** - As we celebrate the beginning of Spring and the flowers returning Old St George's Church is offering free plant-based family activities on Wednesdays 3 and 11 April, 11am-3pm. Learn how the Tudors used herbs and spices to flavour their food, treat their illnesses and keep away bad spirits! Make your own herb bag, spices poster and flower basket. There will be something for the whole family!

**Darren** - The Rector's Adoption Leave will continue until Tuesday 20 November 2024. We pray that Darren and his wife have the time and space to grow and enjoy their new family. For all enquiries please do contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Elizabeth Arnold, Michael Newbould, Pam & Jim Green, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, Gill Barnett, George Raine, Sebastian, Malcolm Sayer

RIP Anniversaries: Hugh Eccles, Albert Hayhoe, Doreen Trimmer, 'Teddy' Baumann, Denise Green, Clive Sexton, Suzanne Collins, Isabella Austin

RIP: John Bosten, Eileen Pocklington, Betty Walker, Margot Williams

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Feb/Mar		Time	Reading
Monday	26		Genesis 43.16-end, Psalm 32, Hebrews 1
Tuesday	27		Genesis 44.1-17, Psalm 50, Hebrews 2.1-9
Wednesday	28		Genesis 44.18-end, Psalm 35, Hebrews 2.10-end
Thursday	29	9.30-10.30am	Genesis 45.1-15, Psalm 34, Hebrews 3.1-6
Friday	1		Genesis 45.16-end, Psalm 41, Hebrews 3.7-end

## LOOKING AHEAD

February		Time	Event
Sunday	25	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		12.30pm	Interment of John Bosten
Monday	26	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
		7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	28	7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	29	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
March		Time	Event
Sunday	3	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	All Age Eucharist, Christ Church
		4.30pm	Youth Group, Christ Church

## CONTACTS

<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> 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 <a href="http://www.esherparish.org.uk">www.esherparish.org.uk</a> Facebook <a href="http://www.facebook.com/EsherParish">www.facebook.com/EsherParish</a> YouTube <a href="http://www.youtube.com/esherparish">www.youtube.com/esherparish</a> Instagram <a href="http://www.instagram.com/esherparish/">www.instagram.com/esherparish/</a>	<b>RECTOR</b> Revd Darren McCallig On Adoption Leave until 20/11/24. For parish enquiries contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.	<b>HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS</b> Revd Jonathan Andrew & Ven David Gerrard
	<b>CHURCHWARDENS</b> Helen Coulson & Jane Tyrrell	<b>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES WORKER</b> Kathryn Chapman <a href="mailto:youth@esherparish.org.uk">youth@esherparish.org.uk</a>

Parish Office Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email [office@esherparish.org.uk](mailto: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 midday on the preceding Wednesday. Thank you.