

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

28 JANUARY 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Reading, Prayers	Mair Molteno, Bridget Williams
Musician	Rowan Marshall
Eucharist & Holy Baptism Service	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Sean Cole, Will Stevens
Reading	Christine Steeds
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Sia Marshall
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Rowan Marshall
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BuxWV 184 (Buxtehude)</i>
SG hymns	98 (omit v 4,5), 358, 650
CC hymns	98, 358, 650
SG, CC settings	Addington, Coulson
Communion anthem	<i>Arise, shine</i> (Elvey)
Closing music	<i>Trumpet Voluntary</i> (Stanley)
THE COLLECT	
God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Generous Lord, in word and eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. 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 Revelation 12.1-5a

A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, so that he might devour her child as soon as it was born. And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron.

GOSPEL Mark 1.21-28

The disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

Deuteronomy 18.15-20

Moses spoke to the people; he said:

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak – that prophet shall die.'

Psalms 111

- 1 Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- 5 He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- 8 They are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and awesome is his name.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practise it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.

PARISH NOTICES

Sunday School - This week we will be learning about the Beatitudes (or the Bee(utiful) Attitudes) and creating some bee-dazzling artwork featuring all of these inspiring sayings of Jesus.

Youth Group - The next Youth Group will be on Sunday 4 February, 4.30-6pm, at Christ Church, and will have a candle theme!

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. During this time for all enquiries, in the first instance, please do contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.

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 Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 7 February. Everyone is welcome to join.

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 join us 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 pew cards.

Advent Appeal - The parish raised £2,919 for the 'Friends of the Holy Land Appeal'. This is an appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. It is still possible to give via the website: www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Family Burns Night - St Peter's Molesey is hosting an evening of dancing and Burns food in aid of the Molesey Churches Night Shelter on Friday 2 February at 6.30pm. For booking details please contact Will Stevens.

Candlemas Service - This service will be on Sunday 4 February at 6pm at Old St George's Church in Esher. Our Candlemas celebration recalls the day on which Jesus was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, and in our celebration we offer ourselves for cleansing. We celebrate both the joy of Jesus' coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion. All welcome to join us for a reflective and atmospheric evening. The collection will be donated to the Churches Conservation Trust (www.visitchurches.org.uk) which takes of Old St George's Church.

First Aid Course - Many thanks to Polly Jordan, one of our Safeguarding Officers, for organising our Parish First Aid Course for volunteers and staff. Yesterday's course was a great success with 24 attendees. We hugely appreciate Polly's work and the support from her family and children for providing and serving refreshments and lunch. Thanks too to Gail's who kindly donated pastries.

Winter Support - With winter here we need to look out for each other. For help go to: www.surreycc.gov.uk/adults/care-and-support/contact or alternatively please contact our Pastoral Team via the Parish Office.

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

Music on the Green - Our next concert will be on Wednesday 21 February, 1.15pm

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Elizabeth Arnold, Betty Walker, Michael Newbould, Pam & Jim Green, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, Gill Barnett, George Raine, Sebastian
RIP Anniversaries: Barbara Baker, Elsie Schwarz, Suzanne Armstrong-Kelsey, Peter Butler, Audrey Phillips, Alexander Grey, June Williams, Elsie Eldridge, Helen Sketch
RIP: John Bosten, Rosalind Moysen (Wilkes), Hannelore Schulze
Baptisms: Maeve Nia Thompson, Lillian Amelie Garrod

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Jan/Feb		Time	Reading
Monday	29		Genesis 18.1-15, Ps 126, Matthew 27.11-26
Tuesday	30		Genesis 18.16-end, Psalm 132, Matthew 27.27-44
Wednesday	31		Genesis 19.1-3, 12-29, Psalm 119.153-end, Matthew 27.45-56
Thursday	1	9.30-10.30am	Genesis 21.1-21, Psalm 143, Matthew 27.57-end
Friday	2		Genesis 22.1-19, Psalm 144, Matthew 28.1-15

LOOKING AHEAD

January		Time	Event
Saturday	27	9.30am	Parish First Aid Course, Christ Church
Sunday	28	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Eucharist & Holy Baptism Service, Christ Church
Monday	29	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	30	8pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting, Christ Church
Wednesday	31	7.45pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
February		Time	Event
Thursday	1	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday	4	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	All Age Service, Christ Church
		4.30pm	Youth Group, Christ Church
		4.15pm	Choir practice, Old St George's Church
		6pm	Candlemas Service, Old St George's 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 On Adoption Leave until 20/11/24. For parish enquiries contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.	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.		