

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1 MARCH 2026

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Canon Richard Truss at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Canon Richard Truss
Churchwarden	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Reading, Prayers	Mair Molteno, Gerard Harper
Musician	Oliver Macfarlane
Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Canon Richard Truss at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Canon Richard Truss
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Sean Seymour-Cole, Bob Lonnon
Reading, Prayers	David Steeds, Martin Fuller
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane
Refreshments	Sue Dunne, Janie McCulloch

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Chorale Improvisation 'Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele'</i> (Karg-Elert)
SG hymns	593 (v1,6,7), 621 (omit v3), 669
CC hymns	593 (v1,3,6,7), 621, 669
SG & CC setting	Addington
Anthem	<i>Let all mortal flesh keep silence</i> (Clebury)
Closing music	<i>Extract from Finale of Symphonie VII</i> (Widor)

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

Our two churches, Christ Church and St George's, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through our doors to celebrate marriages, welcome newborns into our Christian faith and to grieve their losses - all of it embraced by the worship and prayer offered each week.

Every Sunday we explore the richness of our Christian traditions 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 but whatever the reason, we all belong here.

You can find full details of our services online. Most Sundays we worship at 9am at St George's, West End and at 10.30am at Christ Church, Esher.

We look forward to welcoming you.

READING Genesis 12.1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

GOSPEL John 3.1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

Other Lectionary Texts

Psalms 121

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

PARISH NOTICES

Thank You - To Canon Richard Truss, for visiting us and leading our morning services. It is a joy to worship with you.

Bishop Andrew - We recently shared the news of Bishop Andrew's cancer diagnosis and a further update that the cancer is an aggressive form. We've shared these updates with all church members registered to receive emails. Do continue to check the Diocese website: www.cofeguildford.org.uk/news

Vacancy Update - Interviews with three candidates for Rector will be on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 March. We ask that you continue to pray for a successful outcome.

Lent Appeal 2026 - This year our Lent Appeal will raise funds for Mlanga Parish Church in Tanzania for a new well for water. Valerie Msoka will share details at St George's on Sunday 1 March. Please use the appeal envelopes, pay by card or via the QR code and remember to add your details so we can claim Gift Aid to enhance your donation.



Lent Course - The course, based on the book *Let Me Go There - The Spirit of Lent* by Paula Gooder, continues at noon in Christ Church. It'll consist of hourly sessions on consecutive Sundays until Easter, facilitated most weeks by Christine Steeds. She may need someone to help on at least one Sunday.

Sunday School - As we journey along our Lenten Path (giving thanks for things in the world we're grateful for), we'll make a large tree to hang leaves inscribed with things we appreciate about ourselves to deepen our experience of our God-given gifts.

Youth Group - On Friday we'll be exploring breaking down barriers, through construction and debate, drawing on Jesus's example of challenging societal norms and removing obstacles that block understanding and compassionate progress.

Choir visit to Chingford - Our choir will join Chingford Parish Choir for a choral evensong on Sunday 1 March, 6.30pm, at St Peter & St Paul Church. Revd Darren McCallig will preside.

Fellowship Group - We meet next in Christ Church at 10.30am on Wednesday 4 March.

Rectory Work - To get the Rectory ready for candidates to visit there will be working parties on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 March. We'd love as many people as possible to join the PCC on one or both days. The Rectory needs a thorough clean from top to bottom. If you can help, speak to Will or Fraser or sign up on the list. If you're unable to join us but would like to contribute, we'd welcome plants to brighten up the Rectory garden. Thank you in advance.

Book Launch Invitation - Revd Richard Truss, who is presiding today, invites all church friends to the launch of his book 'The Pattern of God' at Weybridge Bookshop on Friday 6 March. For more details see flyer in church.

Book Group - For our next meeting in Christ Church on Monday 9 March, 4pm, we've chosen *The Seaside* by Madeleine Bunting. It takes readers on a journey round English coastal resorts, looking at their history.

Peace & Contemplation - The Wonder of Endings & New Beginnings. On Thursday 12 March, 8pm, in Christ Church. An evening of inspiring readings, beautiful music and reflective silence.

Mothering Sunday - Our wonderful Mothering Sunday tradition will continue with a combined Parish service at Christ Church on Sunday 15 March. We will give thanks for our mothers and those who play a nurturing and caring role. The fifth Sunday in March is Palm Sunday when there'll be services at both churches.

Music on the Green - On Wednesday 18 March, 1.15pm, Charis Sykesud, violin and Jack Redman, piano will perform late Romantic chamber music. Light lunch from 12.30pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Louise Tyzack, Caroline Kerr, Armand Sarkissian, Phoebe Ainsworth, Josh Baines, Mike Elder, Brian Elliott, Gudrun & David Jensen, Bishop Andrew

RIP Anniversaries: Suzanne Collins, Isabella Austin, Ernest Griffin, William Waugh, Tony Johns, Mary Roome

RIP: Dany McLeod

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

March		Time	Reading
Wednesday	2		Genesis 43.16-end, Ps 32, Hebrews 1
Tuesday	3		Genesis 44.1-17, Ps 50, Hebrews 2.1-9
Wednesday	4		Genesis 44.18-end, Ps 35, Hebrews 2.10-end
Thursday	5	10am	Genesis 45.1-15, Ps 34, Hebrews 3.1-6
Friday	6		Genesis 45.16-end, Ps 41, Hebrews 3.7-end

LOOKING AHEAD

February		Time	Event
Saturday	28	7.30pm	The Last Brightness of Everything, Christ Church
March		Time	Event
Sunday	1	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		Midday	Lent Course, Christ Church
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong, St Peter & St Paul Church, Chingford
Monday	2		No choir practice
Tuesday	3	8pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting, Christ Church
Wednesday	4	10.30am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	5	All day	Parish Office closed
		10am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Friday	6	5.30pm	Youth Group, 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 In Vacancy	CHURCHWARDENS Will Stevens 07505 904089 Fraser McGuicken 07342 057763 churchwardens@esherparish.org.uk
	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 jandrewesher@gmail.com	DEPUTY WARDEN CHRIST CHURCH Sandra Argent 07973 909152 DEPUTY WARDEN ST GEORGE'S Charles Hawkshaw-Burn 07799 895083
	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk	SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Alison Mohamed safeguarding@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.	