

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

3 MARCH 2024

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Katrina Jenkins at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Katrina Jenkins
Reading, Prayers	Juliet Philip
Musician	Barbara Wadley
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Katrina Jenkins at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Katrina Jenkins
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Michelle Cullen, Will Stevens
Reading, Prayers	Will Stevens, Jane Tyrrell
Refreshments	Jennifer Meade, Bob Lonnon
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Consolation in E (Liszt)</i>
SG & CC hymns	813 (v1-6), 131, 669
SG & CC setting	Addington
Post sermon music	<i>Prelude in E minor (Chopin)</i>
Communion anthem	<i>Almighty Lord and God of Love</i> (Nathaniel Giles)
Closing music	<i>Fugue in C minor (Mendelssohn)</i>

THE COLLECT

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace
to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you,
the only God;
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 Exodus 20.1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

GOSPEL John 2.13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Psalms 19.7-end

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
12. Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.



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

Tel: 01372 462282 Email: office@esherparish.org.uk Website: www.esherparish.org.uk

PARISH NOTICES

Margot Williams - Very sadly we received news from Cornwall of the passing of dear Margot. She turned a 100 only a few months back! Margot was a stalwart of the Parish and a regular worshipper at St George's. We remember Margot's whole family in our prayers at this very difficult time. We'll share news of the family's plans soon.

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. Do think about using the appeal envelopes, including your details, so we can claim Gift Aid and enhance your donation.

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!

Betty Walker - Betty, together with her late husband, Geoff, 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.

John Bosten Celebration Service - If you wish you had attended this service or are keen to fully read of John's life story, please do email the Parish Office. Melanie can send you a copy of the eulogy by Jamie, an old friend.

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.

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.

Food donations - In Lent we're encouraging donations. They'll be split 50/50 between the Esher Lower Green Community Centre (www.lowergreen.org) and the local Foodbank (www.eastlmbridge.foodbank.org.uk). Please donate to the box in Christ Church.

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).

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. To donate to the 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 - 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, including music by 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. The music will be interspersed with selected readings for this contemplative time of year. There'll be four performances in the Tower Room of Christ Church during 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!

Book Group - Our next meeting will be on Monday 25 March, 4pm, when we'll discuss *Unlawful Killings* by Wendy Joseph KC. A High Court Judge gives an inside view of the justice system sharing what it's like to witness humanity good and bad – at times very bad. To know more contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewesher@gmail.com

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

Easter Gardens - Last week, Sunday School prepared an Easter Garden at Christ Church. They buried a 'Hallelujah' in the grounds, just next to the car park entrance. 'Hallelujah', as a celebratory word, is removed from church liturgy in Lent. It's marked by this meaningful ceremony. Burying the 'Hallelujah' 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. Do admire our little creation by Carol's garden! The folks at St George's will also be creating their own little Easter Garden shortly.

Easter Eggs - We're offering Real Easter Eggs for sale in both churches - £5 each. 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.

Sunday School - This week we're thinking about our wonderful mums and making some cards and gifts ahead of Mothering Sunday.

Youth Group - Our next meeting is on Sunday 3 March, 4.30-6pm at Christ Church. We'll be exploring the parish values of Faith, Hope and Love through games and discussion.

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: William Waugh, 'Tony' Johns, Mary Roome, Bertha Stark

RIP: John Bosten, Betty Walker, Margot Williams

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

March		Time	Reading
Monday	4		Genesis 47.1-27, Psalm 80, Hebrews 4.14-5.10
Tuesday	5		Genesis 47.28-end of 48, Psalm 9, Hebrews 5.11-6.12
Wednesday	6		Genesis 49.1-32, Psalm 38, Hebrews 6.13-end
Thursday	7	9.30-10.30am	Genesis 49.33-end of 50, Psalm 56, Hebrews 7.1-10
Friday	8		Exodus 1.1-14, Psalm 22, Hebrews 7.11-end

LOOKING AHEAD

March		Time	Event
Sunday	3	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		4.30pm	Youth Group, Christ Church
Monday	4	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	5	8pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting, Christ Church
Wednesday	6	11am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	7	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday	10	9am	Mothering Sunday Service, St George's Church
		10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service, Christ Church
Monday	11	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	12	3.20pm	Visit by Warnham Bellringers, 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 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 Office Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email 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 pewsheets by midday on the preceding Wednesday. Thank you.		