

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

3 MAY 2026

CHURCH SERVICES

Parish 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, Peter Bedford
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	Ben Ritchie, Gavin Bradley
Reading, Prayers	Bob Lonnon, Will Stevens
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane
Refreshments	Michelle Cullen, Sia Marshall

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Chorale Prelude 'Morgenglanz der Ewigkeit', Op. 79b (Reger)</i>
SG & CC hymns	199, 198 (omit v3), 208 (omit v4)
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Communion anthem	<i>The strife is o'er (Ley)</i>
Closing music	<i>Fugue and Finale from Fantaisie in B flat (Boëly)</i>

COLLECT

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
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 Acts 7.55-end

Standing before the high priest and council, Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

GOSPEL John 14.1-14

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Other Lectionary Texts

Genesis 8.1-19

Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2.2-10

PARISH NOTICES

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

Vacancy Update - We are pleased to confirm that we're now advertising again in the Church Times as we move forward to appointing a new Rector. The closing date for applications will be 27 May and we will shortlist, assuming suitable applicants, in early June.

Sunday School - To demonstrate how Jesus is the true and only path to God, we'll be making a signpost to show that all roads lead to the abundance that He offers

Youth Group - For our May meeting, Friday 1 May, 5.30-7pm, at Christ Church, we'll be learning about the Drama Triangle and Winners' Triangle – how to spot them and how to navigate from one to the other, moving from conflict to peace.

Flower Coordinator - We are still looking for a volunteer to take over the Christ Church Flower team as soon as possible. Carol has kindly offered to have a chat to discuss what's involved.

Book Offer - Richard Truss, who is presiding today, has copies of his recent book *The Pattern of God: David Jenkins' Theology in Church and Public Space* available to purchase at the special price of £12.

Book Group Cancelled - Please note the Book Group meeting on Monday 11 May has been cancelled. As many of us are away, we'll now discuss *The Life and Death of St Kilda* by Tom Steel at our next meeting on Monday 8 June.

The Chosen - The next showing will be for four weeks commencing Tuesday 26 May.

Parish Office - The office will be closed May 4-5, 7-8 and 11-12. If you need emergency assistance during this time, please contact the churchwardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026 - The Parish of Esher's annual APCM will be held in Christ Church on Sunday 17 May after the 10.30am service. Everyone can attend and those on the Electoral Roll are able to vote.

Annual Report - The 2025 Parish Annual Report has now been emailed to everyone registered to receive Parish emails. Some reference copies are in both churches.

Electoral Roll - The new Roll has been prepared ahead of the APCM and can be inspected in either church or from the Parish Office.

Fellowship Group - Next meeting will be on Wednesday 6 May, 10.30am, in Christ Church.

Choral Evensong - On Sunday 10 May, 6pm, we will welcome members of Chingford Parish Choir for a special Dedication Festival to mark the 172nd anniversary of Christ Church.

Esher May Fair - The Fair is taking place on Esher Green on Saturday 16 May, 12 noon to 4pm. It's an opportunity to invite people into Christ Church to promote our Parish. Stuart is arranging music entertainment, 2pm to 4pm, and Ann will open the bell tower. There'll be free kid's crafts plus Kath will run a Mindful Photography workshop for children 2.30-3.30pm. Please sign-up with Kath at youth@esherparish.org.uk. If you'd like to help with the Fair let Ann, Sandra, Bridget and Will know or sign-up on the sheets.

Ascension Day - Our celebration of this major festival will be on Sunday 17 May. It's the day when we reflect on Jesus's physical departure from the earth, not with sadness but with joy as he carries our humanity into the 'heavenly places' and promises his continuing and even more powerful presence with us through the coming of the Holy Spirit. Join us for a special joint Eucharist in Christ Church at 10.30 followed by the APCM.

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, John Stacey, Paul Nicholls

RIP Anniversaries: Jemima Warrington, Alastair Ward, Alan Rutland, Ronald Durrant, Norman Wakefield, Sue Adler, Elisabeth Hughes

RIP: Gary Roberts, Stella Lynn, John Bentley

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

	May	Time	Reading
	Monday	4	Numbers 9.15-end, 10.33-end, Ps 145, Luke 4.38-end
	Tuesday	5	Numbers 11.1-33, Ps 19, Luke 5.1-11
	Wednesday	6	Numbers 12, Ps 30, Luke 5.12-26
	Thursday	7	10am Numbers 13.1-3,17-end, Ps 57, Luke 5.27-end
	Friday	8	Numbers 14.1-25, Ps 138, Luke 6.1-11

LOOKING AHEAD

	May	Time	Event
	Friday	1	5.30pm Youth Group, Christ Church
	Saturday	2	12.30pm Wedding of Oliver Wiltshire & Lily Coles, St George's Church
	Sunday	3	9am Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am Parish Communion, Christ Church	
	Monday	4	All day Early May Bank Holiday
		All day Parish Office closed (May 4-5, 7-8 and 11-12 incl.)	
		7.15pm Choir practice, Christ Church	
	Wednesday	6	10.30am Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		7.30pm Bellingring practice, Christ Church	
	Thursday	7	10am Morning Prayer, Zoom

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.	