

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

4 MAY 2025

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's West End (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Peter Bedford
Musician	Stuart Whatton
All Age Eucharist (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Janie McCulloch, Kath Chapman
Reading, Prayers	Kath Chapman and our young people
Refreshments	Volunteers required
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Robert Cunningham
Thanksgiving Service (live streamed)	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 6pm at Christ Church (CC)
Churchwardens	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Bob Lonnon, Volunteer required
Reading	Jane Tyrrell
Prayers	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Musician	Stuart Whatton

MORNING SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Chorale & Coda from Lied to the Flowers</i> (Flor Peeters)
SG & CC hymns	209, 667, 394
SG & CC settings	Coulson
Communion anthem	<i>Now the green blade riseth</i> (French trad, arr Lindley)
Closing music	<i>Allegro di molto from Sonata in D major</i> (C P E Bach)

THE COLLECT

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel Reading (John 21.1-19) is rich in theological meaning. For example, preachers and teachers have long explored the contrasting characters of Peter and the Beloved Disciple (usually identified as John). In today's narrative, the latter is the first to recognise Jesus – 'It is the Lord!' he exclaims in verse 7 – yet it is Peter who is the first to act on this revelation. As John Chrysostom (c. 349-407) wrote in his 'Homilies on the Gospel of John':

'When they recognised him, the disciples Peter and John again exhibited their different temperaments. The one was fervent, the other more contemplative. The one was ready to go, the other more penetrating. John is the one who first recognises Jesus, but Peter is the first to come to him.'

Perhaps, then, there is something to be learned from both Disciples? The Jesuit Order reflect something of this balance in their distinctive spirituality of being 'contemplatives in action' – people rooted in the reality of being loved by God in order that they might rise into the realism of loving others. May it be so for us!

God bless



READING Acts 9.1-6

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

GOSPEL John 21.1-19

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they

saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Other Lectionary Texts

Psalm 30 page 535 (OT)

Revelation 5.11-end page 268 (NT)

The page numbers are given for Bibles that are available from the sidespeople.

PARISH NOTICES

Thanksgiving & Celebration Service and Supper on Sunday 4 May at 6pm - This evening we are holding a special service for all our wonderful volunteers, who work so hard to keep our two churches running. After the service we hope you will join us for supper in Christ Church, provided free as a token of our thanks for all you do. If you haven't already please let Jane, Helen, Andrea or Bridget know if you plan to attend.

Sunday School - For our All Age service, Kath will be at the back of Christ Church with quiet activities for the children.

Youth Group - Our group returns on Friday 2 May, 5.30-7pm at Christ Church, when we'll be considering forgiveness - what it means and how to practice it.

Esher May Fair - On Saturday 17 May teas and entertainment will be available in Christ Church, 2-4pm, and the Bell Tower will be open to visitors. If you can help on the day or supply cakes do sign up, contact the Parish Office or the churchwardens.

Music on the Green - For our lunchtime concert on Wednesday 21 May, 1.15pm, the Old Coulsdon Jazz Band will be treating us to some much-loved swing classics from Glenn Miller and the American big band era.

Lower Green Community Centre - They're in need of specific items for their Foodbank. Please see the list on the foodbank boxes at the back of both churches. Thank you so much.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025 - The Parish of Esher's annual APCM will be held in Christ Church on Sunday 18 May after the 10.30am service. Everyone can attend and those on the electoral roll are able to vote.

Annual Report - The Parish's Annual Report & Accounts for 2024 will be emailed to everyone registered to receive Parish emails, including all those on the Electoral Roll, before the APCM.

Electoral Roll - The new Roll has been prepared ahead of the APCM and is available for inspection in both churches or from the Parish Office.

Confirmation - A Deanery Confirmation Service will be held at St Peter's Hersham on Sunday 22 June at 5pm. Please speak to the Rector or to Kath if you're interested in being confirmed. The preparation sessions in Christ Church will run for four consecutive Sundays (excluding 18 May) commencing on Sunday 11 May at 12-12.45pm.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 10.30am on Wednesday 7 May. We welcome all who want to pray, reflect on their faith and put the world to rights!

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Pam & Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Ruramayi, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Armand Sarkissian

RIP Anniversaries: Alastair Ward, Alan Rutland, Ronald Durrant, Norman Wakefield, Sue Adler, Elisabeth Hughes, Gertrud Frenzel, Jennifer Simmons

RIP: Vanessa Meckiffe, Peter Whicheloe

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

	May	Time	Reading
	Monday	5	Deuteronomy 5.1-22, Ps 96, Ephesians 1.1-14
	Tuesday	6	Deuteronomy 5.22-end; Ps 98, Ephesians 1.15-end
	Wednesday	7	Deuteronomy 3.18-end, Ps 105, Ephesians 2.1-10
	Thursday	8	Deuteronomy 4.10-18, Ps 136, Ephesians 2.11-end
	Friday	9	Deuteronomy 4.15-31, Ps 107, Ephesians 3.1-13

LOOKING AHEAD

	May	Time	Event
	Friday	2	5.30pm Youth Group, Christ Church
	Saturday	3	2.30pm Hornchurch Bellringers visit, Christ Church
	Sunday	4	9am Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am All Age Eucharist, Christ Church	
		6pm Thanksgiving & Celebration Service and Supper, Christ Church	
	Monday	5	All day Early May Bank Holiday
		No choir practice	
	Tuesday	6	8pm Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting, Christ Church
	Wednesday	7	10.30am Fellowship Group, Christ Church
		7pm Bellringing practice, Christ Church	
	Sunday	11	9am Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am Parish Communion, Christ Church	
		Middy Confirmation Preparation, 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 01372 461088 rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188
	CHURCHWARDENS Helen Coulson 07506 701454 Jane Tyrrell 07971 698299	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 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 pewsheet by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.		