PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

REMEMBRANCE DAY 8 NOVEMBER 2026

CHURCH SERVICES	
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Sean Seymour-Cole, Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Reading & Prayers	Jackie Andrew
Chalice	Sandra Argent, Bridget Williams
Act of Remembrance (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jo Winn-Smith at 10.50am on Esher Green
Churchwardens	Fraser McGuicken, Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Crucifer	Sean Seymour-Cole
Trumpeter	Thomas Doolan
Stewards & Marshals	Sharron McGuicken, Nigel Weiss Charles Hawkshaw-Burn, Paul Bangs, Guy Greaves, Sia Marshall, Ben Ritchie
Service of Remembrance (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jo Winn-Smith at 11.15am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jo Winn-Smith
Churchwardens	Will Stevens, Sandra Argent
Sidespeople	Andy Tyrrell, Jane Anderson
Reading, Prayers	Tim Oliver OBE, Esher Girl Guides
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	*Elegy* (Thalben-Ball)
Hymns	635, 581 (omit v 4), 621, 578
Communion anthem	*Do not be afraid* (Philip Stopford)
Closing music	*Nimrod* (Elgar)

COLLECT

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Message from Jo, your Rector



Dear friends,

'Greater love hath no one, that they should give up their life for their friends'. Expanding on this notion almost feels unnecessary. It says so succinctly and soberingly the essence of sacrifice, and the heart of what it is that we seek to remember during this season of remembrance.

As we gather this Remembrance Sunday, and when we pause, wherever we are at 11am on November 11, we do so in the context of a world that is politically unstable and which is at risk of, or even in some places has forgotten both this message and how its remembering was supposed to bring an end to future wars.

Perhaps there are signs of hope: the elections in both Israel and the United States indicate a shift in the political direction of travel of those nations, and yet fragility remains. Responsibility lies with the powerful, and yet in most, though sadly not all nations, that comes from a political mandate, and we as citizens bear that duty.

Each and everyone of us, young and old, has the decision with each day as to whether we act in ways that sue for peace, that create positive relationships, or whether we will look inward, be protectionist, and put self above others. Gathering here, both at the war memorial and in church, we assert once again a commitment to the former. Let us consciously carry that out into our daily lives, this week, this month and into the future.

Yours



READING Wisdom 6.12-16

9am service, Christ Church

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

READING 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

9am service, Christ Church

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.1-13

9am service, Christ Church

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Other Lectionary Texts

Wisdom 6.17-20
Amos 5.18-24
Psalm 70

PARISH NOTICES

Remembrance Sunday - On Sunday there are two services in the parish: a 9am Service of Holy Communion in Christ Church and a Remembrance Sunday Service in Christ Church immediately after the Act of Remembrance on Esher Green at 10.50am. Do join us in remembering all those who gave their today for our tomorrow. The collections will be donated to support the work of the Royal British Legion – you can donate via cash, pewcards and card machine.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - If you still need to obtain your poppy we have a poppy box and collecting tin in church.

Sunday School - For Remembrance Sunday we'll be thinking about the meaning of this important day, creating some Poppy art and considering how we can ensure we're always aware of those who give selflessly to others.

Shoebox Appeal - Collect items for a family or older person from the list provided and pop in your shoebox. We'll deliver to a local depot for delivery to people living in poverty in Ukraine and Eastern Europe this Christmas. Remember to return to Christ Church by this coming Sunday, 8 November.

St George's - Our tin tabernacle is closed for repairs to the foundations and flooring. We'll welcome everyone back in December. Donations always welcome for the ongoing maintenance of our historic fabric via this Collection Pot QR code.

Christmas Leaflet - Our leaflets will soon be printed for delivery to homes across Esher.

PARISH OFFERTORY
To support our mission and ministry you can give cash during the offertory. Donations can also be made via card or the QR code pewcards. Alternatively, you can give via the Parish Giving Scheme: www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish. For more giving information go to: www.esherparish.org.uk/?q=content/get-involved.

Youth Group - The next gathering in Christ Church is on Friday 6 November, 5.30-7pm. We'll do some Mindful Photography and welcome friends with our Bring a Friend Month!

Book Group - On Monday 9 November, 4pm, we'll discuss both Melanie McDonagh's book *Converts: From Oscar Wilde to Muriel Spark, Why So Many Became Catholic in the 20th Century*; and *Theo of Golden*.

Peace & Contemplation - An hour of reflection on the theme of 'Forgiveness & Reconciliation' on Thursday 12 November, 8pm, at Christ Church. Come and enjoy inspiring readings, golden silence and beautiful music.

Music on the Green - On Wednesday 18 November at Christ Church we'll welcome Opus Sax, a vibrant young saxophone quartet, to give us a wide-ranging programme from Bach through to jazz, tango and folk classics. Light lunch from 12.30pm, concert at 1.15pm.

Deck the Halls - Let's launch the festive season by lighting up the Christmas Tree in Christ Church at 5.30pm on Friday 4 December. Do join us for a fun family evening of food, carols, decorations and Christingle making!

Christingle Service - Join us to celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, at this All Age service on Sunday 7 December, 10.30am, in Christ Church.

Christmas Crazy Crafts - Our Christmas family crafting event is back with a new blue and silver theme! Come anytime to Lower Green Community on Saturday 12 December, 10am-1pm. Free entry, kids get a goodie bag and the cafe will be open. If you'd like to help for an hour or two on the day, please let Kat know.

Sermon - The Archbishop of Canterbury recently preached a deeply insightful and soberly inspiring sermon on the current world landscape. Well worth a read: www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/speeches/being-church-turbulent-times-archbishop-sarahs-address-porvoo-primates

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, John Stacey, Paul Nicholls, Gudrun & David Jensen, Myfanwy Tranmer, Christine Steeds, Michelle Cullen
RIP Anniversaries: Sheila Eeles, Kenneth Bloore, Jane Marsh, Barbara Welham, Harley Barnes, Inge Major, Joyce Foord
RIP: Jean-Claude Gazet, Elizabeth Roberts

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

November		Time	Reading
Monday	9		Daniel 4.19-end, Ps 20, Revelation 5
Tuesday	10		Daniel 5.1-12, Ps 48, Revelation 6
Wednesday	11		Daniel 5.13-end, Ps 23, Revelation 7.1-4, 9-end
Thursday	12	10am	Daniel 6, Ps 26, Revelation 8
Friday	13		Daniel 7.1-14, Ps 32, Revelation 9.1-12

LOOKING AHEAD

November		Time	Event
Sunday	8	9am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		10.50am	Act of Remembrance, Esher Green
		11.15am	Service of Remembrance, Christ Church
Monday	9	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
		7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	10	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
		8pm	Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting, Christ Church
Thursday	12	All day	Parish Office closed
		10am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
		7pm	Peace & Contemplation, Christ Church
Sunday	15	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	16	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	18	1.15pm	Music on the Green concert: Opus Sax, Christ Church

CONTACTS

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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.