

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

15 FEBRUARY 2026

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd William Allberry at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd William Allberry
Churchwarden	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Reading, Prayers	Jackie Andrew, Stephen Lee
Musician	Theo Tang
Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd William Allberry at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd William Allberry
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Stewart Henderson, Ivy Tang
Reading, Prayers	Gavin Bradley, Will Stevens
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Theo Tang
Refreshments	Michelle Cullen, Janie McCulloch, Wendy Tanqueray

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Chorale Improvisation 'Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele'</i> (Karg-Elert)
SG / CC hymns	754 (omit v3), 569, 761 / 754, 569, 761
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Anthem	<i>Ave verum</i> (Elgar)
Closing music	<i>Fugue and Finale from Fantaisie in B flat</i> (Boëly)

COLLECT

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness
and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy God,
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power
to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Notice to the Parish:

An Update on Bishop Andrew Watson

After a wonderful recent visit from Bishop Andrew, we wanted to share with you some difficult news regarding his health. Following recent medical investigations, doctors have diagnosed a tumour in his pancreas, with further tests confirming that the cancer is inoperable.

These developments have come as a great shock to Bishop Andrew and his family. He hopes to continue in his responsibilities for as long as he is able, with Easter as an initial milestone, though plans will remain under review.

He has expressed deep gratitude for the love and support he has already received, and for the powerful sense of God's presence. He asks especially for your prayers – for his family, for his senior team, and for the Diocese during this unexpected period of change. Prayers for healing are welcome, and he also speaks with faith and hope as he entrusts the future to God.

He remains profoundly thankful for the privilege of serving as Bishop of Guildford and for the rich life and witness of this Diocese.

Please continue to hold him and his family in your prayers.

READING 2 Peter 1.16-end

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

GOSPEL Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

Other Lectionary Texts

Exodus 24.12-end

Psalm 2 or 99

PARISH NOTICES

Thank You - To Revd William Allberry for visiting us and leading our services. It is a joy to worship with you.

Vacancy Update - After a very positive shortlisting on Monday 9 February we are excited about the progress, more details to follow as soon as all candidates have been informed. We will be holding interviews on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 March.

Sunday School - This week we'll tidy up our Sunday School garden in readiness for a new Easter Garden and burying the Hallelujah next weekend, the first Sunday in Lent!

Youth Group - We had a lovely session last Friday, learning how to let compliments land. The children created some gorgeous artwork to take home to help them remember the wonderful things people say about them.

Lent Course - The course, based on the book *Let Me Go There - The Spirit of Lent* by Paula Gooder, starts on Sunday 22 February at noon in Christ Church. It'll consist of hourly sessions on consecutive Sundays until Easter facilitated most weeks by Christine Steeds.. You can buy an e-book, or a paperback online.

Sending Thanks - Brian Elliott would like to send his thanks for all the kind thoughts, wishes and messages, and hopes to see you all again very soon.

The Chosen - We continue to show this acclaimed dramatisation of the life of Christ on the Christ Church big screen. Last Tuesday went so well that the audience demanded we immediately show a second episode! Next showing, episodes 1.5 and 1.6, this coming Tuesday 17 February, 7.30pm.

Flower Coordinator - Carol Calvert has confirmed she'll be 'retiring' at Easter after 32 years of managing the Christ Church flowers and flower team. To understand what's involved Carol will be happy to chat.

Ash Wednesday - Our Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist will be taking place in Christ Church on Wednesday 18 February at 8pm.

Music on the Green - On Wednesday 18 February at 1.15pm, Myfanwy Grace, our choir soprano and in-house music theatre professional, will perform a selection of famous melodies from top West End and Broadway shows. Do come and support Myfanwy's first solo recital at Christ Church.

Come, Heavy Sleep - Enjoy a Renaissance music concert on Friday 20 February, 6pm, at Old St George's, Esher, to mark the 400th anniversary of the death of John Dowland. David Yardley, countertenor, and Augustin Cornwall-Irving, lute, will treat us to vocal and instrumental music by Dowland and his contemporaries. Free admission.

The Last Brightness of Everything - Stewart & Carol Henderson along with Yvonne Lyon will present this lauded music, poetry and narrative script performance at Christ Church on Saturday 28 February 2026 at 7.30pm. Advance tickets at £16.96 from Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/yc3fabw7>) or £18 on door on the night. Refreshments provided.

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

Book Group - In our discussion of *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* the pursuit (or rejection) of money featured prominently. Coincidentally, it chimed well with the issues raised in Sunday's sermon from Barry Hengist! We've chosen a very different book for our next meeting on Monday 9 March. *The Seaside* by Madeleine Bunting takes readers on a journey round English coastal resorts, looking at their history.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Karen Harris, 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: Sheila Hayne, Eric Williams, Patricia Peake Sexton, Christopher Creagh-Brown, Christine Eccles, Joyce Meek

RIP: Dany McLeod

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

February		Time	Reading
Monday	16		Genesis 37.1-11, Ps 44, Galatians 1
Tuesday	17		Genesis 37.12-end, Ps 48, Galatians 2.1-10
Wednesday	18		Daniel 9.3-6, 17-19, Ps 38, 1 Timothy 6.6-19
Thursday	19	10am	Genesis 39, Ps 77, Galatians 2.11-end
Friday	20		Genesis 40, Ps 3, Galatians 3.1-14

LOOKING AHEAD

February		Time	Event
Sunday	15	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	16	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday	17	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday	18	1.15pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Myfanwy Grace, soprano & Angus Cunningham, piano, Christ Church
		8pm	Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist, Christ Church
Thursday	19	All day	Parish Office closed
		10am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Friday	20	6pm	'Come, Heavy Sleep' Dowland Concert, Old St George's Church, Esher
Sunday	22	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		Midday	Lent Course, 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.		