

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

18 OCTOBER 2026

CHURCH SERVICE

Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jo Winn-Smith at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jo Winn-Smith
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Debbie Banks, Michael Banks
Reading, Prayers	Gavin Bradley, Will Stevens
Chalice	Sandra Argent, Stephen Lee
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Eunice Law
Refreshments	Janie McCulloch, Wendy Tanqueray

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Consolation in E</i> (Liszt)
Hymns	676, 595, 669
Setting	Coulson
Post sermon music	<i>Canción VI</i> (Mompou)
Communion anthem	<i>O for a closer walk with God</i> (Stanford)
Closing music	<i>Fugue from Præludium & Fugue in E</i> (Vincent Lübeck)

COLLECT

God, our light and our salvation:
illuminate our lives,
that we may see your goodness
in the land of the living,
and looking on your beauty
may be changed
into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father,
whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the world
from the darkness of ignorance:
let these holy mysteries
open the eyes of our understanding
that we may know the way of life,
and walk in it without stumbling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Message from Jo, our Rector

Dear friends,

What is your backstory? In this week's 'The Chosen' we had the imagined, but insightful exploration of the previous lives of some of the disciples. We saw how Jesus identified their different skills and talents and how they imagined they might use them for the kingdom. We also saw that attitudes to money and tax were complex living in a Roman vassal state, and this is why the questioning of Jesus by the Pharisees in this week's gospel is so pertinent.

What belongs where is an intriguing question when Jesus gets involved. Aspects of our lives we thought entirely separate to church, he can actually use. And sometimes this might shock those around us, even more than it does ourselves. Perhaps there might even be parts of ourselves that we want to keep from God, or are nervous to share. Can we dare to let God's Spirit in, to guide us into wholeness and fully be our true selves with him and the world?

So a question to ponder this week: how separate is your faith life and the rest of your life? Are you recognisably the same in both, or is there quite a split? How might you invite God into all parts of yourself? What blessings might you discover?

Yours



READING 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in
God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ: Grace to you and peace.
We always give thanks to God for all
of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly remembering before our God
and Father your work of faith and labour
of love and steadfastness of hope in our
Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers
and sisters beloved by God, that he has
chosen you, because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only,
but also in power and in the Holy Spirit
and with full conviction; just as you know
what kind of people we proved to be
among you for your sake. And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord,
for in spite of persecution you received
the word with joy inspired by the Holy
Spirit, so that you became an example
to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia. For the word of the Lord has
sounded forth from you not only in
Macedonia and Achaia, but in every
place where your faith in God has
become known, so that we have no
need to speak about it. For the people
of those regions report about us what
kind of welcome we had among you, and
how you turned to God from idols, to
serve a living and true God, and to wait
for his Son from heaven, whom he raised
from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us
from the wrath that is coming.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.15-22

When the chief priests and Pharisees
had heard the parables, they realised
Jesus was talking about them.
Then the Pharisees went and plotted
to entrap him in what he said. So they
sent their disciples to him, along with
the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we
know that you are sincere, and teach
the way of God in accordance with truth,
and show deference to no one; for you
do not regard people with partiality. Tell
us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay
taxes to the emperor, or not?' But Jesus,
aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you
putting me to the test, you hypocrites?
Show me the coin used for the tax.'
And they brought him a denarius. Then
he said to them, 'Whose head is this,
and whose title?' They answered, 'The
emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give
therefore to the emperor the things that
are the emperor's, and to God the things
that are God's.' When they heard this,
they were amazed; and they left him
and went away.'

Other Lectionary Texts

Exodus 33.12-end

Psalms 99

Isaiah 45.1-7

Psalms 96.1-13

PARISH NOTICES

Eucharist for St Luke - Church feast days are a wonderful chance to focus on developing our faith in a different way. We come together as the church family (across time), and remember a special person or doctrine. It's a chance to participate in the communion of the saints, enjoy the sacrament of the Eucharist, and to celebrate the blessings the tradition has to offer us. If you happen to be free, it would be lovely to see you.

Harvest Crazy Crafts - Thank you to all who attended and helped at our recent community event at Lower Green. Our Christmas edition is on Saturday 12 December, 10am-1pm.

Sunday School - This week we'll be thinking about what we give to God (love, trust, hope, presence etc) and creating something special to hang at home as a reminder.

Book Group - October's meeting was cancelled because only a few people could make it. So, on Monday 9 November 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*. Two very different books about the values we live by.

Organ exam success - Congratulations to our junior organ scholar Robert Cunningham, who's just passed his organ exam with flying colours, gaining a distinction at Grade VI.

St George's - Our tin tabernacle is closed for repairs to the foundations and flooring. We'll be welcoming everyone back in December. Donations welcome via this Collection Pot QR code.



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, one 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.

The Chosen - Our current screening of this world beating production covering Jesus's ministry continues on Tuesday 20 October at 7.30pm at Christ Church. We will be showing the episode 'Jesus sends out his Apostles'. Afterwards refreshments will be available along with an opportunity to discuss.

Music on the Green - Our next concert on Wednesday 21 October, 1.15pm, will feature the Elmbridge U3A Jazz Band. Come and enjoy tunes from the 40s, 50s and 60s, with classics from Duke Ellington to Cole Porter, bossa and Latin numbers, and hits from the Great American Song Book. A light lunch will be served from 12.30pm

All Souls' Service - We'll mark All Souls' Day at Christ Church on Sunday 1 November, 4.30pm. The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed will be a quiet and gentle service with carefully chosen words and music. We will pray for those who have recently died, naming them and lighting a candle in their memory. To ensure loved ones are remembered, please add names to the list in church or email the Parish Office.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting in Christ Church is on Wednesday 4 November, 10.30am. Coffee provided beforehand. All welcome.

Remembrance Sunday - At 9am, there will be a short Said Eucharist in Christ Church. At 10.50am, the Act of Remembrance will take place at the War Memorial on Esher Green followed by the Service of Remembrance in Christ Church. Please join us in remembering all those who gave their today for our tomorrow. The collection will be donated to support the work of the Royal British Legion.

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.

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

RIP Anniversaries: Miriam MacGibbon, Bill Bedford, Maynard Pockson, Pat Davies
Frederick Harrison

RIP: Jean-Claude Gazet

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

October	Time	Reading
Monday 19		Isaiah 55, Ps 145, Luke 1.1-4
Tuesday 20		2 Kings 22.1-23.3, Ps 132, 1 Timothy 1.18-end of 2
Wednesday 21		2 Kings 23.4-25, Ps 119.153-end, 1 Timothy 3
Thursday 22	10am	2 Kings 23.36-24.17, Ps 143, 1 Timothy 4
Friday 23		2 Kings 24.18-25.12, Ps 144, 1 Timothy 5.1-16

LOOKING AHEAD

October	Time	Event
Sunday 18	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 19	Midday	Eucharist for St Luke, Christ Church
	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday 20	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday 21	1.15pm	Music on the Green concert: Elmbridge U3A Jazz Band, Christ Church
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Thursday 22	All day	Parish Office closed
	10am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday 25	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday 26	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Tuesday 27	7.30pm	Screening of The Chosen, Christ Church
Wednesday 28	7.30pm	Bellringing practice

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 Jo Winn-Smith rector@esherparish.org.uk	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 Hawshaw-Burn 07799 895083
	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kat Mahale 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.	