

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

26 SEPTEMBER 2021

CHURCH SERVICES

St George's	Holy Communion at 9.00am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading & Prayers	Peter Bedford
Musician	Keith Howell-Jones
Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Debbie Banks, Michael Banks
Reading	Stuart Whatton
Prayers	Jennifer Meade
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane
Refreshments	Helen Coulson, Sandra Argent

MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele,</i> <i>Op. 65/5 (Karg-Elert)</i>
St George's hymns	806, 654, 584 (omit v2)
Christ Church hymns	806, 654, 584
Setting	Coulson
Anthem	<i>For the beauty of the earth (Rutter)</i>
Closing music	<i>Prelude & Fugue in D minor,</i> <i>BWV 554 (Bach)</i>

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually
to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel (Mark 9.38-50) warns against stumbling blocks, both the ones which can trip us up, and also the obstacles we sometimes place in other people's way. It's the latter which the disciple John wishes to place in front of those he considers to be 'unauthorised' agents of the Gospel. He wants to restrict working in Jesus' name to 'official' followers only. Jesus, however, is content to adopt the approach that 'whoever is not against us is for us.' (Mark 9.40). Biblical scholar Tom Wright wonders if John's attitude can be found in today's Church. 'How easy it is for any of us, especially professional clergy and theologians, to assume that the church belongs to us. How easy, too, for people who have always worshipped and prayed within one particular tradition or style to feel that this is the 'proper' way. That isn't to say, of course, that some styles may not be richer, or more satisfying, than others. But out there in the world, beyond even rudimentary theological education and training, there are millions of Christians whom Jesus may be referring to as 'little ones who believe'. If those who have training and education do anything that excludes such people, they are in deep trouble.' (Mark for Everyone)

God bless,



READING James 5.13-end

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

GOSPEL Mark 9.38-end

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.' And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

PARISH COVID INFORMATION

Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update

We are very happy to have Christ Church and Saint George's West End open again for in-person public worship. Christ Church will also open for private prayer most Wednesdays, 10am to 4pm.

Communion

In line with Church of England guidance those who wish to make an act of Spiritual Communion can use this prayer.

*Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.*

Amen. after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Daily Hope Helpline 0800 804 8044

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line 24 hours a day. A Church of England initiative (in partnership with Holy Trinity Claygate, and Faith in Later Life).

Help & the Parish Office

The office is now manned however if you do need any help please make contact via the office email and telephone initially. For all urgent enquiries contact the Rector, the Revd Darren McCallig (01372 461088 or rector@esherparish.org.uk) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Jane Tyrrell on 07971 698299. Many thanks.

ST GEORGE'S SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be together for Sunday worship.

A few things to remember:

- Please take the Pewsheets with you.
- We ask, please, that you continue to wear a face covering, bearing in mind that masks primarily provide protection to others. Exemptions are: those leading worship; children under 11; those unable to put on/wear a face mask because of a physical or mental illness or disability; those for whom wearing a mask will cause severe distress; and anyone assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.
- We are delighted to be able to sing again as a congregation.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please stay in your seats and the priest will come to you. Before receiving the bread each person should apply hand sanitiser from their own personal bottle (we have some available if you have forgotten to bring yours).
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer opposite.
- Coffee will not be served in St George's for the time being, but we do hope you will join us after the service in the West End Sports & Social Club so we can chat and socialise as we have always done.
- Just as we asked you to use the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

It's wonderful to have you here - thank you for coming.

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CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be together for Sunday worship.

A few things to remember:

- Please take the Pewsheets with you.
- Apart from the designated socially-distanced zone, please feel free to sit in any pew. Please also feel free to sit with friends if you wish.
- We will continue to keep a list of those in attendance. Please be assured that this information is held securely.
- We ask, please, that you continue to wear a face covering, bearing in mind that masks primarily provide protection to others. Exemptions are: those leading worship; children under 11; those unable to put on/wear a face mask because of a physical or mental illness or disability; those for whom wearing a mask will cause severe distress; and anyone assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.
- We are delighted to be able to sing again as a congregation.
- The toilet (at the back of the church) is open, but please use only if necessary.
- The service will be live streamed on the Parish YouTube channel.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please come 'up' the centre aisle and use the hand sanitiser before receiving. Please return to your seat 'down' the side aisles.
- To make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer opposite.
- Refreshments will be served afterwards. This will be outside, weather permitting.
- Just as you used the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

It's wonderful to have you here - thank you!

PARISH NOTICES

Harvest Thanksgiving - We will be holding two Harvest services - firstly at Christ Church at 10.30am on Sunday 3 October and secondly at St George's at 9am on Sunday 10 October. All harvest donations will be given to the East Elmbridge Foodbank. They particularly need more fruit juice (long life), squash, tinned hot dogs/vegetables/potatoes, biscuits, crisps, chocolate, sweets, spreads/preserves (not strawberry jam), instant soup/noodle packets, pulses (kidney beans/chickpeas etc) and sugar/tea bags (small packs). To give financially go to the Foodbank's Harvest Appeal website at <https://eastelmbridge.foodbank.org.uk/2021/09/22/harvest-with-east-elmbridge-food-bank/>. Thank you.

'Blessing our Pets' Service - We are very pleased to announce we will be holding a Pet Service this year at Christ Church on Sunday 17 October at 4pm. Let's thank God for our pets and all creatures great and small and fill the church with fun!

Music on the Green - This month's concert featured the Diphonon Duo - Michael Iskas on viola and Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade on accordion. Do watch it on our 'Music on the Green Esher' YouTube channel.

Music on the Green - To mark Beethoven's recent 250th anniversary we are staging two concerts by piano duo, Tessa Uys and Ben Schoeman, on Sunday 10 October. Please see posters and website for details.

Afghan Refugees - The Home Office has asked the Church of England to help in the search for accommodation for Afghans who are seeking asylum in this country. As they worked for the UK government they are having to flee. To help contact the Diocese Asylum Seeker Adviser, The Revd Diane Peters, at diane.peters@cofeguildford.org.uk

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Whilst we are not offering cakes with coffee we'd still like to collect for the charity. As you enjoy your drink please consider donating. Thank you.

A Welcome Weekend Thank You - A big thank you must go to our super volunteers - for baking the cakes, setting up, serving refreshments, washing up and clearing up. Particular thanks to Stuart for the music, to our bellringers and flower arrangers, to Melanie for preparing the event publicity and to Will and his team who delivered the leaflets. Thank you - you all helped make the weekend a great success. Jane & Helen

Parish Giving - Thank you for your ongoing support. If you're able to, you can donate today or via our 'Give A Little' page at <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260> or via <https://www.justgiving.com/esh Parish>. To donate to our bank account, contact the Parish Office for details and Gift Aid forms.

Bellringing - We are seeking new ringers to join our happy team. Open to all - you only need to be able to lift your arms above your head, climb 56 steps and count to 8. No musicality required - smiling is obligatory! Please contact the Parish Office if interested.

'Zoom' Bible Reflection & Prayer - The group is taking a break in September. It will start up again on Tuesday 5 October at 9am.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues at 9am every Wednesday. Please ask the Parish Office for details.

A Tribute to Kid Jensen - A concert in aid of Parkinson's research at the Cadogan Hall on Monday 11 October. Featuring Kid Jensen who was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2015. For tickets go to the Cadogan Hall website - <https://cadoganhall.com/whats-on/a-tribute-to-kid-jensen-with-jools-holland/>.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Jaeseok Yang, Betty Walker, Geoff Walker, Elizabeth Arnold, Sue Lynn, Hugh Miller, Stewart Henderson, Graham Woolgar, John Treneman

RIP Anniversaries: John MacLeod, Charles Orr, Leslie Norris, Bill Stevens, Betty Taylor, Nicholas Simmons, Winifred Peden, Jean Mumby, Peter Langley

RIP: Viola Mason, John Matterson Allen, Michael Denny

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Sept/Oct	Time	Reading
Monday 27		1 Maccabees 1.1-19; Ps 71; Mark 14.1-11
Tuesday 28		1 Maccabees 1.20-40; Ps 73; Mark 14.12-25
Wednesday 29	9.00-10.00am	Tobit 12.6-end; Ps 34; Acts 12.1-11
Thursday 30		1 Maccabees 2.1-28; Ps 78.1-39; Mark 14.43-52
Friday 1		1 Maccabees 2.29-48; Ps 55; Mark 14.53-65

LOOKING AHEAD

September	Time	Event
Sunday 26	9.00am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
	12.30pm	Interment of Michael Denny, Christ Church
Monday 27	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday 29	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
	10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church open
	7.45pm-8.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday 30	All day	Parish Office closed
October	Time	Event
Sunday 3	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving, Christ Church
Monday 4	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday 6	9.00-10.00am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
	10.00am-4.00pm	Christ Church open
	7.45pm-8.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday 7	All day	Parish Office closed

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish SoundCloud soundcloud.com/esherparish	RECTOR Revd Darren McCallig Tel 01372 461088 Email rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday
PARISH OFFICE Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk	