

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

PATRONAL FESTIVAL FOR ST GEORGE

27 APRIL 2025

CHURCH SERVICES

Patronal Eucharist	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at St George's West End (SG)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Reading, Prayers	Sue Langley, Gerard Harper
Musician	Stuart Whatton
Eucharist & Holy Baptism (live streamed)	Led by Revd William Allberry at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd William Allberry
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Helen Griffin, Ivy Tang
Reading	Sandra Argent
Refreshments	Sia Marshall, Sandra Argent
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Theo Tang

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>The Angels' Song, on a Theme of Orlando Gibbons (Stanford)</i>
SG / CC hymns	216, 422, 576 / 216, 207, 220
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Communion anthem	<i>O sons and daughters, let us sing (Jean Tisserand)</i>
Closing music	<i>Postlude in G, Op. 105 no. 2 (Stanford)</i>

THE COLLECT

God of hosts,
who so kindled the flame of love
in the heart of your servant George
that he bore witness to the risen Lord
by his life and by his death:
give us the same faith and power of love
that we who rejoice in his triumphs
may come to share with him
the fullness of the resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our redeemer,
whose Church was strengthened
by the blood of your martyr George:
so bind us, in life and death, to Christ's sacrifice
that our lives, broken and offered with his,
may carry his death
and proclaim his resurrection in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today we mark St George's Day, the day we remember the patron saint of England. But while there are many myths and legends about this martyr, there is rather less historical data. For example, the Pope who canonized George in the fifth century said that his acts were 'known only to God!' Nevertheless, the earliest sources tell us that George was born in Cappadocia, a region of what today is Turkey. As a soldier in the army of the Emperor Diocletian he spoke-up for Christians in the ranks and suffered their fate. He was tortured and beheaded on 23 April, around the year 304.

The paucity of facts about George's life did not, however, prevent his fame spreading far and wide. In time he became the patron saint, not only of England, but also of Venice, Portugal, Georgia, Ethiopia and Catalonia. This extraordinary international reputation – coupled with his willingness to pay the price for his convictions – surely makes George a worthy patron. As the Christian think-tank Ekklesia has put it, we should honour George as 'a dissenter against the abuse of power, a global figure the English share with other nations, someone who offered hospitality to the vulnerable, and a champion of right rather than might.'

Happy St George's Day!

God bless



READING 2 Timothy 2.3-13

Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things. Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David – that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful – for he cannot deny himself.

GOSPEL John 15.18-21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world – therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, "Servants are not greater than their master." If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

Texts for the Second Sunday of Easter

Exodus 14.10-end; 15.20-21 page 64 (OT)

Acts 5.27-32 page 131 (NT)

Psalms 150 page 612 (OT)

Revelation 1.4-8 page 265 (NT)

John 20.19-31 page 121 (NT)

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

PARISH NOTICES

St George's Church, West End - This Sunday, we mark our beloved Tin Tabernacle's Patronal Festival. In the 9am Eucharist we'll celebrate the special role of the little church in the life of West End people and look to George, its Patron Saint, as an example of heroic faith. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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.

Sunday School - This week we'll be talking about curiosity, thinking about what questions we'd like to ask Jesus and making some 'Faith Isn't About Sight' glasses.


Baptism - Jane Tyrrell's granddaughter Margo will be baptised in Christ Church this Sunday (27 April). Please join the family afterwards to celebrate with a special cake.

Book Group - We'll next gather on 28 April, 4pm, to discuss *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt, which raises important questions on the 'rewiring' of children and young people's brains through excess screen time. For more details contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 07968 765188 / jandrewesher@gmail.com.

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.

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.

Leave - The Rector returns on Wednesday 30 April. The Parish Office re-opens on Monday 28 April. For help please contact the churchwardens.

New Electoral Roll - Under Church of England rules a parish's Electoral Roll must be renewed every six years and 2025 is that year. Everyone must re-apply. New applications are welcome. The final closing date is today, Sunday 27 April. There are forms in both churches and an online form is available via this QR code. 

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.

Thanksgiving & Celebration Service and Supper on Sunday 4 May at 6pm - 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. Please complete the form, found at the back of the church, and return to Jane, Helen, Andrea, Bridget or the Parish Office. Alternatively, email the appropriate information to the Parish Office.

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.

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

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: Martin Moreton, William Pearson, John Daley, Mary Bedford, Edna Chambers, Ian Dewar, Jemima Warrington

RIP: Vanessa Meckiffe

Baptism: Margo Juniper Davies

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

April/May	Time	Reading
Monday 28		Joshua 1.1-9, Ps 146, Ephesians 6.10-20
Tuesday 29		Isaiah 62.6-10, Ps 148, Acts 12.25-13.-13
Wednesday 30		Deuteronomy 3.18-end, Ps 30, John 20.19-end
Thursday 1		Proverbs 4.10-18, Ps 139, James 1.1-12
Friday 2		Deuteronomy 4.15-31, Ps 61, John 21.15-19

LOOKING AHEAD

April	Time	Event
Sunday 27	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.30am	Eucharist & Holy Baptism, Christ Church
Monday 28	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
	7.15pm	Choir practice
Wednesday 30	7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
May	Time	Event
Thursday 1	All day	Parish Office closed
	9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
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

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 pewsheets by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.		