

St Martin of Tours

Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs

Langley Vale

The parish of
St Martin of Tours
with St Stephen-on-the-Downs

Weekly Newsletter
Registered Charity Number: 1134149

Sunday 16th January 2022 – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Dear Friends,

Today's gospel is the famous story of Jesus turning water into wine. You can interpret this in many ways, but one obvious one is that God can turn the ordinary into the special. When we are tempted to think '*what can I do? I'm too young/old/poor/afraid/insignificant/etc*' remember this truth – the Holy Spirit can take our ordinariness and turn it into something rich and valuable in the service of the Kingdom of God.

Nick Parish

THIS WEEK

Sunday 16th January – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

- 9.30am - Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
- 10.00am – Holy Communion at St Martin's, in church and live streamed
- 6.30pm – Evening Prayer at St Martin's, in church and live streamed

Tuesday 18th January

- 4.00pm - Centering Prayer Session 1
- 7.30pm - Centering Prayer

Wednesday 19th January

- 10.00am – Holy Communion

Next week

Sunday 23rd January – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

- 9.30am – Holy Communion at St Stephen's – led by Andris Abakus
- 10.00am – Morning Praise with Holy Communion at St Martin's, in church and live streamed
- 6.30pm – Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity At St Martin's. Music by our choir

Sunday 30th January - Candlemas

- 9.30am – Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
- 10.00am – Holy Communion at St Martin's, in Church and live streamed
- 6.30pm – Evening Prayer at St Martin's, in church and live streamed

STEWARDSHIP

Giving to St Martin's and St Stephen on the Downs

For general and stewardship giving you can give online giving via the Charities Aid Foundation. Donations can be either a one-off donation or a regular donation using direct debit. To make a donation either:

1. Click on the following link:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13377>

OR

2. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below



There is also a "Donate" button on our website.

Cheques to St Martin's

If giving a cheque donation to St Martin's Church, please can it be payable to:
'The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom'

Donation Station

If you wish to give via contactless payment, please use the donation station in church. You can give a pre-set amount or choose one. You can also gift aid your donation.

OTHER NOTICES

This Sat 15 Jan at 4.30pm in church

Music@StMartin's Recital Series features a delightful programme of instrumental and vocal music performed by pupils of Epsom College.

Programme

Annabelle Harper (Baritone Horn)
Smoke gets in your eyes (Kern)
Sinfonia 'Ich steh mit einem fuss im grabe' (Bach)

Anna Gillespie (Flute)
Pan, from 'Joueurs de flute' (Roussel)
Sonata for flute and piano, 1st mvt Allegro Moderato (Martinu)

Barney Fildes (Voice)
Gentle airs, melodious strains from 'Athalia' (Handel)
Meine liebe ist grun Op63 No5 (Brahms)
On the street where you live from 'My Fair Lady' (Lerner & Loewe)
Fraser Spalding (Saxophone)
Sonata for saxophone and piano, 2nd mvt 'Andantino Cantabile' (Lawson Lunde)
Sonata for alto saxophone and piano, 1st mvt (Phil Woods)

Suzie Zu (Clarinet)
Sonata for clarinet and piano in F minor Op120 No1, 3rd mvt 'Allegretto Grazioso' (Brahms)
Sonatina for clarinet and piano, 3rd mvt 'Con Brio' (Joseph Horovitz)

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18th to 25th January

St Martin's are hosting the ecumenical service on 23rd January at 6.30 pm, the annual service at which Christians in Epsom worship together. For details of the daily readings, please download the booklet prepared by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland from:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/WPCU-2022-English-A5-1.pdf.pagespeed.ce.c2Ohs37kOX.pdf>

Beacon Tea

The Beacon Teas are on the second Sunday of each month (unless otherwise notified) in Church, 3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. All are welcome for sandwiches, cake and a chat. The next three will be on 13 February, 13 March and 10 April (Palm Sunday). The Beacon Teas are now followed on the same Sundays by **Second Thoughts** at 6.30 p.m., which have just resumed after a long absence. Tea, coffee and cake will therefore be available beforehand to anyone coming to this event.

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

Vacancies in Church life

We will need a new Treasurer and a new churchwarden to join our leadership team from the Annual Meeting in May. These are vital roles in Church life. If you have the skills needed, please speak to me, or the wardens, to find out more about what is required.

Nick Parish

The Kingston University 'Big Read'

I have acquired copies of the 2020 book that the university was encouraging all its members to read. The scheme works by everyone reading the book, and then joining a group to discuss it. This is followed by a visit from the author.

The 2020 book was 'Airhead' by Emily Maitlis. It's an account of some of her assignments abroad in recent years.

If you would like a copy, there are some available in Church – just help yourself. I will arrange an opportunity for people to get together to discuss the book, if they wish, at the beginning of Lent.

Nick Parish

MISSION FOR THE MONTH

HOME MISSION - Cross Rhythms

Cross Rhythms is a charity which saw that a media voice for the Christian faith was vital to get the Christian response to society's ills back into everyday lives. A programme began in 1983 on Plymouth Sound, a radio station in Devon. "*As media our mandate is to be strong and piercing into situations in our nation and even globally. We believe in collaboration with other organisations whose impact on society is different to our own. As God says he blesses unity and partnership*".

Meg Topley

ABROAD MISSION - The Leprosy Mission

Leprosy, thought to be the world's oldest disease, is still common in countries where poverty is rife. It can still lead to isolation and rejection from families and communities, despite being entirely curable. There are ¼ million new cases of leprosy recorded each year. Treatment is vital to prevent disabilities that have devastating effects. The Mission works to defeat Leprosy and transform lives. Please Pray for them and take a look at the Display Board at the back of Church. Thank you.

Jill Chapman

Latest message from Food Bank

Urgent:

Tinned meat pies

Brown sauce

Powdered milk

Long-life sponge puddings

Cereal (no porridge or bran as we have lots)

Sugar (500g bags)

Tinned potatoes

Instant mash

Squash for diluting

Washing powder, pods, tablets (bio and non-bio)

Shaving foam

We also need:

Tea bags

Pasta sauce

Long-life fruit juice

Custard

Rice pudding

Spaghetti in sauce

Dried pasta in sauce

Chocolate spread

Peanut butter

Adult toothpaste

Sanitary towels (daytime only, we have lots of night-time)

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked:

Pulses, pasta, noodles, sweetcorn, rice, beans, tampons, washing up liquid, shower gel, coffee, porridge, baby wash and shampoo, hot chocolate, tinned tomatoes.

You can donate at the usual supermarket points, or bring donations to our car park (please wear a mask);

Epsom & Ewell Foodbank Generation Resource Centre

(Behind West Ewell Primary School) Ruxley Lane Ewell, KT19 0JG

Normal donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am – 2pm.

A LETTER FROM DAVID CANDLIN (our recent Curate)



*“Embrace change and allow the
Holy Spirit to surprise us”*

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13th January 2022

Greetings from Bloxwich!

I'm now three months into my new post as Team Rector of Bloxwich Parish. We're in the West Midlands – in the archdeaconry of Wolverhampton in the Diocese of Lichfield.

There are three churches in the parish – All Saints, which sits on the High Street, and two churches serving the housing estates on the edge of Bloxwich – Holy Ascension and St Thomas's. There are some wonderful folk in our congregations, but the pandemic and a lengthy vacancy have taken their toll on the numbers of worshippers and our outreach. Each church has its own character, which I'm getting to know. Each has their own challenges, which are also becoming apparent! Our financial situation is fragile and we have major expenses to meet. At All Saints, our boiler has broken and needs replacing, our clock tower leaks and our church hall is out of action after a pipe burst and flooded the hall.

But there is much to be glad about – people in Bloxwich are proud of their church and many families are inquiring about baptisms and weddings. I have a great bunch of colleagues in the Ministry Team, and we have all sorts of dreams about how our churches can be beacons of God's love in the communities they serve.

We put on a full programme of Christmas services despite Covid, and now we're looking forward to playing our part in the Week of Christian Unity, when we will be joining with our brothers and sisters in the other churches across Bloxwich and neighbouring Blakenall to share in worship and fellowship. “Embrace change and allow the Holy Spirit to surprise us”

Nancy has settled in well – and we have a new puppy – a Staffie called Cooper (he's orange and brown like the marmalade!). We've also discovered that living in the Midlands makes holidays in the Peak District and Wales much easier!

In closing, could I thank you all for your kind words as we departed Epsom, and for all your Christmas cards and gifts – we appreciate that we're still in your thoughts and prayers. And if anyone fancies a mini-break in the West Midlands you'd be very welcome.

David

CONTACT US

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**Opening hours are Mondays, Wednesday, Thursdays & Fridays
9.30am to 12.30pm**

The Revd Nick Parish – Vicar – 01372 743336

Email: vicar@stmartinsepsom.org

The Revd Canon Adrian Esdaile - Priest in Retirement - 01372 723770

Email: esdaileadrian@yahoo.co.uk

***(available for Contemplative Prayer, Counsel,
Spiritual Direction and the Healing Ministry)***