

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 23rd January 2022 – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Dear Friends,

The epistle for the morning service concerns spiritual gifts. St Paul writes to the people at the Church in Corinth about how people should use their gifts for the common good – like pieces of a jigsaw that make up a whole picture. We all know the frustration of a missing piece, and the urge to search for it.

We hold in faith that God has gifted us to be His Church – all of us have pieces to bring to the picture – please don't hide yours down the back of the sofa, we need it!

The Vicar

THIS 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, in church and live streamed.

Tuesday 25th January

- 4.00pm - Centering Prayer Session 2
- 7.30pm - Centering Prayer

Wednesday 26th January

- 10.00am – Holy Communion

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 30th January – Candlemas

- 9.30am – Morning Prayer at St Stephen's – led by Graeme Lodge
- 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

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

St Martin's are hosting the annual ecumenical service at 6.30 pm. For details of the daily readings for the week, 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>

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

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

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

OUTDOOR AREA FOR ARK @ST MARTINS

We are planning to create an outdoor area, in the Vicarage garden, for use by the children from the Ark. The purpose of the area is so that children can connect with creation and the creator.

There will be a mud kitchen, den making area and prayer space. Can anyone help to provide any of the following equipment (preferably second hand / recycled):

- 1.
2. Mud kitchen – sink, work top / preparation area, storage, pieces of timber 2"x1" or 2"x2 , drawer knobs to be used as dials on a pretend cooker
3. Kitchen utensils – small sauce / frying pans, rolling pin, fish slice, serving spoons, forks, baking tins
4. Dens – 1" thick rope, old tents for making dens

Please speak to Yvonne Parish if you can help in any way.

Thanks

Yvonne

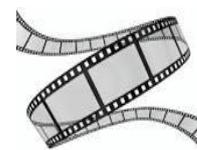
FILM AND CAKE

You are invited to join us for an afternoon of film and homemade cake on **Saturday 19th February 2022**, in Church House, from 4.30 pm. The film will begin around 5.00 pm. We have chosen 4 films, all of which are family friendly, for you to choose from.

They are:

- **Paddington** – the story of this much-loved bear is brought to life in this film, starring Hugh Bonneville and Julie Walters
- **Goodnight Mr Tom** – the aggressive behaviour of an aging man changes drastically in the company of a young evacuee from London. This is a lovely story with a happy ending, starring John Thaw
- **Bugsy Malone** – spoof of an old gangster movie based around Prohibition. The cast is made up entirely of children and stars Jodie Foster
- **Monsieur Hulot's Holiday** – Monsieur Hulot travels to a beachside hotel for a vacation, where he accidentally (but good-naturedly) causes havoc. Although this is French film, you do not need to know French as there is no speaking. Stars Jacques Tati.

All four films last no longer than 1 hour 20 mins.



Come along with your friends and family for an enjoyable afternoon.

Please sign up at the back of church or by email to

mary.hollowayneville@sky.com and pick the film that you would like to watch. Majority wins the day!

All relevant COVID restrictions will be in place.

Events Team

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

NEEDED

Tinned meat pies, Long-life sponge puddings

Powdered milk, Cereal (no porridge or bran as we have lots)

Sugar (500g bags)

Tinned potatoes, Instant mash, Brown sauce

Squash for diluting

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

Shaving foam, Adult toothbrushes, Children's toothpaste 0-2 & 6+, Tea bags

Pasta sauce, Dried pasta and sauce, Spaghetti in sauce,

Long-life fruit juice

Custard, Rice pudding

Chocolate spread

Peanut butter

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

You can donate at the usual supermarket points, or bring donations to our car park;

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”*

The Rectory
3 Elmore Row
Bloxwich
WS3 2HR
revcandlin@gmail.com
01922 476 598
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

Parish Office:

***Church House, Church Street, Epsom,
KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567***

E-mail: stmartinsepsom@btconnect.com

Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org

**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)***