



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

Weekly Newsletter

**w/b SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27th, 2022
next Sunday before Lent**

Dear Friends,

This coming Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent.

Our service will be at 10am on the day. As ever, we will provide opportunities for people to study and discuss (see further on), but inevitably the observation of Lent will be a personal one.

May God be with you in your journey through Lent to the cross and resurrection.

The Vicar

THIS WEEK

Sunday 27th February – next Sunday before Lent

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

Wednesday 2nd March ASH WEDNESDAY

- 10.00am – Holy Communion

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 6th March –

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

STUDY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

World Day of Prayer Service

You are warmly invited to this service on **Friday March 4** at 10.30 am at Christ Church Epsom Common.

This service has been arranged by the WDP Committee for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It will be celebrated on the same day over the world. The theme for the service is based on God's promise, found in the book of Jeremiah: "I Know the Plans I Have for you." The focus on freedom, forgiveness, justice and hope is so relevant in our world today.

Please join us for refreshments after the service.



SATURDAY 5 MARCH 2 PM

THE BRATHWAITE MEMORIAL – A PERSONAL REFLECTION



Peter Brathwaite, acclaimed baritone, based in the UK but performing internationally, also writes and presents for BBC Radio 3 and is working with Getty Publications on his first book. His solo exhibition ‘Visible Skin: Rediscovering the Renaissance through Black Portraiture’ is running on King’s College London’s Strand Campus until February 2022. Peter was a chorister at St Ann’s Church in Manchester, received a music

bursary to Bury Grammar School, and studied Philosophy and Fine Art at Newcastle University before receiving a scholarship at the Royal College of Music.

Among the memorials at St Martin’s is one that commemorates John Brathwaite, who was born in Barbados in 1722 and died on 21 September 1800. He is buried in a vault beneath the church. John Brathwaite owned four plantations in Barbados, growing sugar cane using enslaved labour. He also served in London for 15 years as colonial agent for Barbados – a role in which he represented to Parliament the interests of the Barbadian plantation owners, merchants and traders. In 1788 he argued to Parliament for the continuation of the slave trade, in opposition to those – such as William Wilberforce MP – who were campaigning for its abolition.

John Brathwaite lived in London, but in the final years of his life lived in Epsom with his unmarried niece Mary Ashley. She was one of the beneficiaries and executors of his will and

commissioned the memorial. After his death, until she died in 1845, she continued to live in their house, Ashley House, which in turn led to the naming of Ashley Road and the Ashley Centre.

Peter Brathwaite is a descendant of John Brathwaite's nephew Miles. Peter's 4x great grandmother Margaret Brathwaite was born in Barbados in 1790, the illegitimate daughter of Miles, a prominent white enslaver, and an unknown enslaved African mother. Her husband, Peter's 4x great grandfather Addo Brathwaite, was the property of John Brathwaite. Peter's talk will be a personal reflection on what enslavement has meant to him and his family.

Background Information

This talk is an opportunity to listen to someone who has a personal connection with the memorial. It is part of ongoing reflection being undertaken by the PCC in the light of guidance offered by the Church Fabric Commission in *Contested Heritage in Cathedrals and Churches*.

It is hoped that such reflection will help the church family, and those who visit us, to engage sensitively with the consequences of past enslavement and the repercussions still being experienced today. Also, to consider how we provide context to such memorials in our church; how to commemorate the names of those enslaved, how we formally lament the atrocities of past and modern slavery, and how we reach out to those who previously felt unwelcome in our church because of the existence of such memorials.

In connection with this reflection, the PCC has agreed to co-fund, with the diocese, a research project to tell us more about the life of John Brathwaite and the local context of the time, in Epsom; local views, the links with the abolitionist movement, what MPs said, so that we know a more holistic story that the monument is revealing to us.

Organ Recital given by Iain Macfarlane

Saturday 12th March 2022, 4.30 pm

Basso Staccato (Alla Marcia) (4") Charles Waters (1895-1975)

Fantaisie, from *Six Pièces*, op. 16 (13") César Franck (1822-1890)

St Bride, assisted by angels (6") Judith Bingham (b. 1952)

Allegretto, from *Five Little Organ Studies* (3")
Margery Moore (fl. 1930s)

Prelude and Fugue on *O Traurigkeit, O Herzeleid* (7")
Ethyl Smyth (1858-1944)

Toccata, Chorale and Fugue, op. 16 (14")
Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

Beacon Tea

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

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

PCC Governor vacancy – Volunteer role

There is a vacancy for a PCC appointed Foundation Governor at St Martin's Church of England Voluntary Aided Schools, Epsom. Foundation Governors in a Church school play a vital role in ensuring that the Christian character and ethos of the school is promoted and maintained.

As well as commitment to seeking to support the maintenance of the Christian ethos, St Martin's is hoping to recruit an individual with background which would support governor challenge and support related to change management. Applications are welcome from individuals who are willing to engage in relevant training to support their own development.

Being a Governor is really worthwhile and rewarding, and if you are interested in this role, please do get in touch with:



Nick Parish on vicar@smartinsepsom.org

Jaynn Taylor on ((jtaylor@smartinsepsom.school))-

Lent Courses

1. Opportunity to join the Pilgrim Course
7.30pm Monday 14th March The new Pilgrim Course begins at 59a Burgh Heath Rd , details from the host, Graeme Lodge.
2. Opportunities to discuss the spiritual, as well as practical issues, that are raised by our consideration of how to respond to the 'contested artifacts' in St Martin's (such as the Brathwaite memorial):
Monday 14th - following the Pilgrim Course (see above)
Tuesday 8th and 22nd March – 9.30am in the Wisley Room at Church House.
3. To discuss the Emily Maitlis book which some took as part of the Kingston University big read:
Wednesday 16th March 3.00pm in Church

PLATINUM JUBILEE & AFTERNOON TEA



Nick & Yvonne have pleasure in inviting all members of the church family at St Martin's & St Stephen's to afternoon tea on **Sunday 29 May 2022 @ 3pm at the Vicarage.**

Please save the date. A sign up sheet will be available in both churches from the beginning of May. Contributions of cakes, scones or sandwiches would be much appreciated.

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.



MISSION FOR THE MONTH - February

HOME MISSION

Epsom and Ewell Foodbank - opened in 2012 and fed more than 2,600 in 2017 and the need has been escalating ever since. Especially in the last 2 years. They are also working to stop hunger in our area working together with the Community, Churches, Agencies, Businesses and Schools

The Street Pastors - The Church in action on the street. Caring-Listening-Helping. They are volunteers from local Churches, who care about their Communities with Practical and Spiritual Patrols.

Please take a look at the Missions Board at the back of church and hold them in your Prayers

Jill Chapman

ABROAD MISSION

Wheels for the World

Wheels for the world meets the practical needs of the disabled person with a wheelchair and as they are a Christian charity, they offer a Bible in their own language and local people share the Christian message.

Wheelchairs are given according to need regardless of whether the recipient has a faith or not. *Wheels for the World* are under the umbrella of Through the Roof

Meg Topley

ECO CHURCH

Recycling in Epsom

There is a recycling box in the welcome area at the **Methodist Church** in Ashley Road. They recycle the following and support the linked charities:-

- Used stamps (RNIB)
- Gently used bras ('Smalls for All' supporting vulnerable women)
- Spectacles – without the cases, please - (sent to developing countries)
- Crisp packets (Air Ambulance)
- Batteries, empty tablet blister packets (recycled so they are not sent to landfill)
- Clean foil
- Toothbrushes and empty toothbrush tubes

The Co-op take plastic bags.

Boots and Leightons take contact lens foil and contact lenses

Boots and Superdrug Makeup compacts and palettes, mascara, lip products, plastic make-up tubes and other makeup packaging.

Ryman Pens and other writing equipment and printer cartridges

Dyas and Sainsbury's Water filters

In due course St Martin's could collect something for recycling too. There are more 'eco' links on the church website, under 'Church Life' and 'Eco Church'

- <https://www.stmartinsepsom.org/church-life/> .

A very useful local group is Sustainable Epsom and Ewell - <https://www.sustainableepsomewell.co.uk> - who have information on many things (look under 'themes') including some more recycling options around Epsom. Do have a look - and then reduce, re-use, and RECYCLE

Message for Helen Williams:

" I imagine many of you will have chosen your fast or actions for Lent. If you haven't yet and are searching for inspiration, here are some ideas related to taking care of our single home - God's creation, Earth. Perhaps you are ready to up your game, after Adrian's recent notices about recycling. Choose something which you feel is a fitting challenge or observance for you, which might be something new, or a change in scale of what you already do.

- petrol - reduce your car use, take public transport more, go without the car for a day or two extra a week, or throughout Lent
- energy - use appliances as efficiently as you can (full, at off-peak times)
- food
 - increase the proportion of locally produced/seasonal food you eat (Surrey(!), or SE England, or UK?)
 - only buy FairTrade options
 - increase the number of vegetarian or vegan meals you eat (plenty of good recipes on the BBC website)
- plastic-waste fast - avoid single-use plastic. Try shopping at a refill/zero-waste shop (now in Ewell and Ashtead)

Do have a look on the Church eco page for more information, or speak to me/e-mail me. I'm happy to chat about how hard some of these things can be - perhaps we can support each other in our endeavours!

Thanks everyone! Every donation makes a difference to those in need in our communities. You helped us feed more than 595 people in January.

This week, 24th February, we have several urgently needed items:

- Tinned fruit
- Chocolate spread
- Longlife sponge puddings
- Powdered milk
- Longlife fruit juice
- Spaghetti in sauce
- Tampons
- Deodorant
- Washing up liquid
- Hair conditioner
- Children's toothpaste 0-2
- Children's toothbrushes 0-2

We also need

- Tinned potatoes
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned fish
- Long life UHT milk (full fat and semi skimmed only)
- Dried pasta in sauce
- Custard
- Tea bags
- Coffee
- Ketchup
- Squash
- Rice pudding
- Shampoo
- Toilet roll
- Dog food

Chocolate biscuit bars (ie penguins, clubs etc)
Small sized chocolates (freddo bars etc)
Crisps

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked: Pulses, pasta, noodles, sweetcorn, rice, beans, shower gel, porridge, baby wash and baby shampoo, hot chocolate.

Booking a supermarket delivery? Let us know when to expect it
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

Donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am – 2pm. We are closed on Bank Holidays.

* Please make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol*

Donations can also be made if you prefer by texting any amount between £1 and £20 Christmas Gift followed by your chosen amount to 70450. If you wish to donate a larger amount please e-mail us.

Kind regards

Chris Shortt

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**

Music@StMartin's

SPRING RECITALS 2022



EPSOM

COLLEGE

MUSIC SCHOLARS' CONCERT

SAT 15 JAN AT 4.30PM



EMMANUEL BACH - VIOLIN

SAT 12 FEB AT 4.30PM



IAIN MACFARLANE - ORGAN

SAT 12 MARCH AT 4.30PM



THE RICE FAMILY TRIO

SAT 9 APRIL AT 4.30PM

www.stmartinsepsom.org

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX

Registered Charity No 1134149

Admission by donation