



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2022 – Safeguarding Sunday / Christ the King



THE VICAR WRITES...

Today is the last Sunday before a new Church year (Advent Sunday) and we mark Christ the King. It is also Safeguarding Sunday. What's the

link? The Kingdom of God is marked by certain values, amongst them equality and justice, freedom and peace. Safeguarding is about treating the vulnerable with equality, ensuring justice where there is abuse, setting people free from fear, and allowing them to live in peaceful surroundings, which they can trust. Those values are not a spiritual concept about heaven, they are principles by which the Church is called to live.

Nick Parish

**THIS SUNDAY 20th November – Safeguarding Sunday /
Christ the King**

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
10.00am Sung Communion at St Martin's
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 23rd November

10.00am Holy Communion
7.30pm PCC in Church House

Saturday 26th November

11.00am Christmas Fair

NEXT SUNDAY 27^h November – Advent Sunday

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
**10.00am Holy Communion and Baptisms at St Martin's –
in church and live streamed**
6.30pm Advent Carols

Calling all Bakers!

Please can you kindly bring your delicious bakes for the cake stall at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 26th November. You can bring them to the fair on the morning, or can drop them at the church office the day before. Alternatively, please call and we can collect if necessary. Please state ingredients if possible.

Thank you in advance.

Jane Norris, 01372 722493 and Joan Gabbett, 01372 723506

CHRISTMAS FAIR – Saturday 26th November

Starts at 11.00am, finishes at 2.00pm.

Still time to look out those items that you have been going to donate for ages, buy those extra bars of chocolate, that extra bottle of wine etc. There are a couple of boxes at the back of church for your kind donations.

We need the following:

Chocolate – individual bars, small boxes etc.

Books, CDs and DVDs

Boxed games and Jigsaws (complete if possible!)

Jewellery, Toiletries (new, gift sets, perfumes etc.)

Preserves, Bottles of wine

We need volunteers to help out the day before (Friday 25th November) – to help us set up and also on the day itself – either to help run a stall, provide cover for a stall holder for a short time or to help clear up at the end of the Fair. If anyone is able to help out please contact one of the Events Team with your offers.

Thank you very much from the Events Team ***Alyson Aronson, Cathy Morris, Mary Holloway-Neville and Nancy Bluett.***

Beacon Teas * *Note different start times**

You are reminded that the last Beacon Tea for 2022 is imminent:

11 December, **3.00 p.m.*- 5.00 p.m.**

We shall provide sandwiches and cakes and have Christmas carols round the piano. We look forward to welcoming you.

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

Surrey bus services review

Surrey are consulting about the future of bus services locally - if anyone wishes to respond here is the link:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/policies-plans-consultations/roads-and-transport-consultations/future-bus-review>

Our Poppy Crosses at the Somme



Each year we need to dispose of the 100 Remembrance poppy crosses displayed in the Memorial Garden. It didn't feel right to put them in the bin, nor to re-use them the next year. So they were kept dry and then given for burning on domestic fires.

This year, Martin Bradley (who volunteers in the garden) asked if he could take last year's crop with him to the cemeteries of the Western Front battlefields in France. It is a visit he regularly makes with a group of friends. They

visit not only the famous monuments, like the Thiepval Memorial with over 75 000 names of the battlefield dead, but also the smaller cemeteries around Arras on the Somme. Here is Martin's report back:

“Just reporting back from the Western Front to say that we managed to 'plant' 99 poppy crosses (the ones used in last year's garden display) against the graves of Unknown soldiers in seven different cemeteries. Some at small ones in remote locations that had under 100 hundred burials, to some that had thousands of burials”.



I think this fine gesture ends Remembrance 2022 at St Martin's on a high note. We did well and We Will Remember Them wherever they have fallen.

Jean Wright

Alastair Watson

It is sad to report that Alastair Watson died suddenly in his garden on Friday. He was a Reader at St Martin's for many years before he moved his ministry to St Mary's Burgh Heath. He was a person of wide interests and an excellent prison visitor as well as supporting the mission of the Church in many ways. In his working life he was a local solicitor. Many of the older members of the congregation will remember him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Adrian Esdaile

Celebration of Life – Doreen Donohue

A Celebration of the life of Doreen Donohue who died on 27th October will be held at St Barnabas, Temple Road, Epsom at 4.30pm on Friday, 2nd December.

For catering purposes, please let Jane Donohue at janedonohue@hotmail.com know if you are coming. You are welcome to wear bright clothes. ***Chris Donohue***

Evening of Lights – 12th and 13th December

You are invited to come to one of the Evening of Lights when St Martin's will be lit with candles and the Christmas tree lights. These evenings offer a quiet space for remembering people close to you, and the opportunity to light a candle in their memory. We hope to be able to offer you a hot drink (tea, coffee or hot chocolate) before you leave. The dates are

Monday 12 December	6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.
Tuesday 13 December	6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

There will also be an Evening of Lights at St Stephen's, Langley Vale, on ednesday 15 December 6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

Inclusivity at Church – Diocesan pastoral team

Questions of identity, sexuality and relationships are no small matter. Each are subjects that can take a journey of a number of months or years - or a lifetime - to come to terms with.

The pastoral team was called together by Bishop Andrew to support LGBTI+ people and their families and close friends and to help them on this journey.

The pastoral team does not offer counselling but an ear to listen and a chance to pray with someone. Sharing the truth that Jesus loves and welcomes everyone and is trying to lead us all closer to him, the team will help individuals, couples, relatives and friends on a journey of understanding and discipleship.

It may be that someone feels lonely because they're the only gay person in their church, the only person with gender issues or they feel misunderstood; there are countless possible scenarios that the team are able to help with. In all cases they will point where necessary to further specialist help.

For all sorts of reasons clergy might feel it wise to point someone beyond the local church community for support. We can offer that support.

In the first instance I, Revd Stephen Cox (stephenj.cox@virgin.net) can be approached and after a conversation via phone or email, will put those enquiring in touch with the appropriate team member.

More details about how this team works, including the contact details, can be found under LGBTI+ on the Embracing Diversity page of The Diocesan Website.

We are not a campaigning group, and take a variety of positions on underlying ethical issues. Our shared aim is to assist all to grow in Christ and to find wholeness in Him.

Thank you.

Yours in Christ

Revd Steve Cox

Christmas Cards – On sale now



It is time to start thinking about Christmas! I have set up my display of Christmas cards, candles and Advent Calendars. Please buy now while I have good stocks. Once I have sold out of a particular design, I may not be able to get any more. I will also have a table at the Christmas Fair with all my remaining

stock for you to buy.

Everything will be on sale between now and Christmas especially in case you need that “extra” pack of cards!

Payment may be made in a variety of ways:

- Cheque: made payable to “The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom” (please either hand in to the office or place in the wall safe in church)
- Donation Station: contactless payments – please use the “Cards” button
- Cash: via the wall safe in church.

Every packet sold helps the church. Thank you for your custom.

Mary Holloway-Neville

STEWARDSHIP

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

For general and stewardship giving you can give online 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.



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.

FOODBANK NEEDS We urgently need:

Sugar - 500g bags
Custard
Gravy granules
Instant coffee - 100g jars
Chocolate spread
Dog food
Crisps (multipacks)

We would also appreciate any bags for life/very strong bags

Please, no more of these items: washing up liquid, pasta, pulses, non-dairy milk, peanut butter, baby wash.

Please use our supermarket donation points or bring donations directly to us at Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, behind West Ewell Primary School, Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG

We are open for donations Monday - Friday, 9am-2pm

Please ensure donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol.

Many thanks for all your support

MISSION OF THE MONTH – October 2022

HOME MISSION

The Church Homeless Trust

One in every 200 people are Homeless in England, a very high percentage of these are young. The Homeless Trust raises funds to help everyone in need regardless of their gender, sexuality, race or religion, working in conjunction with Churches and Communities. Their grants of up to £250 are awarded to individual homeless people to help them take the next step forward. They fund the courses, clubs, skills and projects required to help them gain the skills, self-esteem and confidence they need going forward.

Jill Chapman

MISSION ABROAD

Mission Aviation Fellowship

MAF is an international Christian organisation whose purpose is to bring help, hope and healing through aviation to people living in isolation and poverty. Every six minutes an MFA aircraft takes off or lands somewhere in the world. MAF transports people in the world who live in remote villages and assist missions, churches, aid development agencies and others working to transform the lives of communities that are cut off from the outside world.

Meg Topley

Sue Hyde collects and sends postcards to MAF – please leave any you may have in the ‘H’ pigeon-hole at the back of church.



Epsom Rotary Christmas Collections

Santa is back and will be visiting Epsom again this Christmas! Epsom Rotary Club and Tilly the Train will be helping Santa collect money for local charities. If you have been good, Santa may have something for you in his sack! All children in the areas below will need to keep ears pinned back for Christmas carols and eyes open to see Tilly lit up like a Christmas tree. Just see whether Santa has a gift for you.



Monday 5th Dec.	Wells Estate
Tuesday 6th Dec.	College Ward
Wednesday 7th Dec.	Livingstone/Horton
Monday 12th Dec.	Langley Vale
Tuesday 13th Dec.	Hookfield
Monday 19th Dec.	Mospsey Crescent
Tuesday 20th Dec.	Woodcote

Santa will start his visits at 5.30 pm
Watch him on his round at sleightracker.co.uk

Epsom Rotary is collecting for local good causes in Epsom and Ewell and we'd be grateful for your support.

You can see who we help on our web site epsomrotary.uk. Gifts can be made on-line or by text at any time, and by card or cash on the collection night.



If you are a wiz with your mobile then use the QR code to make a donation

Just go to justgiving.com/campaign/tilly22 and give us a few pounds and we will help local charities to survive in these difficult times or Text TILLY to 70450 to donate £5



Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

Sign up for Walk the Wey

**and help the vulnerable and disadvantaged in
our diocese**

Sponsored walk 7th January 2023

**(postponed from 8 October 2022 due to the
train strike)**

Bishop Andrew and Bishop Jo are inviting you to Walk the Wey to Guildford to help the vulnerable and disadvantaged in our diocese. The last walk raised £4,300 for the Bishop of Guildford's Communities Fund, which provides funds for parish projects that help the disadvantaged and vulnerable. They would love your help this year so that the Fund can support more community projects.

Bishop Andrew and Bishop Jo will be walking the Wey Navigation tow path on Saturday 7th January with walk options of 6 or 12 miles starting either in Godalming, West Byfleet or Send.

During the past year the Fund has provided funds to help, among others, St Martin's, Old Dean, Camberley launch a community breakfast scheme in an area of high deprivation, keep Andy's

Café at St Andrew's, Goldworth Park serving the community while it recovered from lockdown and set up a support group for new mothers at St Mark's, Great Tattenhams.

To find out more about the walk and how to donate to the Fund please [click on this link](#).

To register an interest in taking part contact claire.isherwood@cofequildford.org.uk giving your name, parish, mobile number and likely starting point.

Submitting an item for the newsletter:

Please ensure that all items are emailed to the office by close of play on Wednesday, to be included in the newsletter for that week. Thank you.

Parish Office:

Church House, Church Street, Epsom,

KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567

E-mail: office@stmartinsepsom.org

Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org

The Parish Office is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Please contact clergy and lay ministers via the office.