



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2023



Sunday begins the countdown to Lent, and the readings invite us to consider some of the themes coming up. The OT reading this week, from Isaiah, challenges the Israelites in exile, to examine their ritualistic, inward, worship and consider how it stands up against their behaviour towards each other.

We have embarked on a diocesan supported project to develop a growth plan for the next 5 years. Crucial to that will be to examine our worship in the light of our behaviours, and ask ourselves if our Church 'stands up' to the challenge of growth in spirit and numbers. Sarah, one of our Churchwardens, will tell us more at the 10am service.

Nick Parish

THIS SUNDAY 5th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's**
- 10.00am Sung Communion at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's**

Tuesday 7th February

11am Contemplative prayer in the Lady Chapel.

All are very welcome for an hour or so of led meditation and silence. The saying this month is from Isaiah 45.7 *'I form the light and create darkness.'* The same contemplative material is available on 'zoom' at 8 pm on 16th February - the 3rd Thursday evening in each month. Anyone who would like to join us please ask me for the 'zoom' link - 01372 723770. There is also a recording of it available later. **Adrian Esdaile**

Wednesday 8th February

- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**

NEXT SUNDAY 12th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

- 8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's**
- 10.00am Choral Mattins at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's**

Wednesday 15th February

- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**

Redundant Furniture and decluttering the Church

Last Saturday, with the help of a team of volunteers from the congregation, we managed to clear the accumulated rubbish and other odds and ends from the gallery in Church, and on Monday morning, everything that we had cleared was taken away in a skip.

So many thanks to everyone who participated in any way, including those of you had took away individual items on Sunday; it all helped to achieve the result.

The next stage of the decluttering project is to rationalise the redundant furniture in the church and dispose of or repurpose those items that we no longer need.

On the 08 March, the PCC will formally consider the list of the items they wish to dispose of; in advance of the PCC meeting, we have reviewed the list and have removed from it the wooden plaque to Muriel Harter; - that will now stay.

However, we have added to the list a second candle stand for tea lights, (identical to the first one) and two medium sized prayer desks.

The revised items of furniture that are under consideration are:

1. Four pew responds, that are currently stored by the north door and in the south transept,
2. A small oak table
3. A small prayer desk,
4. A small bookcase
5. 2 red chairs
6. Larger Prayer desk

7. The two medium sized hymn boards that were in front of the Georgian pews,
8. The two large hymn boards that were hung either side of the rood screen.
9. Three small hymn boards
10. Two medium sized prayer desks
11. Two candle stands for tea lights.

All these items, except for items 1 and 5, are stored in the space behind the choir stalls on the south side of the chancel.

If you would like to know more about our plans for these pieces of furniture, please do not hesitate to speak to the Churchwardens in the first instance.

As we need formal permission from the Diocese to dispose of these items, the PCC will be asked to formally resolve to petition for permission to do so at the meeting on the 08 March.

The Churchwardens

Sunday 5th February

Chorister Valediction at St Paul's Cathedral Evensong

We're delighted to share the news that one of our choir members, Dara, has completed his time as a treble chorister at St Paul's.

The valediction will be marked at the Cathedral Evensong on 5th February. Anyone who would like to attend is welcome to join us at this special service. To be seated in the quire by 2.45pm.

Thanks to everyone for the kind support and continuous encouragement given to Dara in his development as a church musician.

Dolapo & Banke



**Volunteers needed please -
– Communion at the
Beaumont**

We are still very short of people to take communion to the housebound. It is a wonderful privilege to be able to share this with them. It brings great joy. If you feel you

would like to join our small team can you please speak to the Vicar about it, via the Church office.

Please think of anyone you might approach too.

LENT 2023

A leaflet containing details of services and activities will be e-mailed to everyone, and some paper copies available in Church.

**New Radio 3 Programme from Peter Brathwaite:
Rebel Sounds - Musical Resistance in Barbados**

Opera singer, Peter Brathwaite, who gave a talk at St Martin's about his personal connection to our Brathwaite Memorial, visited Barbados last year where he recorded this fascinating programme on the music of Barbados. From plantation dances to Christian hymns and the discovery of some remarkable pro-enslavement propaganda songs, Peter talks to Barbadian historians and musicians to build up a picture of what the enslaved people's musical lives might have been. He also discusses the book John Brathwaite wrote about the management and treatment of enslaved people, and his contact with William Wilberforce. The programme is available on BBC Sounds: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tnwp>

Judith Mitchell

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.



MISSION OF THE MONTH - FEBRUARY

HOME MISSION - Epsom and Ewell Foodbank - PHAB

PHAB inspires and supports disabled and non-disabled children, young people and adults to make more of life together. PHAB reduces social isolation and creates opportunities towards that goal such as PHAB clubs in schools, holiday projects and many other activities in the community. These activities give many more disabled people regular social activities and friendship and widening the horizons of non-disabled and disabled alike.

ABROAD MISSION - The Leprosy Mission

Leprosy is still common in countries where poverty is rife and can lead to isolation and rejection from families and communities, despite being entirely curable.

There are ¼ million new cases 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 the Foodbank and take a look at the Display Boards at the back of Church. Thank you.

Jill Chapman and Meg Topley (Mission)

New Mercy Ships Display on St Martin's Mission Board Volunteers wanted. Please take a leaflet.

Please have a look at St Martins Church Mission Board which is located at the back of the church.

We have updated the literature which includes the award to Mr Don Stephens, Mercy Ships Founder, for a Lifetime Achievement Award. Presented by the Egyptian Minister of International Co-operation of Government, Rania Al-Mashat at the Opening of the GE7African Visionary Leaders Summit in Washington DC by African Dignitaries. The new Ship will be based in West Africa, Senegal and then Sierra Leone.

There are lots of volunteer opportunities for you to read about and and consider applying for, Good luck.

Peter and Julia White

FOODBANK NEEDS

We urgently need:

Cooking sauce (we have none)
Tinned Veg (we have none)
Instant mash (we have none)
Squash (we have none)
Longlife sponge puddings (we have none)
Rice pudding (we have none)
Tinned Fruit

Longlife fruit juice
Tinned Pasta/Beans with meat
Jam / honey / marmalade
Peanut butter
Sugar (500g bags please)
Shower gel
Washing powder
Nappies in the following sizes: 5, 5+ and 6+

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

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Ashtead Choral Society looks forward to their next concert on **Saturday 25th February at 7.30pm at St Martin's.**

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Vaughan Williams' birth, the concert features three of his best-loved works.

A Sea Symphony is set to the powerful and haunting poems of Walt Whitman. Orchestra, soloists and chorus combine throughout to evoke the dramatic and changing moods of the sea, and the voyages of ships under sail with their brave souls on board.

The Lark Ascending, performed by solo violinist **Christian Halstead**,

Five Mystical Songs for baritone solo and piano, complete the evening's programme.

We are pleased to welcome back **Kent Sinfonia** and soloists **Eleanor Pennell-Briggs** (soprano), **Philip Tebb** (baritone) and **Stephen Ridge** (piano).

The concert will be conducted by Musical Director **Andrew Storey**.

Tickets are £18 (half price for under 25s) available from:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ashteadchoralsociety>

Our final concert of the season will be on Saturday 13th May, again in St Martin's Church, with performances of **Carmina Burana** by Carl Orff and **The Armed Man** by Karl Jenkins.

MUSIC@STMARTIN'S

CONCERT SERIES 2023

Sat 21 Jan at 4.30pm

EPSOM COLLEGE MUSICIANS

Talented musicians from EPSOM COLLEGE present a show-case programme of solo and ensemble music guided by their inspiring teachers.



EPSOM
COLLEGE

Sat 11 March at 4.30pm

SIMON WATTERTON -PIANO

Described as a rising star in International Piano Magazine, Simon Watterton made his concerto debut at London's Cadogan Hall. He has also appeared at the Wigmore Hall and the Purcell Room and broadcast on Radio 3 and Classic FM.



Sat 1 April at 4.30pm

DE BEAUVOIR PIANO TRIO

Formed in 2019, this exciting piano trio explores music from a unique perspective, incorporating concepts from linguistics and literary studies to elevate their communication with one another and their audiences.



More information at www.stmartinsepsom.org
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX
Registered Charity No 1134149



Admission to the recitals is by donation. You can also use our QR code to support the series at any time.



EPSOM CHAMBER CHOIR

Guest conductor: Jack Apperley

Music for Passiontide

Buxtehude Membra Jesu Nostri

Anerio ♦ Sulpitia Cesis ♦ Lassus ♦ Lotti
Sarah MacDonald ♦ Paul Mealor ♦ Weelkes

with the Epsom Early Music Players

Saturday 25th March 2023 7:30pm

St Martin's Church, Epsom, KT17 4PX

Tickets: £16 in advance | £18 on the day | Under 18s Free

online www.epsomchamberchoir.org.uk | telephone 020 8672 5495 | text 07940 486163

SCAN TO
BOOK
ONLINE



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Charitable Trust

www.hrtaylortrust.org.uk

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.