

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2023



The second Sunday before Lent is also Creation Sunday. At some services the creation story from Genesis 1 will be read. All cultures have some sort of creation myth; humanity has a desire to know how all this started. Advances in scientific knowledge open up an ever more incredible story of the coming into being of our universe, and the development of life on our planetary home. The creator – that which began the process – is truly awesome.

Our Christian faith is in that creator we call God. And even more extraordinary is the idea that he/she/it (given the current debate) desires a relationship with you and I.

That is the gospel – the good news of how, In Christ, Creator and creatures are related.

Nick Parish

THIS 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 with refreshments available beforehand

Speakers: Revd Helen Burnett and Revd Vanessa Elston

Prayer, Protest and Pilgrimage - a Christian response to the Climate Crisis

The climate crisis can feel overwhelming, as we head for over 1.5° of global heating. With the failure of politicians to focus policy and regulation for a rapid and just transition away from fossil fuels - what is the role of the church? How are we called to act in such a time? Is there a role for public witness, protest and even civil disobedience?

Revd Helen Burnett and Revd Vanessa Elston are both priests within the Diocese of Southwark and members of Christian Climate Action. With CCA they have been engaging with protest, public worship, prayer and pilgrimage for the climate crisis alongside others of faith within Extinction Rebellion since April 2019. We will reflect theologically from our experience as well as looking forward to ask questions about the wider prophetic role of the church in being part of the change we need to see across every area of our society to meet the climate challenge.

Wednesday 15th February

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

**7.30pm CTiE AGM and Council Meeting
at Epsom Methodist Church**

NEXT SUNDAY 19th February – Last Sunday before Lent

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's

10.00am Sung Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Sung Evensong at St Martin's

Wednesday 22nd February ASH WEDNESDAY

10.00am Holy Communion service at St Martin's

Saturday 25th February

7.00pm Compline with Lenten reflection

In the Headley Room in Church House

LENT PROGRAMME

This has been sent via e-mail, and printed copies are available in Church this Sunday.

CTiE Update

The next **CTiE Coffee, Fellowship and Prayer Meeting** will be on Friday, March 10th at 10:00 to 11:00 am. We meet in an indoor reserved area within the Old Moat Garden Centre Café. The **Old Moat Garden Centre is in Horton Lane, Epsom.** [For its location, click here](#)



**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.

**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

General Maintenance – Church Office

The Church office will be closed on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February for general maintenance. Please email the office with any queries on these days. Thank you.

Redundant Furniture and decluttering the Church

A team of volunteers from the congregation 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. Many thanks to everyone who participated, 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 8th March, the PCC will formally consider those items they wish to ask permission from the diocese to dispose of/repurpose. Here us the list being considered; (note that having discovered more of this history the wooden plaque to Muriel Harter will stay. Also, 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 list:

Four pew responds,(currently stored by the north door and in the south transept). Plus:

1. A small oak table
2. A small prayer desk,
3. A small bookcase
4. 2 red chairs
5. Larger Prayer desk
6. The two medium sized hymn boards that were in front of the Georgian pews,
7. The two large hymn boards that were hung either side of the rood screen.
8. Three small hymn boards
9. Two medium sized prayer desks
10. 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 speak to the Churchwardens.

The Churchwardens

Volunteer Drivers for Medical Appointments

Age Concern Epsom and Ewell are looking for volunteer drivers to take older people from the Borough of Epsom and Ewell to medical appointments, or to visit family or friends in hospital or residential homes. We are experiencing a high demand for this service and really need more drivers to help us fulfil all the requests that we receive.

Volunteering is a great way to meet people and to support your local community, it can also improve your own happiness and wellbeing. If you are looking for a volunteer role which enables you to meet interesting people, help the older members of our community, and if you like driving then this could have the role for you!

This can be a regular weekly commitment or on an ad-hoc basis. A mileage allowance of 50p per mile is paid and we will need to undertake a DBS clearance for you.

If this role is of interest or if you would like more information, please contact Jane Hodgson, Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01372 728458 or by email jane.hodgson@ageconcernepsom.org.uk

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 consider applying for, Good luck.

Peter and Julia White

FOODBANK NEEDS

We urgently need:

Weetabix

Cooking sauce

Tinned potatoes, vegetables and fruit

Instant mash

Squash

Longlife sponge puddings, Rice pudding

Peanut butter

Female deodorant

Washing up liquid

Washing powder / tabs / pods

Toilet roll

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.

A prayer following the tragic events at Epsom College:

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that your loving presence may be felt in the community that has experienced this tragedy that claimed three lives. We pray that all pain suffered in the college and wider community this week and in the days to come, may be joined with the suffering of Christ upon the cross to work your redemptive power in the world.

May your love pour forth through the prayers, presence and service of your caring people to begin the healing process – especially we pray for the Chaplaincy team, particularly Andrew, senior Chaplain, and the specialist Police officers involved.. Heal those who have suffered mental injury. Comfort those who are grieving the loss of dear ones. Bind together the community in grace and faith. Send your helping angels and your life-giving Holy Spirit to bring comfort and peace in the midst of trauma.. In the name of Christ, your suffering servant, we pray. Amen.
(Karen Barber 2013, adapted)

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 Nostris

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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www.hrtaylortrust.org.uk

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

*Visions
of
Eternity*

Saturday 18th March 2023 at 7:30pm

St Martin's Parish Church, Church Street, Epsom KT17 4PX

Jonathan Dove | Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Arvo Pärt | Salve Regina

James Whitbourn | Son of God Mass

John Tavener | Svyati

Brahms | Geistliches Lied

Julian Collings | conductor

Peter Jaekel | organ

Kyle Horch | saxophone

Rebecca Hepplewhite | cello

Tickets: £16, £8 (students and U18s)

www.epsomchoral.org.uk/tickets

Box office: 01372 727078 or 07522 111219



Registered charity number 273757

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)



Press Release



“I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH”

Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future. Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on Friday March 3 2023 people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

For further information and resources, together with details of services in your area, see the WDP website: wwdp.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.



In the beginning,
God created the
heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

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