

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

EASTER SUNDAY 31st MARCH 2024



A friend of mine loves Good Friday as the crescendo of Holy Week – it resonates with his experience of the suffering and sacrifice that marks many lives. Easter Day? A sort of fairy tale happy ending that doesn't resonate with many lives? Does the resurrection story invalidate the earthy suffering and sacrifice of the preceding week? I prefer to see it as giving meaning to the sacrifice and suffering – not to diminish its reality and impact on us, but to affirm that it is not the last word on a life. “Easter is a time when God turned the inevitability of death into the invincibility of [life](#).” —*Craig D. Lounsbrough*.

I wish you a holy and blessed Eastertide. He is risen, alleluia!
Nick Parish, Vicar

DIARY

Sunday 31st March Easter Day

- 8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's
- 9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's
- 6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's

Tuesday 2nd April

11.00am Contemplative Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Martin's

As our starting point we are taking words from Joshua 1.5,6: *'I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and of good courage.'* The same material will be used for the 'zoom' meeting at 8pm on Thursday 18th April . Details to join zoom from me or from Alex Rennie.

Adrian Esdaile

4.00pm Centering Prayer

'Be still and know that I am God' Psalm 46:10

We meet in the Headley Room every other Tuesday to pray together, in silence, at 4pm, with coffee and biscuits from 3.45.

This is an invitation to join us. If you want, we will teach you Centering prayer, but you may already have your own practice. We begin with something to reflect on – perhaps a biblical passage or Psalm. After our period of silence, we might share something that we have noticed during our time together. Do Join Us – All are welcome. Any questions please ask Lynne Scholefield.

7.30pm – 9pm 'Being With' at St Martin's

Wednesday 3rd April

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

Sunday 7th April Easter 2

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

Sunday 14th April Easter 3

8.30am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion St Stephen's

10.00am Choral Matins

6.30pm Second Thoughts (with refreshments from 5.45 pm)

'Why schools ministry'? - Lisa Bell

'Spinnaker promotes wonder and learning in primary school children. Its mission is to inspire engagement with, and exploration of, the Christian faith. Working alongside schools and churches, we ensure that we stay relevant through the shifting priorities in society and education, whilst our mission has remained unchanged since 1986.

The Spinnaker creative team produce engaging Worship Assemblies and RE lessons accessible to all, whether delivered in person by a Spinnaker team member, other schools' worker or teacher; or via our videos and other digital content. We are passionate advocates of excellence in RE and Worship and seek to provide teachers, laypeople or home-schooling parents/carers with the tools they need.

During the talk I will look at why Spinnaker believe that Schools ministry is so important; what we are trying to achieve by ministering in schools, and how the local church can be involved in this important mission field'.

Lisa Bell is the youth and children's worker at Epsom Baptist, where she contributes to the spiritual growth and development of young minds. Born in the UK, Lisa's journey took an exciting turn as she lived in South Africa for three decades, immersing herself in diverse cultures and communities. With over 25 years of experience in schools ministry, Lisa brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that young people face today. Her commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive environment is evident in her role as the Spinnaker Epsom hub leader, where she leads and coordinates various activities and programmes.

Lisa holds a Bachelor of Theology (BTH) degree. Additionally, she has earned a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), underscoring her dedication to effective teaching and mentorship.

WANTED: BICYCLE!

Does anyone have an unwanted bicycle in their shed? George Imhanluobe, a Nigerian member of our congregation who is a student at UCA, needs one to get into Epsom every day. He is currently staying with us at Tattenham Corner.

If you can help, please get in touch with me or the Church Office.
Thanks.

John Padwick

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Prayer is the foundation of God's kingdom and one of the most powerful tools we have. It underpins everything we do. We can work as hard as we are able, generating lots of activity and exerting much effort in our discipleship and mission, but without prayer much is in vain. The gift of prayer is that all of us, however limited we may be physically, or in the time we have available, can play our part.

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Easter Day, Sunday 31st

May the choirs who give concerts at St Martin's and their audiences feel God's presence in our church. Those in our church family who now live elsewhere. Our borough libraries: their librarians, volunteers and those who use them. All who attend our churches and live in roads outside the Parish boundary.

Monday 1st

Our Vicar: Nick Parish, his wife, Yvonne and their family. Our Bishops: Andrew Watson and Paul Davies. The Chaplaincy Team at Epsom & St Helier Hospitals. Those living and working in Adelphi Road, Albert Road, Alexandra Road and Andrews Close.

Tuesday 2nd

Our Curate: Judith Mitchell and her family. Our Archdeacon: Martin Breadmore and the Guildford Diocesan Staff. Our Missions: The Medaille Trust fighting against modern slavery. Those living and working in Ash Mews, Ashdown Road, Ashley Road, Aston Way, Avenue Road and Axwood..

Wednesday 3rd

Our Priest-in-Retirement: Adrian Esdaile, his wife Jean and their family. Andris Abakuks, priest in the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, and his family. Our local public houses, restaurants and shops, and the staff who work in them. The Street Pastors giving help on Friday nights in Epsom. Those living and working in Barn Close, Baron's Hurst, Beaconsfield Place, Beaconsfield Road, Beech Road and Beech Way.

Thursday 4th

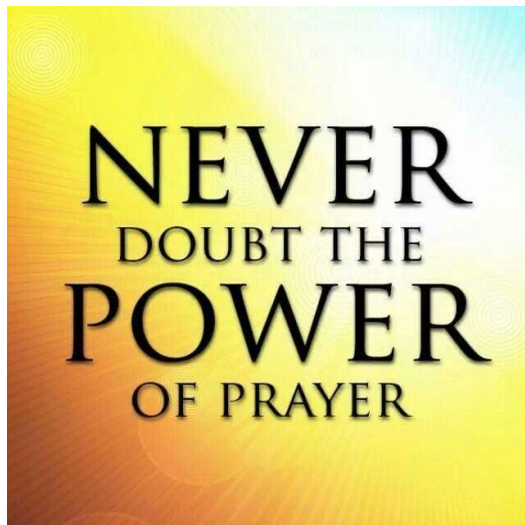
Our Lay Ministers: Ruth Foxcroft, John Padwick, Howard Bluett, Graeme Lodge. Guildford Cathedral, the Dean and Chapter. Our supported Missions: The Epsom and Ewell Refugee Network. Those living and working in Birches Close, Bridge Road, Bridle End, Bridle Road and Burgh Heath Road.

Friday 5th

Our Church Wardens: David Eggett and Sarah Lutton. For a successor to David. All users of Church House. Those suffering from drug or alcohol addiction and their families and friends. Those living and working in Burghfield, Caithness Drive and Carter's Road.

Saturday 6th

Our Pastoral Assistants: Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook. Our Area Dean: Rosemary Donovan. Our supported Missions: My Time for Young Carers. Those living and working in Cedar Close, Cedar Hill, Chalk Lane, Chalk Paddock and Chalk Pit Road.



MUSIC @ ST MARTIN'S

Saturday afternoons at 4.30pm.

Future dates for your diary:

20 April: Red House Rhythm and Blues Duo. The Revds Chris Hollingshurst and Danny Wignall, when not busy with their roles working for the Guildford Diocese, form a highly respected and entertaining musical duo.

11 May: Schubert Mass in G
performed by students of Epsom College.

25 May: Georgia Morse Piano Quartet. We welcome cellist Georgia back to the series, this time with fellow musicians for a concert of chamber music.

STEWARDSHIP

Giving to our Church

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.



MARCH MISSION FOCUS

HOME MISSION

The Medaille Trust—exists to provide refuge and freedom to victims of modern slavery-supporting them as they rebuild their lives. Today they are one of the largest providers of supported safe house beds for victims of modern slavery in the UK. In combating modern slavery by offering safe housing, providing support for victims, raising awareness in communities, and partnering with law enforcement authorities.

Jill Chapman, Mission

ABROAD MISSION

Wheels for the World - Through the Roof

Wheels for the World is a charity program that restores and distributes refurbished wheelchairs to disabled people in developing countries who cannot afford one. The charity sends a team of physiotherapists and occupational therapists to these developing countries to ensure the wheelchairs are fitted professionally and individualized to every wheelchair recipient. Wheels for the World provides life-changing mobility and the hope of the Gospel to people impacted by disability worldwide.

Meg Topley, Mission

FOODBANK WANTS LIST

This week we are in great need of all the following items:

Urgent- Squash
Urgent - Rice Pudding
Tinned Fruit
Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Meat
Male and Female Deodorant
Shampoo
Washing up Liquid
Washing Powder/Pods
Nappies size 2 and size 4

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.



Introducing a *Wild Church* for Spring 2024

St Martin's, Epsom and Christ Church Epsom Common invite you to:

Join us in exploring what a church that welcomes our other than human creatures we share our lives and community with might be like. Our first session will be on:

Saturday 20th April from 10am until
12noon at St Martin's, Epsom

We would like to encourage ways to relate to nature that develop our own contemplation of creation.

- *Creation* teaches us about our creator
- *Creation* can speak to us about how to care for life beyond ourselves, if we learn to listen
- *Creation* inspires awe. We would like to find ways to express that awe in authentic worship, music, and words



**Submitting an item for the newsletter:
Please ensure that all items are emailed to the office marked
'For Newsletter' in the title by
12pm on Wednesday, to be included for that week.**

**Parish Office:
The parish office is open from 9.30am – 12.30pm every
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
Church House, Church Street, Epsom,
KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567
E-mail: office@stmartinsepsom.org
Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org**

If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that you receive the newsletter and orders of service weekly, please email the parish office. Please contact clergy and lay ministers via the office.



He is
Risen