



**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

### NEW MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Stephen Hope joins us this Sunday as Director of Music – welcome, Stephen!



*'Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us'.*

Martin Luther

## DIARY

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May TRANSFIGURATION**

**8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's**

**9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's**

**10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's  
followed by the Annual Church meeting.**

The purpose of this meeting is to report on all the activities at St Martin's and St Stephen's during 2023 (it was a busy year!), to report on changes to the electoral roll and to show how we are doing on the financial front. It is also the time when we elect new members to the PCC and to the deanery synod.

**The meeting is open to all** and we hope that as many of you as possible will be there to contribute with your ideas, to ask questions and to support those who are nominated to fill any of our vacancies: Please consider carefully and pray about whether you can serve in any of these roles or can suggest someone else who might. If you want to know more, speak to Nick, the church wardens or any current PCC members. The vacancies are:

- 1x Churchwarden
- 3x PCC members for 3 years
- 1x PCC member for 2 years
- 2x Deanery Synod reps

Nomination forms will be available at the back of church.. The only restriction on joining the PCC is that you must have been on the Electoral Roll for at least six months.

**6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's\***  
**'Informed Prayer: Prayerful Action'**

**\*Second Thoughts - *Informed Prayer: Prayerful Action***

Carole Bourne Carole was Assistant Curate at St Martin's from 2002 - 2005. She has worked with other women most of her adult life, from "consciousness raising groups" in the 1970s, to WATCH, promoting the ordination of women as priests and bishops, and movements aimed at protecting and enhancing girls' and women's access to all forms of education, from primary to adult. In 2012 Carole retired from her parish and was asked whether she would join the National Committee of the Women's World Day of Prayer as the Anglican representative.

In September 2022, Carole became Chair of what is now the World Day of Prayer. She will reflect on the rewards and challenges of working for WDP and breaking the stereotype of WDP as "*the old ladies organisation.*"

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**7.45pm 'Being With' in Church**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

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

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May Pentecost**

**9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's**

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

**6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's**

### **Work on the west end terrace outside St Martin's**

During May, stonemason Chris Ansty will be working to replace the concrete steps (the central section within the handrails) in front of the main (west) door. Chris will also be repairing other specific areas of the terrace. There will still be access to the church from the terrace, but please be aware of any restrictions and take all possible care when entering and leaving the church.

***Sarah Lutton***

### **Churches Together in Epsom: Council Meeting**

You are warmly invited to attend and participate in the CTiE Council Meeting, to be held at St Joseph's Church on Wednesday May 22 at 20:00. [Please click here for the meeting Agenda.](#) Refreshments and Fellowship from 7.30pm.

### **A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips 2024 Calendar - May**

Say no to the mower. Mowing your lawn less and letting parts grow long saves you time and helps give nature a home. If you want to make an even bigger impact on wildlife, wait to mow your lawn or a section of it until August to support even more animals. Contribute to citizen science and get to know what (and who!) lives in your church's green space - sign up to take part in Churches Count on Nature (8-16 June 2024) at [caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churchescount-on-nature-faqs/](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churchescount-on-nature-faqs/).

**For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email: [arocha.org.uk/wild-christian](http://arocha.org.uk/wild-christian)**

## **Governor vacancy at St Martin's Schools – Volunteer role**

We want to hear from people who are interested in the education of children and giving back something to the local community. St Martin's Church of England Schools are looking for committed volunteers to join the Local Governing Body as Foundation Governors. The schools are members of Enlighten Learning Trust Multi Academy Trust, and the Local Governing Body fulfils the governance functions of supporting, challenging and holding school leaders to account for education standards. Our Foundation Governors play a vital role in preserving and developing the Christian character and ethos of the schools.

Governors are subject to clearance through DBS and adopt the ELT Governor Code of Conduct. As well as having St Martin's values at the heart of everything they do, Governors need to engage in relevant governor training, including safeguarding training. St Martin's Schools are committed to championing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and would like to be more representative of our community. We welcome interest from individuals regardless of background and identity who are able to support the maintenance of the Christian ethos at St Martin's.

Being a Governor is very worthwhile and rewarding, particularly in the changing world of education. To register your interest, please contact St Martin's Church Epsom - Nick Parish at [vicar@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:vicar@stmartinsepsom.org)

Please copy your email to the Clerk to the Governors

[tjones@stmartinsepsom.school](mailto:tjones@stmartinsepsom.school)

for an application form and information about the appointment process.

## **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:

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

Our Prayer and Healing Ministry: Contemplative and Centering Prayer. Those who work on our Website, Facebook and YouTube channel. Wheels for the World (Our Missions) and the Sunnybank Trust (based in Epsom). Those living and working in Downside, East Street and Elmslie Close.

### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

Our Church Development Plan: for Renewal and Growth. Those who read the Bible through the Bible Reading Fellowship notes and Didi Steck. Those living locally who are housebound and their carers. Those living and working in Farriers Road, Fyfield Close, Grosvenor Road, Grove Avenue and Grove Road.

### **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Our Mission and Evangelism Team. Our Church Finances and Our Treasurer. Our local MP Chris Grayling. Epsom and Ewell Borough Council: elected members and officers. Those living and working in Hambledon Hill, Hambledon Vale, Harding Road and Hawthorne Place.

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Our Discipleship and Fellowship Team. Our Premises and Gardens Team. The Emergency Services: Fire, Police and Ambulance. Those living and working in Headley Road, Heathcote Road, Hereford Close, High Street and Highridge Close.

### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Our Choir, and our vision for a new Worship Band. The growth of our Life Groups, Study Groups, WhatsApp Groups. Our Missions: Redress (justice against torture). Those living and working in Hillcrest Road, Hook Road, Hylands Close, Hylands Road, Jackson Close and Kilcorral Close.

### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Our Livestreaming Team led by Rob Jeffrey. Our Sacristans and chalice assistants: Mary Holloway-Neville; and Fred Etheridge at St Stephen's. University of the Creative Arts, Laine Theatre Arts staff and students. Those living and working in Kiln Lane, Kingsdown Road, Laburnum Road, Ladbrook Road, Leighton Way and Leith Road.

### **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

Vocations to Ministry, ordained and lay. Churches Together in Epsom: Russell Holding (Chair); Revd Judith (Secretary). Our Missions: AMECA (for Malawi, Epsom based). Those living and working in Langley Close, Langley Vale Road, Links Road and Lintons Lane.

## MUSIC @ ST MARTIN'S

**Saturday afternoons at 4.30pm. Future dates for your diary:**

**11th May: Schubert Mass in G.** This charming and youthful work is performed by some of the talented musicians from Epsom College. Accompanying the College's Chamber Choir is the String Orchestra and organ played by the College's Organ Scholar.

**25th May: The Amantine Piano Quartet.** We welcome cellist Georgia Morse back to the series, this time with fellow musicians to perform quartets by Brahms and Faure.

**22nd June: The Plaegan Piano Trio** performing Ireland and Beethoven

## THE POWER OF POETRY: MAY

This month: a poem by D H Lawrence, mainly known of course for his novels and which you may know at least by reputation. He was known too for travel writing, essays, letters and plays. He was also a prolific poet, though many of the thousand poems he wrote were not regarded highly, and the selection I have in front of me numbers just 150. A few are quite well known, e.g. *Snake* ("A snake came to my water trough..."), and I came across *The North Country* many years ago and was struck by the rhythm of the poetry which – particularly if read aloud and with due regard to the punctuation – reflects the insistent rhythm of machinery and



industry. This poem is *Pax* (peace). It describes a comfortable cat relaxing before a fire, and Lawrence's description is a metaphor for contemplation and for being fully in the presence of God. For some, such an experience can be fearful, but here, with the image of the relaxed cat luxuriating in the warmth, we are encouraged to be at one with God, and at home in His presence. You will notice Lawrence's use of repetition throughout.



*All that matters is to be at one with the living God  
to be a creature in the house of the God of Life.  
Like a cat asleep on a chair  
at peace, in peace  
and at one with the master of the house, with the mistress,  
at home, at home in the house of the living,  
sleeping on the hearth and yawning before the fire.*

*Sleeping on the hearth of the living world  
yawning at home before the fire of life  
feeling the presence of the living God  
like a great reassurance,  
a deep calm in the heart,  
a presence  
as of the master sitting at the board  
in his own and greater being,  
in the house of life.*

The idea of reassurance, which we so often need in our lives, and of calm is very comforting, as indeed are many of the words selected by Lawrence - asleep, peace, at one, and so on. As far as the cat is concerned though, I suspect any contemplation would be of mice!

***Mary Gilbert***

## **FOODBANK WANTS LIST**

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

Urgent - Jars of cooking sauce  
Urgent - Instant Coffee  
Urgent- Longlife Sponge puddings  
Urgent- Sanitary Towels  
Weetabix  
Tinned Meat (Hot dogs, Meatballs, Ham, stew etc)  
Tinned Pulses  
Jam  
Chocolate Spread  
Mayonnaise  
Powdered Milk  
Shower Gel, Shaving Foam, Washing Up Liquid  
Toilet Rolls, Nappies size 6

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.

# 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.



## MISSION FOCUS - MAY

### AMECA (Alex's Medical & Educational Clinic in Africa)



Ruth Markus, whom many will know from previous visits to St Martin's, founded AMECA in 2006 in memory of her son. It focuses on delivering healthcare and training in Malawi, where

facilities, professionals, equipment and medicine are scarce and travel distances prohibitive. The aim is for long term

sustainability across a variety of ventures and projects, partnering with existing structures and other organizations.

Community engagement is strong and AMECA has a proven track record of making efficient use of funding to transform lives in Malawi and respond to urgent

need. See <https://www.ameca.org.uk> for further details.

***Alexander Rennie, Mission & Outreach***

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

St  
PB

**Summer 2024**

**SPEAKER | CONVERSATION | LUNCH**

**Wed 1 May | Does God Love Lawyers? | James Wakefield KC**

**Wed 5 Jun | God and Gaza - Christian Perspectives on the  
Middle East | Revd Canon John Salter**

**Wed 3 Jul | Can Faith be Fashionable? | Simon Ward**


**Welcome & Coffee 11:30am | Talk 12pm**

**Lunch 1pm | Finish 2:30pm**

**Charge £10**

**Book your place at [saintpauls.co.uk/foodforthought](https://saintpauls.co.uk/foodforthought)**

St  
PB



# AMECA

[www.ameca.org.uk](http://www.ameca.org.uk)

## 'An Evening with AMECA'

Ruthie Markus, CEO & Founder and Consultant Surgeon, Mr Paul Thomas, Medical Director of AMECA, speak about the charity's work in Malawi and the challenges of healthcare delivery.

TIKHALE NDI ANA OCHEPA KUTI TITHE KUWASAMALIRA, TILELE.



NDI UDINDO WA ABAMBO KUWALIMBIKITSA AMAYI ZAMALELEDWE.

With guest Right Hon. Chris Grayling MP

7pm to 9pm, Thur 30 May 2024, Ewell Hall,  
7 London Rd, Ewell, KT17 2AY.

£12 per ticket includes wine and nibbles.

Contact Barb Warwick : [barb.warwick@virginmedia.com](mailto:barb.warwick@virginmedia.com)



**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](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org)  
Website: [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://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.**