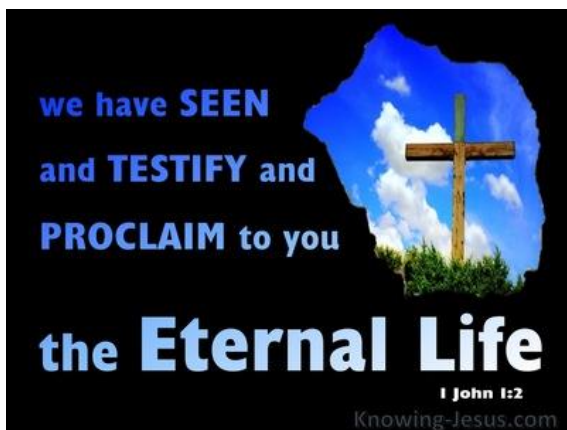




**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**



The writer of 1 John begins his letter by saying, '*what we have seen we declare to you.*' As we are bombarded with political cliches in the election campaign it is easy to be starved of

a sense of conviction from the candidates. Lots of statements, slogans, dogma and theories, but little testimony. Someone conveying their experience is so powerful, their compulsion to share it more so. We must share our experience of God, our conviction of the power of the Holy Spirit, with our community. This is how the Church grows.

**The Vicar**

## DIARY

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June Easter 3

9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall.

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's

### Tuesday 18th June

4.00pm Take Time to Talk is CANCELLED.

We will meet again on **Tuesday 2nd July** for Take Time To Talk: 'Eucharist, Holy Communion, The Lord's Supper, The Blessed Sacrament ...' Whatever you call it, how do you understand the Eucharist? What part does it play in your life?

Following a short introduction to the topic we will reflect, talk, and listen, remembering that in this sort of exploration, questions are more important than answers.

### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

### Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

8.00pm Contemplative prayer group (on Zoom).

The saying for this month is from Ezekiel 37.5: *Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.* Details for the zoom meeting can be obtained from me.

**Adrian Esdaile**

### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

4.30pm Music @ St Martin's Recital (see poster)

## **Sunday 23rd June Refugee Sunday**

**9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall**

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

**- guest speaker: Rev'd Rosie Hoad**

**6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's**

### **St Stephen's Church**

Structural engineers have made their initial assessment of the damage to the frame of the front wall and have identified wet rot as the cause of the problem. Further investigation will be needed to ascertain the extent of the damage and what repairs may be necessary. We are consulting with the diocese and our insurers regarding next steps.

Meanwhile, our friends at the Village Hall are happy for us to use their facilities on a Sunday morning, so we can resume our normal pattern of worship at 9.30am, each Sunday.

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any particular concerns, or more details on what has led to the problem.

***Nick & Sarah***

## **March for Nature, London, Saturday 22nd June - join me for a church service.**

This march, supported by groups including The Wildlife Trusts, The RSPB, The Climate Coalition, Chris Packham, WWF-UK, National Trust, WWT, Woodland Trust and Rewilding Britain, is aiming to be a really big gathering. It takes place in London and is a family-friendly, legal march to demand that UK politicians show strong domestic and global nature and climate leadership. There will be a strong Christian presence, including A Rocha UK, Christian Climate Action, Green Christian, Operation Noah and other groups, and these are organising a service at 11am at Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, 114 Mount St, Mayfair, London, W1K 3AH, which includes a children's outdoor nature-based church. Do join me by coming to the service (and the march, if you wish) - you'll need to sign up for a free ticket at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/creation-cries-out-service-and-march-for-nature-tickets-891545124467?aff=eand> with love, Helen Williams.

## **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Bring & Share Lunch to celebrate Judith's ordination**

There will be a sheet at the back of church to add your name to if you're coming to the lunch. There will also be a list of items of food and drink, so please tick something that you can bring for sharing.

***Maureen & Sarah***

## **My Ordination as Priest at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

As you know, I will be ordained Priest at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. The service will start at 10.30 am, and those attending are asked to be in their seats by 10.15. The order of service will be available from the Cathedral website from <https://www.guildford-cathedral.org/events/diary/2024-06-29/the-ordination-of-priests> the Wednesday before. Those attending the service are encouraged to download or print the order of service beforehand. There will be a few copies available in the Cathedral, but in line with their Eco-Cathedral work they are reducing the amount of printing they do. The service will also be livestreamed for those who are unable to attend in person through the Cathedral's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj-VCu6tLZXfvG21GfwP4Wg>

It has been a wonderful journey to reach this stage, and I am grateful for all the support and prayers you have given me on the way. I will be on retreat at St Katharine's, Parmoor, near Henley on Thames from Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>, so please continue to pray for me and for my fellow ordinands as we travel towards this final stage towards our priesting. And I very much look forward to being with you and presiding at my first Eucharist on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> and sharing lunch together afterwards. ***Revd Judith***

## **Notice – Temporary Road Closure**

Please find the below information regarding light refurbishment works on Church Street, Epsom. We will be replacing the fire station traffic control lights (wig-wag signals) outside the fire station.

**Road Closed 17<sup>th</sup> June For 2 nights 8pm – 6am  
And Temporary traffic lights 17 June For 10 days (excluding weekends) 9.30am – 4pm**

Sometimes our plans must change, often due to bad weather or problems on other works in the same programme which can have a knock-on effect. If anything changes with the details of these works, we will let you know.

You can also find up to date details of the works on [www.surreycc.gov.uk/roadworks](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roadworks)

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on 0300 200 1003 or email [works.communication@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:works.communication@surreycc.gov.uk).

Kind regards  
**Surrey Highways**

## **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 prayers this week:

## **Sunday 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.

## **Monday 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.

## **Tuesday 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.

## **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

Our Home Communion Team and those to whom they take Communion. Our Flower-Arranging Team: Yvonne Parish. Staff at local Citizens' Advice Bureau, Age Concern and Job Centre. All those seeking their help and/or in need of work. Those living and working in Longdown Lane South, Longdown Road, Lynwood Avenue, Lynwood Road, Mannamead, Mannamead Close, Middle Close and Middle Lane.

## **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>**

Our Deanery Synod: Howard Bluett. Our Eco Church Team: Helen Williams. Our Missions: A Rocha. Those living and working in Milburn Walk, Mill Road, Millers Copse, Milton Gardens and Mospey Crescent.

## **Friday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Our vision and work for Social and Racial Justice. Our Readers and Intercessors. Local schools and nursery schools. Those living and working in Oak Hill, Oakmead Green, Old Barn Road, Pikes Hill and Pine Hill.

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

All who offer welcome and hospitality and serve refreshments at our churches. Those to be married in our churches. Our Missions: Mercy Ships. Those living and working in Pitt Road, Portland Place, Prospect Place, Providence Place and Randolph Road.

**Sunday 21 July 3pm** (*refreshments from 2.30pm*).

## **Lecture: 'Renewal and Reconciliation: The Codrington Reparations Project'**

We welcome Revd Dr Duncan Dormor to give our third annual Brathwaite Memorial Lecture. Duncan is the General Secretary of USPG (the United Society Partners in the Gospel), formerly known as SPG (the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts).



In 1710, SPG received a bequest from Sir Christopher Codrington of two estates on Barbados. The estates totalled 700 acres and included a population of enslaved African men, women, and children. SPG owned and ran the estates until 1838. One of those involved in the running of the estates was John Brathwaite, who later acquired the freehold of a house in Epsom and lived there with his niece Mary Ashley (hence Ashley House, Ashley Road and the Ashley Centre). John Brathwaite is buried in a vault at St Martin's and, as we know, his memorial has been the subject of much pain and controversy over the past few years.

Between the years 1712 – 1838, the Codrington Estate was managed as a plantation business. Although conditions improved towards the end of this period, the use of the whip 'in the field' was not abolished until September 1829. (U)SPG's stewardship of the Codrington Estate ended in 1983.

Last September, when USPG announced The Codrington Reparations Project, Duncan gave the following statement:

*"USPG is deeply ashamed of our past links to slavery. We recognise that it is not simply enough to repent in thought and word, but we must act, working in partnership with Codrington whose descendants are still deeply impacted by the generational trauma that came from the Codrington Plantations".*

USPG explains further on their website: *Though USPG has long been engaging critically with its past including a substantial amount of research into Codrington, we are aware that it is not enough just to offer an unreserved apology. It must be more than*

*mere thoughts and words. As an organisation that is committed to championing justice, we seek to honour the command in 1 John 1: 6-7 and move now towards honest reparative action.*

*"If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." 1 John 1:6-7*

The project is planned to last 10-15 years and will include four areas of work in collaboration with the descendants of the enslaved: community development and engagement; historical research and education; burial places and memorialisation, and family research. USPG has pledged 18M Barbadian dollars – equivalent to approximately £7M – to be spent in Barbados to support this work. The Codrington Trust suggested the sum of money for the project and USPG accepted it without dispute.

The Most Revd Howard Gregory, Primate of the Church in the Province of the West Indies said:

*"It is our hope that, through this reparations project, there will be serious reckoning with the history of the relationship between The Codrington Trust and USPG, but also a process of renewal and reconciliation that will be healing of the pain of the past."*

Please come along to hear about this important project and encourage your friends and others to come too. There will be time for questions and discussion afterwards.

***Revd Judith***

## **Fundraising Concert at St Martin's**

Stephen Hope, our new Director of Music, brings his Sussex Festival Choir and the Sinfonua da Chiesa to St Martin's on July 21st in a programme of choral masterpieces: Mozart's Exultant Coronation Mass and Haydn's charming Great Organ Mass. A fabulous array of soloists including Glyndebourne star Gillian Ramm and Sussex favourite Susan Legg will be one of the highlights of this performance which starts at 7.15pm.

Stephen founded this event 20 years ago to raise funds for the wonderful Hospices which receive so little funding other than from private and public donations. Amongst a galaxy of stars, Dame Felicity Lott and Sir Willard White have given their services, along with all the orchestral players involved. This has enabled all the money raised through tickets and raffles, to be given to St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley and Princess Alice Hospice in Esher. So far, we have been privileged to raise in excess of £190,000.

We welcome you all to this great evening to support these amazing institutions which give so very much to our communities with loving and flawless care.

Tickets are £20 and £15, concessions on the door or in advance or from Stephen 07770 392067. Website: Sussex Festival Choir

## FOODBANK WANTS LIST

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

Urgent- Jars of cooking sauce  
Urgent- Instant Mash  
Urgent- Long life Sponge puddings  
Packet soup  
Chocolate spread, Chocolate, Crisps  
Urgent- Toilet rolls  
Female Deodorant, Shaving Foam  
Washing powder or pods  
Baby toiletries (shampoo, body wash etc).

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.

## THE POWER OF POETRY: JUNE

Henry Vaughan, 1622-95, was a physician who lived, like George Herbert (see February's poem), in the tumultuous years of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Unlike Herbert though, Vaughan lived through the Civil War, the execution of King Charles I, and the Restoration in 1662. His contemporaries thought little of his poems. But, to quote from *A History of English Literature* by Emile Legouis and Louis Cazamian, some "are pure gold". Vaughan's own country, Wales, inspired in him a love for nature. After a serious illness his poetry was mainly religious.

This poem is about his longing to understand the meaning of death and where those he loved are. His thoughts of those are “fair and bright” in contrast to his initial sadness. In the fourth verse he speaks of hope, humility and God, and later acknowledges that it is God who has let him remember so clearly the time when those he mourns were alive, and he states his longing to be in Heaven too. Many of us have probably had similar thoughts when feeling bereft and alone.

*They are all gone into the world of light!  
And I alone sit ling'ring here;  
Their very memory is fair and bright,  
And my sad thoughts doth clear.*

*It glows and glitters in my cloudy breast  
Like stars upon some gloomy grove,  
Or those faint beams in which this hill is drest,  
After the sun's remove.*

*I see them walking in an air of glory  
Whose light doth trample on my days:  
My days, which are at best but dull and hoary,  
Mere glimmering and decays.*

*O holy Hope! And high Humility.  
High as the heavens above!  
These are your walks, and you have show'd them me  
To kindle my cold love.*

*Dear, beautiful Death! The jewel of the just,  
Shining nowhere, but in the dark;  
What mysteries do lie beyond thy dust  
Could man outlook that mark!*

*He that hath found some fledged bird's nest, may know  
At first sight, if the bird be flown;  
But what fair well or grove he sings in now  
That is to him unknown.*

*And yet as angels in some brighter dreams  
Call to the soul, when man doth sleep:  
So some strange thoughts transcend our wonted themes  
And into glory peep.*

*If a star were confin'd into a tomb,  
Her captive flames must needs burn there;  
But when the hand that lock'd her up, gives room,  
She'll shine through all the sphere.*

*O Father of eternal life, and all  
Created glories under thee!  
Resume thy spirit from this world of thrall  
Into true liberty.*

*Either disperse these mists which blot and fill  
My perspective still as they pass,  
Or else remove me hence unto that hill,  
Where I shall need no glass.*

**Mary Gilbert**

## STEWARDSHIP

### Increasing our Giving Income

We hope to grow our giving by 10% this year. If you are a regular giver, thank you, and please could you see if you are able to increase your gift. If you are not yet a regular giver, please consider becoming one. It's easy!

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.





GUILDFORD  
CATHEDRAL

**TICKET • £28**

a contribution from  
each ticket goes towards  
the upkeep of the Cathedral

**tickets and menu**

[www.guildford-cathedral.org](http://www.guildford-cathedral.org)

# SUMMERTIME **BLUES**

An evening with  
**RED HOUSE**  
and special guest  
*Matthew Hollingshurst*

An evening of good music,  
passion, humour and  
delicious food.

**21 JUNE**  
**7pm**

*(doors at 6.30pm) in Seasons Cafe*





# Music @ St Martin's

## The Plaegan Piano Trio

Saturday 22nd June - 4.30pm

Beethoven's 'Archduke' Trio was named in honour of Archduke Rudolph, son of Emperor Leopold II and a pupil of the composer.



This dramatic and sublime chamber work is rightly one of Beethoven's most popular. Sharing the platform with this wonderful music is an equally inspiring Trio written 100 years later by English composer John Ireland.

### **John Ireland – Phantasie Trio Beethoven – Piano Trio Op. 97 'The Archduke'**

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



[www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org)  
ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX  
Registered Charity No 1134149





## **Managing Biodiversity in Epsom Common**

Come and listen to Stewart Cocker, Countryside Manager for Epsom & Ewell Borough Council who will be talking to us about how Epsom Common is managed, protected, and enhanced. There will be time for Q&A at the end.

**Wednesday June 26<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm,**  
**Epsom Methodist Church**  
**Ashley Road KT18 5AQ**  
Refreshments served before event

The Eco-church groups in Epsom would like to invite you to this event.





# Holiday at Home

3 days of summer fun!

at

Epsom Methodist Church

Mon 29th July, Wed 31st July, Fri 2nd Aug 2024

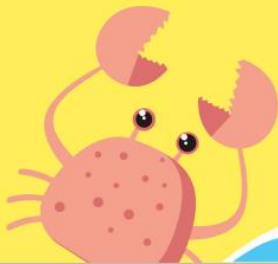
10.30am - 3.45pm

We invite you to join us on our fantasy holiday, stopping off in India, spending a day on board our cruise ship and ending our exciting adventure in Egypt!

Each day includes morning coffee, a delicious lunch, afternoon tea, crafts and entertainment.

The cost of this event is £10.00 per person per day or £25.00 for 3 days.

Please contact the EMC office on 01372 728535 or email [belonging@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:belonging@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk) if you are interested in attending.



**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.**