



**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2024**



Today, as we mark Refugee Sunday (following World Refugee Day on Thursday), we have the opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a welcoming and inclusive church. How do we share Christ's love with others, especially with those who are forced to flee their own homes?

On this day, it is a joy to welcome to St Martin's, friends old and new. At our 10 am service we welcome back Revd Rosie Hoad, who served her curacy here thirty years ago, being ordained deacon in 1994 and priest in 1995. Thanks to Rosie and her cohort who led the way, I and thousands of other women have been encouraged to follow our vocations. Then at 12 noon we will formally welcome into the Church at their baptism ceremony Finn and Jack, two recent members of the Ark, as they begin their Christian journey.

**Revd Judith**

## DIARY

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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

**12 noon Baptism of Finn and Jack**

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

### **Tuesday 25th June**

**4.00pm Centering Prayer**

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

A small group of us meet every other Tuesday at 4pm, at the back of church, to pray together, in silence. Tea and biscuits from 3.45pm. If you would enjoy some time for silent prayer with others, please come along. 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.

### **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

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

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June Peter and Paul**

**9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall**

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

**Bring and Share Lunch**

**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***

## **My Ordination as Priest at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 29 June**

As you know, I will be ordained Priest at Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 29 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 26th, 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 30th and sharing lunch together afterwards. *Revd Judith*

**Bring & Share Lunch to celebrate Judith's ordination –  
Sunday 30 June:**

If you are planning to come and haven't yet signed up, please sign the list at the back of church this Sunday and tick a food or drink item you are able to bring to share. This will help us greatly with all the arrangements. Thank you. *Maureen and Sarah*

**Notice – Temporary Road Closure**

Please find 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.

**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 daily prayers this week:

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Our Electoral Roll Officer: John Aronson. Our Church Cleaners. Local doctors' surgeries. Those living and working in Richmond Close, Rosebery Avenue, Rosebery Road, Sadlers Way and South Street.

### **Monday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Those recently confirmed and their growing relationship with God. Preparation for future baptism and confirmation. All who enter St Martin's in the week and pass through our garden. Church Army

(supporting and empowering those most in need in UK and Ireland). Those living and working in Spencer Close, Squirrels Way, St George's Gardens, St James' Close, St Martin's Avenue and St Martin's Close.

### **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

The Vale School: children, parents, the Co-Heads, staff And Governors. Scouts (especially our 3rd Epsom (St Martin's) Scout Group), Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies and their leaders. Local refuse collectors, those who deliver the post and other items. Those living and working in Station Approach Stevens Close, Strand Close, Sunnybank, and The Grove.

### **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>**

Our 'Second Thoughts' programme on the second Sunday at 6.30 pm. Education and training in the Parish and future courses. Our Missions: PHAB (bringing together disabled and non-disabled to create an inclusive world). Those living and working in The Hayes, The Oaks, The Parade, The Ridge, The Ridings, Tintagel Close and Treadwell Road.

### **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>**

All involved in planning and leading Family services. Christian Aid and its annual collection in May and the projects it supports. Local prisons and their chaplains: Downview and High Down. Those living and working in Upper High Street, Victoria Place, Warren Hill and Waterloo Road.

### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup>**

All who are bereaved and grieving, and local funeral directors.

Our young people and teenagers – our vision for the future. USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel). Those living and working in Westgate Close, Wilmerhatch Lane and Wimborne Close.

### **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>**

All parents and toddlers. Users of Langley Vale Village Hall: Sean Porter. Care and nursing homes in the Parish. Those in sheltered housing. Those living and working in Woodcote Close, Woodcote End, Woodcote Green Road, Woodcote Hurst, Woodcote Park Road and Woodcote Side.

**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, beauteous 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:



## **Jesus said: “You are the Light of the World” [Mt 5:16]**

This year All Saints' church clock is 200 years old.



Originally, the large clock-face that looks out onto the High Street was lit from inside the church tower. It shone like a beacon signposting local people to faithful worship and praise inside the church. Over time, the light has gone out.

To mark the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the clock and as a pledge of our continuing commitment to be a light in the community pointing to the glory of God, we're going to fit new LED lighting so the clock will shine out onto Bloxwich High Street again.

Installing low-energy LED lights will cost about £1,200. To raise funds, on 21<sup>st</sup> June I'm riding my bike all the way to Aberdovey on the Welsh coast. It's 120 miles – so I need to raise £10 per mile! Will you support me? If so, you can give in cash, by cheque or online – visit our donations page using the web link or QR code below. Thank you – you are truly the 'Light of the World'

*Rev David Candlin: Rector, All Saints Bloxwich*

<https://givealittle.co/c/lZs7GrWeLd6rjfQCgQZUJ>



# 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

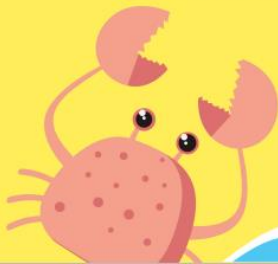
10.30am - 3.45pm

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.**