



**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**



Having been ordained Priest, our curate, Judith, will lead our communion service for the first time today. The journey to ordination can be a long one, but if God is calling you to a particular ministry in the Church, please talk to someone about it.

The Church is a movement of people, and God calls each of us to a 'me-shaped' role on the journey.

***The Vicar***

## DIARY

### **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**

followed by a Bring and Share Lunch

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

### **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

**4.00pm Take Time To Talk**

(tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church)

**– 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. Everyone is welcome to come along - just turn up. If you want to know more, please ask me.

*Lynne Scholefield*

### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

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

**11.00am Ministry Team meeting**

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

**7am onwards – Church House is in use as a Polling Station**

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July Trinity 6**

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

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

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

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July Second Thoughts - an earlier time, a different place!**



July's Second Thoughts will be led by Mike Mullins of Soul Rewilding. Amongst other things, Soul Rewilding aims to help us discover an older story to reconnect us to sacred nature. Nature, the wild, has always been the primary setting of the journey to the divine and soul.

"The Life of Gaia - A meditative walk on the life of mother earth" will take place by the willow trees by the pond in Rosebery Park. Please arrive by 4.20pm so that we are ready to start at 4.30pm. We should finish by 6.20pm, giving us time to go back to church for tea, cake, reflection and conversation.

Mike Mullins is a leadership coach and spiritual retreat facilitator. His background is in Catholic mysticism and psychology. Mike runs retreats on a range of themes, from finding the divine in the

margins of life, masculine spirituality, spirituality and personality difference, to the ineffable nature of the divine. For Mike the key to rewilding the earth, to reversing biodiversity loss and the effects of climate change, is a spiritual challenge. How do we understand, love and treat all nature as sacred, as an expression of the divine?

Please ask Revd Adrian or Helen for more details.

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

Structural engineers, having established the damage to the frame of the front wall is due to wet rot, will soon be conducting further investigation to ascertain the extent of the damage, what repairs may be necessary and the cost of those repairs. We will make sure we keep everyone updated as we know more.

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

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***

## **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 30<sup>th</sup>**

Epsom College, staff and students: Chaplain Andrew Haviland. May all who enter our churches find peace and welcome. Epsom & Ewell Foodbank (Our Missions) and the Leprosy Mission. Those living and working in Wootton Close, Worple Road, Wyeths Mews, Wyeths Road, Yeomanry Close and Yew Tree Gardens.

### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup>**

Our Vicar: Nick Parish, 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 2<sup>nd</sup>**

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 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Our Priest-in-Retirement: Adrian Esdaile, 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 4<sup>th</sup>**

Our Lay Ministers: Clive Dougal (emeritus), Ruth Foxcroft, John Padwick, Howard Bluett, Graeme Lodge. Our Cathedral: Guildford Cathedral, the Dean and Chapter. Our 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 5<sup>th</sup>**

Our Church Warden: Sarah Lutton and for someone to join her as the second Church Warden. 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 6<sup>th</sup>**

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

## **DATES COMING UP**

**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**

**Also on 21<sup>st</sup> July, at 7.15pm: Fundraising Concert**

Stephen Hope, our new Director of Music, brings his Sussex Festival Choir and the Sinfonua da Chiesa to St Martin’s 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

### **Churches together in Epsom**

CTIE is planning the return of the PASSION PLAY on Good Friday 2025 Anticipating the Passion play we are beginning to plan the event.

Involvement of all of the congregations from all the churches in Epsom would be very welcome If you feel you would like to be involved in the PASSION PLAY, whatever role, please contact Meg Topley.

## **FOODBANK WANTS LIST**

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

### **Urgent-**

Cooking Sauce, Rice, Tinned Vegetables  
Sugar, Tinned Fruit, Dried Noodles (not pot or instant)  
Tea (we have none), Squash (we have none)  
Long life Sponge puddings (we have none)  
Powdered Milk, Crisps, Adult and Children's chocolate  
Conditioner, Female Deodorant (we have none)  
Washing Powder or Pods, Washing up Liquid  
Shower Gel, Shaving Foam  
Custard, Rice Pudding  
Ketchup (we have none)  
Mayonnaise (we have none)  
Nappies 6+ and 4  
Hand wash (pump)  
Household cleaning products  
Baby toiletries (shampoo, body wash etc)

Strong shopper bags and bags for life

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:





# Holiday at Home

3 days of summer fun!

at

Epsom Methodist Church

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

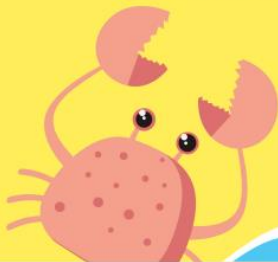
10.30am - 3.45pm

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.**