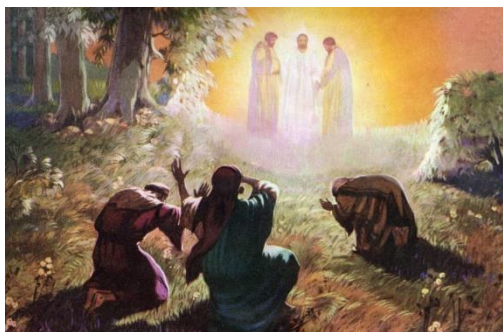




Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 4th AUGUST 2024 : TRANSFIGURATION



Today we remember when Jesus took two disciples with him to the top of the mountain and they witnessed the supernatural. Firstly, they saw him shining like the sun; secondly, they saw two long -

dead people appear and talk with him.

Was this to show them that he was really divine, and his humanity was a pretence? That the same had been true for Moses and Elijah? If so, they were the victims of a con! No, rather it was to reassure them that he wasn't only human, that he was full of glory, and that whatever happened in the next few months, he would emerge triumphant. Moses and Elijah, key figures in their history, represented freedom from slavery and the divine power over evil. In Christ, their – our – humanity will be set free from the power of evil to destroy, and will be raised in glory. Alleluia.

Nick Parish

DIARY

Sunday 4th August THE TRANSFIGURATION

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Season of the Saints 1: The Transfiguration

An evening service for the feast day at St Martin's

Tuesday 6th August

Contemplative Prayer Group

The Group meet on Tuesday 6th August in the Lady Chapel at St Martin's and our starting point will be from Psalm 46.10 *Be still and know that I am God.* It is interesting that the Group and the Centering Prayer Group have both entirely independently chosen the same saying from Psalm 46. It is an absolutely fundamental text for contemplative purposes. All are very welcome - and also to the zoom meeting at 8 pm on Thursday 15th August.

Adrian Esdaile

Wednesday 7th August

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

Sunday 11th August

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 Season of the Saints 2:

Mary Sumner, founder of the Mothers' Union.

Tuesdays in August

Both Centering Prayer meetings and Time to Talk are taking a summer break in August. We will reconvene with Centering Prayer on **Tuesday September 3rd at 4pm.**

Wishing everyone a restful and fulfilling summer holiday.

Lynne Scholefield

Charity Concert

The concert in St Martin's on Sunday 28th July given by the Sussex Festival Choir was a joyful occasion. Joined by soloists and orchestra and conducted by Stephen Hope, the choir gave uplifting performances of choral masses by Mozart and Haydn to an audience that filled the building. The event raised an impressive £3,000 for Princess Alice and St Catherine's Hospices.

Sarah

Brathwaite Memorial Lecture and Update on our Plans

It was a joy, on 21st July, to welcome Revd Dr Duncan Dormer, General Secretary of USPG, to give our third annual lecture connected to the contested heritage at St Martin's. He spoke on: USPG's Renewal and Reconciliation: The Codrington Reparations Project.

Unfortunately, we didn't capture the whole talk on the live-stream. Duncan has agreed to provide us with the transcript of his talk so that those who weren't able to attend it will be able to read it.

If you weren't at our 10 am service or watching it online, do look at the Notices section of the YouTube video of the service, starting from 1.15.20 where Duncan introduces USPG and the Project.

For now, here is the update report regarding our Contested Heritage which I presented to the PCC::

“On 2 May 2024 members of the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee), including stonemason Chris Anstey, as well as Archdeacon Martin Breadmore and Revd Folli Olokose, visited St Martin’s to look at the Brathwaite Memorial in situ. They recommended that, instead of fitting a new stone memorial into the narrow space available, the best memorial to commemorate the enslaved would be a work of art, created by a Barbadian artist. We are encouraged to receive this positive recommendation from the DAC, as it gives us the opportunity to work together to create something that will truly represent the enslaved and bring them imaginatively into the sacred space of our church where previously their voice has not been heard. The DAC also recommended that our proposed information panel (including the QR code) be in the form of a permanent fixture in the church near to the memorial.

Looking further ahead, St Martin’s will hold a Memorial Service to commemorate the lives of those who were enslaved on the plantations associated with John Brathwaite. This will be in conjunction with Peter Brathwaite and the wider Brathwaite family. The service will take place at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 25 March, the United Nations’ International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Bishop Paul has confirmed his support and participation in this service. This, together with our work on the new memorial, is part of St Martin’s outreach with the wider community, especially those who are personally impacted by the injustice of past enslavement.’
Please put the date in your diary. ***Revd Judith***

St Stephen's Church

We are still waiting to hear from the structural engineers when they will come to complete their investigations of the damage to the building. Please get in touch if you have any particular concerns, or more details on what has led to the problem.

Nick & Sarah

St. Martin's Schools - 50 year celebration

St Martin's school is celebrating its 50th year next academic year. We would like to hear from anyone that went to the school or has any memories associated with the school. Perhaps you, or someone you know, attended the school when it first opened? We would be interested in any stories or anecdotes individuals have. If they would like to share these with the school, we invite individuals to contact the school via email using the following address: kbarrow@stmartinsepsom.school

Many thanks in anticipation, **St. Martin's Schools, Epsom**

COFFIN CLUB RETURNS!

The Brigitte Trust are excited to be bringing back our Coffin Club series this September!

Every Monday morning from 9th September to 14th October, we will be joined by a different speaker in the beautiful setting of Clandon Wood Natural Burial Ground to discuss topics such as funeral planning, the role of a soul midwife, wills and lasting power of attorney, and more. The sessions will each run from 10AM to 12PM, and there is parking available on site.

Come along for as many of the six sessions as you'd like- you can join us for just the one, or you can get involved with all six! They are free to attend and open to anyone. If you're interested in attending, please visit our Eventbrite collection page here;bit.ly/3zZUND5 You can also book your place through our Service Coordinator Sarah Pattenden at sarah.pattenden@brigittetrust.com or on 07469932192.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Brigitte Trust team

AUGUST MISSION – REDRESS

The Redress mission is an international organisation dedicated to deliver justice and reparations for survivors of torture, challenge impunity for perpetrators and advocate for legal and policy reforms to combat torture. The vision of REDRESS is a world without torture.

Please see the display boards in Church for more information

Ride and Stride Day

It is now less than three months until the annual sponsored Ride & Stride day on **Saturday, 14th September**. Of the monies raised 50% is returned to the nominated church and the balance distributed as grants to maintain or improve the fabric of Christian places of worship. The Trust has an unprecedented amount of money available to distribute as grants which can be up to £3,000 per church. When considering applications, the Trustees look more favourably on those who have shown support for the Ride & Stride. We would like your support on the day: this could range from providing people to visit other nearby churches and chapels,

providing refreshments for your visitors, just having the doors open for visitors to look inside or merely putting a signing in sheet on the outside door. I am attaching a poster, sponsorship form, a list of Surrey churches (including some which are now in Greater London) and a Visitor Register; other information and documents can be found on the website:

<https://www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org/ride-stride/>

Colin Quemby, Area Organiser.

020 8642 3720k



CTIE is planning the return of the PASSION PLAY on Good Friday 2025. 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.

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 4th

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.

Monday 5th

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.

Tuesday 6th

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.

Wednesday 7th

Our Parish Manager, Church Administrator and Facilities Officer. Those baptised in our churches, past and future, and their families, godparents and sponsors. Swail House and those who are sight impaired. The deaf and hard of hearing. Those living and working in Chantry Hurst, Chartwell Place, Church Road and Church Street.

Thursday 8th

Our Parochial Church Council – officers and members. Our Children’s Church: The Ark – Sarah Jeffrey, the children, the parents and volunteers. The Mission to Seafarers and Mission Aviation Fellowship. Those living and working in Chuters Grove, Clayton Road, College Avenue and College Road.

Friday 9th

Our Director of Music: Stephen Hope. Our Organist: Iain Macfarlane. Our Welcomers: Sarah Lutton and the Team. The physical, mental and emotional well-being of the people of Epsom and Langley Vale, local mental health units and Love Me Love My Mind (Our Missions). Those living and working in Copse Edge Avenue, Delaporte Close, Denham Road and Depot Road.

Saturday 10th

St Stephen’s Church: its life, worship and mission to Langley Vale. Safeguarding in our churches: creating and sustaining a safe welcoming inclusive space for everyone. The Bible Society, Spinnaker Trust (Our Missions) and all those teaching RE locally. Those living and working in Digdens Rise, Dirdene Close, Dirdene Gardens, Dirdene Grove and Dorking Road.

FOODBANK WANTS LIST

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

Cooking Sauces
Dried Noodles (not pot or instant)
Long Life Juice
Tinned Potatoes
Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Meat
Pulses
Sugar
Honey
Biscuits
Long life Sponge puddings
Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise

Urgent- Male Deodorant
Urgent- Shower gel
Urgent- Washing Powder
Washing up Liquid
Nappies 5, 6+ & 7

Strong shopper bags and bags for life

Use our supermarket donation points or bring donations to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, behind West Ewell Primary School, Ruxley Lane, Ewell . KT19 0JG.

THE POWER OF POETRY: AUGUST by Mary Gilbert

This month, I have chosen John Betjeman for a lighter offering. He became Poet Laureate in 1972 and was very popular (except with inhabitants of Slough who for some reason took exception to *Come friendly bombs and fall on Slough...*). He is remembered for his role in saving St Pancras Station from demolition, was a founder member of the Victorian Society, made several documentaries for the BBC, was a stalwart member of the C of E, and loved Cornwall, East Anglia, churches, suburbs and much else besides.

Betjeman had a great sense of place in his poetry, making the suburbs for instance or the countryside or seashore come alive, often tinged with nostalgia. I think of lines like

*“ ...To see the whistling bent-grass on the leaside
And then the tumbled breaker-line appear,
On high, the clouds with mighty adumbration
Sailed over us to seaward fast and clear
And jellyfish in quivering isolation
Lay silted in the dry sand....” (East Anglian Bathe)*

But here is *Hymn*, a slightly ironic dig at the sometimes insensitive “restoration” of churches. I can almost hear Betjeman’s distinctive voice when I read it. The poem uses the same metre as a hymn which I am sure you will recognise as soon as you start to read*. So, “Sing on with hymn uproarious...”!

*The Church's restoration
In eighteen eighty-three
Has left for contemplation
Not what there used to be.
How well the ancient woodwork
Looks round the Rect'ry Hall,
Memorial of the good work
Of him who plann'd it all.*

*He who took down the pew-ends
And sold them anywhere
But kindly spared a few ends
Worked up into a chair.
O worthy persecution
Of dust! O hue divine!
O cheerful substitution,
Thou varnishéd pitch-pine!*

*Church furnishing! Church furnishing!
Sing art and crafty praise!
He gave the brass for burnishing,
He gave the thick red baize,
He gave the new addition,
Pull'd down the dull old aisle,
To pave the sweet transition
He gave th'encaustic tile.*

*Of marble brown and veined
He did the pulpit make;
He ordered windows stained
Light red and crimson lake.
Sing on, with hymns uproarious,
Ye humble and aloof,
Look up! and oh how glorious
He has restored the roof.*

**The Church's One Foundation*

And, by the way, what **is** an encaustic tile?

MLG



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:



Epsom and Ewell Party in the Park - Saturday September 21st 2024

We would love you to be part of our Party in the Park - take a stall at our Party!. Epsom Rotary will be celebrating 100 years helping the community in the Epsom area this year. We kick off the centenary year by working with Epsom and Ewell Borough Council to run a party for all the family in Rosebery Park.

We will have a range of partners such as The Ashley Centre, The Business Improvement District, Epsom Hospital Radio and others. See our Website as we update the list of companies and charities joining in!! Our website and communications will be updated regularly so you can see the support we are getting. We will have:

- Music performed by local bands and singers
- Dancing by local dance groups
- Family picnic area
- Food stalls (Variety of styles including Thai)
- Local Charity Stalls with cheap or free games for the children
- Epsom Hospital Radio as music hosts

If you would like to take part in this venture then please let us know. Look on our website for up to date information and booking forms at <https://epsomrotary.wixsite.com/partyinthepark>

Clive Richardson, Epsom Rotary



“More Food Banks in UK than McDonald’s”

Elmbridge Multi-Faith Forum invites you to learn about the urgent and growing need for food banks and the role of faith communities in addressing this issue

TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER
7 PM FOR 7.30 PM START
HERSHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
7 QUEENS ROAD, HERSHAM, KT12 5LU
PARKING AVAILABLE ON SITE

SPEAKERS:
NINA MAYLON, WALTON AND
HEERSHAM FOOD BANK
ALEX MUNRO, COST OF LIVING, EBC
RABBI KATH/SARFRAZ, MITZVAH
SADQA DAY

Refreshments from 7 pm; All welcome



Please confirm attendance:
Kawther.Hashmi@smef.org.uk



 www.elmbridgemultifaith.org.uk



make lunch SUMMER 2024

Pull up a seat, you are welcome!

Where?

St Barnabas Church, Temple Road
KT19 8HA, Epsom

When?

The sessions start at 11:30am and
finish around 1:15pm.

30th July

6th August

13th August

20th August

27th August

What?

Our free sessions help you to
answer the 2 big questions most kids
have during the holidays: “What are we going
to do today?” and “What’s for lunch?”

At your local **Make Lunch Club** you’ll get to
meet a friendly team of volunteers, who make
sure that there’s plenty of food and
fun activities to go around.

Book at www.stbarnabas-epsom.org.uk/makelunch

St
PB



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.**