

St Martin of Tours

Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs

Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2024



We celebrate All Saints and All Souls this Sunday, rejoicing in the communion of all disciples, living and departed, in one eternal family.

DIARY

Sunday 3rd November ALL SAINTS

- 9.30am Holy Communion at
Langley Vale Village Hall**
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Annual Memorial Service at St Martin's**

Tuesday 5th November

11.00am Contemplative Prayer Group

The Group will meet on Tuesday, 5th November, at 11 am in the Lady Chapel at St Martin's. Our starting point will be from St John 12.32: *'I, when I am lifted up.. I will draw all people to myself.'* Anyone who would like an hour or so of led meditation and contemplation will be very welcome. There will also be a session on 'zoom' on Thursday, 21st November at 8pm. Details from me.

Adrian Esdaile

4.00pm Take Time To Talk (tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church).

'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour' Luke 1v46-47.

For our second session on Mary, mother of Jesus, we will be exploring the Magnificat. This is what Mary says when she meets her cousin Elizabeth, and hears her greeting. Do come along and join us.

Lynne Scholefield

**7.30pm Being With Course –
Exploring Christian Faith and Life**

We will meet at the back of church from 7.30 to 9pm. Please email revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org if you would like to come along. **Revd Judith**

**Wednesday 6th November
10.00am Holy Communion**

Sunday 10th November REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

- 8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 9.30am Remembrance service at
Langley Vale Village Hall**
- 10.45am Remembrance service at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's:
'The Beauty and the History of Stained Glass'**

Philippa Martin trained at the Reigate School of Art and became assistant to Lawrence Lee before becoming a stained glass artist in her own right - her work can be seen in St Nicholas' Cranleigh, Redhill Methodist Church, the MCC Museum at Lord Cricket Ground and Guildford Cathedral amongst many others. Philippa will bring with her some of the tools of her trade. **Adrian**

St Stephen's Update

At the recent PCC meeting a variety of possible options for St Stephen's were discussed in detail. It was decided that the next step would be to meet with the congregation and community of St Stephen's and extend the discussion further. Judith will be talking to the congregation after this Sunday's service of Holy Communion.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 3rd

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.

Monday 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.

Tuesday 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.

Wednesday 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.

Thursday 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.

Friday 8th

Our Parochial Church Council – officers and members. Our Children's Church: The Ark – Sarah Jeffery, 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.

Saturday 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.



Christmas Fair – Goods and Helpers needed

Please start collecting items for the Christmas Fair. We need the following:

Bottles for the Bottle Tombola, Jigsaws and Games
Unwanted presents, Jewellery, Christmas Decorations ,
Craft items, Chocolate for the Chocolate Tombola,
Books.

Because we have limited storage in Church please keep the items until nearer the time and there will be a box at the back of the Church.

The Christmas Fair this year is being held on November 30th from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

We need as many people as possible to help even if it is only an hour or two as it means the stall holders can have a break. If you can possibly help, please contact Sarah, Nancy or me so that we can keep in contact. maurensuatt@virginmedia.com

Maureen Suatt

Christmas Tea and Carols, 8th December 2024

This is a reminder to put the date in your diaries now. The Christmas Tea this year will take place on **Sunday 8th December 2024 from 3pm – 5pm** in the Church.

There will be sandwiches, mince pies, Christmas cake, chocolate cake etc, and of course tea and coffee. It will be followed by the singing of carols round the grand piano. Do please support us.

Tombolas at the Christmas Fair

Please start collecting items for our tombolas.

We need bottles of every sort (soft drinks, oil, wine, sauces etc) and lots of chocolate.

Maureen, Nancy and Sarah



Christmas cards and calendars

Now that autumn is here and we are beginning to look towards Christmas I have set up my display of cards, advent calendars and candles.

There are a wide variety of cards both in design, size and cost, in packets of 10 or 20 cards. There are also a lots of Advent Calenders which come with their own envelopes in case if you wish to post them.

The Christmas candles come in their own container with a variety of nativity scenes.

Payment may be made in a variety of ways:

- Cheque: made payable to “The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom” (please either hand in to the office or place in the wall safe in church)
- Donation Station: contactless payments – please use the “Cards” button
- Cash: via the wall safe in church.

I will keep all items topped up but once a design has sold out I may not be able to get any further stock. Please ask me if you are looking for something in particular.

All profits for the sale of items goes to help the church.

Thank you for your custom.

Mary Holloway-Neville

Coffee Helpers

I am about to compile the coffee Rota for 2025 and it would be lovely to have some new volunteers. At the moment we each serve the coffee about every 6 weeks and it is a good way to get to know other members of the congregation. If you would be willing to join us please speak to me or Sarah Lutton.

Maureen Suatt

FOOD BANK

This is the list of most needed items for the Foodbank:

Rice (Microwave), Cooking Sauces, Packet Soup

Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Potatoes

Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise

Long Life Milk, Instant Coffee, Powdered Milk

Squash, Long life Juice

Custard, Chocolate/Sweet treats

Long life Sponge puddings - **we have none**

Honey/Jam/Chocolate Spread

Crisps, Cereal bars, Sugar (500gr)

Deodorant (Male & Female), Adult Toothbrushes

Tampons, Loo Roll

Washing Powder, Washing Up Liquid

MUSIC @ ST MARTIN'S

New Autumn Season

Saturday afternoons at 4.30pm. Admission by donation.

2nd November - Crispian Steele-Perkins (trumpet) with Ian Le Grice (organ)

From Biblical fanfares to TV tunes, this virtuoso trumpeter demonstrates the instrument's extraordinary range.

7th December - Fumi Otsuki (violin) & Gisela Meyer (piano)

This duo offer an intriguing mix of well-known and less familiar composers, among them Faure, Elgar, Grieg, Arvo Pärt and Elena Kats-Chernin.

VOICES, WIND AND BRASS RING TO THE RAFTERS

This Autumn, St Martin's will resonate with the sound of voices, wind and brass when Epsom Chamber Choir perform two settings of the Catholic Mass, one by romantic Bruckner and the other modernist Stravinsky, both accompanied by wind and brass ensemble. In addition, the choir will give the first performance of a commission of Psalm 19, "*The heavens declare the glory of God*" by Peter Burton and The Chameleon Arts Wind Ensemble will perform Jonathan Dove's "*Figures in the Garden*".

Remembrance in Troubled Times

Saturday 9 November 2024, 7.30pm, St Martin's Church

Fauré *Requiem* | Haydn's *Nelson Mass* & *Little Organ Mass*

We live in a fragile world with war and conflict afflicting the globe from Europe to Africa and the Middle East. As we approach Remembrance Day, Ashtead Choral Society presents a concert which features in its first half Haydn's tempestuous Nelson Mass, recalling past troubled times of an 18th century Europe dealing with the rampant Napoleon. The second half of the concert moves into the early 20th century with Fauré's deeply moving Requiem dedicated to those individuals who have given their lives to protect our values and way of life which remain under threat.

Ashtead Choral Society has a keen focus on community collaboration and this concert is presented in support of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024. After the interval the ACS will welcome the, Barbara Warwick, Chair of Epsom & Ewell Royal British Legion, who will read the Kohima Epitaph before the Last Post sounds, leading us into Fauré's reflective and poignant Requiem with the Kent Sinfonia. Last year, Epsom & Ewell donated over £60,000 to the Poppy Appeal and a retiring collection will aim to help the Royal British Legion exceed that amount in 2024. This is set to be a very special evening, at a very special time, in remembrance of very special people.

Booking may be made here: [Upcoming Performances of Ashtead Choral Society](#) | www.ashteadchoralsociety.org.uk

NOVEMBER MISSION FOCUS

Our mission partner for November is Love Me Love My Mind. This is a small registered charity based in Epsom which aims to promote better understanding of mental health and to support the wellbeing of everyone in the community. It is run entirely by volunteers and funded by grants and donations.

The charity has just held its 17th annual Epsom Mental Health Week, and is running free art and craft activities for children at Epsom Social. Love Me Love My Mind will open its regular Monday drop-in as a Warm Welcome Space on Monday 4th November at St Barnabas Church. The charity also has a volunteer gardening group at a local care home.

Our vision - the world we want to see:

- A world of stable climate and abundant nature, where oceans, rivers, air and soil are free of human pollution.
- Where human society lives in balance with the rest of nature and protects the Earth's natural systems which sustain all life
- Where all people and communities have access to healthy nature locally
- Where the Church worldwide understands the biblical mandate to care for all of God's creation as a core part of its mission and manifests this how it treats its land, buildings, investments and other assets.

- Where Christians play their full role, in collaboration with others, to protect and enhance the diversity and abundance of life on Earth, and to restore and maintain the health of our planet's life sustaining systems
- And where, through Churches and Christians adopting a right relationship with the rest of Creation, others are drawn to a closer, life-giving relationship with our Creator God.

THE POWER OF POETRY – NOVEMBER

November, and in this Anniversary year of D-Day, two for the price of one! I have chosen first *The Life that I have* – not so much for the poem itself but for the story behind it. Leo Marks wrote it after Ruth, with whom he was in love, was killed in a plane crash in 1943, but it is its subsequent history which is more interesting. He worked for the SOE during the Second World War as a cryptographer, revolutionizing the code-making techniques of the Allies and training agents including many preparing for D-Day. (See *Between Silk and Cyanide* by Marks.)

The agents had to master the encryption of their messages and each agent was required to choose a poem, unique to him/her self, and learn it by heart. One agent, a woman who volunteered following the death of her husband in action, had trouble remembering her poem. So Marks gave her his poem, relatively simple to remember and relevant to the agent's own grief, making it perhaps easier for her to recall. That agent was Violette Szabo, later captured, tortured, taken to Ravensbrück and executed in 1945.

*The life that I have
Is all that I have
And the life that I have is yours.*

*The love that I have
Of the life that I have
Is yours and yours and yours.*

*A sleep I shall have
A rest I shall have
Yet death will be but a pause.*

*For the peace of my years
In the long green grass
Will be yours and yours and yours.*



LEO MARKS

We do not always remember the many men and women who worked secretly behind enemy lines, always in danger. We are more likely to remember the soldiers, sailors and airmen who died

in action, and in honour of them, particularly the soldiers of WW1, I also include this month a more typical war poem, *Anthem for Doomed Youth* by Wilfred Owen, 1893-1918:

*What passing-bells for those who die as cattle
Only the monstrous anger of the guns,
Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle
Can patter out their hasty orisons.*

*No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells,
Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs, -
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells,
And bugles calling for them from sad shires.*

*What candles may be held to speed them all?
Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes
Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes.
The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall,
Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,
And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.*

In this, Owen shows the awful and daily realities of battle and its futility as these young men were slaughtered “like cattle”. Despite the horrors of two World Wars the evil still goes on fuelled by hatred, love of power, desire for vengeance. We have examples today of major conflicts in Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, Iran, Lebanon, but there are also very many elsewhere in our troubled world. There may sometimes be reasons to fight – in defence, to save others (e.g. the holocaust victims). Nevertheless, at this season of Remembrance, let us pray for peace.

Mary Gilbert

STEWARDSHIP

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 CHORAL SOCIETY

VERDI
REQUIEM

arrangement for chamber ensemble | Betzner-Brandt

Saturday 23 November 2024 at 7:30pm

St Martin's Church, Church Street, Epsom KT17 4PX

Elizabeth Findon | Soprano
Judy Louie Brown | Mezzo-soprano
John Findon | Tenor
Mark Nathan | Baritone

Julian Collings | Conductor

Tickets: £20 (Under 25s half price)

Ticket price includes free programme and glass of wine

Box office: 01372 727078



EPSOM
CHORAL
SOCIETY

Registered charity number 273757

**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.**