



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2024



DIARY

Sunday 17th November

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at
Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's – *guest preacher is
Ven Martin Breadmore, Archdeacon of Dorking.*
- 6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's

Tuesday 19th November

- 4.00pm Take Time To Talk – what is your favourite
inspirational song or piece of music? (tea and biscuits from
3.45pm in church).

Last time we focused on Mary's Magnificat. Worship often includes music and singing.

So we were wondering what are our 'go to' songs or pieces of music. What are yours?

We're going to share our favourites - either with the actual music from YouTube or

by bringing the words for a sing along!

Do come and join us if you can.

Lynne

- 7.30pm Being With Course –
Exploring Christian Faith and Life
(please note it is the last session in the series).

Wednesday 20th November

- 10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 24th November

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

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

Jean Esdaile's Funeral

Adrian and the family would like to thank you for all your support and messages. The Service of Thanksgiving is planned for Tuesday 26th November at 12 noon followed by refreshments in Church House. All will be very welcome.

Remembrance service





St Martin's was full for our annual service of commemoration. We were delighted to welcome large numbers of beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers of the 3rd Epsom (St Martin's) Scout Group who were on parade along with members of Epsom College's ACF and CCF.

Wreaths were laid by the Deputy Mayor Robert Leach together with representatives of groups including the Burma Star Association and the

Surrey Freemasons. Complementing the flower arrangements was a display of decorative poppies made by the beavers and cubs.

Update on St Stephen's

At a meeting last Sunday, PCC members took the decision to repair the gable end of St Stephen's so that the building can be used again. An emergency faculty was granted swiftly by the Chancellor of the Diocese and Rob, Chair of the Fabric Committee who is leading the project, has requested work to begin as soon as possible. We are also starting to investigate the

possibility of developing the building so that it can be used by the community as well as for worship.

A consultation is now underway to find out views on St Stephen's and how we may grow our ministry in Langley Vale. You may well have received an email with a link to the consultation survey, but if you haven't you can find it here: www.stmartinsepsom.org/consultation

The Long Journey to Bethlehem – the stories within the story of Matthew Chapter 1
December 1st, 15th and 22nd, 4pm-6pm in the Headley Room

Come and join us on our Advent course this year. We are exploring the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the very beginning of the New Testament and full of surprises!

Session 1 – the stories of Christmas you might not know.

Session 2 – who are the men and women mentioned in Jesus's ancestry?

Session 3 – how will the promise be fulfilled – a virgin birth, dreams and angels!

Lots to discuss, all are welcome.

John Padwick, Lynne Scholefield

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 17th

Our Livestreaming Team led by Rob Jeffrey. Our Sacristan Mary Holloway-Neville and chalice assistants. 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.

Monday 18th

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.

Tuesday 19th

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.

Wednesday 20th

Our Deanery Synod: Howard Bluett and John Padwick. 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.

Thursday 21st

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.

Friday 22nd

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.

Saturday 23rd

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.



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. maureensuatt@virginmedia.com

Cakes for the Christmas Fair

Please bake some cakes for the cake stall at the Christmas Fair. It is our most popular stall and often sells out early, so the more cakes we have the better. They can be brought either on Friday or Saturday 29th/30th November.

Joan Gabbett

Jewelry and Unwanted gifts

Please sort out all those gifts that you have never used and the jewelry that you no longer wear and donate it to the Christmas Fair. It can be left at the office during the week or in the box at the back of Church.

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 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.



Christmas cards and calendars

we are beginning to look towards Christmas! I have set up my display of cards, advent calendars and candles in St Martin's.

There are a wide variety of cards both in design, size and cost, in packets of 10 or 20 cards. There are also a 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

FOOD BANK

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

Cooking Sauces

Packet Soup

Beans

Pasta with meat

Brown sauce

Mayonnaise

Instant Coffee, Powdered Milk

Squash, Long life Juice
Chocolate/Sweet treats
Long life Sponge puddings
Honey/Chocolate Spread
Crisps
Sugar (500gr)

In October we supported 570 people, 242 were children.

MUSIC @ ST MARTIN'S

Saturday afternoons at 4.30pm. Admission by donation.

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.

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

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.*

We don't always remember the many who worked secretly behind enemy lines, always in danger. We're more likely to remember the soldiers, sailors and airmen who died in action, and in honour of them, particularly the soldiers of WW1, 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.*

Owen shows the awful realities of battle and its futility, as these young men were slaughtered “like cattle”. Despite the horrors of two World Wars evil still goes on fuelled by hatred, love of power, desire for vengeance. In Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, Iran, Lebanon, and many elsewhere. 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

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH
CHRISTMAS
Fair

FREE
ENTRY

30TH NOVEMBER

FROM 10 AM TO 2 PM

CRAFTS,
GIFTS &
FOOD

MODEL RAILWAY,
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES,
GIFTS, CARDS, BOOKS, CDS,
HOMEMADE CAKES, BBQ
AND MORE!

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM. KT17 4PX



St Martin
of Tours
Epsom

Charity no. 1134149

**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.**