



**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**

# **JESUS CHRIST, OUR KING**



## DIARY

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November CHRIST THE KING**

**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**

### **Tuesday 26th November**

#### **12pm 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.

#### **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 20<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00am Holy Communion**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December ADVENT SUNDAY**

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

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

**4.00pm Advent Study Group in Church House**

**6.30pm Advent Carols at St Martin's**

**Tuesday 3rd December**

**Contemplative Prayer Group**

The Group will meet at 11am in the Lady Chapel at St Martin's on Tuesday 4th December - our starting point will be ideal for the beginning of Advent. From Isaiah 55.1: '*...my word .. shall accomplish that which I purpose*'. All are welcome who would like an hour or so of silence and led meditation and contemplation. The same material will be used on 'zoom' on Thursday evening at 8pm on December 19th - details from me.

***Adrian Esdaile***

**Take Time To Talk – what is your favourite inspirational song or piece of music?** - postponed from November 19<sup>th</sup>

(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***

## **The Long Journey to Bethlehem – the stories within the story of Matthew Chapter 1**

**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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***

### **From Darkness to Light: Wednesday 4th December at 6.30pm. St Luke's Chapel, Epsom College**

A celebration of Advent with the Chaplaincy, Modern Languages and Music Departments from Epsom College. You are welcome to come to a special evening of music and readings from around the world celebrating the Advent season. The traditional Advent readings will be read in different languages (with English translation in the order of service) with music will be performed between each reading. There will be refreshments afterwards. It should be finished by 7.15pm. No need to book. It is best to arrive after 6.15pm when the school buses leave. Park around the chapel. If you would like further details, do get in touch with Canon Andrew direct on 01372 821288 or email him at the College [andrew.haviland@epsomcollege.org.uk](mailto:andrew.haviland@epsomcollege.org.uk).

## MUSIC @ ST MARTIN'S

### **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.

### **Christmas Tea and Carols, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

The Christmas Tea this year will take place on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **CTiE Advent Outreach Stall: Sat Dec 14: 10-12:30pm**

There will be another CTiE Advent and Christmas Outreach stall outside Epsom Metro bank similar to last year's. If you could help on the stall for a 30 or 40 minute period, please do email Russell at: [chair@ctie.org.uk](mailto:chair@ctie.org.uk) who will draw up the stall rota. Please pray for this important event.

Thank you. David Williams [admin@ctie.org.uk](mailto:admin@ctie.org.uk)

### **Carols in Epsom Hospital: Weds Dec 18: 4:30-6:30pm**

CTiE and the Hospital Chaplaincy, together, have organised to sing carols around Epsom Hospital wards again this year. We will meet at 4.15pm outside the Chaplaincy Office, located on the left as you enter Epsom Hospital foyer from Dorking Road. Carol sheets will be provided. Come and give some Christmas peace and joy to staff and patients! Please email [handleyhammond@gmail.com](mailto:handleyhammond@gmail.com) so that we know numbers and can plan to have enough resources. David Williams

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**In brief:**

**24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve**

**3pm Carol Service at Langley Vale Hall**

**4pm Crib Service at St Martin's**

**6pm Christmas Communion at St Martin's**

**11.15pm Midnight Mass at Epsom College**

Following the success of last year, we will, on Christmas Eve, be holding a service of Midnight Mass in our beautifully decorated Chapel. The service will be finished at 00.15.

If you are local and would like to attend it would be super to see you there. Non-Epsom families and friends of the College are also welcome.

To book a place please click here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/z6p36Enp4Q> or email [andrew.haviland@epsomcollege.org.uk](mailto:andrew.haviland@epsomcollege.org.uk)

**25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day**

**8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's**

**10.00am Family Christmas Praise at St Martin's**

## **PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY**

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

### **Sunday 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.

### **Monday 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.

### **Tuesday 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.

### **Wednesday 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.

### **Thursday 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.

### **Friday 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.

### **Saturday 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.



## **Christmas Fair – Goods and Helpers needed**

We need the following:

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

**The Christmas Fair this year is being held on November 30<sup>th</sup>  
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](mailto:maureensuatt@virginmedia.com)

### **Christmas cards and calendars**

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,  
Beans/Pasta with Meat  
Packet Soup,  
Instant Mash  
Powdered Milk (we have none)  
Long life Juice (we have none),  
Squash  
Ketchup/ Brown Sauce  
Marmalade/Honey/Chocolate Spread  
Sugar (500gr),  
Rice Pudding  
Chocolate Biscuit Bars,  
Long life Sponge puddings  
Crisps  
Deodorant (Male/Female),  
Shaving Foam  
Adult Toothbrushes,  
Tampons  
Loo Roll - Urgent  
Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder.

## 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:



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

# Christmas Services

1st December, 6.30pm

**Advent Carol Service**

24 December, 4pm

**Family Crib Service**

22nd December, 6.30pm

**Nine Lessons & Carols**

24 December, 6pm

**Communion Service,**

24 December, 3pm

**St Stephen's Carol Service,  
Langley Vale**

24 December, 11.15pm

**Midnight Mass at  
St Luke's, Epsom College**

25th December - Christmas Day

**8.30am - Communion Service**

**10am - Family Service**

**St Martin  
of Tours**

Church Street  
Epsom, KT17 4PX

**St Stephen  
on the Downs**

Rosebery Road  
Langley Vale, KT18 6AF

 [stmartinsepsom](https://www.facebook.com/stmartinsepsom) • [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org) • [www.stmartinsepsom.org](http://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • 01372 722 567



**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.**