



**Registered Charity Number: 1134149**

## **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

**SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025**  
**EPIPHANY 2**

## DIARY

### **Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> EPIPHENY 2**

**9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale village hall**

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

**6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's**

### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**10.00am Holy Communion**

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January CONVERSION OF PAUL**

**9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale village hall**

**10.00am Morning Prayer at St Martin's**

**6.30pm Holy Communion at St Martin's**

## **Churches Together in Epsom**

CTiE warmly invites you to attend the Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, hosted this year by Epsom Vineyard, in the Epsom Vineyard Church Centre, 23 Lansdowne Road, W. Ewell, KT19 9QJ at 3:00 pm on Sunday January 19th. There is plenty of on-street parking available. The digital booklet, with prayer and readings for each day of this week, is available on the [CTiE web site](#).

## **Organ Recital, 25 January 2025, 2.30 pm**

I am giving an organ recital at St Martin's, to be followed by the AGM of East Surrey Organists' Association (of which I am a committee member). The recital is open to all and will be around 45 minutes to an hour. All are warmly welcome, admission is free, and the programme includes English romantic music, local music and even a world premiere!

***Iain Macfarlane***

## **St Stephen's Update**

Work on repairs is scheduled as follows:

Early January:

Strip out furnishings and relocate/ erection of scaffolding inside and outside/ erection of temporary security wall.

*Estimate for these works is two weeks.*

February - removal of old, and reinstatement of new, gable end wall.

March - completion of works.

The summary of conclusions of the community survey (and the full results for anyone who would like to see them) will be made available in the next few days. At PCC last week, we allocated the various elements to the appropriate group (i.e. discussion of services with the Ministry Team, building development with Fabric committee etc), so please let the Parish Office have your thoughts and ideas so these can be passed on to the relevant group.

### **Providing Flowers in church**

As part of our worship and celebration of life and nature, we aim to have fresh flowers in St Martin's most weeks (except Lent, Advent and August).

You are invited to contribute towards the cost of flowers, maybe in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion?

If you are contributing towards the cost, then the recommended donation is £20. Please use the card reader in church to make your payment or give your donation to the team in the office.

If you pay for the flowers, then one of the members of the flower team will purchase and arrange them for you. Speak to the person who is arranging the flowers if you have any preferences for specific flowers, we will do our best to get these for you.

Please put your name on the rota, against the week that you would like to pay for the flowers. You can find the rota on the notice board near the glass room at the back of church.

Thank you.

***The Flower Team***

## **St Martin's & St Stephen's website - your help please!**

If you are a 'regular' at either of our churches, I expect you don't look at our website often (if at all!). However, you'll know that for any organisation, it's essential that its website is kept up-to-date and we try to keep it so. Rob does the technical side and I upload the information on upcoming services and events. I do my best to include everything that's happening, but I can't guarantee that sometimes things won't get missed-off!

So, it would be very helpful if members of the congregation can cast an eye over the website from time to time. Let Rob know if there's a technical issue and tell me if you spot error or you want to make sure I know about an event or service that needs to be advertised. Thank you!

Sarah Lutton & Rob Jeffery.

Website address: <https://www.stmartinsepsom.org/>

Our emails are:

[rob@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:rob@stmartinsepsom.org)   [wardens@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:wardens@stmartinsepsom.org)

## **(Eco) Ideas, info, action...**

There is a church Eco WhatsApp chat. I'm in a few similar groups (including a couple in other churches!) and it's so helpful to hear what others have discovered, what they are finding tricky, and what they are involved in. If you have a smartphone and would like to be part of the sharing of questions, seeking, ideas and (some) answers about what we can do, individually and as a church, to 'tread more lightly' on God's earth, speak to me or contact me through the church office and I will add you to the group.

If you don't have a smartphone, keep an eye on the Eco Church noticeboard, and, of course, keep having those conversations about what you are discovering. ***Helen Williams, Eco Rep***

## **Salt and Light**

Every so often I get asked 'what can I do?' to help with matters eco. There is now an Eco Church display, sharing the noticeboard at the west end of church with Mission. Have a look!

As we move towards 'Going for Silver' in the A Rocha Eco Church scheme, I'd like to invite you all to see what you are already doing, and get ideas for what you might like to do next, by going to the Creation Care website - <https://creationcare.org.uk/>, signing up as a household and linking yourself to St Martin of Tours. A series of easy questions helps you gauge where you are and helps us work together towards Silver. The A Rocha awards are a church community thing – it's not just me filling in a form!! We are called to be salt and light. We want to do the right thing, and to be a beacon to our community.

Talk to friends about the steps you are taking, congratulate them on what they have done. Working together on shared aims builds momentum, helping us - as individuals, as a church and as part of the local community - make huge shifts that hadn't seemed possible before. Let Creation Care be your New Year's kickstart in the 'eco' part of your life – let's see what it leads to!

***Helen Williams, Eco Rep***

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

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>**

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.

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

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.

### **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

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.

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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.

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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.

### **Friday 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.

### **Saturday 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.

**Warm Hubs** have been set up in and around Epsom this winter, where people can enjoy a safe, warm and friendly environment in which to enjoy a hot drink, social activity and receive information and advice. The service is open to all but is particularly beneficial to residents in hard to heat homes, those who are isolated or those worried about their energy bills.

## **A list of Warm Hubs:**

### **Love Me, Love My Mind Monday Drop In**

Address: St Barnabas' Church, Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8HA

Opening times: Mondays, 3pm-7pm

### **Rainbow Leisure Centre**

Address: East Street, Epsom KT17 1BN

Opening times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday - 1pm to 3pm

### **Epsom Library**

Address: 6 Epsom Square, Epsom, KT19 8AG

Opening times:

- Monday: 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Tuesday: 9.30am to 7pm
- Wednesday: 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Thursday: 9.30am to 7pm
- Friday: 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Saturday: 9.30am to 5pm

### **Epsom Methodist Church, Roots Coffee Shop**

Address: 13 Ashley Rd, Epsom, KT18 5AQ

Opening times: Wednesday - 10am to

- Thursday: 9.30am to 7pm
- Friday: 9.30am to 5.30pm
- Saturday: 9.30am to 5pm
- Sunday: Closed

### **The King's Church, Epsom**

Address: Longmead Road, Epsom KT19 9BU

Opening times: Monday 4pm-6pm

### **St Mark's, Food Club**

Address: Great Tattenhams, Epsom Downs, KT18 5RB

Opening times: Friday 11am to 3pm

### **Stoneleigh Library**

Address: 1 Stoneleigh Broadway, Stoneleigh, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 2JA.

Opening times:

- Monday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Tuesday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Wednesday Closed
- Thursday: 10am to 1pm
- Friday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Saturday: 10am to 4pm
- Sunday: Closed

### **Ashtead Library**

Address: Woodfield Lane, Ashtead, Surrey, KT21 2BQ

Opening times:

- Monday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Tuesday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Wednesday: Closed
- Thursday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Friday: 10am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
- Saturday: 9.30am to 5pm
- Sunday: Closed

## **Tattenhams Library**

Address: Tattenham Crescent, Epsom Downs, Epsom, Surrey,  
KT18 5NU

Opening times:

- Monday: 10am to 1pm
- Tuesday: 10am to 1pm
- Wednesday: 10am to 1pm
- Thursday: 10am to 4pm
- Friday: 10am to 5pm
- Saturday: 10am to 4pm
- Sunday: Closed

## **FOOD BANK**

**This week we need the following:**

Cooking Sauces

Tinned meat, Tinned vegetables, Tinned potatoes

Beans/Pasta with Meat, Noodles

Instant Mash, Powdered Milk

Squash, Long life Juice, Long life Milk

Ketchup/Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise

Jam/Marmalade/Honey/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter

Sugar (500gr), Rice Pudding, Custard

Tinned Fruit, Long life Sponge puddings

Deodorant (Male/Female)

Adult Toothpaste

Loo Rolls, Shaving Foam,

Sanitary Towels, Tampons

Washing Up Liquid, Washing Powder

Strong shopper bags and bags for life

## MISSION FOCUS

Please find attached a card from AMECA. Please take a look at this link to update you on the very busy year we have had.

<https://themaldentproject.com/2024/12/16/ameca-and-the-maldent-project-launch-a-fundraising-campaign-for-chilomoni-dental-clinic/>

Thank you for all your support.

Kindest regards,  
Ruthie Markus, AMECA

## THE POWER OF POETRY – JANUARY

Robert Frost (1874-1963) was born in the USA and lived mainly in New England. He was a very popular poet and if the USA had had a poet laureate Frost would probably have been it! The poem I have chosen is *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*.

*Whose woods these are I think I know,  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.*

*My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.*

*He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake,  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.*

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.*

His language is simple and in this poem the words and rhythm give a feeling of the hush of a snowy wood, "... *the sweep of easy wind and downy flake*": The metre is an easily recognised AABA; BBCB, CCDC, DDDD.

I first came across the poetry of Robert Frost in 1963. His poems formed part of a selection (with Auden, Hardy, Betjeman, and several others long gone from my memory) which formed part of the O level for English Literature. I remember this was among them, though I remember nothing of any analysis. On the face of it the poem is a straightforward and evocative description of a journey at the darkest time of the year, in winter when snow is falling, but it has been interpreted by some as a metaphor for life's journey. The last verse in particular can be read in this way. You can imagine that the poet/narrator is tired, and having stopped is tempted not to go on. But he has "*promises to keep*" – commitments – and must plod on to the end. The last line "*And miles to go before I sleep*" perhaps invokes the sleep of death and its repetition somehow emphasises his weariness. There is probably no definitive answer to any deeper meaning however, and as with much poetry there can be a variety of interpretations. See what you think.

This completes a full year of the monthly poems in the Newsletter. To continue or not continue – that is the question. Do many of you read them? I am happy to continue for a while, but if anyone would like to write an occasional replacement, let me know. It cannot be too long (some of mine were slightly over the limit) and ideally should fit, with any analysis or information on the writer, on two or two-and-a-half pages of the Newsletter. (If we are very nice to Nick and the office staff they may permit 3 pages, but it depends of course on what else has to be included in the Newsletter). The poem should be relevant to the season generally, the church season, something pertaining to the Christian religion, the church, or something which conveys spiritual truths. If you don't wish to write any comments you can merely *suggest* a poem by your favourite poet and *if* I am able I will write something about it (but send me a copy as I have limited poetry books). I look forward to lots of responses! Anything you type should be in Arial 12pt. I have, incidentally, already written February's contribution.

***Mary Gilbert***



Do not destroy

**My world**

**Stewardship of  
the environment**

Scriptural Reasoning Interfaith Evening

**05 February 2025 at 7.00pm**

Wimbledon Synagogue, 1 Queensmere Road



WIMBLEDON  
SYNAGOGUE

Register online here:

<https://bit.ly/MyWorld2025>

Enquiries: [office@wimshul.org](mailto:office@wimshul.org)



**Scriptural Reasoning:  
"Do not destroy My world" – 5<sup>th</sup>  
February 2025 at 7pm**

Join Us for an Inspiring Multi-Faith  
Evening of Scriptural Reasoning

"Do Not Destroy My World" -  
Stewardship of the Environment

Date: Wednesday, 5th February 2025

Time: 7:00 PM for a 7:30 PM start

Location: Wimbledon Parkside

(Address provided upon registration).

Discover the beauty of learning  
together across

faiths! Scriptural reasoning brings people of diverse traditions into conversation by exploring sacred texts in an open and respectful environment. This evening, we'll reflect on the call to care for our shared planet, drawing wisdom from multiple faith traditions.

Whether you're passionate about interfaith dialogue, environmental stewardship, or simply curious to learn, this event promises meaningful connections and inspiring insights. Register online here: <https://bit.ly/MyWorld2025>

For more information contact us at [office@wimshul.org](mailto:office@wimshul.org).

We can't wait to welcome you!

## 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:



# Music @ St Martin's

## Spring Recital Series

**FREE!**



**Saturday 11th January, 4.30pm**

*Peter Gould & Martin Hall - Organ Recital*

*A varied programme of organ works. Peter & Martin are both highly experienced church and concert musicians.*



**Saturday 8th February, 4.30pm**

*Mark & Iva Butler - Violin duo*

*Iva Butler, a violinist passionate about period performance collaborates with her husband Mark Butler, a member of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields*



**Saturday 1st March, 4.30pm**

*Epsom College Chamber Choir & Orchestra*

*Epsom college music scholars return to give their annual concert at St Martin's - always an exciting programme with a whole host of talented young musicians*



**Wednesday 26th March, 5pm**

*Epsom College Lower School*

*Chapel Choir Choral Evensong*

*An opportunity to hear the Epsom College Lower School Chapel Choir lead the worship in this Midweek Evensong*

### St Martin of Tours

Church Street  
Epsom, KT17 4PX

Admission to the recitals is free but we ask for donations to enable us to continue offering great music at St Martin's

You can also use our QR code to support the series at any time.



**f** [stmartinsepsom](https://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • [www.stmartinsepsom.org](https://www.stmartinsepsom.org) • [office@stmartinsepsom.org](mailto:office@stmartinsepsom.org) • 01372 722 567

Registered 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  
12 noon 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.**