



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY
THE 4TH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**



DIARY

Sunday 9th February

8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's

9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall

10.00am Choral Mattins at St Martin's

6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's

Rebecca Catterall: 'The Path to Ordination'

Those who feel called to the priesthood are given the unique opportunity to explore their calling over a period of at least one year – during this year, they reflect upon their life and their faith journey, the challenges they have overcome and the people who have inspired them along the way. After two stages of interviews, those who are given the green light undertake two or three years of theological study, work in at least two different churches and test their calling further through prayer, retreats and residential with many others who are also on the same path. Rebecca will reflect candidly on her faith journey and her experience of the path to ordination.

Rebecca Catterall was born and raised in Los Angeles with a background of both the Catholic and Protestant traditions. She originally trained at UCLA's School of Theatre, Film and Television before feeling called to study Divinity at St. Andrews in Scotland. She has worked in English independent schools for over 20 years as both a Religious Studies and Philosophy teacher and was an assistant chaplain at King's College School in Wimbledon before starting as a teacher of RS and assistant chaplain at Epsom College in 2018. She is in her first year of a two-year ordination programme.

Tuesday 11th February

Take Time To Talk – the Maha Kumbh Mela – pilgrimage (tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church).

The largest pilgrimage in the world is happening at the moment beside the Ganges in India. What is a pilgrimage? How does a pilgrim differ from a tourist? Have you ever been on pilgrimage?

For in their hearts doth Nature stir them so,
Then people long on pilgrimage to go,
And palmers to be seeking foreign strands,
To distant shrines renowned in sundry lands.

Geoffrey Chaucer
The Canterbury Tales

Come and join us.
Lynne

Wednesday 12th February

10.00am Holy Communion

7.55pm Churches Together in Epsom: Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting

You are warmly invited to attend the CTiE AGM and Council meetings, to be held at King's Church, (off Gibraltar Crescent), Longmead Road, Epsom, KT19 9BU on Wednesday 12 February at 19:55. [Please click here for the Meeting Agendas.](#) Refreshments and Fellowship from 19:30. Thank you. David Williams admin@ctie.org.uk

Thursday 13th February

12.30pm Funeral of Barbara Reeder at S Martin's

Barbara was known to many of the congregation, having been a long-term member of our Church family. We are all welcome at the service, which will be followed by a reception at the back of Church (*the following committal at Leatherhead is for close family only*). All are invited to make a donation to Alzheimer's Research in Barbara's memory.

Sunday 16th February

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

SAVE THE DATES! ST MARTIN'S 200 –

13TH & 14TH SEPTEMBER

This is our celebration weekend for the Georgian western end of St Martin's nave. These are the key events that will be happening in our wonderful building:

Saturday 13th

7.30pm - A performance of *Pride & Prejudice* by the touring theatre company 'This is my Theatre'. Jane Austen, a citizen of Georgian England, has her own anniversary celebrations this year.

Sunday 14th

3.00pm: As part of our 2nd Thoughts series, historian Peter Ross presents 'Dining with James and Jane: Eating at Home with the Georgians'

4.00pm Celebration Tea

5.30pm: Choral Evensong when the preacher will be the Bishop of Dorking.

There will be an exhibition on the history of our church throughout the weekend..

CONVERSATIONS

<https://artandchristianity.org/events/conversations-online>

Wednesday 19 February 2025, 7 – 9 pm

***An online event to explore
racial justice and faith through contemporary art***

Art + Christianity in partnership with the Diocese of Liverpool,
Liverpool Cathedral and the Walker Art Gallery

Join us for a one hour reflective event online following the in-person session in the gallery. To familiarise yourself with the exhibition, you can view all of the works and read about the artists here:

liverpool-museums.shorthandstories.com/conversations

The exhibition 'Conversations' brings together work by 40 leading Black women and non-binary artists. This is an opportunity to elicit dialogue and conversations around the issues of racial justice with participants drawn from faith communities in the north west and beyond. The events will ask questions about::

How we can be more inclusive in our use of images in churches and cathedrals;

How images produced by Black women and non-binary artists speak to values and beliefs in today's society;

Why and how contemporary art can be used in the process of re-framing the dominant narratives implicit in our colonial past, as it pertains to both secular and faith communities.

The event will be hosted and led by Laura Moffatt (Director of Art and Christianity), Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine (trustee of A+C and member of the Archbishop's Council's Contested Heritage committee), Jennie Taylor (Diocese of Liverpool, Racial Justice Officer), Canon Dr Ellen Loudon (Liverpool Cathedral).

New Electoral Roll 2025

The Church of England says that every six years we have to start afresh with our Electoral Roll and that falls this year. So this spring it's important that everyone who is eligible completes an Electoral Roll form.

Why is the Electoral Roll important? We need to show as accurate a number as possible of the people who regularly worship at our churches. If the number on a church's roll falls below 100 then the Diocese may start to look at the sustainability of that church.

What's the benefit of being on the roll? You can have a stake in the decision making of the parish and the wider church, such as electing PCC members, voting at the annual meeting and being a member of the Deanery Synod.

Who can be on the Electoral Roll? Simply put, whether you live in or out of the parish and have been a regular worshipper for at least six months then you should be on the Roll. This includes those who regularly worship with us online.

Notices about the new Roll will be displayed and application forms will be available from the middle of March until 23 April. If you have any questions then please ask John Aronson, Electoral Roll Officer, Sarah Lutton, Churchwarden or any of the clergy.

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? (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 - one of the members of the flower team will purchase and arrange the flowers for you. Speak to the person who is arranging the flowers if you have preferences for specific flowers, we will do our best to get these for you. Please put your name on the rota, on the notice board near the glass room at the back of church, against the week that you would like to pay for. Thank you.

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

If you are a 'regular' at church, I expect you don't look at our website often. However, you'll know that for any organisation, it's essential that its website is kept up-to-date. 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 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 an Eco Church display, sharing the noticeboard at the west end of church with Mission. Have a look! Now we have achieved 'Silver' in the A Rocha Eco Church scheme, I invite you 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 to continue the good work. 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 9th

Our Organist: Iain Macfarlane. Our Welcomers: Meg Topley 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.

Monday 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 Digidens Rise, Dirdene Close, Dirdene Gardens, Dirdene Grove and Dorking Road.

Tuesday 11th

Our Bell-ringing Team and Tower Captain Mike Bale. Our Ministry Team. All local young families. Those living and working in Downs Avenue, Downs Hill Road, Downs Road and Downs Way.

Wednesday 12th

Our Prayer and Healing Ministry: Contemplative and Centering Prayer. Those who work on our Website, Facebook and YouTube channel. Wheels for the World (Our Missions) and the Sunnybank Trust (based in Epsom). Those living and working in Downside, East Street and Elmslie Close.

Thursday 13th

Our Church Development Plan: for Renewal and Growth. Those who read the Bible through the Bible Reading Fellowship notes and Didi Steck. Those living locally who are housebound and their carers. Those living and working in Farriers Road, Fyfield Close, Grosvenor Road, Grove Avenue and Grove Road.

Friday 14th

Our Mission and Evangelism Team. Our Church Finances and Our Treasurer. Our MP Helen Maguire. Epsom and Ewell Borough Council: elected members and officers. Those living and working in Hambledon Hill, Hambledon Vale, Harding Road and Hawthorne Place.

Saturday 15th

Our Discipleship and Fellowship Team. Our Premises and Gardens Team. The Emergency Services: Fire, Police and Ambulance. Those living and working in Headley Road,

Heathcote Road, Hereford Close, High Street and Highridge Close.

FOOD BANK

This week we need the following:

Cooking Sauces,
Beans/Pasta with Meat
Tinned Vegetables
Rice – **Urgent**,
Noodles - **Urgent**
Instant Mash - **Urgent**
Squash - **Urgent we have none**
Long life Juice - **Urgent we have none**
Powdered Milk - **Urgent we have none**
Long life Milk, Instant Coffee
Ketchup/Mayonnaise
Jam/Honey/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter
Sugar (500gr), Custard
Tinned Fruit - **Urgent we have none**
Long life Sponge puddings
Deodorant (Male/Female)
Children's Toothpaste (0-2 years old)
Loo Rolls
Shaving Foam
Shampoo
Tampons
Nappies size 6&7
Washing Up Liquid
Washing Powder
Strong shopper bags and bags for life

THE POWER OF POETRY – FEBRUARY

It is a year since these poems began to appear in the Newsletter, and now here is something slightly different. It is a poem from one of our own which is very apt for the time in which we live, and which was written at the end of January 2025. I shall not comment on it as it is self-explanatory. So here is *Fragility* by Adrian Esdaile:

Fragile peace; Gaza and Israel,
hostages held, hatred continues,
in the dark tunnels of a place;
Fingers on triggers of guns and drones
housing burnt by unsettling settlers
and authority's eyes averted

Fragile peace; few recognising the humanity
of the other as all hold hatred in hearts
of stone. Yet is there no one
who longs to walk towards peace?
towards lives redeemed by love and pain
and hugs that change the world.

Fragile peace; within touching distance
lies the stench of death, again and again.
Are hearts and minds never-endingly closed
towards lives transformed. Ruins of streets,
once flourishing homes, shops with things to sell
look to life abundant

Fragile peace – now – but in the fragile future
could there be a lasting change?

Could the rivers of tears, the endless wounds,
the broken hearts and bodies rebuild?
Have they the strength they need for love
and reconciliation?

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:



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

Friday 7 March

A service for everyone!

Service for Epsom

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

10.30am

All are welcome

Refreshments will be served after the service

Cook Islands *I made you wonderful*



INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

wwdp.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 233242



Claire Gilbert

Julian of Norwich: mother, mystic, radical

Julian of Norwich was a medieval mystic whose radical visions have echoes in our own time. Dr Claire Gilbert, who has written an award-winning fictional autobiography of this fascinating historical figure will talk about what we know about Julian and how her writings can speak to us today.

This event will be livestreamed.

SUNDAY 9 MARCH 6.30PM

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX





Commemoration of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade



We Remember... We Repent... We Repair

Tuesday 25 March 2025, 7.30pm

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

With refreshments after the service

www.stmartinsepsom.org

Registered Charity No. 1134149

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.



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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
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.**