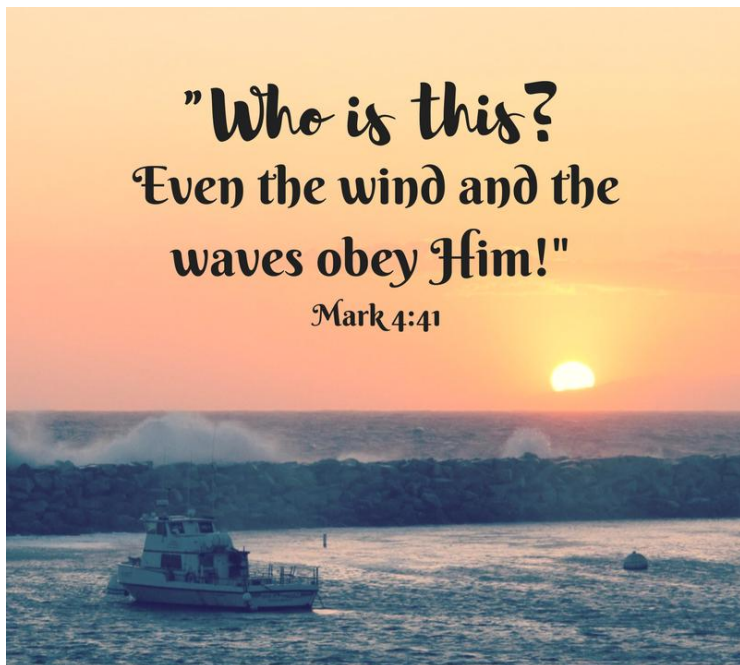


Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY
THE 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**



DIARY

Sunday 23rd February

9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall

10.00am Morning Prayer and Baptism at St Martin's

6.30pm Holy Communion at St Martin's

Tuesday 25th February

3.45pm tea and biscuits in church

4.00pm Take Time to Talk – "Let me tell you a story!"

Do you like listening to stories? What is your favourite story? Much of the Bible is story. As we begin to explore the role of narrative in Christian understanding, we are going to start by sharing some of our favourite stories - not biblical ones to start with. Please bring with you a story you love that you can read (at least some of) to us. It can have pictures too! Do come and join us. Lynne

Wednesday 26th February

10.00am Holy Communion

7.30pm Standing and Finance committee

Thursday 27th February

**12 noon Thanksgiving service for the life of
Linda Finch.**

Linda Finch, who died in December, was known to many of us as a member of our Church family long-term. Her friends and family invite you to join with them in a service to give thanks for Linda and her life.

Sunday 2nd March

9.30am Morning Prayer at Langley Vale Village Hall

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

Marmalade

I will be selling marmalade and lemon drizzles cakes after the 10am service on March 2nd. All proceeds for the Christmas fair.

Maureen Suatt

Friday 7th March - World Day of Prayer

Everyone is warmly invited to join the World Day of Prayer special service at St Martins, at 10.30am.

Representatives from all the Churches in Epsom are expected to come and join the UK, as around the world, to celebrate a life of faith by the people of the Cook Islands. There will be refreshments after the service.

Ruth Foxcroft

Sunday 9th March

6.30pm The deanery confirmation service with the Bishop of Guildford is at **Cuddington Church**. Candidates from St Martin's will join others for confirmation.

6.30pm 2nd Thoughts at St Martin's will be a talk by Dr Claire Gilbert on Julian of Norwich. This event will be livestreamed.

Dennis Newland RIP

Burma Star Veteran, and last Chairman of the BSA Epsom Branch, Dennis Newland died at the beginning of December having reached his Centenary in November.

Our remaining BSA Veteran, Clive Banderet, who moved from Sandown Lodge in Epsom to Care Home near Horsham in September 2019 died in January. His funeral will be at Randall's Park Crematorium on Monday 24th February and will be live streamed. Clive and his wife Jean were married at St Martin's and Clive attended with the BSA.



The Besom in Epsom - a new initiative.

The Besom, a national Christian ministry, was formed: 'To be a bridge between those who want to give money, time, skills, or things; and

those in need.' Besom in Ashted has supplied furniture and white goods to those in need, in an area extending from Epsom to Fetcham, for 17 years, but now needs to focus on a smaller area and has asked CTiE to consider forming Besom in Epsom. A gathering of 6 people from 3 or 4 local churches would be an ideal start. An open invitation was given, to visit Ashted Besom, in action, in the daytime, on a Tuesday. If you are interested in exploring this, in any way, please would you email David Williams: admin@ctie.org.uk.

SAVE THE DATES!

TUESDAY 25th MARCH

7.30pm A special service to mark the international day of remembrance for victims of slavery.

Our Bishop, Paul, will be preaching at this important service for St Martin's. We are in the process of commissioning a memorial to the enslaved of Barbados and elsewhere, partly in recognition that we have memorials to people who were slave owners and partly in recognition of the gospel imperative of freedom in Christ. The service will give us the chance to acknowledge the injustices of the past and re-commit ourselves to the cause of justice in the present. Please support this service as we join with churches in many countries marking this important day.



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: There will be an exhibition on the history of our church throughout the weekend. Saturday is also the annual 'ride and stride' event, when people visit churches, so we hope to have lots of visitors.

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

10.00am Our guest speaker will be the Co-Head of our Church school, Maggie Down.

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.

(Eco) Ideas, info, action...

There's a church Eco WhatsApp chat. I'm in similar groups (including a couple in other churches!) and it's helpful to hear what others have discovered, what they are finding tricky, and what they are involved in. If you 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***

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.

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

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 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.

Monday 24th

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.

Tuesday 25th

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.

Wednesday 26th

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.

Thursday 27th

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.

Friday 28th

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.

Saturday 1st

Our Vicar: Nick Parish, Yvonne and their family. Our Bishops:
Andrew Watson and Paul Davies. The Chaplaincy Team at
Epsom & St Helier Hospitals. Those living and working in Adelphi
Road, Albert Road, Alexandra Road and Andrews Close.

FOOD BANK

This week we need the following:

Cooking Sauces, Tinned Vegetables - **Urgent**

Tinned Spaghetti, Instant Mash

Powdered Milk- **Urgent we have none**

Ketchup/Mayonnaise - **Urgent we have none**

Jam/Marmalade/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter/Honey -
Urgent

Sugar (500gr) - **Urgent** , Custard- **Urgent**

Tinned Fruit , Long life Sponge puddings - **Urgent we have none**

Savoury Biscuits, Chocolate Biscuit Bars

Deodorant (Male/Female),

Shaving Foam, Shampoo & Conditioner

Nappies size 6+, Washing Up Liquid

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.



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

Registered Charity No 1134149



INTER-CHURCH WORSHIP NIGHT

info: saintpauls.co.uk/worship

WED 26 MAR | 8PM

ST PAUL'S, 15 NORTHEY AVE., SM2 7HS

St
PB

**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.