



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**SUNDAY 11 MAY 2025**  
**EASTER 3**



A young American soldier hugs an elderly woman in a London street scene from May 1945. 80 years later, we give thanks for that victory over tyranny, and the sacrifices made by so many people to achieve it. Our world seems more war torn than it has been for many years – we earnestly pray for peace.

## DIARY

### Sunday 11th May

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

**9.30am VE Day service with Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall**

**10.00am VE Day service –**

**We will be joined by our scouts, Epsom College cadets and others to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There will be a BBQ lunch after the service.**

**4.00pm The Trinity and us  
(in the Headley room at St Martin's)**

**6.00pm Refreshments served in Church**

**6.30pm Second Thoughts: Sarah Clift  
'Managing Biodiversity on Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve'.**

Much of Epsom and Ashted Commons make up the Epsom and Ashted Commons Site of Special Scientific Interest; designated in 1955 as nationally important habitat for both birds and insects. Today, guided by management plans, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and City of London staff and volunteers manage the sites to ensure the SSSI remains in 'favourable' condition, to be enjoyed today and long into the future.

Sarah writes: I have worked for EEBC as a Ranger and today Senior Countryside Officer since 2001. As part of the Countryside Team our role now is focused on managing the three Local Nature Reserves in the Borough, Epsom Common, Horton Country Park and the Hogsmill, and also implementing the Borough's Biodiversity Action Plan which aims to protect and enhance Biodiversity in all of Epsom and Ewell.

## **Tuesday 13th May**

**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 3.45.

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 20 minutes of silence, we might share something that we have noticed during our time together.

## **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.00am Holy Communion**

## **Sunday 18th May**

**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**

## **2025 NEW ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Electoral Roll is now open, following our APCM. A copy of the new Roll is available for inspection in the folder at the back of St Martin's. It is also published online on the [stmartinsepsom.org](http://stmartinsepsom.org) website following the tabs: PCC/Church life/APCM. Please let me know if you want any further information.

**John Aronson**

**Electoral Roll Officer**

## Display at St Martin's to commemorate VE Day



## Silver Party - Eco Award.



Would you like to go to a party? Two members of our congregation are cordially invited to a celebration of Guildford Diocese churches which have attained Silver recently. It's on Tuesday, 10th June from 10am - 12noon (and I'm sure there will be Fairtrade tea, coffee and biscuits!). I

can't go, but if you'd like to go and be inspired by other churches/share some ideas, please let me know. I have to RSVP by 1st June.

***Helen Williams, Eco Rep.***

## Christmas Fair 2025

We are planning to have a Christmas Fair in the Church on November 29<sup>th</sup>, so please save the date and help us make it another happy and successful one. If you have any suggestions for stalls or activities, please let one of us know.

**Sarah, Nancy, and Maureen**

## PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>

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.

### **Monday 12<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>**

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.

### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

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.

### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>**

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.

## **Friday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Our Choir, and our vision for a new Worship Band. The growth of our Life Groups, Study Groups, WhatsApp Groups. Our Missions: Operation Noah. Those living and working in Hillcrest Road, Hook Road, Hylands Close, Hylands Road, Jackson Close and Kilcorral Close.

## **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>**

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.

## **FOODBANK**

This week we need the following:

Breakfast Cereal  
Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauce  
Tinned Meat - **Urgent**  
Tinned Fish, Tinned Spaghetti, Noodles  
Tea bags, Instant Coffee, Squash  
Long Life Juice - **Urgent**  
Ketchup/Mayonnaise  
Chocolate Spread  
Sugar (500gr) - **Urgent**  
Tinned Fruit - **Urgent**  
Long life Sponge puddings  
Savoury Biscuits, Biscuits , Chocolate Biscuit Bars  
Deodorant (Male/Female) - **Urgent**

Shower Gel - **Urgent**  
Adult Toothpaste  
Shampoo & Conditioner - **Urgent**  
Sanitary Towels/Tampons  
Toilet Rolls, Washing Powder

## **STEWARDSHIP – MAKING YOUR DONATION**

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:
- 3.



## THE POWER OF POETRY – MAY

I am very grateful to John Padwick for the suggestion of the following poem, *Finisterre* by David Whyte. I confess to never having heard of Whyte, although he is apparently well-known internationally.

Finisterre is a rugged cape in north-west Spain looking to the Atlantic and facing the North Atlantic gales, and whose name means 'end of the earth'. In Roman times it was thought of as the end of the known world. It can be a wild and tempestuous place but is also awe-inspiring. (Until 2002 it was also one of the Shipping Forecast Areas, now renamed 'Fitzroy'.) It is also near to the pilgrim route Camino de Santiago, and pilgrims on this route sometimes extend their journey to Finisterre.

A pilgrimage is often a search for identity, or for something other than our everyday life or what has gone before, and this moving poem seems to reflect this. It does not mean giving up, but sometimes in life we get to a point when we know things must change. We jettison (or would like to, though it takes courage of course) our old ways and habits and start afresh.

This, for some, is akin to a religious epiphany when we start anew, and try to lead better, more fulfilling, lives dedicated perhaps to the service of God (though Whyte's poem has no direct religious reference).

## *Finisterre*

The road in the end, taking the path the sun had taken,  
into the western sea, and the moon rising behind you  
as you stood where ground turned to ocean: no way  
to your future now but the way your shadow could take,  
walking before you across water, going where shadows go,  
no way to make sense of a world that wouldn't let you pass  
except to call an end to the way you had come,  
to take out each frayed letter you had brought  
and light their illumined corners; and to read  
them as they drifted on the late western light;  
to empty your bags; to sort this and to leave that;  
to promise what you needed to promise all along,  
and to abandon the shoes that brought you here  
right at the water's edge, not because you had given up  
but because now, you would find a different way to tread,  
and because, through it all, part of you would still walk on,  
no matter how, over the waves.

The language and the rhythm used is gentle, reflective, and I felt I could imagine standing there in the dusk, that point where day changes into night, with the moon rising and the sun sinking. Words such as 'shadow', 'frayed', 'drifted', evoke the feeling of evening; and not just the evening in actuality, but as a metaphor for the life that had brought you to this point. A point of reflection and change. I may not have done justice to this poem which, as I said at the start, was new to me, and as ever with poetry the reader brings their own experience into it. I hope you enjoy this poem which I found very thought-provoking.

***Mary Gilbert***

# **The Trinity and Us**

## **Exploring God and Humanity**



**Sundays 11 May – 1 June 2025**

Four self-contained sessions 4pm – 6pm in the Headley Room, Church House, with tea and cake.

# Music @ St Martin's

## Summer Recital Series

**FREE!**

**Saturday 10 May**

### **Epsom College Music Scholars**

*The annual recital by young and exciting talent being nurtured by the school.*



**POSTPONED UNTIL 2026**

### **Face the Music with Hope**

*Stephen Hope entertains with a 'Victor Borge' style afternoon offering musical facts, fun and cleverness.*

**Saturday 5 July**

### **Gisela Meyer - Ravel at 150**

*Pianist and Vocalist Gisela Meyer celebrates the composer's birthday with some of his most famous works including 'Jeux d'eau' and 'Miroirs'.*



**St Martin  
of Tours**  
Church Street



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



**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.**