

St Martin of Tours

Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs

Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 15th JUNE 2025

TRINITY SUNDAY



DIARY

Sunday 15th June TRINITY SUNDAY

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall**
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin's**

Wednesday 18th June

- 10.00am Holy Communion**

Sunday 22nd June TRINITY 1

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall**
- 10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's**
- 6.30pm Compline at St Martin's (Lady Chapel)**

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES COMING UP:

- 6.30pm in the Lady Chapel**
- 29th June Taize Worship.**

St Stephen's

At the PCC meeting on Wednesday evening members were presented with 4 options for the future of St Stephen's Church. There was a unanimous vote by those present for the option to repair the west gable end and at the same time build an extension on the north side which would contain an accessible toilet, a small kitchen and a lobby entrance to the vestry. We were able to look at the architect's initial drawings at the meeting, and the task of applying for grant funding has already begun.

By choosing to go forward with this plan we hope that St Stephen's will not only continue be a place for worship but also a

building that can be used by the wider community in Langley Vale for many years to come.

We are endeavouring to ensure that the work can begin at the earliest opportunity so that the church doesn't remain in its current state any longer than it has to. If you have any questions, do please contact one of us.

Nick: vicar@stmartinsepsom.org

Rob: rob@stmartinsepsom.org

Sarah: wardens@stmartinsepsom.org

6th July

On this day, we will be welcoming the Bishop of Guildford, Andrew Watson, who will lead and preach at the 10am Parish Communion service.

Ark will happen as usual, but please note that we will be cancelling the 9.30am service at Langley Vale to enable the congregation there to join the 10am at St Martin's.

It would be great if we have a 'good turnout' on the day, so please put the date in your diary. For those who can't make it, the service will be loaded onto YouTube as usual.

Fault in one of the livestreaming cameras.

The camera that shows close-ups of the dais and lectern has developed a fault which means that it turns itself off at a time of its own choosing. Those who have watched our services online over the last couple of weeks will have noticed the limited camera angles. We are trying to get this resolved so please bear with us in the meantime. Thanks.

Sarah & Rob



PRAYER GROUPS

St Martin's offers these options for praying together:

Evening Prayer on Zoom, weekdays 5pm-5.30pm

This follows the Common Worship rite and is led by one of the regular members of the group.

See <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

All are warmly invited to join on an occasional or regular basis. Find us at:

<https://zoom.us/j/91650281049?pwd=dLiB4jY8FRRdtFcbGBRjaVtMJ9K2Ar.1> or, if you prefer typing details directly into

Zoom, use Meeting ID is 916 5028 1049 and passcode 960460. There is an additional zoom prayer session on the 3rd Thursday at 8pm.

Centering Prayer: Every other Tuesday, 4pm in Church (Tea & biscuits from 3.45pm)

“Be still and know that I am God” *Psalms 46:10*. A small group of us meet to pray together in silence. 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. Next meeting: Tuesday 8th July.

Contemplative Prayer: 1st Tuesday of each month, 11am in the Lady Chapel

A time for focussing on God's presence and allowing oneself to be filled with God's grace. It's a time of stillness and quietness. We listen to the words of God or of Jesus in contemplation.

Project 200

Thank you for all the donations we have been receiving and also for all your ideas, thoughts and comments that have been written on the plans at the back of church. We've also had many conversations with people about them as well as getting feedback from those who use the church on a regular basis such as the local choirs. The plans will remain in place until the end of June so any further thoughts you have, please do add them.

To remind you what **Project 200** is: Launched last month and inspired by the upcoming 200th Anniversary of our Georgian nave, it looks to the future for St Martin's. There are two parts to the project.

Shorter term: to enclose and upgrade the Lady Chapel so to create a warm and welcoming space for services and meetings. We are asking for donations towards the cost of the work to the Lady Chapel and suggest they begin with a '2'. You can donate via the card machine, via the website, use the QR code on the leaflet (which you can find in this newsletter) or take your gift to the office.

Longer term: to make better use of the wonderful spaces we have in the building. All are welcome to offer ideas and suggestions which can be written on the large plans at the back of church. Think BIG and very little is off limits!

You can find a recording the presentation given by Sarah, Helen and Rob below and if you have any questions, do please ask us. <https://youtu.be/q-9U3jAu4CE>

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 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.

Monday 16th

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.

Tuesday 17th

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.

Wednesday 18th

Vocations to Ministry, ordained and lay. Churches Together in Epsom: Russell Holding (Chair). Our Missions: AMECA (for Malawi, Epsom based). Those living and working in Langley Close, Langley Vale Road, Links Road and Lintons Lane.

Thursday 19th

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.

Friday 20th

Our Deanery Synod: Howard Bluett, John Padwick and Alexander Rennie. Our Eco Church Team: Helen Williams. Our Missions: Mission to Kenya. Those living and working in Milburn Walk, Mill Road, Millers Copse, Milton Gardens and Mospey Crescent.

Saturday 21st

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.

Christmas Fair 2025

We are planning to have a Christmas Fair in the Church on November 29th, 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

FOODBANK

This week we need the following:

Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Spaghetti
Tinned tomatoes
Tinned fruit, Tinned Meat
Sweetcorn - **Urgent**
Cooking Sauces - **Urgent**
Pasta Sauce - **Urgent**
Microwave Rice - **Urgent**
Long Life Milk, non dairy milk
Powdered Milk - **Urgent**
Instant Coffee - **Urgent**
Squash
Long Life Juice - **Urgent**
Ketchup/Mayonnaise
Porridge
Jam/Honey/Marmalade/Peanut Butter
Chocolate Spread, Sugar (500gr)
Long life Sponge puddings
Custard – **Urgent**, rice pudding
Savoury Biscuits
Biscuits, cereal Bars
Deodorant (Male/Female) - **Urgent**
Adult Toothbrushes - **Urgent**
Kids toothpaste Toothpaste age 0-2 & 6+
Shampoo & Conditioner, Tampons

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:



THE POWER OF POETRY – JUNE



This month I have chosen two poems by Malcolm Guite. They are *Pentecost* and *Trinity Sunday*. Both days are celebrated around this time of year, on 8 and 15 June respectively in 2025. It seemed just the opportunity to give you both poems, as neither is very long. They are both in sonnet form so each has the same number of lines – that is 14.

Pentecost falls fifty days after Easter, and is celebrated as a feast day. (It was always called Whitsun, a corruption of White Sunday I believe, when I was young. Where did that go?) It is when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, and may be regarded as the beginning of the spread of the Gospel to the world, although I suspect word of Jesus and his ministry may have begun earlier than that – perhaps at the instant he was crucified, or even a bit before. The Holy Spirit enabled them to act as Jesus did, to forgive sinners, to heal the sick, to cast out demons, etc. They were also enabled to speak “in tongues” so that people of many different nationalities were able to understand them.

We are told (in Acts) that on this auspicious occasion the spirit descended in tongues of fire with accompanying wind and earthquake. These circumstances are brought to mind whenever we sing the hymn *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* where the last verse reads “....*Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still small voice of calm.*” (As an aside, a really good hymn can teach us a great deal about theology. So can poetry and a hymn is a specialised form of poetry.)

Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings,
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays,
Today the church draws breath at last and sings,
As every flame becomes a tongue of praise.
This is the feast of Fire, Air and Water,
Poured out and breathed and kindled into Earth.
The Earth herself awakens to her maker,
Translated out of death and into birth,
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release.
Today the gospel crosses every border,
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace.
Today the lost are found in his translation,
Whose mother-tongue is love, in every nation.

Explanations of the Trinity are difficult to grasp – particularly for those who are new to Christianity, though each year someone attempts it on Trinity Sunday. In this poem Malcolm Guite compares it to a chord where three notes together sound as one. I like the last line which summarises it: God the Father who is

unfathomably powerful and far away, Jesus who walks beside us (as with the two disciples walking to Emmaus) and the Holy Spirit working within us.

Trinity Sunday

In the Beginning, not in time or space,
But in the quick before both space and time,
In Life, in Love, in co-inherent Grace,
In three in one and one in three, in rhyme,
In music, in the whole creation story,
In his own image, his imagination,
The Triune Poet makes us for his glory,
And makes us each the other's inspiration.
He calls us out of darkness, chaos, chance,
To improvise a music of our own,
To sing the chord that calls us to the dance,
Three notes resounding from a single tone,
To sing the End in who we all begin;
Our God beyond, beside us, and within.

Mary Gilbert

THE BRIGITTE TRUST PRESENT
Before I Say Goodbye: Workshops
(FORMERLY COFFIN CLUB)



Come along to our **free end-of-life workshops**, where each week a professional will share valuable information on the different options available to you to plan and cost either your own or others unique end-of-life celebration.

When: Tuesday 10th, 17th and 24th June, 9:45AM - 12:00PM

Where: Clandon Wood Natural Burial Ground, Guildford
GU4 7FN

The course will provide you with all the information needed to plan a meaningful end-of-life celebration- a farewell that honours your values and brings comfort to loved ones. **Attendance is free but we kindly ask you to book a space for us to manage numbers and catering.**

For further information, please contact Sarah Pattenden on **07469 932192**, email sarah.pattenden@brigitte-trust.com or visit www.brigitte-trust.org/our-service/before-i-say-goodbye

Project 200

Enabling St Martin's to embrace the future

Two ways to support us

Short term: Make a donation beginning with a '2' to help us upgrade and enclose the Lady Chapel, so we can create a warm space without heating the whole building



Longer term: How might St Martin's look in the future? Share your ideas with us for how our historic building can continue to witness to God in the years to come

To donate, scan the QR code
or go to our website
www.stmartinsepsom.org/project200



St Martin of Tours

Church Street, Epsom, KT17 4PX

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PASTORAL CARE IN CHALLENGING TIMES



Led by Andy Peck

Saturday 14th June 2025
9.30 am - 1 pm (Coffee available from 9 am)
at Godalming Baptist Church,
Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1BA

It is said that a crisis doesn't make or break, it just reveals! There are times when we feel challenges in caring for others, either because we feel like we are just 'hanging on' to faith ourselves, or because the situation being faced is stretching us like never before. The recent COVID pandemic left many reeling!

In this session, we aim to step back and provide an assessment of what pastoral care is and what it isn't, look together at our mind-sets as we face challenges, and provide a faith-filled expectant outlook that takes Romans 8:28 seriously, knowing that 'in all things God is at work for the good of those who love him'.

Areas looked at will include:

- **What is pastoral care according to the Bible?**
- **What role might you play in caring for others?**
- **Looking at the five stages of church involvement and the care needed for each**
- **How do we understand the suffering that God allows?**
- **How do we serve at a sustainable pace?**
- **How do we involve others?**
- **How might our care extend beyond the local church?**

The morning will be a mixture of teaching and small group discussions with time for questions, and notes will be provided.

**Please reserve a place, with payment of £8, by contacting Sally Pollard
email: pollard3@hotmail.co.uk, tel: 01483 428646
by Friday 30th May**

Music @ St Martin's

FREE!

Summer Recital Series

Saturday 10 May

Epsom College Music Scholars

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



POSTPONED UNTIL 2026

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

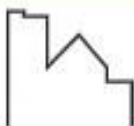
Saturday 5 July

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
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.