

St Martin of Tours
Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs
Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 13th JULY 2025

St Martin of Tours



DIARY

Sunday 13th July

- 8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's
- 9.30am Holy Communion at Langley Vale Village Hall
- 10.00am Choral Mattins - our Patronal service, at St Martin's
- 2.30pm 2nd Thoughts – Helen Maguire MP
- 3.30pm Refreshments
- 4.00pm Compline

Second Thoughts **UPDATED TIME**

Second Thoughts will not now be at 6.30pm on 13th July as Helen Maguire our Member of Parliament is not available at that time. It will now start at 2.30 pm followed by refreshments and then with Compline to finish with, if anyone would like to join me. *Adrian Esdaile*

Tuesday 15th July

4.00pm Take Time To Talk – Is a River Alive?
(tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church)

The Guardian published an extended review of Robert Macfarlane's very interesting new book, *Is a River Alive*. This question asks about consciousness. Is it only animals and birds that are conscious as well as human beings? The book gives a big answer 'YES! A River is alive' to the question and in our session we will explore what this might mean for our understanding of the whole of the created world. Do come and join us to talk about this. *Lynne*

Wednesday 16th July

10.00am Holy Communion

7.30pm Ministry Team (back of Church)

Thursday 17th July

1.30pm St Martin's School Leavers' service

7.30 pm The Bible Course - Wisley Room in Church House

Sunday 20th July

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

ADVANCE NOTICE VJ DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE



The Royal British Legion, Epsom and Ewell
Invites You
to a Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration of VJ Day
at St Martins Church, Epsom KT17 4PX
on Friday 15 August 2025, at 11am
and for refreshments afterwards
Regalia/honours to be worn
Kindly RSVP to epsomewell.secretary@rbl.community

St Stephen's Restoration and extension

Donations have already begun to come in towards the cost of our plans for this much loved building in Langley Vale. We are very grateful to all those in the village who are getting behind this project with enthusiasm.

St Stephen's Needs You!



St Stephen's is under scaffolding and closed - but not for long. We're on a mission to bring it back better than ever, and we need your help!

Alongside essential repairs, we're upgrading the church to serve our community for the next 60+ years with:

- Step-free access via the Village Hall car park
- An accessible toilet
- Kitchen facilities for events and gatherings

Let's reopen St Stephen's as a space for everyone - please support the project today.

**The work will cost £125,000 -
Can you help us to achieve this?**



Scan the QR code or visit www.stmartinsepsom.org/ststephens to make a donation



If you have any questions please email Rob Jeffery, Chair of the Fabric Committee - rob@stmartinsepsom.org or phone the Parish Office which is open every weekday morning - 01372 722567

WARNING RE PHISHING EMAILS

Recently there has been an increase in the number of phishing emails circulating. These emails are sent by criminals who are trying to trick you into giving them money or your personal details or to encourage you to visit a website where they can obtain those details. These emails appear to come from someone you know. They may say that they cannot talk at the moment, perhaps because they have laryngitis, but they need you to do something for them, such as ordering an item from Amazon. Their aim is to get you to reply in a hurry, without thinking about what you are doing.

1. Stop and think.
2. Do not click on any links in the email.
3. Do not reply to the email.
4. Do not give any personal information.
5. If you believe an email is suspicious, forward it to the National Cyber Security Centre: report@phishing.gov.uk
You don't need to forward emails you find in your junk/spam folder.
6. Permanently delete the email.

If you have any concerns about this, come and talk to me.
Revd Judith, Parish Safeguarding Officer



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.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 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.

Monday 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.

Tuesday 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.

Wednesday 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.

Thursday 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, Ladbroke Road, Leighton Way and Leith Road.

Friday 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.

Saturday 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.

FOODBANK REQUESTS

Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Fruit , Tinned Meat , Tinned Fish
Sweetcorn - **Urgent**
Cooking Sauces - **Urgent**
Pasta Sauce - **Urgent**
Dried Pasta in Sauce - **Urgent**
Tinned Tomatoes
Noodles - **Urgent**
Microwave Rice
Instant Coffee / Tea- **Urgent**
Ketchup/Mayonnaise
Squash, Porridge
Jam/Honey/Marmalade/Chocolate Spread
Sugar (500gr), Long life Sponge puddings - **Urgent**
Custard - **Urgent**
Rice Pudding, Savoury Biscuits
Chocolate - **Urgent**
Chocolate Biscuit Bars- **Urgent**
Biscuits - **Urgent**
Deodorant (Male/Female)
Adult toothpaste, Hair conditioner
Tampons - **Urgent**
Toilet rolls - **Urgent**
Washing powder/ tablets
Washing up Liquid - **Urgent**
Nappies size 5

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 – JULY

It is summer, so as a change from more serious poetry, I have chosen a lighter one by John Betjeman (1906-1984).

I expect many of you will remember him from the sixties and seventies when he was frequently on television, though he was a prolific broadcaster from the thirties. He became Poet Laureate in 1972, and was a rarity among poets for being commercially successful and popular (except with the people of Slough perhaps).

He is renowned for his dislike of modern architecture, particularly when it involved sweeping away something more beautiful or interesting. He was instrumental in saving St Pancras Station but he was equally keen to record his horror of the modern taste for removal of high-backed oak settles or stuffed fish in glass cases from pubs, or for the increase in identical poorly-built houses disfiguring the landscape – he had an acute eye also for the people who inhabited them. (See too *Hymn* “The Church’s Restoration in 1883 has left for contemplation not what there used to be...”). He appreciated landscape of all sorts, writing the Shell Guides with artist John Piper. He wrote poems about Cornwall, the suburbs, Margate, Ireland, Henley-on-Thames, Essex and many other places.

I suppose the ability to notice, to absorb and then to set down those impressions in apposite words which convey not just the appearance but the scents and sounds, and intangibles, of a place is an indication of a poet rather than an ordinary observer. For instance:

Trebertheric

We used to picnic where the thrift
Grew deep and tufted to the edge;
We saw the yellow foam-flakes drift
In trembling sponges on the ledge.

Upper Lambourne

Up the ash tree climbs the ivy,
Up the ivy climbs the sun,
With a twenty-thousand pattering
Has a valley breeze begun.
Feathery ash, neglected elder,
Shift the shade and make it run.

Croydon

The laurels are speckled in Marchmont Avenue
Just as they were before;
But the steps are dusty that still lead up to
Your Uncle Dick's front door.

Betjeman is also a poet of things ecclesiastical, including the church buildings themselves, but this is a topic for another day.

The poem selected is *East Anglian Bathe*. Anyone who as a child holidayed on the coast of Britain before the advent of package holidays will probably recall similar scenes – the ‘bent grass on the leaside’, the ‘tumbled breaker-line’, or as they paddled the ‘intersecting wavelets morning cold’. Our memories may not be so poetic, but I’m sure we can relate to his. I remember sheltering behind a Brighton breakwater from the cold wind, eating a faintly gritty sandwich (perhaps the true origin of the word sandwich, and

not the eponymous Lord after all!), the iciness of the water, the sharpness of the shingle..... Anyway, here is the poem:

Oh when the early morning at the seaside
Took us with hurrying steps from Horsey Mere
To see the whistling bent-grass on the leaside
And then the tumbled breaker-line appear,
On high, the clouds with mighty adumbration
Sailed over us to seaward fast and clear
And jellyfish in quivering isolation
Lay silted in the dry sand of the breeze
And we, along the table-land of beach blown
Went gooseflesh from our shoulders to our knees
And ran to catch the football, each to each thrown,
In the soft and swirling music of the seas.

There splashed about our ankles as we waded
These intersecting wavelets morning-cold,
And sudden dark a patch of sea was shaded,
And sudden light, another patch would hold
The warmth of whirling atoms in a sun-shot
And underwater sandstorm green and gold.
So in we dived and louder than a gunshot
Sea-water broke in fountains down the ear.
How cold the bathe, how chattering cold the drying,
How welcoming the inland reeds appear,
The wood-smoke and the breakfast and the frying,
And your warm freshwater ripples, Horsey Mere.

Mary Gilbert

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

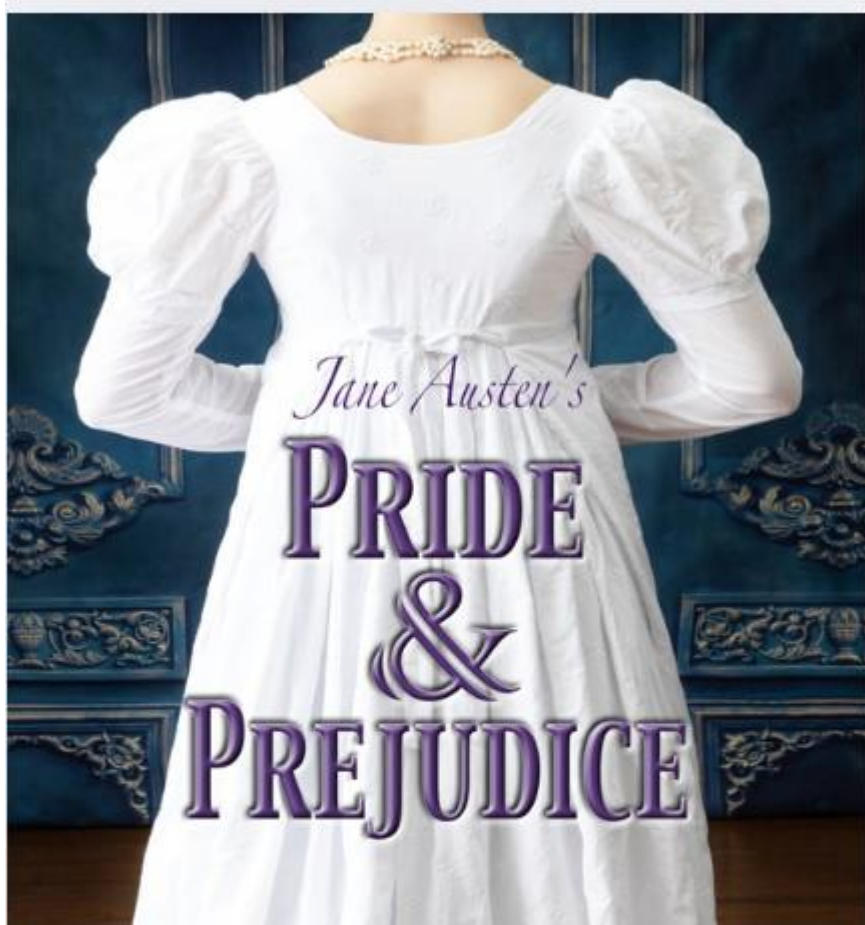
To donate, scan the QR code
or go to our website
www.stmartinsepsom.org/project200



St Martin of Tours

Church Street, Epsom, KT17 4PX

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



Saturday 13 September 7.30pm



Tickets

£16 Adult

£12 Concessions

thisismytheatre.com

07732 253311

**St Martin
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Epsom, KT17 4PX

**THIS MY
THEATRE**

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PRIDE & PREJUDICE

Written by Jane Austen

Directed by Sarah Slator

Assistant Direction by Chloe Bond

Adapted by Ethan Taylor

Music by Simon Stallard

“It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.”

This Summer, critically acclaimed theatre company This Is My Theatre brings Jane Austen's classic tale to life in a stunning one-act adaptation to celebrate the author's 250th anniversary year.



Epsom's largest historical building

St Martin's Church

is marking its own anniversary - the 200th of its Georgian nave. Together with this theatre production, other events over a weekend of celebration include a talk on Georgian food (uniting Jane Austen with clergyman James Woodforde), an exhibition and special services.

For more information
www.stmartinsepsom.org
01372 722 567

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

**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.