

St Martin of Tours
Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs
Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER 2025
TRINITY 17



DIARY

Sunday 12th October Trinity 17

8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's

9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's

10am Choral Mattins at St Martin's
(in Church and live streamed)

3.00pm Celebrate the apple harvest

You are invited to join us at Church House from 3 – 5 pm to enjoy the fruits of our apple tree.

Nick & Yvonne

6.30pm Second Thoughts at St Martin's ***(Refreshments from 6pm)***

Peter Lutton

'An exploration of the origins of the Office of Compline'

The recent further reappearances of Compline on Sunday nights on Radio 3 (heartening in themselves) encouraged me to think. Would it be suitable to have a half-hour run-down of the old monastic hours services, pointing out the origins of Anglican Matins and Evensong, followed by a simple Compline which everyone could take part in? I have often felt drawn to researching them a little further.

Peter's background is straightforward. He taught music at St John's, Leatherhead for 35 years, during which he had stints as organist at All Saints, Weston Green and St Mary's, Ewell. He recently stood down after over twenty years at St Nicolas, Great Bookham.

Tuesday 14th October

4.00pm Centering Prayer (tea and biscuits from 3.45pm)

‘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.

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.

**7.30pm ‘Overflowing Faith & Generosity’
in the Wisley Room, Church House**

Wednesday 15th October

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th October St Luke

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen’s

10am Healing Holy Communion at St Martin’s
(in Church and live streamed)

6.30pm Choral Evensong at St Martin’s

JIM WILSON R.I.P.

Jim's funeral will be on **Tuesday, 4th November**. A family/friends cremation service at Randalls Park, Leatherhed, at 9.30am will be followed by an **11am thanksgiving and memorial service in St Martin's**, followed by a buffet lunch in Church. All invited to the 11am service. If you intend coming to the 11am service and lunch could you let the office know, so that they can estimate numbers for the funeral directors and caterers.

The North Aisle

As some of you know, last Sunday morning we had to cordon off an area of the north aisle in front of the war memorial. A small piece of plaster had fallen from the ceiling and there is another potential area where the plaster may be insecure. After consulting various people, including the diocesan architect and our insurers, we have been reassured that the current restrictions are sufficient to keep everyone safe. We are following up on the architect's recommendations for a company which can carry out an initial inspection of the ceiling in that area. So, please bear with us as we try to get this sorted! ***Rob J and Sarah L***

John Chandler Hall

After a very long process we had news this week that planning permission has been granted. This will allow for the sale and development of this Victorian building in Church Road which, until the 1970's, was St John's Church. Since then it has had a number of tenants but has been empty since January 2024. As Managing Trustees of the building we will continue to have responsibility for it until a sale can be completed.

Sarah L

Coffee Rota

I am about to produce the coffee rota for 2026 and would love some more volunteers. At the moment we are on rota about every six or seven weeks, but it would be lovely to have some more volunteers. If you are interested either speak to Sarah or me.

Maureen Suatt

Christmas Fair 2025 - Chocolate and Bottle Tombolas

Please start collecting chocolate and bottles for the Christmas Fair, the tombolas are very popular.

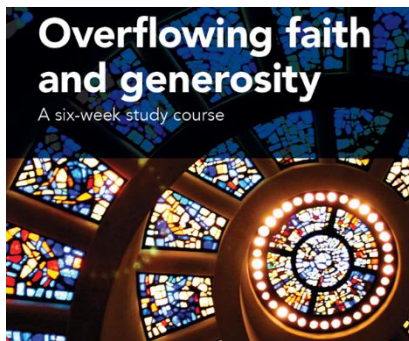
Sarah, Nancy and Maureen

Overflowing Faith & Generosity

A six-week study course Tuesdays @ 7.30 pm

in the Wisley Room, Church House

Created by the Diocese of Oxford



Christ calls us to a faith that is actively generous, building up spiritual rather than earthly treasures. Generosity can be the foundation of a lived-out faith because it seeks to mirror the generous love of God for the world. But how does this apply to us as 21st-century Christians? What does it mean to live a

generous faith? Does it just mean money, or are there other ways to be generous?

Session 1: Following Jesus' Example

For those unable to attend the session:

Here is the link to the short video we watched this week

<https://vimeo.com/999549143>

- What did you think of her story?
- Over the next six weeks, we'll be looking at generosity. What do you think generosity means?

Our Bible reading came from John 13: 3-15

Here is the link to an audio recording of the Reflection:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/7hhilrdv4lxdc270b4bf/Tuesday-21_29.m4a?rlkey=g32ukocef7y7zxlnsmbqqn8y1&st=wkhrwcn&dl=0

You may like to reflect on the following:

- How did the reading and reflection make you feel? What struck you most:
- What do you think Jesus is asking us to do?
- What do you think about Jesus' reaction to the disciples?
- What does 'humility' mean to you?

- Do you feel comfortable or uncomfortable with the idea of servant humility as a model of generosity? Why is that?
- Are there other Bible passages about humility that come to mind?
- Do you think Christians are good at practising humility?
revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org

EPSOM CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS FAURÉ REQUIEM

On Saturday, 15th November, 7.30pm, Epsom Chamber Choir's French-inspired concert this Autumn has the iconic **Fauré Requiem** as its centerpiece, accompanied by a lesser known and intimate orchestration for **organ, violin, 'cello and harp**. Other shorter, a cappella works will complete the programme including music by Messiaen, Poulenc, Villetta and Whitacre. Booking at <https://www.epsomchamberchoir.org.uk/>

CALLING POTENTIAL AND QUALIFIED FIRST AIDERS

Have you got a current First Aid certificate, or are you interested in getting one? We are looking to get suitably qualified First Aiders to join our new rota for Sunday Morning Services. If you are not qualified and are interested in getting trained, we can help. Please email martyn.hollowayneville@sky.com>

John Flower and Martyn HN



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.

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.

MISSION FOCUS – OCTOBER



The mission partner in our prayers this month is Love Me Love My Mind, an Epsom and Ewell mental health charity founded and run by Rev Sue Bell until her untimely death in 2022.

Sue wrote that the charity's desire was "to break down stigmas about mental distress; to build strong community; and to help make the Borough the best place for mental health and the best place for mental health care". LMLMM remains highly active throughout the year and our mission focus coincides with Epsom Mental Health Week, which lasts from October 4-11.

This is an annual event in which our own Jim Wilson would participate. For a programme of this year's events, please click on LMLMM's website:

<https://www.lovemelovemymind.org.uk/>

David Stamp

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 12th

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.

Monday 13th

Our Church Development Plan: for Renewal and Growth. Those who read the Bible through the Bible Reading Fellowship notes: 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.

Tuesday 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.

Wednesday 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.

Thursday 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.

Friday 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.

Saturday 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.

THE POWER OF POETRY – OCTOBER

This month's choice is quite seasonal, but it is also lengthy so I haven't written much in the way of commentary. It is a light offering from John Betjeman: *The Church Mouse*. We have recently celebrated harvest, though this is a festival probably best suited to a country village. Tins and packets of food do not have the same visual appeal as a sheaf of corn, or home grown fruit and vegetables. Still, we *do* have mice (or did have earlier in the year when they caused chaos in the biscuit cupboard – but don't panic, they have been dealt with, and the biscuits are now safely in tins. Plastic containers evidently offer no defence against the teeth of rodents!).

I spoke about Betjeman in August 2024 when the chosen poem was *Hymn*, so to save space I won't offer any biographical notes this time. All I shall say is that the last few lines are ironic. We don't know anyone like that of course.

*Here among long-discarded cassocks,
Damp stools, and half-split open hassocks,
Here where the vicar never looks
I nibble through old service books.
Lean and alone I spend my days
Behind this Church of England baize.
I share my dark forgotten room
With two oil lamps and half a broom.
The cleaner never bothers me
So here I eat my frugal tea.
My bread is sawdust mixed with straw,
My jam is polish for the floor.*

*Christmas and Easter may be feasts
For congregations and for priests,
And so may Whitsun. All the same,
They do not fill my meagre frame.
For me the only feast at all
Is Autumn's Harvest festival,
When I can satisfy my want
With ears of corn around the font.
I climb the eagle's brazen head
To burrow through a loaf of bread.
I scramble up the pulpit stair
And gnaw the marrows hanging there.
It is enjoyable to taste
These items ere they go to waste,
But how annoying when one finds
That other mice with pagan minds
Come into church my food to share
Who have no proper business there.
Two field mice who have no desire
To be baptized, invade the choir.
A large and most unfriendly rat
Comes in to see what we are at.
He says he thinks there is no God
And yet he comes... it's rather odd.
This year he stole a sheaf of wheat
(it screened our special preacher's seat),
And prosperous mice from fields away
Come in to hear our organ play,
And under cover of its notes
Ate through the altar's sheaf of oats.*

*A low church mouse who thinks that I
Am too papistical, and High,
Yet somehow doesn't think it wrong
To munch through Harvest Evensong.
While I, who starve the whole year through,
Must share my food with rodents who
Except that at this time of year
Not once inside the church appear.
Within the human world I know
Such goings-on could not be so.
For human beings only do
What their religion tells them to.
They read the Bible every day
And always, night and morning, pray.
And just like me, the good church mouse,
Worship each week in God's house.
But all the same it's strange to me
How very full the church can be
With people I don't see at all
Except at Harvest Festival.*



Mary Gilbert

FOODBANK REQUESTS

This week we need the following:

Chocolate - **Urgent**
Sponge Pudding - **Urgent**
Cereal Bars - **Urgent**
Custard- **Urgent**
Instant Coffee- **Urgent**
Long Life Juice- **Urgent**
Male/Female deodorant - **Urgent**
Packet Soup - **Urgent**
Savoury Biscuits - **Urgent**
Honey - **Urgent**
Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauce, Sweetcorn, Noodles
Pasta/Beans with Meat, Microwave Rice
Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables
Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Tomatoes
Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish
Baked Beans, Instant Mash
Dried Pasta in Sauce
Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce
Tea (bags)
Jam/ Chocolate Spread/ Peanut Butter / Marmalade
Sugar (500gr), Rice Pudding, Biscuits
Powdered Milk, Milk UHT, Non Dairy Milk
Squash
Shaving Foam, Shower Gel
Adult Toothpaste, Shampoo, Hair Conditioner
Washing up Liquid

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:



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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Music @ St Martin's

Autumn/Winter 2025

FREE!

Saturday afternoons at 4.30pm



Saturday 11 October

Epsom & Ewell Silver Band

*The ever-popular and always
entertaining ensemble*

Saturday 8 November

The Matthew Cooper Jazz Quintet

*These outstanding young musicians
bring a programme of new and
original jazz compositions*



Saturday 6 December

Fantasia Viols & Voices

*This locally based group present music by
the master of the late English Renaissance
Orlando Gibbons*

**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



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

CHRISTMAS FAIR

November 29th
10 am – 2pm

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

Join us for a fun-filled church fair featuring a cake stall, tombola, unique gifts, children's activities, and a delicious BBQ feast.

Bring family and friends for a memorable day - everyone's welcome!

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.