



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER 2025 DEDICATION FESTIVAL



DIARY

Sunday 26th October Dedication Festival

9.30am Holy Communion at St Stephen's

10am Morning Prayer and baptism at St Martin's

6.30pm Compline at St Martin's

Tuesday 28th October

7.30pm 'Overflowing Faith & Generosity'
in the Wisley Room, Church House

Wednesday 29th October

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd November All Saints

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Stephen's

10am Holy Communion at St Martin's

6.30pm Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving
at St Martin's

The annual Memorial and Thanksgiving Service remembering

those who have died will be on
Sunday 2nd November at 6.30pm.

If you would like your loved one
remembered, with their name read
aloud at the service, please add it to
the list at the back of church, or
contact St Martin's at

office@stmartinsepsom.org



JIM WILSON R.I.P.

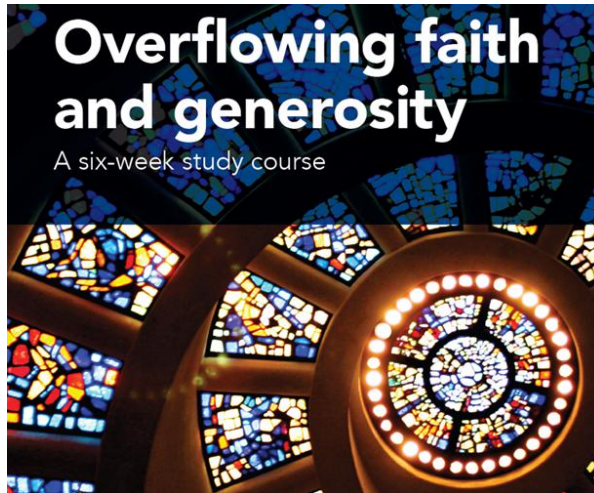
Jim's funeral will be on **Tuesday, 4th November 2025**. A family/friends cremation service at Randalls Park, Leatherhed, at 9.30am will be followed by an **11am thanksgiving and memorial service in St Martin's**, followed by a buffet lunch in Church. All invited to the 11am service. If you intend coming 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

We have had to cordon off an area of the north aisle in front of the war memorial. A 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 the architect's recommendation for a company to 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***

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 3: Prayer

For those unable to attend the session:

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

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/cpnjhrnkz873nmlcxz488/prayer_six_weeks_of_generosity-1080p.mp4?rlkey=e28tndqjfjhsn7gbr7svgknst&st=g45ihauo&dl=0

- What did you think of what he said?

Our Bible reading came from James 5: 13-18

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

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/s1ohediuczmr3w9qt6lkt/Tuesday-21_54.m4a?rlkey=4m1hr56sju9xw63dvnu1kvqhj&st=ybglujgr&dl=0

You may like to reflect on one or more of the following:

- How did the reading and reflection make you feel? What struck you most?
- What do you think Jesus would say about this idea of prayer?
- Does this idea of prayer alter your view of generosity?
- What does spiritual connection mean to you?

- Do you feel able to pray for strangers in a way that opens yourself up to community with them?
- Can you think of a time when prayer expressed a sense of community for you?

revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org

Donations for the Christmas Fair

There is now a box at the back of Church to put your donations for the Christmas Fair.

We need:

Chocolate and Bottles for the tombolas

Unwanted gifts and Jewellery

Jigsaws and Games

China and Glass

Craft items

Christmas Decorations

Books

Sarah, Nancy and Maureen



Christmas Tea and Carols, 14 December 2025

This is a reminder to put the date in your diaries now. The Christmas Tea this year will take place on Sunday 14 December 2025 from 3.00 – 5.00 p.m. in the Church.

There will be filled rolls, mince pies, Christmas cake, chocolate cake etc, and of course tea and coffee. It will be followed by the singing of carols round the grand piano. Do please support us, and bring your children or grandchildren if you wish.



Last Christmas we had record numbers, so please do come and make the occasion even more of a success. Everyone is welcome; the tea is free, though donations are welcome!

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook



CHRISTMAS CARDS AND ADVENT CALENDARS

While I have had Christmas cards on display for a few weeks, now that we are getting closer to Advent I have added Advent Calendars, Advent Candles and some small votive candles to the display.

There are a wide variety of cards both in design, size and cost, in packets of 10 or 20 cards. There are also a lots of Advent Calenders which come with their own envelopes in case if you wish to post them.

Please support St Martin's when buying your Christmas supplies as any profit from the sale of these supplies goes to the church. All the cards are sourced from a variety of charities, therefore you will be helping them as well.

Payment may be made in a variety of ways:

- Cheque: made payable to "The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom" (please either hand in to the office or place in the wall safe in church)
- Donation Station: contactless payments – please use the "Christmas Cards or Cards" button
- Cash: via the wall safe in church – marked "Cards"

I will keep all items topped up but once a design has sold out I may not be able to get any further stock. Please ask me if you are looking for something in particular or more packets than are on display.

Thank you for your custom
Mary Holloway-Neville

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 Bull 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

EPSOM CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS FAURÉ REQUIEM

On 15th November, 7.30pm, Epsom Chamber Choir's French-inspired concert has the iconic **Fauré Requiem** as its centerpiece, accompanied by a lesser known and intimate orchestration for **organ, violin, 'cello and harp**. Other, shorter, acappella 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



Following the extensive renovations at Chilomoni Health Centre earlier in the year, AMECA has spent some time in the UK to plan our activities for the remainder of the year and into 2026. We bring you some brief updates on activities in Malawi and in the UK during the past few months. On behalf of AMECA's Directors in the UK and in Malawi, our deepest gratitude to all the sponsors who have supported and continue to support our work.

Ruthie Markus, CEO

Please click on this link for an AMECA [October 2025 Update](#)



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.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 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.

Monday 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.

Tuesday 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.

Wednesday 29th

All parents and toddlers. Users of Langley Vale Village Hall: Sean Porter, Chair of the Village Hall Committee. Care and nursing homes in the Parish. Those in sheltered housing. Those living and working in Woodcote Close, Woodcote End, Woodcote

Green Road, Woodcote Hurst, Woodcote Park Road and Woodcote Side.

Thursday 30th

Epsom College, staff and students: Chaplain Andrew Haviland. May all who enter our churches find peace and welcome. Epsom & Ewell Foodbank (Our Missions) and the Leprosy Mission. Those living and working in Wootton Close, Worple Road, Wyeths Mews, Wyeths Road, Yeomanry Close and Yew Tree Gardens.

Friday 31st

May the choirs who give concerts at St Martin's and their audiences feel God's presence in our church. Those in our church family who now live elsewhere. Our borough libraries: their librarians, volunteers and those who use them. All who attend our churches and live in roads outside the Parish boundary.

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.

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!).

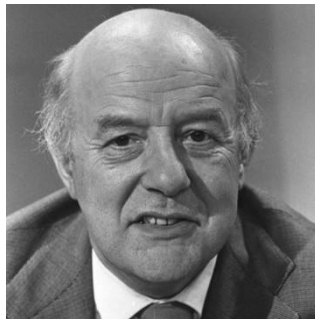
I spoke about Betjeman in August 2024 when the chosen poem was *Hymn*, so to save space I won't offer any biographical notes this time. All I shall say is that the last few lines are ironic. We don't know anyone like that of course.

*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:

Long Life Juice - **Urgent we have none**
Squash - **Urgent we have none**
Powdered Milk - **Urgent**
Chocolate - **Urgent**
Sponge Pudding - **Urgent**
Honey - **Urgent**
Jam - **Urgent**
Non Dairy Milk - **Urgent**
Tinned Fruit
Pasta/Beans with Meat
Tinned Meat
Instant Mash
Dried Pasta in Sauce
Cooking Sauces, Packet Soup
Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce
Instant Coffee
Hot Chocolate
Chocolate Spread
Custard, Sugar
Milk UHT
Shaving Foam
Hair Conditioner
Male/Female deodorant
Washing up Liquid
Washing Powder
Kids Toothpaste and Toothbrushes (ONLY 0-2 and 6+)

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:





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!

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

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

Join **Epsom Choral Society** for a special evening of music on **Saturday 22nd November** at **St Martin's Church, Epsom**, as we perform **Dvořák's *Stabat Mater***. This beautiful choral work is filled with deep emotion, moving from moments of quiet reflection to dramatic intensity, and has become one of the composer's most beloved sacred masterpieces.

We are thrilled to be joined by four outstanding soloists: [Lisa Swayne \(soprano\)](#), [Judy Louie Brown \(mezzo\)](#), [John Findon \(tenor\)](#), and [Niall Anderson \(bass\)](#). Accompanied by the excellent **English Sinfonietta** and conducted by our Musical Director, [Julian Collings](#), this promises to be an evening of beauty, power, and poignancy.

Tickets are priced at just **£20**, with **half-price discount for under-25s**. Every ticket includes a **free glass of wine** and a **complimentary programme**, the perfect opportunity to enjoy a memorable night of world-class music in the centre of Epsom.

We will also arrange for some flyers and a poster to be left in the church.

Tickets are available via the website on www.epsomchoral.org.uk/tickets

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.