

St Martin of Tours
Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs
Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2025
ALL SAINTS

A Time of Remembering

All Souls'

New Creation 

DIARY

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.

Tuesday 4th November

11.00am Jim Wilson's memorial at St Martin's, followed by a buffet lunch in Church.

Contemplative Prayer Group

There will be no Contemplative Prayer Group in November because of the clash with Jim Wilson's Memorial Service.

**4.00pm Time to Talk - Abundance or scarcity?
(tea and biscuits from 3.45pm in church)**

Do you think there will always be enough, or do you assume that there is a scarcity of resources?

Using Old and New Testament, and other resources we will reflect on our own approaches, and explore an economy of gifts and abundance.

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

Wednesday 5th November

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 9th November Remembrance Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion at St Martin's

9.30am Remembrance service at St Stephen's

10.45am Remembrance service at St Martin's

**6.30pm Second Thoughts for Remembrance Sunday
(refreshments from 6pm)**

Rebecca Jaillot "Epsom College: Honouring History and Legacy in Times of Conflict"

The history of Epsom College is rich and multifaceted, particularly during periods of armed conflict. As we observe this period of Remembrance, I will reflect on the ultimate sacrifices made by many of the College's pupils—their stories, legacies, and the profound impact on the institution. Attendees will also have the opportunity to view original artefacts from both the Great War and World War II, preserved in the Epsom College Archive.

Rebecca has an extensive background in the Arts and Heritage sector. She began her career at Tate Britain, contributing to the launch of Tate Modern. After a decade at Leighton House Museum in Kensington, she joined The Foundling Museum dedicated to Britain's first home for abandoned babies and children. For the past nine years, Rebecca has served as the Archivist at Epsom College. Alongside this role, she is training as a psychotherapist, specialising in work with teenagers and young people.

Clive Dougal RIP

Clive was a Lay Reader at St Martin's and he and his wife Anne were regular members of the congregation.

He died on 20 October at The Red House Nursing Home in Ashted which he and Anne moved into a couple of years ago.

Our Church Development Plan

Asked by the Diocese to prioritize our plans for growth, these are our top 3:



Growing children & families

Develop Ark and help Ark families become part of our family



Spiritual growth

Develop a curiosity about our faith



Grow our community outreach

Build on our musical tradition & on our racial justice work

All parishes are asked to produce a Development Plan and ours was approved by the Archdeacon in the summer. In addition to the 3 priorities above our plan also includes:

- 4: Identify how best we can improve our buildings
- 5: Increase regular giving
- 6: Improve and increase our visibility in the community.

You can find the plan with full details by clicking on the link:

[Church Development Plan](#)

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**

Black History Month Exhibition



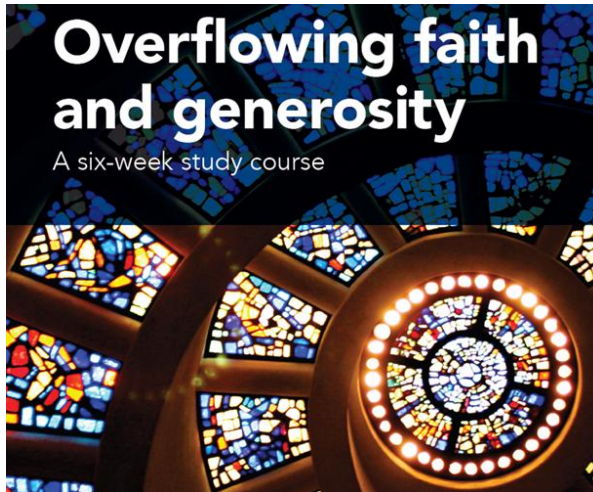
For those of you who weren't able to see the Diocesan Black History Exhibition which was displayed at St Martin's last week, or didn't have your smartphone with you when viewing it, here is the link to the online interviews with Janet, Moni, Oluwapelumi and Beauty:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVqedaf7If7pgoQaGHURdnvOe7zoLVf8g&si=FMytLFXCmODcyyw>

Revd Judith

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 4: Money

For those unable to attend the session:

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

<https://vimeo.com/999567700?fl=pl&fe=sh>

- What did you think of what he said?

Our Bible reading came from Matthew 19: 16-26

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

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ah8o6e06cfnka3wberwlj/Tuesday-17_07.m4a?rlkey=1mfoie1hs5mlcx6ejoe2smrcw&st=gmaxrrwh&dl=0

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

- How did the reading and reflection make you feel?
- Are there any ways in which you feel that you were particularly challenged by today's reflection?

- Do you think you prioritise giving to church as part of your own faith?
- Do you think there is a connection between financial giving and the Christ-like humility that we discussed in week one?
- Some churches ask their members to tithe (give a percentage of their income). How do you think that fits with this passage?

revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org

Wings of faith

CHURCH TIMES 24 October 2025



SUNDERLAND MINSTER

Wings of faith: speakers and other participants at the 2025 Major Churches Network Conference, held in Sunderland Minster last month, gather by the *Angel of the North*. The conference, whose theme was "Pretty & Gritty: Major Church Ministry in context", included workshops on governance resilience, and dialogue between civic and parish voices, as well as the Network's AGM

The sharp-eyed of those of you who subscribe to *Church Times* may have spotted a familiar face among the crowd of people photographed by the Angel of the North in last week's edition. This was because last month I represented St Martin's at the 2025 Major Churches Network Conference held in Sunderland Minster. We stopped off for the photo shoot returning from our day trip to Hexham Abbey. St Martin's is one of two 'Major Churches' in Guildford Diocese - the other being Holy Trinity, Guildford. The conference, whose theme was 'Pretty & Gritty: Major Church Ministry in context', included workshops on governance, resilience and dialogue between civic and parish voices, as well as the Network's AGM. It was great to meet clergy and church wardens from all over the country and learn from their experiences of ministry in their particular context but sobering to hear first-hand the experience of the clergy and congregation at Sunderland Minister whose church was right in the centre of the riots in Sunderland last year.

Rev Judith

Helpers for the Christmas Fair

It would be lovely if could have lots more helpers for the Christmas Fair, even if you can only come for an hour or two it enables others to get lunch and have a rest.

If you can, please either email me or speak to Nancy, Sarah or me .

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

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, Villette 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.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 2nd

Our Curate: Judith Mitchell and her family. Our Archdeacon: Martin Breadmore and the Guildford Diocesan Staff. Our Missions: The Medaille Trust fighting against modern slavery. Those living and working in Ash Mews, Ashdown Road, Ashley Road, Aston Way, Avenue Road and Axwood.

Monday 3rd

Our Priest-in-Retirement: Adrian Esdaile and his family. Andris Abakuks, priest in the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, and his family. Our local public houses, restaurants and shops, and the staff who work in them. The Street Pastors giving help on Friday nights in Epsom. Those living and working in Barn Close, Baron's Hurst, Beaconsfield Place, Beaconsfield Road, Beech Road and Beech Way.

Tuesday 4th

Our Lay Ministers: Ruth Foxcroft, John Padwick and Howard Bluett. Our Cathedral: Guildford Cathedral, the Dean and Chapter. Our Missions: The Epsom and Ewell Refugee Network. Those living and working in Birches Close, Bridge Road, Bridle End, Bridle Road and Burgh Heath Road.

Wednesday 5th

Our Church Warden: Sarah Lutton and for someone to join her as the second Church Warden. All users of Church House. Those suffering from drug or alcohol addiction and their families and

friends. Those living and working in Burghfield, Caithness Drive and Carter's Road.

Thursday 6th

Our Pastoral Assistants: Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook. Our Area Dean: John Marrow. Our Missions: the local Besom Network. Those living and working in Cedar Close, Cedar Hill, Chalk Lane, Chalk Paddock and Chalk Pit Road.

Friday 7th

Our Parish Manager, Church Administrator and Facilities Officer. Those baptised in our churches, past and future, and their families, godparents and sponsors. Swail House and those who are sight impaired. The deaf and hard of hearing. Those living and working in Chantry Hurst, Chartwell Place, Church Road and Church Street.

Saturday 8th

Our Parochial Church Council – officers and members. Our Children's Church: The Ark – Sarah Jeffery, the children, the parents and volunteers. The Mission to Seafarers and Mission Aviation Fellowship. Those living and working in Chuters Grove, Clayton Road, College Avenue and College Road.

THE POWER OF POETRY – NOVEMBER



Rudyard Kipling wrote this poem in the autumn of 1916 after the great naval encounters of WW1 in the North Sea, particularly the Battle of Jutland, in which many lives were lost but few bodies recovered.

Kipling himself knew the pain of losing a child. His first daughter Josephine (the 'Best Beloved' of *The Just So Stories*) had died of pneumonia at the age of three, and in September 1915, his son John, who was never called Jack, was killed at the Battle of Loos, fighting as an officer in the Irish Guards, just a month after his eighteenth birthday. It was not until 1992 that John Kipling's grave was identified, confirmed in 2016 by the War Graves Commission.

Kipling wrote of his son as Dan in *Puck of Pook's Hill* and *Rewards and Fairies*. It was for John that he wrote the poem *If* describing the qualities which he hoped his son would show when he grew up. After learning of German atrocities in Belgium and the sinking of the *Lusitania*, the poet was convinced of the moral case for fighting the war and was keen that his only son should play his part.

“Have you news of my boy Jack?”

Not this tide,

“When do you think that he’ll come back?”

Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

“Has anyone else had word of him?”

Not this tide,

For what is sunk will hardly swim,

Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

“Oh, dear, what comfort can I find?”

None this tide,

Nor any tide,

Except that he did not shame his kind –

Not even with that wind blowing and that tide.

Then hold your head up all the more,

This tide,

And every tide,

Because he was the son you bore,

And gave to that wind blowing and that tide!

This poem was written about the death of Jack Cornwell, the youngest sailor at the Battle of Jutland. It is plainly about mourning and regret, and the importance of sacrifice. We hear an anxious mother, whose son has been lost in the North Sea, watching the coast and hoping that his body might be washed ashore and that she might find the closure that she seeks. The other speaker offers little in the way of immediate comfort but instead urges her to be proud of her son’s sacrifice.

John Roll Pickering

FOODBANK REQUESTS

This week we need the following:

Washing up Liquid - **Urgent**
Sponge Pudding - **Urgent**
Honey - **Urgent**
Non Dairy Milk - **Urgent**
Pasta/Beans with Meat - **Urgent**
Tinned Meat
Instant Mash
Cooking Sauces (e.g., Curry Sauce, Sweet and Sour, etc.)
Long Life Juice
Squash
Ketchup/Mayonnaise/Brown Sauce
Hot Chocolate
Sugar
Shaving Foam
Hair Conditioner
Male/Female deodorant
Washing Powder
Kids Toothpaste

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



All are welcome to our
CHRISTMAS TEA
WITH CAROLS



St Martin's Church
Sunday 14th December
3pm - 5pm
Free - donations welcome



St Martin
of Tours
Church Street
Epsom, KT11 4PX

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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.**