

St Martin of Tours
Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs
Langley Vale

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2025
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



DIARY

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.

Tuesday 11th November

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

Wednesday 12th November

10.00am Holy Communion

7.00pm Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

7.30pm PCC in the Wisley Room

Saturday 15th November

9.150am PCC training session (until 1.00pm)

Sunday 16th November Safeguarding Sunday

9.30am Morning Prayer service at St Stephen's

10.00am Holy Communion service at St Martin's

6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's

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. His funeral service will be in Church, and a date will be announced as soon as it is known.

The North Aisle

We have had to cordon off an area of the north aisle in front of the war memorial, due to pieces of plaster falling off the ceiling. We are following the architect's recommendation for a company to carry out an initial inspection of the ceiling in that area. They came last week, but couldn't reach the ceiling with their tower and so must return with scaffolding! Hopefully, this can be done in the coming week. ***Rob J and Sarah L***

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:

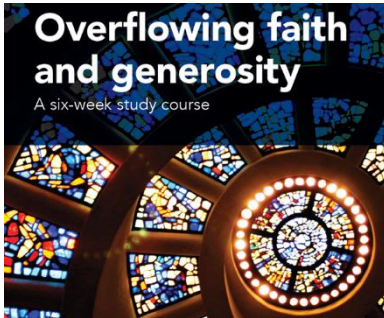
- 4: Identify how best we can improve our buildings
- 5: Increase regular giving
- 6: Improve and increase our visibility in the community.

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

[Church Development Plan](#)

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 5: Mission and Evangelism

For those unable to attend the session:

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

<https://vimeo.com/999564155>

- What did you think of what she said?

Our Bible reading came from Matthew 5: 1-16

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

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/vf6ilca7xvym5jgas4gil/Tuesday-17_33.m4a?rlkey=q614mvuhg08w3kfxryl95jl2h&st=lfu3q5yp&dl=0

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

- How did the reading and reflection make you feel?
- What does evangelism mean for you? Is it different from the style of evangelism we have heard about today?
- Do you think evangelism can be a type of giving? What might it be 'giving'?
- Do you think it's important how people see Christians behaving?
- Based on the reading and the previous weeks' sessions, what kind of behaviour do you think Jesus might be talking about when he calls people to let their light shine?

revjudith@stmartinsepsom.org

Cakes for the Christmas Fair

The Cake Stall is one of our most popular stalls and we need as many people as possible to make cakes for it.

Please bring them on either Friday 28th or on Saturday 29th November. Thank you.

Joan Gabbett

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!

In order to enable us to cater more effectively it would be helpful if you would sign up on the list at the back of the church if you think you might be coming. This won't be binding of course but it would be useful! Thank you. ***Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook***

EVENING OF LIGHTS, MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2025

This will be held from 6.00 pm – 8 pm in St Martin's Church when the church will be lit by candles and the Christmas tree lights.

This is *not* a service, nor is it a community event, but aims to provide a peaceful place in which individuals may come to remember someone they have lost. A hot drink – tea, coffee or hot chocolate – will be available at the back of the church.

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 Calendars 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**

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



**'O Come, O come Emmanuel!
Who are YOU expecting?'**

Four sessions to talk about Advent and the One for whom we are waiting.

Wednesdays 3rd, 10th and 17th December and Tuesday 23rd December.

11am each week, repeated at 7.30pm (the evening sessions will finish with compline in the Lady Chapel).

Full details soon, but for now please note the dates. Note also, we hope to broadcast the evening sessions on zoom.

Howard Bluett, one of our Lay Ministers, will lead the course.



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 9th

Our Organist: Iain Macfarlane. Our Welcomers: Meg Topley and the Team. The physical, mental and emotional well-being of the people of Epsom and Langley Vale, local mental health units and *Love Me Love My Mind* (Our Missions). Those living and working in Copse Edge Avenue, Delaporte Close, Denham Road and Depot Road.

Monday 10th

St Stephen's Church: its life, worship and mission to Langley Vale. Safeguarding in our churches: creating and sustaining a safe welcoming inclusive space for everyone. The Bible Society, Spinnaker Trust (Our Missions) and all those teaching RE locally. Those living and working in Digdens Rise, Dirdene Close, Dirdene Gardens, Dirdene Grove and Dorking Road.

Tuesday 11th

Our Bell-ringing Team and Tower Captain Mike Bale. Our Ministry Team. All local young families. Those living and working in Downs Avenue, Downs Hill Road, Downs Road and Downs Way.

Wednesday 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.

Thursday 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.

Friday 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.

Saturday 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.

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:



ADVENT STUDY COURSE

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17 and Tuesday 23rd December
11.00am and 7.30pm



Study Course:
O come, O come,
Emmanuel -
who are *(YOU)* expecting?



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, KT17 4PX

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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.