



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 28th JUNE 2026 TRINITY 4

DIARY

Sunday 28th June Trinity 4

- 9.30am Holy Communion service at St Stephen's
- 10.00am Morning Prayer and baptism at St Martin's
- 6.30pm Compline service at St Martin's

Please Note: There will be no meeting at 4pm on Tuesday 30th June or 7th July. The next meeting is on Tuesday 14 July at 4pm - Time to Talk. Our topic is Hildegard of Bingen.

Do come and join us.

Lynne

Wednesday 1st July

- 10.00am Holy Communion service at St Martin's

Sunday 5th July Trinity 5

- 9.30am Morning Prayer service at St Stephen's
- 10.00am Holy Communion service at St Martin's
- 6.30pm Evening Prayer service at St Martin's

Contemplative Prayer

The Contemplative Prayer Group will meet in the Lady Chapel at St Martin's at 11am on Tuesday 7th July. Our starting point will be from Haggai 1.8: '*.. Build the house that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured.*' There will also be 'zoom' session on Thursday, 16th July at 8pm. The link to that can be had from me or from Alex Rennie. All will be very welcome. **Adrian**

From Bishop Paul (*acting Bishop of Guildford*)

I write to extend an invitation to you. I have set three priorities for the coming two years: prayer, pastoral care and a sharper focus on our 'priority of priorities': deepening discipleship and investing wholeheartedly in children and young people. As part of this, I am holding gatherings in each of our deaneries to enable me to meet, pray and worship with our clergy and congregations as part of my pastoral care for the diocese. I would be delighted if you would join me at the **Epsom Deanery Gathering which will be held at St Paul's Howell Hill on Monday 6 July from 7.30pm to 9pm, with tea and coffee served from 7pm.**

Our time together will include thanksgiving, a celebration of what God is doing in each parish, prayer for the specific needs of your ministry and parish, worship and a few reflections from me on what I sense God may be saying to us in this season. I hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you.

Every blessing, +Paul **The Rt Revd Paul Davies**

Second Thoughts - Sunday, 12th July, at 6.30pm
(refreshments from 5.45 pm)

The Odujinrin family

“Family Perspective on a Cross-Denominational Christian Gathering: Reflections from Spring Harvest”

Spring Harvest is a unique annual event that brings together Christians from a wide range of denominations for worship, teaching, and fellowship. In this talk, the Odujinrins will share their experiences attending recent Spring Harvest gatherings, offering insights into what it’s like to engage with such a diverse faith community from a family perspective. They will reflect on the richness of worship styles, the opportunities for spiritual growth, and the practical aspects of attending as a family—including how the event has enriched their faith and deepened their awareness of the unity that exists across different Christian traditions.

About the Speakers: The Odujinrin family are longstanding members of St Martin’s of Tours Church, Epsom. Dad has been involved in children’s work and, together with their children (aged 15 and 12), sings in the choir and contributes to leading worship through music. Mum adds her own distinctive contribution through bell ringing. Deeply engaged in the life of the church, the family loves sharing their experiences of faith in action. Their reflections promise to offer encouragement and practical insights for families considering attending similar events that celebrate the beauty of worshipping together across denominations.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Bishop Paul is visiting us on **Sunday July 19th**. The event begins at **4pm**, as he dedicates our new solar panels, and some new bell ropes. This will be followed by a parish tea and, at **5.30pm**, the Bishop will lead a service that will include first communion for some of our children and confirmation for young people and adults. This will be a great occasion to celebrate our eco-Church progress, our wonderful bell ringing team, our children and young people, those confirming their faith and each other.

Parish Giving Scheme

If you are on our mailing list you will have received details of how effective and simple this scheme is. Making it simple to donate regularly by direct debit. If you haven't yet done it. Do follow this link to set up your regular giving:

[The Parish Giving Scheme Website](#)

St Stephen's Update:

It is with great excitement that we can announce that we have secured a quotation for the repair of the front of St Stephen's church. The PCC formally agreed to appoint B W May & Son to complete the work and we are awaiting final details of when they will be able to start. Thank you to everybody that has kept this process in their thoughts and prayers and we hope to announce the start date very soon. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on rob@stmartinsepsom.org. **Rob Jeffery**
- Churchwarden & Chair of the fabric committee

Community art showcase at The Horton Atrium Gallery

The organisers of the Horton Art Exhibition 2026 invited young people in Epsom & Ewell to submit artwork on the theme 'Places and Spaces'. The exhibition features physical, chosen masterpieces, ranging from drawings and paintings to collages, stitchings and sculptures. It celebrates how young people view and experience the places that are important to them in their local area. I am pleased to tell you that my submission, a painting of St Martin's, was selected to be part of the exhibition.

Friends and family are invited to come along to see the selected works on display. There is one day left to visit!

Key event details:

- Tuesday 30th June 2026., 9.15am-4.30pm
- Main Venue: Atrium Gallery inside The Horton Arts Centre, Haven Way, Epsom KT19 8NP.
- Completely Free entry.

Erin O

TS Eliot's Murder in the Cathedral - Advance notice

This autumn, David Suchet is taking the role of Thomas Becket in the Orchard Theatre's production of TS Eliot's play 'Murder in the Cathedral'. It will take place in St John the Divine in Richmond from 12th October - 7th November 2026.

PRAYER GROUPS

Evening Prayer on Zoom, weekdays 5-5.30pm

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.

Centering Prayer: Every other Tuesday, 4pm in Church (Tea & biscuits from 3.45pm)

“Be still and know that I am God” *Psalm 46:10*. A group meets to pray together in silence. We begin with something to reflect on - a biblical passage or Psalm. After our 20 minutes of silence, we share something that we have noticed during our time together.

Please note that we will not be meeting on 30th June or 7th July 2026

Contemplative Prayer: 1st Tuesday of each month, 11am In the Lady Chapel, St Martin’s

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. There is an additional zoom Contemplative Prayer session on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 8pm. Find us using the same Zoom details cited above for Evening Prayer.

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Please remember in your daily prayers this week:

Sunday 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 in Westgate Close, Wilmerhatch Lane and Wimborne Close.

Monday 29th

All parents and toddlers. Users of Langley Vale Village Hall: Tom Pope, Chair of the Village Hall Committee. Care and nursing homes in the Parish. Those in sheltered housing. Those in Woodcote Close, Woodcote End, Woodcote Green Road, Woodcote Hurst, Woodcote Park Road and Woodcote Side.

Tuesday 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 in Wootton Close, Worple Road, Wyeths Mews, Wyeths Road, Yeomanry Close and Yew Tree Gardens.

Wednesday 1st

Our Vicar: Nick Parish. Our Bishop: Paul Davies, Bishop of Dorking and Acting Bishop of Guildford. The Chaplaincy Team at Epsom & St Helier Hospitals. Those in Adelphi Road, Albert Road, Alexandra Road and Andrews Close.

Thursday 2nd

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

Friday 3rd

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

Saturday 4th

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

MISSION FOCUS – JUNE



PHAB - Is a national and local organisation with a network of clubs and partners across the country where disabled and non-disabled people learn, thrive and belong.

PHAB provides safe fun places for people to feel independent,

meet new friends and gain confidence together.
We support the Epsom PHAB group with donations.
Please hold them in your prayers.

Jill Chapman, Mission

THE POWER OF POETRY – JUNE

The poem selected for June is quite long, so biographical details must be quite short. Matthew Arnold was born in 1822 in Laleham, near Staines. His father was Thomas Arnold, Headmaster of Rugby School where Matthew Arnold was educated. He later went to Oxford and became a major poet and writer of poetry criticism.

Dover Beach:

*The sea is calm tonight,
The tide is full, the moon lies fair
Upon the Straits - on the French coast, the light
Gleams, and is gone; the cliffs of England stand,
Glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay.
Come to the window, sweet is the night air!
Only from the long line of spray
Where the ebb meets the moon-blanch'd sand,
Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles, which the waves suck back, and fling,
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin, and cease, and then again begin,
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in.*

*Sophocles long ago
Heard it on the Aegaeon, and it brought
Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow*

*Of human misery; we
Find also in the sound a thought,
Hearing it by this distant northern sea.
The sea of faith
Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore
Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furl'd;
But now I only hear
Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,
Retreating to the breath
Of the night wind down the vast edges drear
And naked shingles of the world.
Ah, love, let us be true
To one another! for the world, which seems
To lie before us like a land of dreams,
So various, so beautiful, so new,
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,
Not certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;
And we are here as on a darkling plain
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight
Where ignorant armies clash by night.*

In *Dover Beach* Arnold is writing about loss of faith, which was a casualty of the Enlightenment, accelerated by advances in Geology which provided evidence that the earth was millions of years older than had been thought and had undergone masses of changes caused by volcanic action, ice ages followed by warming and so on. The publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* in 1859 also impacted on people's belief in the accuracy of the account of creation in Genesis.

It is a wonderful and evocative poem, however, written in free verse which at the time was experimental, though the sentiments are Victorian with a grieving sense of loss. It is written as a monologue and apparently the poet is speaking to someone else, probably his wife, though that person does not speak. The first verse begins lyrically, interrupted by the word “Only...” and going on to describe “the grating roar of pebbles”. I expect we have all heard this at some time; I heard it quite recently when I was at Birling Gap in mid-May when the sea, at high tide, was grey and rough and the roar of the sea dragging over the shingle was powerful. Even when the sea looks tranquil it is never at rest. Arnold’s lines echoes the sound of the sea crashing and then withdrawing over the pebbly beach, using sibilance in many words: strand, cease, cadence, slow, sadness. The last part is full of regret for the loss of faith, and the last five lines are an apt description of our world at the moment. There is no room here for detailed analysis and criticism, but it is worth thinking about what we would reply to his conclusion. *Mary Gilbert*

FOODBANK REQUESTS

Squash - **Urgent we have none**
Powdered Milk - **Urgent we have none**
Long Life Juice - **Urgent we have none**
Chocolate - **Urgent we have none**
Sugar - **Urgent we have none**
Biscuits - **Urgent we have none**
Microwave Rice – **Urgent**
Tinned Meat – **Urgent**, Tinned Fish – **Urgent**
Tea (bags) – **Urgent**, Tinned Fruit – **Urgent**
Pasta Sauce – **Urgent**, Sponge Pudding – **Urgent**

Tinned Peas – **Urgent**
Male/ Female Deodorant – **Urgent**
Tinned Tomatoes, Cooking Sauce, Beans, Pulses, Instant Mash
Tinned Potatoes, Sweetcorn, Noodles,
Tinned Spaghetti, Rice, Pasta/Beans with Meat
Dried Pasta in Sauce, Packet Soup
Milk UHT (Semi-Skimmed or Whole)
Breakfast Cereal, Cereal Bars, Chocolate Biscuit Bars
Crisps, Custard, Rice Pudding
Squash - **Urgent we have none**
Powdered Milk - **Urgent we have none**
Long Life Juice - **Urgent we have none**
Chocolate - **Urgent we have none**
Hair Conditioner, Shower Gel, Washing Up Liquid
Adult Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Sanitary Pads, Washing Powder
Children Toothbrushes 0-2 and 6+ ONLY
Children Toothpaste 0-2 ONLY
Shaving Foam, Toilet Rolls, Nappies Size 4, 4+, 5, 5+, 6 and 6+

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**

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.



Music @ St Martin's

An extra helping!

Sarah Small Viola da Gamba

With Helen Williams – Viola da Gamba

Sunday 5th July

5.30pm

Tea from 4.30, and the concert is followed
by Evening Prayer



Music @ St Martin's

**Saturday 11 July
4.30pm**

Double Duos

A unique ensemble
performing arrangements of
show music from the
1920s-1950s

LUMOS

A Hans Zimmer candlelight experience

an unforgettable evening of music in an enchanting
indoor setting

St Martin's Church, Church St,
Epsom KT17 4PX
Saturday 18th July
2 Sitings: 7-8pm | 9-10pm




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Saint
Columba's
House



OPEN DAY AT ST COLUMBA'S



Tours

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS!


Join us this summer for a special Open Day at St Columba's House, one of Woking's most peaceful and welcoming spaces. Feel free to drop in and say 'hi'.



Activities

THINGS TO DO:

- ✔ explore the house and gardens
- ✔ complimentary refreshments
- ✔ take a guided tour of the building
- ✔ walk the garden labyrinth
- ✔ visit the art exhibition
- ✔ spend a quiet moment in our Oratory



Coffee

WHEN?

SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST
11AM - 3PM

CONTACT US NOW

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