

# PARISH OF ESHER

CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER with ST GEORGE'S, WEST END

SHARING THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE IN ESHER

Reconciling - Sustaining - Guiding - Healing

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

4 OCTOBER 2020

## CHURCH SERVICES

Christ Church	Parish Communion at 10.30am led by Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Sandra Argent
Sides	Karen Harris, Jane Tyrrell
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading & Prayers	Esher Church School pupils
Musicians	Diana Johns, Stuart Whatton, Keith Howell-Jones

## MUSIC

Opening Piano Music	<i>Reaper's Song and Rustic Song</i> (Schumann)
Communion Anthem	<i>Thou visitest the earth</i> (Greene)
Closing Piano Music	<i>Harvest, from The Seasons</i> <i>Op. 37a</i> (Tchaikovsky)

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Creator God  
you made the goodness of the land,  
the riches of the sea  
and the rhythm of the seasons;  
as we thank you for the harvest,  
may we cherish and respect  
this planet and its peoples,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,  
with joy we have offered thanksgiving  
for your love in creation and have shared  
in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:  
by your grace plant within us a reverence  
for all that you give us and make us  
generous and wise stewards  
of the good things we enjoy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. It is a fixture in the Church calendar which has retained its popularity despite - or maybe paradoxically because of - the fact that we live in an increasingly urbanised world. Martin Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, gives some of the background to the observance:

"Although there is a sense in which harvest has always been celebrated (Lammas and Rogationtide come to mind) the modern fondness for harvest is traceable to the Revd Robert Hawker, a Devonian priest, who began the new service we now recognise as 'harvest festival' in 1843, at his parish in Morwenstow in north Cornwall. It was Hawker who, building on earlier Saxon and Celtic Christian customs, began to decorate his church with home-grown produce, a practice that has now become widespread for 150 years. Throughout the Victorian era, the festival was steadily embellished and romanticised, probably to act as a counterweight to the growing influence of the Industrial Revolution and secularisation." (The Bright Field).

This is the living tradition we inherit and which we continue today - giving thanks for Creation and seeking, by God's grace, to be generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy.

God bless,



## READING 2 Corinthians 9.6-end

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

## GOSPEL Luke 12.16-30

Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.' He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you - you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

## PARISH COVID INFORMATION

### Parish Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update -

In line with the latest COVID-19 guidance from the Government and the Diocese, Sunday morning public worship has resumed with a Parish Communion at Christ Church on Sundays, at 10.30am. We are also pleased that public worship at St George's has started again with fortnightly 9am services. Regular worshippers have been advised how this works. If you would like to know more please contact the Parish Office. St George's will now remain closed during the week. Christ Church will continue to open for private prayer on Wednesdays, 9am-6pm. In both church buildings there are safety guidelines to be followed and social distancing to be maintained. Please read the instructions upon entering. Thank you.

**Help & the Parish Office** - The office is working remotely and is closed. If you need support, do let us know via the Parish Office email and telephone. For urgent enquiries please contact the Rector, the Revd Darren McCallig (rector@esherparish.org.uk or 01372 461088) or a churchwarden - Helen Coulson on 07506 701454 or Sandra Argent on 07973 909152. For music or 'MOTG' enquiries, contact our Director of Music, Stuart Whatton, on 07816 011621 or fullorgan@cantab.net. Many thanks.

### Daily Hope Helpline 0800 804 8044 -

This is a new free initiative launched by the Church of England and Lambeth Palace with help from Holy Trinity Claygate. Following a greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury, a list of options includes a short talk exploring a traditional hymn, hymns on a loop, the Church of England's weekly service and morning/evening prayers.

## CHRIST CHURCH SERVICE NOTES

Welcome! It's great to be back together for Sunday worship. A few things to remember:

- Please take the Order of Service and the Pewsheets with you. We'll follow the same Order almost every week, so do re-use it.
- Please ensure the sidespeople have your details for 'Track & Trace' purposes.
- The toilet (at the back of the church) is open, but please use only if necessary.
- Our service will be live-streamed on our Parish Facebook page. The camera is angled so that only the priest and those speaking from the lectern can be seen.
- Face coverings/masks are now required by law in places of worship. Exemptions are: those leading worship; children under 11; those unable to put on/wear a face mask because of a physical or mental illness or disability; those for whom wearing a mask will cause severe distress; and anyone assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate.
- Communion will be in one kind only (consecrated bread) with the priest wearing a face covering for distribution. Please come 'up' the centre aisle and use the hand sanitiser before receiving. Please return to your seat 'down' the side aisles.
- If you prefer to make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer in the Order of Service, on page 10.
- Sadly, we cannot offer coffee and we're asked to not stay inside. But, chatting outside in small groups is encouraged!
- Just as we asked you to use the hand sanitiser on the way in, please use it again on the way out.

It's wonderful to have you here - thank you for coming.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Harvest Services** - We are holding two Harvest Eucharist services - the first service is today at Christ Church with the second one at St George's on Sunday 11 October at 9am. All of our Harvest donations will be donated to the East Elmbridge Foodbank. They are particularly in need of fruit juice (long life) coffee (small jars), Fray Bentos pies, tinned hot dogs, tinned fish, tinned vegetables, ketchup/mayo (small plastic bottles), tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding and household cleaning items. There is a Foodbank Harvest Appeal on their Local Giving page for those preferring to give financially - <https://localgiving.org/east-elmbridge-foodbank-harvest2020>.

**Silver Sunday** - Today, not only do we celebrate Harvest but we're also invited to celebrate all older people in any way we choose, whether it's on our doorsteps, indoors, outdoors or online. See website [www.silversunday.org.uk](http://www.silversunday.org.uk) for more details.

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting** - Our delayed APCM will take place on Sunday 18 October after the Christ Church service.

**Electoral Roll** - In April 2019 we completely reviewed our Electoral Roll. You may find you're not on the roll now. If you would like to add your name to the roll, please contact the Parish Office for a form. Thank you.

**Donations** - Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. Like many parishes, our income has fallen in recent months. Please consider supporting our mission and ministry via our JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/esherparish>. There will be a retiring collection after the service today. You can make payments to the parish bank account too - contact the Parish Office for details and for GA forms.

**Pioneers Youth Group** - Pioneers (Year 7+) restarts at St Mary's East Molesey today at 6pm. Please let Dave Whymark know if your young person will be attending so we can ensure we do not exceed the set limit.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** - Whilst we are unable to hold a regular coffee morning as we did last year we will have a virtual one at 11am on Friday 9 October. Please contact the Parish Office for the Zoom sign-in details. To make donations to Macmillan please go to <https://coffee.macmillan.org.uk>. Thank you.

**Book Group** - We're starting a Parish Book Group, with 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry' by Rachel Joyce being the first book for discussion. The first meeting is to take place on Tuesday 13 October at 4.30pm on Zoom. If it sounds your sort of thing, please contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 01372 479776 / [jandrewesher@hotmail.com](mailto:jandrewesher@hotmail.com)

**Music on the Green** - Our next concert will be on Wednesday 21 October, when we will welcome the Flauguissimo Duo, a husband and wife team on baroque flute and theorbo. You can listen to the last recital on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EsherParish>. It will be on our MOTG YouTube channel soon. Online donations are gratefully received at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/MOTG>

**'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee!** - Morning Prayer will resume this Wednesday, at 9am, led by our Rector, Darren, on Zoom as usual. All are welcome to join. Contact the Parish Office for the Zoom sign-in details.

**Zoom Bible Reflection & Prayer** - At 9am on Tuesday mornings, there is a time of Bible reflection and prayer. All are welcome to join this informal Zoom gathering which finishes about 10am. Contact the Parish Office for the Zoom sign-in details.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Jackie Hinton, Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Viola Mason, Helena Miller

RIP Anniversaries: Dorothy Ward

RIP: Raymond Stenning

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Taken from the Church of England Lectionary – readings for Morning Prayer are given below.

October		Time	Reading
Monday	5		1 Kings 21; Ps 71; Acts 21.37-22.21
Tuesday	6	9.00-10.00am	1 Kings 22.1-28; Ps 73; Acts 22.22-23.11
Wednesday	7	8.50-10.00am	1 Kings 22.29-45; Ps 77; Acts 23.12-end
Thursday	8		2 Kings 1.2-17; Ps 78.1-39; Acts 24.1-23
Friday	9		2 Kings 2.1-18; Ps 55; Acts 24.24-25.12

## LOOKING AHEAD

October		Time	Event
Sunday	4	6.00pm	Pioneers, St Mary's East Molesey
Monday	5	7.15-8.30pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	6	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
Wednesday	7	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
		10.00am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
Friday	9	11.00am	Macmillan Coffee Morning, Zoom
Sunday	11	9.00am	Harvest Eucharist Service, St George's
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		Midday	Interment of Patricia McKenna, Christ Church
Monday	12	7.15-8.30pm	Choir rehearsal, Christ Church
Tuesday	13	9.00-10.00am	Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom
		4.30pm	Parish of Esher Book Club, Zoom
Wednesday	14	8.50-10.00am	Morning Prayer & Zoffee!, Zoom
Thursday	15	7.30pm	West End Committee Meeting, Zoom
Sunday	18	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		Midday	Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Christ Church

## CONTACTS

<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> Website <a href="http://www.esherparish.org.uk">www.esherparish.org.uk</a> Twitter <a href="https://twitter.com/esherparish">www.twitter.com/esherparish</a> Christ Church open Wednesday, 9am to 6pm	<b>RECTOR</b> Revd Darren McCallig Tel 01372 461088 Email <a href="mailto:rector@esherparish.org.uk">rector@esherparish.org.uk</a> Rector's day off is Monday
<b>PARISH OFFICE</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email <a href="mailto:office@esherparish.org.uk">office@esherparish.org.uk</a>	