

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

PALM SUNDAY

24 MARCH 2024

CHURCH SERVICES	
Holy Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 9am at St George's Church (SG)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Reading, Prayers	Peter Bedford
Musician	Theo Tang
Parish Communion	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Helen Coulson
Sidespeople	Michael Banks, Sean Cole
Reading, Prayers	Brian Elliott, Jennifer Meade
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Debbie Banks, Sia Marshall
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Theo Tang
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Grave from Concerto no. 1 in G</i> (Bach/Ernst)
SG & CC hymns	160, 159, 161
SG & CC setting	Addington
Post sermon music	<i>Prière, Op. 43 no. 2</i> (Glière)
Communion anthem	<i>Psalms 23</i> (Coulson)
Communion music	<i>Romance from Symphonie IV</i> (Vieme)
Closing music	<i>Fanfare</i> (Christopher Steel)
THE COLLECT	
True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.	

Welcome to the Parish

The Parish of Esher is for everyone.

The two church buildings, Christ Church in Esher and St George's in West End, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through the doors to celebrate their marriages, welcome their new-borns and grieve their losses – all of it embraced by the beauty of the worship offered in these houses of prayer week in and week out.

On Sundays we explore the riches of the Christian spiritual tradition through words and music, silence and sacrament. Some of us grew up in church and have never left. Some of us grew out of church, but are testing the waters again. Some of us have more questions than answers. All of us belong here.

You can also check-out some of our services on YouTube to get a flavour of what we're about, or just come along some Sunday at 10.30am in Christ Church or at 9.00am in St George's West End.

Whether you join online or in person, we hope you'll find a community committed to a thoughtful Faith, a hard-won Hope, and a generous Love.

You are very welcome.

READING Isaiah 50.4-9a

A servant of the Lord said:

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

PALM GOSPEL Mark 11.1-11

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." ' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Parish of Esher services

Easter 2024

Easter services and free events

Saturday, 23 March

Easter Crazy Crafts

10am, Lower Green Community Centre

Drop in anytime, 10am-1pm, for free family fun!

Palm Sunday, 24 March

Palm Sunday Services

9am, St George's, West End

10.30am, Christ Church, Esher

Tuesday, 26 March

Wednesday, 27 March

Music in the Tower

1pm & 8pm, Christ Church

Places are limited so please book ahead.

Maundy Thursday, 28 March

Maundy Thursday Service

8pm, Christ Church, Esher

Good Friday, 29 March

Good Friday Service

2pm, Christ Church, Esher

Easter Sunday, 31 March

Easter Day Services

9am, St George's, West End

10.30am, Christ Church, Esher

Parish of Esher - Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS + St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher KT10 8LF

Telephone: 01372 462282 + Email: office@esherparish.org.uk + Website: www.esherparish.org.uk



ADDITIONAL LECTIONARY TEXTS

PSALM 118.1-2, 19-end

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

20 'This is the gate of the Lord; whoever is righteous may enter.'

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner-stone.

23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosanna, Lord, hosanna! Lord, send us now success.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 'You are my God and I will thank you; you are my God and I will exalt you.'

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

THE PASSION Mark 15.1-39

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown,

they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!' In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When

some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

Parish of Esher youth
and the Lower Green community

Saturday 23 March, 10am-1pm

Easter CRAZY CRAFTS

Lower Green Community Centre
Farm Road, Esher

We warmly invite you to our free
Easter community crafting event!

Come anytime 10am-1pm to the Lower Green Community Centre (Recreation Ground, KT10 8AU) to make super creations, like greetings cards, Easter baskets, tissue flowers and our great Kindness Jars. Entry is free, the cafe will be open and kids get a goodie bag. Please look after your children at all times.



Parish of Esher - Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

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PARISH NOTICES

Parish Easter Card - Do pick up a copy of our Easter card for 2024. It gives details of all Easter services and events. We aim to deliver this card to as many households as possible in our Parish. If you can help with this please see Will Stevens who is coordinating this effort.

Lent Reflections - Lent has been a wonderful time to practice gratitude and lean into our faith through appreciation of what we have, and what's important to us - individually, as a community and as disciples of Jesus. We've encouraged everyone, children as well, to think about what they appreciate. Each Sunday we've handed out a different question sheet to fill in and leave in church to go on our Lent Reflections board in Christ Church. We'll share all responses with the children and use to create our 2024 Lent Reflections cards to add to last year's collection which can be purchased now (£7.50 donation).

Lent Appeal 2024 - This year we are raising funds for much needed CCTV at Christ Church. For more details see separate Lent Appeal notice overleaf. You can donate via the card machine in Christ Church or online by scanning the QR code pew cards. Where appropriate, include your details so we can claim Gift Aid and enhance your donation.

Food donations - During Lent we've been encouraging donations split 50/50 between the Esher Lower Green Community Centre (www.lowergreen.org) and the local Foodbank (www.eastelbridge.foodbank.org.uk). There's still time to donate in the box in Christ Church.

Christ Church Defibrillator - A defibrillator is crucial in saving lives – from 6% to 75% survival. We're fundraising for this life saving equipment. To donate to the First Aid Fund scan the QR code here or in either church, use the card machine in Christ Church or contact the Parish Office



Easter Crazy Crafts - You're invited to come crafting on Saturday 23 March at the Lower Green Community Centre, Farm Road. Drop in anytime, 10am-1pm, to enjoy Easter craft activities. It's a free family event – you'll be responsible for your children. The cafe will open. Children will get a free goodie bag!

Easter Egg Hunt - Bring your basket on Easter Sunday, 11.30am to 12.30pm, to hunt for some very special Easter eggs in the grounds of Christ Church. Or just stay and watch the children having some fun!

Easter Gardens - Sunday School prepared an Easter Garden at Christ Church and buried a 'Hallelujah'. This celebratory word is removed from church liturgy in Lent and is traditionally marked by this ceremony and resurrected on Easter Day. The St George's folks also have their own Easter Garden to admire.

Sunday School - This week we will be making palm crosses and creating a very special large stained-glass cross!

Easter Eggs - We have a few Real Easter Eggs for sale in both churches - £5 each. They are made of Fairtrade chocolate, include an Easter story book and supports charitable projects.

Youth Group - Youth Group will be back on Sunday 7 April in Christ Church, 4.30-6pm for more games and meaningful conversation.

Darren - The Rector's Adoption Leave will continue until Tuesday 20 November 2024. We pray that Darren and his wife have the time and space to grow and enjoy their new family. For all enquiries please do contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.

Kid's Activities at Old St George's - As we celebrate the beginning of Spring and the flowers returning, Old St George's Church is offering free plant-based family activities on Wednesdays 3 and 11 April, 11am-3pm. There'll be something for the whole family.

Our Parish Lent Appeal 2024

The Parish supported an international cause for its recent Advent Appeal, as is our custom. We're now supporting a local issue for our Lent Appeal.

The Diocese of Guildford is advocating local community needs, and we are following suit. As the old saying goes 'Charity begins at home' and we have a specific need following the unwelcome visit of an intruder a year ago. It was particularly unnerving for Darren and Jennifer who both happened to be in Christ Church at the time. The ensuing Police visit emphasised that our security was, to say the least, somewhat inadequate. So it is extremely fortunate the intruder made the decision to run off.

We have already made some improvements and at the recommendation of the Diocese, we called in a security company to survey Christ Church and to provide recommendations and a quote for the installation of a CCTV system with cameras at all our external doors.

We now have the required Diocese of Guildford approval to proceed with the work, but needless to say it is costly. We need to raise circa £5k to cover this cost, and this is the aim of our Lent Appeal in 2024.

Keeping Christ Church open outside of worship times is a key element in the link we have with the local community we serve. Our open doors provide people with a quiet place to pray, somewhere to sit and think and enables visitors to enjoy our historic and magnificent building.

We need to be able to open Christ Church in the safest way possible for visitors and for our staff and key volunteers working onsite.

It is for these reasons that we are aiming to raise the funds required for the CCTV cameras and installation, which will help to provide the extra security needed whilst the church is open for use by our community.

To donate to the Lent Appeal please scan the QR code here or on the pew cards in either church, use the card machine in Christ Church or contact the Parish Office. You can also donate via cash/cheque using the Gift Aid appeal envelopes.



Thank you for your support.
The Parochial Church Council of Esher



Parish of Esher youth

Easter
EGG HUNT

**Christ Church, Esher
Sunday 31 March, 11.30am**

Bring your basket on Easter Sunday, 11.30am to 12.30pm, to hunt for some very special Easter eggs in the grounds of Christ Church. Take care to look hard - the eggs are hiding!

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PARISH NOTICES

Music in the Tower 2024 - We have a few places left so please act now to book! Our featured artist will be Emilija Karaliutė, who is bringing us a programme entitled *'The Power of Nature - Melodies from the Forest'*. A former National Laureate of Lithuania, Emilija will perform on the kanklės, a Lithuanian folk instrument related to the zither. The music will be interspersed with selected readings for this contemplative time of year. There'll be four performances in the Tower Room of Christ Church during Holy Week – on Tuesday 26 March and Wednesday 27 March, at 1pm and 8pm. This year's admission price will be £15 per person, to include light refreshments after the performance. This annual event is always a highlight of the Esher cultural calendar and seats are strictly limited to 20 per performance. Please reserve your places now on the sign-up sheet in Christ Church or via the Parish Office!

Book Group - Our next meeting will be on Monday 25 March, 4pm, when we'll discuss *Unlawful Killings* by Wendy Joseph KC. A High Court Judge gives an inside view of the justice system sharing what it's like to witness humanity good and bad – at times very bad. To know more contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewesher@gmail.com

Music on the Green - Our next lunchtime concert will be on Wednesday 17 April when we host a French horn recital by Henry Ward, accompanied by Owen Lee, with a varied programme including music by Rosetti and Strauss.

Weekly Organ Meditations - Barbara Wadley's organ series continues at St Mark's Church in Whiteley Village, KT12 4ES. Thursday lunchtimes, 12-12.30pm. Free admission. Retiring collection for the historic organ. Refreshments provided. Everyone welcome.

Gill Barnett - Our dear friend, Gill, died this week at Moore Place Care Home where she has lived for the last few years. Surrounded by the love of her three children and supported by the sacraments of the Church, hers was a peaceful passing. Gill will be known to many church friends as a long-standing and committed member of our Parish community. Along with her late husband Mike, Gill supported the Parish in many ways, not least as a loyal choir member. We send love and prayers to her children and wider family.

Ann Willig - We are very sorry to share the sad news that Ann Willig has died. Ann was a much-loved and deeply committed member of the West End congregation. Please keep her, and all those who are grieving her loss, in your prayers.

Margot Williams - Very sadly we received news from Cornwall of the passing of dear Margot. She turned a 100 only a few months back! Margot was a stalwart of the Parish and a regular worshipper at St George's. We remember Margot's whole family in our prayers at this very difficult time. The service will take place on Friday 12 April, 11am, at St George's in West End. Those that knew Margot are welcome to join the family in West End Village Hall afterwards.

Holy Communion - The sacrament is distributed by 'simultaneous administration' – the priest touches the communion wafer in to the wine surface before giving it to the communicant.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 9.30am. To join please contact the Parish Office.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 3 April. We welcome all to pray, to reflect on their faith and to put the world to rights!

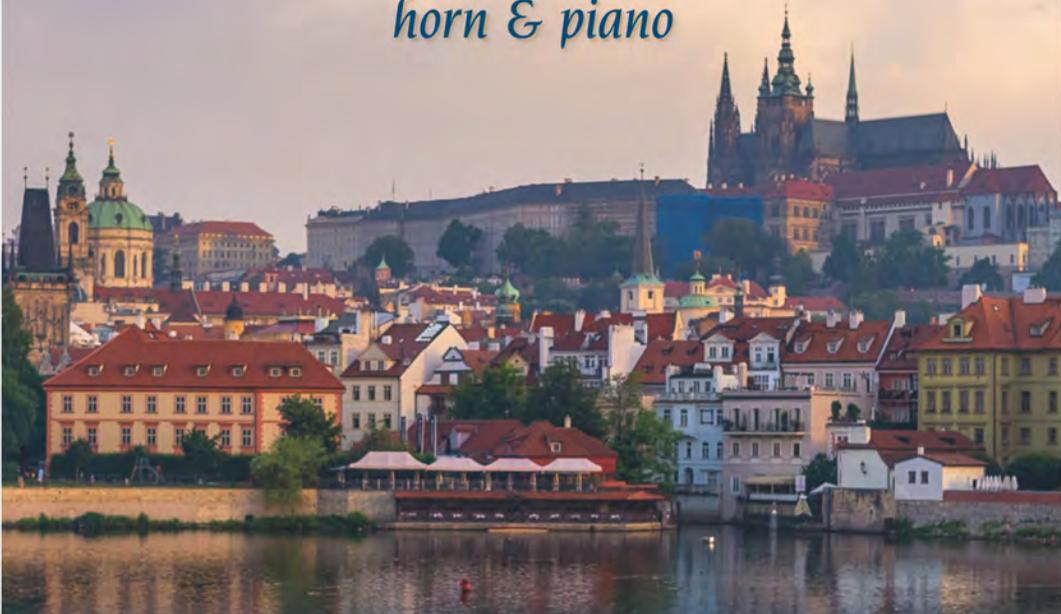


CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER
LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Wednesday 17 April 2024

Henry Ward & Owen Lee

horn & piano



Enjoy the mellifluous sounds of the French horn in a programme ranging from the Bohemian Classical era composer Rosetti via Richard Strauss to some contemporary works.

Free entry & light lunch from 12.30pm. Concert from 1.15pm.

Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS

Join us in person or watch it on YouTube at 'Music on the Green Esher'

Parish Office, Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS
Tel: 01372 462282 Email: office@esherparish.org.uk Website: www.esherparish.org.uk

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Elizabeth Arnold, Michael Newbould, Pam & Jim Green, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, Sebastian

RIP Anniversaries: Daisy Slade, Edna Worsfold, Robert Morath, Hazel Hunter, Keith Duffy, David Quelch, Peter Wood, Janet James, Muriel Baumann

RIP: Betty Walker, Margot Williams, Jamie Bush, June Trew, Gill Barnett, Ann Willig

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Readings for Morning Prayer taken from the Church of England Lectionary.

March		Time	Reading
Monday	25		Lamentations 1.1-12a, Ps 41, Luke 22.1-23
Tuesday	26		Lamentations 3.1-18, Ps 27, Luke 22.39-53
Wednesday	27		Jeremiah 11.18-20, Ps 102, Luke 22.54-end
Thursday	28	9.30-10.30am	Leviticus 16.2-24, Ps 42, Luke 23.1-25
Friday	29		Genesis 22.1-18, Ps 69, Hebrews 10.1-10

LOOKING AHEAD

March		Time	Event
Saturday	23	10am-1pm	Easter Crazy Crafts, Lower Green Community Centre
Sunday	24	9am	Palm Sunday Service, St George's Church
		10.30am	Palm Sunday Service, Christ Church
Monday	25	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
			No choir practice
Tuesday	26	1pm	Music in the Tower I, Christ Church
		8pm	Music in the Tower II, Christ Church
Wednesday	27	1pm	Music in the Tower III, Christ Church
		8pm	Music in the Tower IV, Christ Church
Thursday	28	7pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
		8pm	Maundy Thursday Service, Christ Church
Friday	29	All day	Parish Office closed (29 March-7 April incl.)
		2pm	Good Friday Service, Christ Church
Easter Sunday		9am	Easter Day Service, St George's Church
		10.30am	Easter Day Service, Christ Church

CONTACTS

PARISH OF ESHER Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS what3words location ///frosted.forum.firms St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF what3words location ///sugars.hulk.chip Website www.esherparish.org.uk Facebook www.facebook.com/EsherParish YouTube www.youtube.com/esherparish Instagram www.instagram.com/esherparish/	RECTOR Revd Darren McCallig On Adoption Leave until 20/11/24. For parish enquiries contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIESTS Revd Jonathan Andrew & Ven David Gerrard
	CHURCHWARDENS Helen Coulson & Jane Tyrrell	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk

Parish Office Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS Tel 01372 462282 Email office@esherparish.org.uk

Parish Administrator Melanie Williams Office Hours 9am to 3.15pm, Monday to Wednesday & Friday

Live Streaming Please be aware that all services held at Christ Church are live streamed via our YouTube channel.

Please submit information and notices for inclusion in the Sunday pewsheet by midday on the preceding Wednesday. Thank you.