

We don't usually think of Easter as a verb, do we? But that's how Gerard Manley Hopkins used it in these lines from 'The Wreck of the Deutschland'.

The poem – written in response to the loss of dozens of lives when the steamship of the title ran aground on a sandbank in the Thames Estuary in 1875 – has been much on my mind lately.

With its defiant assertion of faith in the face of tragedy it seems especially relevant right now. It reminds us that Easter comes after Good Friday, never before. True hope is forged in the crucible of despair – tempered forever by what it has been through.

That's how the past year has been for so many people here in Esher and around the world. And that's how we'll celebrate Easter 2021 in the Parish Church – altered forever by all that we've lost, and yet also determined.

Determined to 'let him easter in us', which is to say: to allow the light, and not the dark, be our guide; to hold onto meaning in an often-times absurd seeming world; and to trust that life with God can never be destroyed, not even by death.

Let him easter in us be a dayspring to the dimness of us be a crimson-cresseted east

Dunen

Revd Darren McCallig Rector of Esher

Happy Easter

MAY YOU KNOW THE JOY & PEACE OF THE RISEN CHRIST



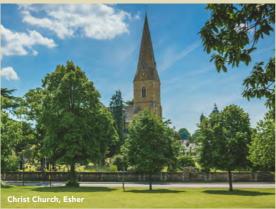
Easter Greetings from the Rector and all at Christ Church in Esher and St George's in West End

Easter 2021

We are delighted to announce that Christ Church will re-open for in-person public worship for the Easter Sunday service at 10.30am on Sunday 4 April.

Sadly, though, numbers will be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, and so there will be a simple booking system. Individuals, couples and family bubbles will be allocated seats. All COVID regulations apply, including wearing a face covering.

To book, please email the Parish Office with details. We would ask, please, that you book only what you need, as that way we can accommodate the maximum number of people. If you do book seats and then cannot attend, please let us know: a booking means a seat with your name on it. It would be a shame for it to be empty when we could have given it to someone who wanted to attend. Finally, if you are unable to join us for our services, they are live streamed on the Parish YouTube channel.





Palm Sunday, 28 March
Palm Sunday Service
10.30am Parish YouTube Channel
This is an online only service.

Maundy Thursday, 1 April Maundy Thursday Service 6.00pm Parish YouTube Channel This is an online only service.

Good Friday, 2 April Good Friday Service 2.00pm Parish YouTube Channel This is an online only service.

Easter Sunday, 4 April
Easter Sunday Service
10.30am Christ Church, Esher
Welcome back to church!

It is hoped that in-person public worship will continue in Christ Church every Sunday from 4 April onwards, and that services will recommence at St George's, West End in May. Please contact the Parish Office nearer the time for further information.

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

Telephone: 01372 462282 Email: office@esherparish.org.uk Website: www.esherparish.org.uk Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am to 12 noon