

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

ASH WEDNESDAY

14 FEBRUARY 2024

CHURCH SERVICE	
Parish Communion	Led by Revd William Allberry at 8pm at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd William Allberry
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Volunteers required
Reading	Brian Elliott
Musician	Stuart Whatton, Rowan Marshall
SERVICE MUSIC	
Opening music	<i>Erhalt uns Herr bei deinem Wort, BuxWV 185 (Buxtehude)</i>
CC hymns	121, 127, 128
CC setting	Addington
Communion anthem	<i>Turn thy face from my sins (Attwood)</i>
Closing music	<i>Capriccio 'Desperato' (Gottlieb Muffat)</i>
THE COLLECT	
Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these his inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 58.1-12

Thus says the Lord:

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered.

garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

Jesus said to his disciples 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 'So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others.

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

'And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But

whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 'And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where eves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

PARISH NOTICES

Betty Walker - It is with great sadness that we recently received news of the death of Betty. Together with her late husband, Geoff, they were faithful members of our Parish worshipping community. We hold Betty's family in our thoughts and prayers.

Fellowship Group - The next meeting will be in Christ Church at 11am on Wednesday 6 March. We welcome all to pray, to reflect on their faith and put the world to rights!

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. You can also use the appeal envelopes including your details so we can claim Gift Aid.

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.

Candlemas Service - The service collection of £238 will be donated to the Churches Conservation Trust (www.visitchurches.org.uk) which takes care of Old St George's Church.

Christ Church Defibrillator - During a recent first aid course it was emphasised to all of the importance of a defibrillator in saving lives – from 6% to 75% survival. We will be prioritising the purchase and installation of one at Christ Church. St George's has an external one very close by at the West End Village Hall. Depending on model, supplier and servicing they cost about £1.5k. We are fundraising for this life saving equipment. To donate to the Parish First Aid Fund please scan the QR code here or in either church, use the card machine in Christ Church or contact the Parish Office



John Bosten Celebration Service - Since 2018, I have brought my friend, John Bosten, who had vascular dementia and mobility difficulties, to Sunday Eucharist at Christ Church. He died last December aged 93. Thanks so much, all of you, for the support you gave him and me. As a child, John lived in Church Street, and he was a teenage wartime server here. You are invited to our Celebration on Friday 23 February at 11.30am, with favourite music, and a chance for you to learn more about John's life. You are also invited to the finger buffet at the back of the church afterwards. Please sign up at the back if you are coming, so we can order plenty of food and drink. Nick (his friend and carer)

Music on the Green - For our next concert on Wednesday 21 February, 1.15pm, we welcome the guitar and lute duo of Emanuele Addis and Gus McQuade to give us a programme entitled 'Love & Longing', featuring music by Dowland, Schubert and Piazzolla. Lunchtime concerts are free with a light lunch at 12.30pm.

Youth Group - The next Youth Group will be on Sunday 3 March, 4.30-6pm, at Christ Church, where we'll be exploring our parish values of faith, hope and love.

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. During this time for all enquiries, in the first instance, please do contact the Churchwardens or the Parish Office.

'Zoom' Morning Prayer & Zoffee! - Morning Prayer continues each Thursday at 9.30am.

Book Group - Our next meeting will be on Monday 26 February, 4pm, when we will discuss George Orwell's early memoir *Down and Out in Paris and London*. If you'd like to know more contact Revd Jonathan Andrew – 01372 464380 / jandrewsher@gmail.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

RIP Anniversaries: Patricia McKenna, Greta Olle, Sheila Hayne, Eric Williams

RIP: John Bosten, Rosalind Moysen (Wilkes), Eileen Pocklington, Betty Walker

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

February		Time	Reading
Wednesday	14		Genesis 31.25-32.2, Psalm 119.1-32, Titus 1
Thursday	15	9.30-10.30am	Genesis 32.3-30, Psalm 15, Titus 2
Friday	16		Genesis 33.1-17, Psalm 19, Titus 32

LOOKING AHEAD

February		Time	Event
Wednesday	14	7pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
		7-7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
		8pm	Ash Wednesday Service, Christ Church
Thursday	16	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday	18	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		12.30pm	Interment of Christine Eccles
Monday	19	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	21	1.15pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Emanuele Addis & Gus McQuade, guitar & lute
		7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	22	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Friday	23	11.30am	Celebration Service for John Bosten, 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.		