

PARISH OF ESHER

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

Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love

SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

18 JANUARY 2026

CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at St George's (SG)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn
Reading, Prayers	Charles Hawkshaw-Burn, Gerard Harper
Musician	Stuart Whatton
Parish Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Churchwarden	Will Stevens
Sidespeople	Sean Seymour-Cole, Angela Sweet
Reading, Prayers	Judy Madavo, David Stark
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Oliver Macfarlane, Robert Cunningham
Refreshments	Michelle Cullen, Janie McCulloch

SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Lent from Grand Dialogue in C</i> (Marchand)
SG & CC hymns	95, 451, 506 (omit v3)
SG / CC settings	Addington / Coulson
Post sermon music	<i>The Little Shepherd, from Children's Corner</i> (Debussy)
Anthem	<i>The Lord bless you and keep you</i> (Lutkin)
Closing music	<i>Tuba Tune</i> (C S Lang)

THE COLLECT

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Welcome to the Parish

Our two churches, Christ Church and St George's, have been beacons of faith, hope and love in Esher for well over a century.

Generations have come through our doors to celebrate marriages, welcome newborns into our Christian faith and to grieve their losses - all of it embraced by the worship and prayer offered each week.

Every Sunday we explore the richness of our Christian traditions 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 but whatever the reason, we all belong here.

You can find full details of our services online. Most Sundays we worship at 9am at St George's, West End and at 10.30am at Christ Church, Esher.

We look forward to welcoming you.

READING Isaiah 49.1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength – he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

GOSPEL John 1.29-42

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

Other Lectionary Texts

Psalm 40.1-12

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

PARISH NOTICES

Vacancy Update - The advert for the Rector of Esher position is now in the Church Times and on the Diocese of Guildford website. To read parish profile go to: <https://cofeguildford.org.uk/xdb/licensedclergyva>. The shortlisting will take place on Monday 9 February with interviews on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 March.

Sunday School - We'll create butterflies to symbolize the big effect that small actions have – that we can trust spreading the love of God will reach people even if we don't see it – and celebrate a first communion.

Epiphany Lunch - The team looks forward to welcoming attendees to our parish celebration at the West End Village Hall this Sunday.

The Chosen - Join us for this acclaimed dramatisation of the life of Christ on the big screen in Christ Church. Watch, reflect and discuss every Tuesday in February starting 7.30pm. Refreshments provided.

Flower Coordinator - Carol Calvert has confirmed she'll be 'retiring' at Easter after 32 years of managing the Christ Church flowers and flower team. Carol says it is a glorious thing to do so we hope someone will be tempted. To understand what's involved Carol will be very happy to chat. Please contact the Parish Office.

Youth Group - The session of reflection, included feeling connected to God, being inspired at the creativity of humanity and the importance of self-communication. It was an incredibly meaningful start to 2026 for all.

Girls aged 4-18 - Girlguiding empowers girls to find their voice and discover themselves by firing their imaginations through challenges and adventures for all personalities and abilities, from 4 to 18 years. There are spaces in Brownies, Guides and Rangers in Claygate. To register go to: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/

John Dunne - Very sadly John Dunne passed away on Christmas Eve. Our prayers and thoughts are with Sue and the family at this difficult time. The funeral will be this Monday, 19 January, 2pm, in Christ Church. Everyone is welcome to attend and to remember John.

Music on the Green - Join us on Wednesday 21 January, 1.15pm. to welcome in the New Year with the sparkling sounds of Fontina Winds in an engaging programme for wind quintet. Free concert with lunch from 12.30pm.

Candlemas Service - The service will be held in Old St George's, Esher at 6pm on Sunday 1 February and this year will be in the form of an evensong. We'll celebrate how the infant Jesus was presented in the Temple, offered to the Father and shown to his people. Just as his mother was purified, we will offer ourselves for cleansing. As we light candles, we will reflect on the joy of Jesus' coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to his Passion. Join us for this beautiful atmospheric service.

Sunday 1 February - Andrew, Bishop of Guildford will preside and preach at both morning services. Please make every effort to attend.

Book Group - After a lively discussion last Monday when we discussed *Blonde Roots* by Bernardine Evaristo, we're moving on to a book from 1936 for our meeting on Monday 9 February: *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* by George Orwell. New and used copies are widely available. Happy reading!

The Last Brightness of Everything - Stewart & Carol Henderson along with Yvonne Lyon will present this lauded music, poetry and narrative script performance at Christ Church on Saturday 28 February 2026 at 7.30pm. Advance tickets at £16.96 from Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/yc3fabw7>) or £18 on door on the night. Refreshments provided.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Katie Clark, Ruramayi, Louise Tyzack, Caroline Kerr, Armand Sarkissian, Phoebe Ainsworth, Josh Baines, Mike Elder

RIP Anniversaries: Betty Whitney, David Fairhead, Mike Barnett, Glenys Dunne, Muriel Whelan, Phyllis Swaine, Katherine Wake, Pamela Gilbertson, Joan Samuel, Norah Bloore

RIP: John Dunne

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

January		Time	Reading
Monday	19		Genesis 6.11-7.10, Ps 98, Matthew 24.1-14
Tuesday	20		Genesis 7.11.end, Ps 132, Matthew 24.15-28
Wednesday	21		Genesis 8.1-14, Ps 81, Matthew 24.29-end
Thursday	22	9.30am	Genesis 8.15-9.7, Ps 76, Matthew 25.1-13
Friday	23		Genesis 9.8-19, Ps 27, Matthew 25.14-30

LOOKING AHEAD

January		Time	Event
Sunday	18	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
		12.30pm	Epiphany Lunch, West End Village Hall, West End
Monday	19	2pm	Funeral of John Dunne, Christ Church
		7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	21	1.15pm	Music on the Green lunchtime concert: Fontina Winds, Christ Church
		7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday	22	All day	Parish Office closed
		9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Sunday	25	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
Monday	26	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
Wednesday	28	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, 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 In Vacancy	CHURCHWARDENS Will Stevens 07505 904089 Fraser McGuicken 07342 057763 churchwardens@esherparish.org.uk
	HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188 jandrewesher@gmail.com	DEPUTY WARDEN CHRIST CHURCH Sandra Argent 07973 909152 DEPUTY WARDEN ST GEORGE'S Charles Hawshaw-Burn 07799 895083
	CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk	SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Alison Mohamed safeguarding@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 9.30am to 3.45pm, 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 pewsheets by 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.	