

# 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

LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

25 OCTOBER 2020

## CHURCH SERVICES

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| St George's       | Holy Communion at 9am<br>led by Ven David Gerrard       |
| Preacher          | Ven David Gerrard                                       |
| Reading & Prayers | Joan Howell-Jones                                       |
| Musician          | Keith Howell-Jones                                      |
| Christ Church     | Parish Communion at 10.30am<br>led by Ven David Gerrard |
| Churchwarden      | Helen Coulson   |
| Sides             | Will Stevens  |
| Preacher          | Ven David Gerrard                                       |
| Reading           | Stewart Henderson                                       |
| Prayers           | Dave Whymark  |
| Musician          | Keith Howell-Jones                                      |

## MUSIC

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Opening Music | <i>Arioso</i> (J S Bach)                              |
| Choir Anthem  | <i>Let all mortal flesh keep silence</i><br>(Clebury) |
| Closing Music | <i>Largo from Xerxes</i> (Handel)                     |

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Merciful God,  
teach us to be faithful in change and  
uncertainty, that trusting in your word  
and obeying your will  
we may enter the unfailing joy of  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of all grace,  
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry  
with the bread of his life  
and the word of his kingdom:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your true and living bread;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.  
Amen

## Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Today's Gospel reading contains Jesus's well-known exhortation, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' (Matthew 22.39). It's a phrase we have heard so many times that perhaps we rarely stop to examine it more closely. My own understanding of the verse was greatly deepened by Cynthia Bourgeault and her book 'The Wisdom Jesus.' She notes how we usually hear the teaching as 'Love your neighbour *as much* as yourself' - a move which leads to the next logical question becoming 'Just how much do I love myself?'

This, says Bourgeault, is a misinterpretation as there is no '*as much as*' in Jesus's admonition. It's simply - 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' In other words, love them as a continuation of your very own being. She writes: 'It's a complete seeing that your neighbour is you. There are not two individuals out there, one seeking to better herself at the price of the other, or to extend charity to the other; there are simply two cells of the one great Life. Each of them is equally precious and necessary.'  
Or - to paraphrase one of Saint Paul's favourite analogies - Love your neighbour as if you are a hand, and they are a foot in the one body, the Body of Christ - because that is what you are.

God bless,



## READING Deuteronomy 34.1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain - that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees - as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, 'This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, "I will give it to your descendants"; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.' Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

## PSALM 90.1-6

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to dust, and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

## GOSPEL Matthew 22.34-end

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet' " ? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

## 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 to announce we have devised a way in which services at St George's have starting again in September. Regular worshippers have been advised how this will work. If you have not been contacted but would like to know more please contact the Parish Office.

Please note that now services are about to resume at St George's it will 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.

## ST GEORGE'S 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.
- 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 stay in your seats and the priest will come to you. Before receiving the bread each person should apply hand sanitiser from their own personal bottle (we have some available if you have forgotten to bring yours).'
- If you prefer to make an act of 'Spiritual Communion' please use the prayer in the Order of Service, on page 10.
- Sadly, we're asked to not stay inside after the service.
- 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.

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## 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 after the service.
- 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

**Tier Two Restrictions** - The Church of England has advised that public worship can continue under Tier Two restrictions. This is providing that 'any person attending is: alone; part of a group all from the same household or from two linked households; and must not join any other group or mingle with any person from another group.' Moreover 'non-household groups of six are not permitted.'

**Macmillan Cancer Support** - We are pleased to say our recent church collections raised a very respectable sum of £382 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you so much.

**Music on the Green** - Our next concert will be on Wednesday, 18 November, at 1.10pm when we will welcome the Diphonon Duo, on viola and accordion. Please join us for our last lunchtime concert of 2020!

**Ode to Joy** - As our signature event to mark the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, Music on the Green is pleased to present a pair of special concerts on Advent Sunday, 29 November. Two brilliant South African pianists will perform three of Beethoven's symphonies (Syms. 1 & 5 at 3pm & Sym. 9 at 7pm) in the historic Scharwenka transcriptions for piano duo. Mark your diary. Tickets £10. (£18 ticket for both concerts); children free.

**Christmas Shoeboxes** - 'Link to Hope' is a Christian charity that believes 'in distributing love to those in need regardless of colour, creed, background or religion.' Every year they organise a shoe box appeal for those living in desperately difficult circumstances in Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine. You can help by filling a shoe box full of gifts and useful items for a family or an elderly person. We'll launch the appeal at next Sunday's All Age service, when empty shoe boxes and leaflets will be available. Do check out the Link to Hope website: [linktohope.co.uk](http://linktohope.co.uk)

**Jacqueline Lister Hinton** - Very sadly, Jackie, a loyal church member and chorist passed away recently. Her funeral will take place at Christ Church with a Holy Trinity Claygate minister, Revd Linda Morgan, leading with Darren assisting. The current date set is Wednesday 25 November at 11.15am. Please remember numbers are restricted by the family due to COVID regulations. Furthermore, though Jackie would have wanted the bells to be rung, we are in Tier 2, so this is very sadly not allowable due to the restricted ringing chamber space. Nonetheless I'm sure we, the Parish of Esher, can pay our respects.

**All Souls** - Sunday 1 November is the eve of All Souls, a day traditionally set apart as a time to remember those whom we love but see no longer. And so, at Christ Church, there will be a service of Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on Sunday afternoon at 4pm. It'll be a quiet, thoughtful and gentle service with carefully chosen words and music. There will also be an opportunity to pray for those who have passed away, naming them as we do so, and lighting a candle in their memory. If you would like to have your loved ones remembered, please send the names to Melanie in the Parish Office.

**Remembrance Sunday** - Elmbridge Borough Council states that this year's outdoor commemorations, such as at the Esher War Memorial, cannot go ahead as in previous years, but must be 'severely restricted' and limited to only 'a few wreath layers' (<https://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/news/remembrance-sunday/>). Accordingly, we have submitted a scaled-back proposal to EBC and await their response. Nonetheless, the service in Christ Church can still go ahead subject to the usual COVID precautions, and restrictions on numbers in attendance.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Yasmin Ingram, Stuart Williams, Maureen O'Brien, Viola Mason, Helena Miller, Jo Stork, Alice Coulson

RIP Anniversaries: John Ross, Kathleen Thompson, Lucy Knight, Patrick Townend, Sheelagh Daley, Zak Gillard

RIP: Jackie Hinton, Peter Langley, Ian Mennie Walden, John MacLeod

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

| October   |    | Time         | Reading  |
|-----------|----|--------------|--|
| Monday    | 26 |              | 2 Kings 21.1-18; Ps 126; 1 Timothy 1.1-17          |
| Tuesday   | 27 | 9.00-10.00am | 2 Kings 22.1-23.3; Ps 132; 1 Timothy 1.18-end of 2 |
| Wednesday | 28 | 8.50-10.00am | Wisdom 5.1-16; Ps 116; Luke 6.12-16                |
| Thursday  | 29 |              | 2 Kings 23.36-24.17; Ps 143; 1 Timothy 4           |
| Friday    | 30 |              | 2 Kings 24.18-25.12; Ps 144; 1 Timothy 5.1-16      |

## LOOKING AHEAD

| October   |    | Time         | Event   |
|-----------|----|--------------|---|
| Monday    | 26 | 7.15-8.30pm  | Choir rehearsal, Christ Church                                    |
| Tuesday   | 27 | 9.00-10.00am | Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom                                   |
| Wednesday | 28 | 8.50-10.00am | Morning Prayer & Zoffeel!, Zoom                                   |
|           |    | 10.00am      | Fellowship Group, Christ Church                                   |
| November  |    | Time         | Event   |
| Sunday    | 1  | 10.30am      | Parish Communion, Christ Church                                   |
|           |    | 4.00pm       | All Souls Service, Christ Church                                  |
| Monday    | 2  | 7.15-8.30pm  | Choir rehearsal, Christ Church                                    |
| Tuesday   | 3  | 9.00-10.00am | Bible Reflection & Prayer, Zoom                                   |
| Wednesday | 4  | 8.50-10.00am | Morning Prayer & Zoffeel!, Zoom                                   |
|           |    | 11.00am      | Cremation of John William MacLeod, Randalls Park Crematorium      |
| Sunday    | 8  | 9.00am       | Holy Communion, St George's                                       |
|           |    | TBC          | Remembrance Day Civic Service, Esher War Memorial & Christ Church |

## CONTACTS

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