

# PARISH OF ESHER

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

*Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love*

MOTHERING SUNDAY

30 MARCH 2025

## CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Communion	Led by Revd Jonathan Andrew at 9am at St George's West End (SG)
Preacher	Revd Jonathan Andrew
Reading, Prayers	Bridget Williams
Musician	Oliver Macfarlane
All Age Communion (live streamed)	Led by Revd Darren McCallig at 10.30am at Christ Church (CC)
Preacher	Revd Darren McCallig
Churchwarden	Jane Tyrrell
Sidespeople	Sean Cole, Julia Forest
Reading, Prayers	William McCann, Our young people
Musicians	Stuart Whatton, Theo Tang, ECS choir, Josie Griffin
Refreshments	Sandra Argent, Sia Marshall

## SERVICE MUSIC

Opening music	<i>Adagio from Fantaisie in C, Op. 16</i> (Franck)
SG hymns	537, 136, 739
CC hymns	537, Lord, the light of your love, 739
SG & CC setting	Addington
Ceremony of Flowers	<i>Salut d'amour</i> (Elgar)
Communion Music	<i>This is the day that the Lord has made</i> (Les Garrett) <i>He's got the whole world in his hand</i> (African-American trad)
Closing music	<i>Vesper Voluntary VIII</i> (Elgar)

## THE COLLECT

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her children at the breast  
you feed us in this sacrament  
with the food and drink of eternal life:  
help us who have tasted your goodness  
to grow in grace within the household of faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Message from our Rector, Darren

My dear friends,

Scholars tell us that the observance of Mothering Sunday dates back to a time when people returned, on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, to worship in their 'mother church' (where they had been baptised) or to the 'mother church' (cathedral) of the diocese. It's also said that this was a day when girls working in domestic service were given time-off to visit their mothers and families.



Whatever its origins, Mothering Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on motherhood in all its forms. We give thanks for our own mothers and those who have played a nurturing and caring role in our lives. We also remember those for whom Mothering Sunday is a day of grief, pain and sadness. Finally, we can – as in this excerpt from the 'Song of Saint Anselm' – reflect on Christ as Mother.

*Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.  
Often you weep over our sins and our pride,  
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.  
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds,  
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.  
Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life;  
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.*

God bless

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Darren', written in a cursive style.

## READING Exodus 2.1-10

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

## GOSPEL John 19.25b-27

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

## GOSPEL Luke 2.33-35

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

## HYMN

### Lord, the light of your love

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

*Shine, Jesus, shine*

*Fill this land with the Father's glory*

*Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow*

*Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word*

*Lord, and let there be light*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

*Chorus*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

*Chorus*

### Other Lectionary Texts

1 Samuel 1.20-28 page 262 (OT)

Psalms 34.11-20 page 538 (OT)

2 Corinthians 1.3-7 page 191 (NT)

The page numbers are given for Bibles that are available from the sidespeople.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Mothering Sunday** - We thank Buds & Blooms, Waitrose and Tesco for their generous daffodil donations.

**Sunday School** - In our All Age service this week we'll be at the back of Christ Church creating Mothering Sunday cards and making more beautiful flowers.

**Lent Group** - We're exploring Rowan Williams' book *'Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer'*. We'll discuss the third chapter on Sunday, 12-12.45pm. Our final meeting will be on 6 April.

**Real Easter Eggs** - These eggs are for sale in both our churches - £6 each.

**Music in the Tower 2025** - This year's artist is the guitarist Nathaniel Rosales-Merkies. The highlight of this specially curated programme of music and readings will be a performance of the iconic Chaconne from Bach's Partita in D minor. There'll be four sittings on Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 April, at 1pm and 8pm. The admission price is £15 per person, including light refreshments. Seats are strictly limited to 20 per performance. Please reserve your places on the sign-up sheets either in church or via the Parish Office!

**Book Group** - We next meet on Monday 31 March, 4pm, in Christ Church, to discuss Julia Kelly's historical novel *The Last Garden in England*. Contact Revd Jonathan Andrew on 07968 765188 / jandrewsher@gmail.com.

**Easter Leaflet** - Our leaflet bundles can be collected from Christ Church. Contact Will Stevens or the Parish Office if you can help.

**Confirmation** - A Deanery Confirmation Service will be held at St Peter's Hersham on Sunday 22 June at 5pm. Please speak to the Rector or to Kath if you're interested in being confirmed. The preparation sessions will begin in May.

**Fellowship Group** - We'll meet in Christ Church, 10.30am, on Wednesday 2 April.

**Lent Appeal 2025** - This year our Lent Appeal will raise funds for the Princess Alice Hospice – our local hospice caring for patients and families through illness and bereavement for as long as needed. Please use the appeal envelopes, pay by card or via this QR code and remember to add your details so we can claim Gift Aid to enhance your donation.



**CDP Update** - Many thanks to all who contributed their ideas to the PCC's preparation of a new Church Development Plan. It is hoped that the document will be finalised in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 18 May.

**Thanksgiving & Celebration Service & Supper on Sunday 4 May at 6pm** -

We are holding a special service for all our wonderful volunteers, who work so hard to keep our two churches running. After the service we hope you will join us for supper in Christ Church, provided free as a token of our thanks for all you do. Please complete the form, found at the back of the church, and return to Jane, Helen, Andrea, Bridget or the Parish Office. Alternatively, please email the Parish Office with the appropriate information.

**Lower Green Community Centre** – They're in need of specific items for their Foodbank. Please see the list on the foodbank boxes at the back of both churches. Thank you so much.

**West End** - The St George's gardening team wish to thank all those who have so generously donated plants for our new 'white' flower bed. It is a work in progress, but we are delighted with what we have already achieved, and hope that you will come and enjoy this peaceful garden, which we have created for the benefit of you all. Thank you.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Michael Newbould, Gilly Barrett, Allen Palmer, Pam & Jim Green, George Raine, Katherine S, Keith Howell-Jones, John Cheetham, Sebastian, Ruramayi, Karen Harris, David Gerrard, Sienna Ravel, Katie Clark, Armand Sarkissian, Vanessa Meckiffe, Jennifer Meade

RIP Anniversaries: Muriel Baumann, Eileen Martineau, Irene Thompson, Brenda Gillham

RIP: David Rolfe

## BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

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

March/April	Time	Reading
Monday 31		Jeremiah 17.5-18; Psalm 77; John 9.18-end
Tuesday 1		Jeremiah 18.1-12; Psalm 79; John 10.1-10
Wednesday 2		Jeremiah 18.13-end; Psalm 90; John 10.11-21
Thursday 3	9.30-10.30am	Jeremiah 19.1-13; Psalm 86; John 10.22-end
Friday 5		Jeremiah 19.14-20.6; Psalm 102; John 11.1-16

## LOOKING AHEAD

March	Time	Event
Monday 31	4pm	Book Group, Christ Church
	7.15pm	Choir practice, Christ Church
April	Time	Event
Wednesday 2	10.30am	Fellowship Group, Christ Church
	7pm	Bellringing practice, Christ Church
Thursday 27	9.30am	Morning Prayer, Zoom
Friday 4	9am	Esher Church School Easter Services, Christ Church
Saturday 5	10am-1pm	Easter Crazy Crafts, Lower Green Community Centre
	10am	Surrey Bellringing Association Training, Christ Church
Sunday 6	9am	Holy Communion, St George's Church
	10.30am	Parish Communion, Christ Church
	Midday	Lent Group, Christ Church

## CONTACTS

<b>PARISH OF ESHER</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS <b>what3words location</b> ///frosted.forum.firms St George's Church, West End Lane, Esher, KT10 8LF <b>what3words location</b> ///sugars.hulk.chip <b>Website</b> www.esherparish.org.uk <b>Facebook</b> www.facebook.com/EsherParish <b>YouTube</b> www.youtube.com/esherparish <b>Instagram</b> www.instagram.com/esherparish/	<b>RECTOR</b> Revd Darren McCallig 01372 461088 rector@esherparish.org.uk Rector's day off is Monday	<b>HONORARY ASSISTANT PRIEST</b> Revd Jonathan Andrew 07968 765188
	<b>CHURCHWARDENS</b> Helen Coulson 07506 701454 Jane Tyrrell 07971 698299	<b>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES WORKER</b> Kathryn Chapman youth@esherparish.org.uk
<b>Parish Office</b> Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS <b>Tel</b> 01372 462282 <b>Email</b> office@esherparish.org.uk <b>Parish Administrator</b> Melanie Williams <b>Office Hours</b> 9.30am to 3.45pm, Monday to Wednesday & Friday		
<b>Live Streaming</b> 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 10am on the preceding Tuesday. Thank you.		