



Registered Charity Number: 1134149

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 25th September 2022 – Harvest



THIS SUNDAY 25th September – Harvest

- 9.30am** Holy Communion at St Stephen's
10.00am Morning Prayer with Baptism at St Martin's – in church and live-streamed
6.30pm Evening Prayer with the Iona community – in church and live-streamed

Wednesday 28th September

10.00am Holy Communion at St Martin's

NEXT SUNDAY 2nd October – Creation 5

- 9.30am** Morning Prayer at St Stephen's
10.00am Sung Communion at St Martin's – in church and live-streamed
6.30pm Evening Prayer at St Martin's – in church and live-streamed

Tuesday 4th October Contemplative Prayer Group

The Contemplative Prayer group meets in the Lady Chapel at 11am on Tuesday 4th October. All are welcome.

Centering Prayer

The Centering Prayer group meets at the back of church, with refreshments from 3.45pm, ready to start at 4pm. All are welcome.

Visit to All God's Children at Bristol Cathedral, Tuesday 11th October 2022

Please let me know as soon as possible (judith@stmartinsepsom.org) if you are interested in joining a visit to Bristol Cathedral's exhibition **All God's Children**. This exhibition is part of the Cathedral's work to understand its links with the transatlantic trade of enslaved people (details at <https://bristol-cathedral.co.uk/whats-on/agc>).

Judith Mitchell

Update on my training for Ordained Ministry, September 2022

As I begin my final year of the three-year course under the Diocese's Local Ministry Programme (LMP), I would like to thank everyone at St Martin's for their support and encouragement, especially Nick, the rest of the Ministry Team, David Eggett and Sarah Lutton, Nicky and Lois, the members of my Parish Support Group, and, of course, the PCC.

Covid restrictions were still in place for part of last year, meaning that teaching sessions took place on Zoom during the first half of the Spring Term. However, after that we were back 'live' at college on Monday nights. At last we were able to be together physically on our residential weekends (instead of being on Zoom) and also at Summer School at Holland House in Pershore. These helped us to get to know our fellow first- and third-year LMP students, and learn about the spirituality of their different parishes. We also had a very interesting visit to the Shah Jahan Mosque at Woking, where we observed prayers and listened to a helpful talk from Imam Hafiz Hashmi.

Our training combines the practical and the academic. Over the winter, as part of my sector placement, I spent 30 hours shadowing Rev Noelle Coe, the Guildford Town Centre Chaplain, and other members of her team. This included joining their Street Angels walking around Guildford from 10 pm Friday night to 4 am Saturday morning: liaising with door staff at the clubs, visiting the train and bus stations, and taxi rank, checking the safety of homeless people, chatting with potentially vulnerable people, disposing of glass bottles so they couldn't be used in fights and encouraging people to go home safely at closing time. It brought home the vulnerability of people who drink too much, or take drugs, on their celebratory nights out, and also the vulnerability of those who volunteer as Street Angels, putting their Christian faith into action. As well as Street Angels, Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy provide Community Angels (who befriend vulnerable

adults who may face loneliness and isolation) and Volunteer Chaplains (who regularly visit a specific location or place of work to give confidential spiritual or emotional support). The time I spent with the team was very rewarding, including some light-hearted moments, such as appearing in their promotional video and even operating one of the cameras for it, with my close-up shots appearing in the final film!

This year's teaching modules have included Introduction to Christian Doctrine & History, Mission & Evangelism, Old Testament Studies (including a visit to the British Museum), Pastoral Care, and Preaching in the Contemporary World (including giving a sermon in a different church – in my case at Ruxley Church). Each term we are required to complete two written assignments per module of sufficient standard, as well as sermon preparation and reflection, and the exploration and use of different methods of theological reflection. We also lead worship at college and on residential weekends.

In our final year, our modules will include Topics in Christian Doctrine, Reflective Practice in Context, New Testament Studies, and Pastoral Care. In addition to the two assignments and sermon per term, we will need to produce a Preaching Portfolio and a Reflective Practice in Context Portfolio, based on our placement at a different parish, which takes place from 15 January 2023 until Easter.

The training continues to be rewarding and challenging. As I said in my report at the end of my first year, the training is not simply about gaining knowledge about theology, biblical studies and ministry but about our 'formation', that is our growing into a public ministerial role. It is not simply about what we can and will do as future priests but about who we are and who we are called to be. God calls each of us to live our lives to the full, to his glory, but not everyone's calling is carried out in public view. Over this past year I have learned much about my strengths and weaknesses and the everyday difficulties facing those in public ministry.

There have been challenges but I have received loving support from my LMP tutors and peer group, and from Nick and others at St Martin's. As I enter my final year, and look forward with hope to ordination in July next year, I know that having such support will help to sustain me on the journey. ***Judith Mitchell***

Harvest Thanksgiving Charities

For our Harvest Thanksgiving on 25th September, the focus for our giving is on these two charities.

The USPG's 'Growing Futures' appeal.

We recently had an update from Ruthie Markus of the AMECA Trust on the progress of the expansion of services at the clinic she masterminded in rural Malawi at Chilaweni Village.

Malawi, like many African countries, has been suffering from a sustained drought. In addition to the challenges of the changing climate, fertiliser prices have risen year on year, to the point where many farmers cannot afford to fertilise their crops. With falling income, families have had to do without basics like soap and cooking oil. Children go to school hungry and struggle to concentrate.

To turn this situation around, in stepped the Anglican Church in Malawi with their "Food Security and Livelihoods" programme. They have set up local groups to teach smallholders about new farming methods that will allow them to adapt to their changed situation: how to make low-cost fertiliser at home, how to save water and how to look after animals.

This work is making a material difference to the lives of many farmers and their families, giving them a new confidence in the future. This is the work which USPG is supporting in their appeal "Growing Futures". We already support the work of one of the partners of USPG in India; now at this harvest time we have the

opportunity to support significant work by the Anglican Church of Malawi. <https://growing-futures.raisely.com/>

. To make a donation either:

1. Click on the following link:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/21688>

OR

2. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below



The Epsom & Ewell Foodbank

We regularly support the foodbank with donations. For our Harvest Festival service, we ask that you bring in donations to leave at the west end of the church. The donations that they currently most urgently need are:

Tinned meat (completely out)

Tinned fruit

Long life sponge puddings

Tinned tomatoes

Tea bags

Coffee

Powdered milk

Honey

Rice

Long life fruit juice

Custard

Chocolate/Treats

Adult toothbrush / toothpaste (completely out)
Female/Male deodorant (completely out)
Shampoo / Conditioner (completely out)

We would also appreciate any bags for life/very strong bags if you have them.

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked:

Non dairy milk, Weetabix, Pasta, Pulses, Dog and cat food, Peanut butter, Washing up liquid, Baby wash.

Booking a supermarket delivery? Let us know when to expect it. You can donate at the usual supermarket points, or bring donations to our car park.

Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell, KT19 0JG

Donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am – 2pm. We are closed on Bank Holidays.

** Please make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol**

You can also donate money through their website:

<https://epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/>

Home Communion

A short service with Holy Communion (by extension) is offered to residents in care homes in the parish, namely The Beaumont, Linden House and Leighton House, and these visits generally take place once or twice a month. We would like to increase the team of people who undertake this, and we would be grateful for

any volunteers. If you are interested, please talk to Nick Parish or one of the Ministry Team.

Mary Gilbert

Christian Prayer at St Martin's of Epsom

From Thursday 6th October 2022 there will be a monthly Christian prayer meeting held to pray for St. Martin's school. These will be held on the first Thursday of each month at St. Martin's Church between 8-9pm. All are welcome to join. Please contact Naomi Ahronson for further details on 07773 346604 or email naomiahronson@gmail.com.

Jam sale – 2nd October 2022

I will be selling Jam and lemon drizzle cakes after the 10am service on 2nd October.

All proceeds to go towards the dishwasher we have had installed at the back of Church.

Maureen Suatt

Beacon Teas, Autumn 2022

The Beacon Teas will take place on the second Sunday of each month: 9 October, 13 November and 11 December, from 3.30pm – 5pm. Please note the new start time of **3.30pm**.

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook

Saturday 22nd October at 4.30pm

Local musicians of the Epsom and Ewell Silver Band continue to enjoy competition success under their inspiring conductor Paul Graham. Come and judge for yourself as the band performs popular hits from their latest playlist!

Saturday 19th November at 4.30pm

Singers of Opera Holloway return with a programme of famous operatic favourites. The concert will be a musical feast, featuring operatic solos and ensembles sung by local soprano – Callie Gaston, tenor – William Branston and baritone – Sam Oram.

Since Opera Holloway last visited, their star singers have made their international debuts and are in demand in both the UK and overseas. The trio will perform some of opera's greatest arias, duets and trios from *Faust*, *La Bohème*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Don Giovanni* and more.

The Besom in Ashtead and Epsom *

At a recent session of 2nd Thoughts, we had an excellent and inspiring presentation of the work of Besom in our local area.

The organisation seeks to match the needs of people and families with what others can give, helping people with furniture, white goods for the kitchen, and other needs like gardening and decorating. The service they give is entirely free.

If anyone feels that they can help with any of their needs, they would be very pleased to hear from you. Is anyone wanting to donate good quality furniture? Are you down-sizing? Have you a working fridge or freezer that you no longer need?

If you have, please get in touch with them. They have a van and will collect from your house.

Phone: 07904679380

Email: besominashtead@gmail.com

Website: www.besominashtead.com

*A 'besom' is a broom, and the aim is, as far as possible, to be able to sweep away suffering.

Adrian Esdaile

STEWARDSHIP

Giving to St Martin's and St Stephen on the Downs

For general and stewardship giving you can give online via the Charities Aid Foundation. Donations can be either a one-off donation or a regular donation using direct debit. To make a donation either:

3. Click on the following link:
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13377>
- OR
4. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below



There is also a [“Donate” button](#) on our website.

Donation Station

If you wish to give via contactless payment, please use the donation station in church. You can give a pre-set amount or choose one. You can also gift aid your donation.

MISSION OF THE MONTH – September

The Bible Society works in over 200 countries, to bring the Bible to life for every man, woman and child, believing that when people engage with the Bible, lives can change for good. It translates and distributes Bibles around the World so that people can experience the Bible in their own language. It also works across Society in this country to help all adults and children to come to know its value in their lives.

Jill Chapman

MISSION

REDRESS

Since 1992 REDRESS has worked to deliver justice and reparation for survivors of torture, many targeted because of discrimination or to suppress dissent and to promote solidarity in the anti-torture movement.

Meg Topley

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

‘Out of Sight, Out of Mind’ Project Workshop Facilitators

Friends of Horton Cemetery have won some funding from *Historic England* to co-create a pop up-exhibition – through several participatory ‘chat and craft’ workshops – about Epsom’s forgotten history as an important psychiatric hub for London and the nation.

We are seeking volunteers (who will be trained, and work in pairs) to lead these public engagement events which will discuss the history of the ‘Epsom Asylum’ cluster and its Cemetery (in which 9000 people are buried). See <https://hortoncemetery.org/>

These workshops will be ‘making and doing’ sessions, intended for diverse audiences, at which people will be invited to discover the lives of some of the people buried in the Cemetery, to paint a ceramic flower (for a memorial garden ‘planted’ at the Cemetery site) and to reflect on mental health and wellbeing treatments today (and previously).

We hope to work with neighbouring primary and secondary schools, mental health charities, local history societies, and through Epsom and Ewell Council/Surrey County Council sponsored events.

Volunteers will help us to programme and deliver events across the next 12 months, with the aim of reaching 1000+ people and painting 900 ceramic flowers for installation in October 2023.

The public engagement programme will launch on World Mental Health Day (and in collaboration with the ‘Love Me, Love My Mind’ festival), with the following events already scheduled:

Saturday 8th October 2022: ‘Chat and Crafting Stall’, Epsom Market Square, 10:00 – 16:00

Monday 10th October 2022: St Barnabas Church of England Church

Horton Cemetery Walk - 13:00-15:00 [Cemetery Stories, flower painting throughout).

'Volunteer Researchers' Presentation – 12:00 noon [writing the life histories]

'Out of Sight, Out of Mind' Showcase event – 20:30. *Historic England* project presentation, aims and objectives.

Thereafter, we would aim for one or two workshops per month, spread across Epsom and Ewell, and targeting different audiences and constituencies.

Workshop facilitators will be provided with a workshop 'proforma', trained in co-participatory practices (by artist-activist Stephanie Bickford-Smith) and provided with safeguarding techniques and referral support by an expert psychotherapist (Dr James Wilson) so that they have the skills and confidence to deliver these sessions.



**** **SAVE THE DATE** ****

St Martin's Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday 26th November 2022** between 11.00 am and 2.00 pm. Please put this date in your diaries so that you can come and support us. The Christmas Fair is always very successful with lots of goodies to buy, food to eat and friends to meet. Watch out for more information in due course.

Music@StMartin's

AUTUMN RECITALS 2022



Sat 24 Sep at 4.30pm

Talented musicians from the
CITY OF LONDON FREEMEN'S SCHOOL
present a varied programme of solo and
ensemble music for voices and instruments.

Sat 22 Oct at 4.30pm

EPSOM AND EWELL SILVER BAND

conducted by Paul Graham
perform an eclectic selection
of music from their prize-winning
repertoire.



Sat 19 Nov at 4.30pm

OPERA HOLLOWAY

return to sing popular
operatic excerpts including
O mio babbino caro (Puccini)
The Pearl Fishers Duet (Bizet)
Nessun Dorma (Puccini)

More information at www.stmartinsepsom.org

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM KT17 4PX

Registered Charity No 1134149

Admission to the recitals is by donation. You can
also use our QR code to support the series at any time.



Out of Sight, Out of Mind?

Remembering Epsom's Forgotten Residents

Did you know that the largest cluster of psychiatric hospitals in Europe was in Epsom?

And the unclaimed bodies of over 9000 psychiatric patients who died in these facilities were buried in the local graveyard, Horton Cemetery?

We want to restore dignity to the thousands of people buried in unmarked plots on this wasteland. Some were famous in their day (war heroes, a Titanic survivor, a popular comedy actor, and a model/artistic muse for Picasso), but countless others lived less-public lives.

Our project, supported by **Historic England**, seeks to recapture these stories and to create a crowd-sourced memorial, overcoming historical amnesia, neglect, and inaction.

We will be running 'chat and craft' workshops across the year, with the aim of painting 900 commemorative ceramic flowers – and the creation of a memorial garden.

This memorial garden will be 'planted' near the Cemetery in October 2023 and act as a powerful public marker. We want to do justice to these forgotten lives – as a first step towards putting Horton Cemetery into public hands and restoring community knowledge about and access to this historic site.

Come and paint a flower for free, to give testimony to these forgotten residents and find out more about these hidden lives.

**Market Square on
Saturday 8th October
10:00 – 16:00**



Epsom Mental Health and Well-Being Festival

October 2022



You may be aware that we are not holding a full week of Festival this year, to give some time to reflect on the way forward in a changed and changing world. But there are going to be some wonderful events, open to everyone at no cost. There is no need to book. Just come along. You will be made very welcome.

Monday 5 September - Monday 10 October

TIME TO REMEMBER

Epsom used to have the largest cluster of psychiatric hospitals in Europe (and possibly in the world). Near the Hook Road arena is the Horton Cemetery, where over 9000 former residents of the hospital are buried in largely unmarked graves.

As part of this year's Festival, every individual, family, charity, community group and organisation in the Borough is invited to paint a ceramic flower, obtainable from the Friends of Horton Cemetery stall in Epsom Market Place on Saturday 8 October or at St Barnabas' Church, Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8HA on 10 October.

It is hoped that 900 flowers will be painted and, in 2023, laid in memory of those who died.

www.lovemelovemymind.org.uk



Follow us @

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Epsom Mental Health and Well-Being Festival is organised by Love Me Love My Mind, a charity dedicated to promoting understanding about mental health issues. Registered charity no: 1177683 Phone: 07719 014411



**A Documentary From
The Movement for Justice
and Reconciliation**

Screening

Sat 1st Oct 3-5pm

St Mary Oatlands Church Hall

Book Here



parishoffice @oatlandschurch.org.uk

01932 231274

Parish Office:

Church House, Church Street, Epsom,

KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567

E-mail: office@stmartinsepsom.org

Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org

Opening hours are

10am to 12noon

**Please contact clergy and lay ministers via
the office.**