

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

www.stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stjohnswestbyfleet

10th August 2025

Welcome to our services!

Welcome everyone to St John's Church, West Byfleet for our services this Sunday. Please join us after the service for refreshments and please do make yourselves known to the ministers or churchwardens. If you would like to receive regular copies of this notice sheet, please send your email address to Vicky in the Parish Office –

admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk

All children are very welcome at St John's – and please don't worry if they are restless, or sometimes noisy. The Children's Corner is situated at the front of the church on the left; you are most welcome to spend time there during the service. Toilets and changing facilities can be found in our adjacent Cornerstone Centre.

A member of the Pastoral Team will be available to pray with you after the 10am service each Sunday. If you would like to take this opportunity, please make your way to the Prayer Corner at the end of the service and one of us will be waiting for you. The Minister leading the service on the day may also be available.

Large print versions of the Notices Sheet and of the Order of Service are available from the welcomers

Please make use of our hearing loop system if this would be helpful to you



Today's readings are **Luke 12: 32-40** and **Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16**

Di writes...

In Luke's account of Jesus' teaching there are many familiar stories and parables – some of which the Lectionary allocates to us for our Gospel readings this Summer. One which is omitted is the 'do not worry' narrative (Luke 12: 22-32). I love this story and I enjoy examining the implications for us; do not worry about what you will eat or what you will wear etc. Psychology teaches us that unless we have water and food and warmth for our bodies we are not able to achieve the thinking and reasoning we need for survival (Maslow). There are people who enjoy worrying in their day to day lives – perhaps you know someone like that. There are some things that are worth worrying about and some which are definitely not. It doesn't take long to identify the things we should leave aside – those things which we certainly wouldn't expect our Lord and Father to worry about on our behalf. So what is the point of this account. Our Lord feeds the birds of the air and dresses the flowers in the field so that similarly we don't have to worry about those things. We must have faith and trust that He will provide for us. And then we see the images of starvation and despair from countries in conflict. Do not worry – easier said than done; but it is up to us to seek God's kingdom and his righteousness for those who have lost the will and the ability to seek it for themselves. Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done.

This Week's Prayer List

For the sick:

Joyce Ebbage, Mark Asplin, Lionel Griffiths, Roy Metcalfe, Ollie, Rose & Marie Crocket, Hannah, Pauline Kennedy, Mark Cyphus, Sarah Helmy, Chrissie Beddows, Marina, Ati & Baran

Remembering the departed:

Christopher Ashdown

Please send any new prayer requests or updates to admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk

Talk, Think, Pray

This service will be taking a break in July and August and will return in September.

Morning Prayer

One way to root our lives more in the knowledge and love of Christ is to come to morning prayer in church on Mondays at 9.30am. A small group of us gather to say the Church of England's service of morning prayer which includes praying for those in need and our neighbouring churches. Once a month, on the second Monday, (though not in August) we share morning prayer with members of Our Lady Roman Catholic Church, alternating monthly between the two churches. Please do join us and members of Our Lady if you can.

Bishop's PA vacancy (6 month contract)

Please see this vacancy (6 month contract) for which we are seeking to recruit: Personal Assistant to the Bishop of Guildford in Willow Grange, Jacobs Well:

<https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs/personal-assistant-to-the-bishop-of-guildford/2698>

Food Bank

The Food Bank is in desperate need of the following items:

sponge pudding, jam, instant noodles, rice, baked beans, packet soup, shampoo, conditioner, liquid soap, bar of soap, shaving foam, baby wipes, sanitary pads, dog food.

Please put donations in the boxes at the front and rear of church. Donations from our church seem to have decreased lately and now depend on just a few generous givers, please consider joining them.

ECO News

What does ECO mean? 'Not harming the environment; eco-friendly.'

Ecological literacy (also referred to as ecoliteracy) is the ability to understand the natural systems that make life on earth possible.

The Summer Club, running next week, is incorporating some of this knowledge on Tuesday when the ECO team discusses BUGS!! 🐛 🐜 🐝 We have been collecting our materials for the Bug Hotel and have successfully acquired 7 pallets from the skip in the grounds of Botanical Gardens! They have been asked for more contributions, but we will tackle those at a later date!!

Help with Wildflower Meadow

Can anyone offer half an hour or so to prepare the ground for seed planting in September PLEASE?

Janet will be in the grounds every Saturday in August 10.00 -12.00- watering will be required too as it's going to be hot next week. We aim to have a picnic lunch on Saturday 16th - everyone is welcome to join in. 😊 🌱 🌿

She is also there on Mondays and Wednesdays after 5pm, when it is cooler.

We are so grateful to everyone who has given their time to help with this project.

'God made everything (and it is Good).'

Church & Grounds closure this week for Holiday Club

Please note access to the grounds will be blocked off every morning from 8am - 5pm, to ensure the safety of the children attending this week's Holiday Club. The church will also be closed to visitors all week, except for the Holiday Club service at 4pm every day, which everyone is invited to attend. Please pray for the children attending, that the week will be fulfilling, and a memorable step in their Christian journey. Please also pray for the leaders, that they may be energised, yet patient and calm through the whole week! NB New Horizons will still meet on Monday afternoon, and the 10am service on Wednesday takes place in the Dora Honnor Room.

Parish Office

Vicky will be on annual leave from 12th August to the 4th September. During this time the Parish office will be closed and emails & phone messages periodically checked and replied to. For any urgent matters please contact Keith or the Churchwardens.

Noticeboard

Please include these events in your daily prayers. All are welcome to Morning Prayer as well as to Parish Eucharist.

Saturday 9th August

10:00am Church open

Sunday 10th August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Monday 11th August

8.00am Church & grounds closed for Holiday Club (grounds re-open at 5pm)

2.00pm New Horizons

4.00pm Holiday Club service (all welcome); finishes 4.30pm

Tuesday 12th August

8.00am Church & grounds closed for Holiday Club (grounds re-open at 5pm)

4.00pm Holiday Club service (all welcome); finishes 4.30pm

Wednesday 13th August

8.00am Church & grounds closed for Holiday Club (grounds re-open at 5pm)

4.00pm Holiday Club service (all welcome); finishes 4.30pm

Thursday 14th August

8.00am Church & grounds closed for Holiday Club (grounds re-open at 5pm)

4.00pm Holiday Club service (all welcome); finishes 4.30pm

Friday 15th August

8.00am Church & grounds closed for Holiday Club (grounds re-open at 5pm)

4.00pm Holiday Club service (all welcome); finishes 4.30pm

Saturday 16th August

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 17th August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Family Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Sunday 7th September

Civic Service for the Mayor at 2:30pm

Saturday 27th September

Harvest Festival Supper 7.00pm.

6th - 9th December

Christmas Community Festival 2025.

Clergy Contact Details

Our Vicar is Revd Keith Elford. He is also Vicar of All Saints, New Haw. Keith may be contacted at vicarwestbyfleetandnewhaw@gmail.com (note the new email address). His normal day off is Friday. For urgent enquiries outside of these times, contact our Churchwarden: **Neil Hatton** – 07593 372931. For prayer requests, please contact **Geoff Jones** - 01932 851830.

For all general (non-urgent) enquiries, please contact the Parish Office by emailing admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk, or phone 01932 342263 (leave a message if the office is closed). The Parish Office opening hours are usually: Mon 12pm – 3pm, Wed 12pm – 3pm, Fri 12pm – 3pm.