

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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21st September 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.

Would you like someone to pray with you?

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 **John 6: 25-35** and **Deuteronomy 26: 1-11**

Jen writes...

The reading from Deuteronomy this week talks about praising God and sharing the first fruits as an offering of thanksgiving. I will not be referring specifically to this reading on Sunday, so thought it would be helpful to call out some key messages contained therein. Firstly, it highlights the importance of thanking God for all He provides; the Earth's first fruits and our own fruitfulness from the gifts he gives us perhaps? Secondly, that the gifts and first fruits are for everyone, not just the chosen people. All of us are called to use our gifts, our first fruits, for God's glory and also to give thanks for those gifts. Perhaps this week we can all think about our own fruits which we will offer in sacrifice and thanksgiving to our eternal and loving God.

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, John Rankin, Alex Coombs, Lilian Rance and Davida & Angus Whimster.

Remembering the departed:

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

Parish Office

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.

Christmas Fair Meeting

Bridget is holding a Christmas Fair meeting on **Monday 29th September at 7:30pm** in the Dora Honnor room. We would love to have as many people as possible involved in this year's event so please come along. All are welcome.

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.

Emergency appeal Afghanistan

We will, from time to time, give the congregation the opportunity to donate money in response to a crisis appeal. The recent earthquake in Afghanistan is such an appeal, and we will make buckets available for individual donations this Sunday morning at the 10.00am service. Money will be channelled to the earthquake victims via Christian Aid.

Christ Church Woking Job Vacancy

We currently have an exciting opportunity to join our team as Cafe Manager in the café at Christ Church Woking. Could you be our new café manager? You will be passionate about relaunching and then running The Café well as part of the weekday outreach of Christ Church Woking. If you know of anyone interested then please do pass on the link - all the details, full job description and how to apply can be found at: ccwoking.org/job-vacancy and the deadline for applications is end of Friday 19th September. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interviews which will take place in the week commencing 29th September. Expected start date for this role is early November, date tbc.

Harvest Festival

Join us next Sunday (28th September) at 10am for our Harvest Festival. We will be collecting gifts of non-perishable food items; please bring these along to the service. Many thanks.

Decorating for Harvest

Next Sunday, 28th September, is Harvest Festival. We will be decorating the Church on the Saturday from 10am. If anyone would like to join us and help that would be wonderful. It would be helpful, although not necessary, if you could let Angie Dedman know if you plan to come along.
Any financial contributions towards the cost would be much appreciated as the flower fund is quite low at present.

ECO News

This Sunday, we are going to be planting seeds in the Wildflower Meadow. We have plots for a lot of different parts of the community around West Byfleet so that everyone can watch these seeds grow into a fabulous garden for everyone to enjoy. Rev Keith will be saying prayers and we hope that many of you will come and pray for the success of this venture which has taken time, back ache and determination from Janet Hodges, Jeanette Hayes and Andrew Southerly.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 20th September

10:00am Church open

Sunday 21st September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Family Eucharist followed by refreshments

11:30am Sowing the seed for the wildflower meadow

6:30pm Talk, Think, Pray

Monday 22nd September

9.30am Morning prayer

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 23rd September

10:00am Church open

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 24th September

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 25th September

10:00am Church open

Friday 26th September

10:00am Church open

Saturday 27th September

10:00am Church Open

7:00pm Harvest Festival Supper

Sunday 28th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Harvest Festival followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Monday 29th September

Christmas Fair Meeting at 7:30pm

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th December

Christmas Community Festival 2025 (2:30pm- 6pm)

Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Community Festival 2025 (2:30pm- 7:30pm)

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.