

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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7th 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.

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 1: 1-5** and **Genesis 1: 1-25**

Di writes...

As we begin our annual series on Creation there are all sorts of other beginnings at this time of year. The new academic year for schools, colleges and universities begins, and so for all those students anticipating first time experiences. I was hoping that there would be a new moon to add to my list but sadly it's not due for another two weeks. This is the time of year when we plant bulbs to begin their time in darkness before we bring them into the light. And today is the first Sunday of meteorological autumn – a change in the seasons as daylight length decreases. Our readings today both tell of beginnings direct from God - the account of the beginning of Creation from Genesis and of the beginning of Christianity from John's gospel. Do you have any new beginnings in your life? perhaps not with the enormity of those given to us by God. If not, maybe you could find a new beginning that would enhance your personal life and your life with 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

Remembering the departed:

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

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.

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.

Sowing the seed for the wildflower meadow

On Sunday 21st September at 11.30am (after the Family Eucharist) we will hold a small service to accompany the sowing of the wildflower meadow on the south side of the church. We hope that groups from the church and community will take responsibility for sowing the seed for a part of the garden. This is all part of our work to make our grounds more eco-friendly, bio-diverse and attractive to the community.

Thank You

As part of the preparations for Sunday's civic service for the Mayor of Woking, many people have given generously of their time and effort to ensure this will be a memorable occasion both for the Mayor and St. John's. They all deserve our grateful thanks, but in particular the music department under Ian's direction, the refreshment team organised by Amanda, the logistics team and sides people to name but a few.

As the liturgical season of Creationtide begins, what better way to appreciate God's creation than by the stunning floral displays expertly crafted by Angie, Geoff and Katy. These displays don't just happen; they require many hours of planning and skilful preparation.

Thank you to all volunteers who have contributed to this special service. It could not have been possible without your selfless offer of help.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 6th September

10:00am Church open

Sunday 7th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

2.30pm Civic Service for the Mayor

Monday 8th September

9.30am Morning prayer at Our Lady RC Church

10:00am Church open

2:00pm New Horizons

Tuesday 9th September

10:00am Church open

Wednesday 10th September

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

Thursday 11th September

10:00am Church open

Friday 12th September

10:00am Church open

Saturday 13th September

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 14th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Saturday 27th September

6th - 9th December

Harvest Festival Supper 7.00pm.

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.

