

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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30th November 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



Di writes...

The first Sunday of Advent – and back into purple colours we go; a season of penitence, a season of preparation. No flowers in the church – we do decorate with greenery as our Advent Ring demonstrates, but certainly no flowers; we wait for those to blossom on Christmas Day. Waiting is what these next four weeks are all about as we watch and prepare. It is the season of waking up and looking forward – it should interrupt our day to day lives. In the Epistle reading set for today - which we didn't read this morning – Paul writes to the Romans that they must wake up and take notice (Romans 13.11). And in our reading from Isaiah and the Psalm set for today we are invited to look to the future (Ps 122). A future which celebrates the first coming of Christ and looks forward to the second coming. And so as we risk getting absorbed by the busyness of this time of year, may we remember to stop and recall the real purpose of these four weeks of preparation.

Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord, that when he shall appear he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his promise. Amen

This Week's Prayer List

For the sick:

Joyce Ebbage, Mark Asplin, Lionel Griffiths, Roy Metcalfe, Ollie, Rose & Marie Crocket, Hannah, Pauline Kennedy, Sarah Helmy, Chrissie Beddows, Lilian Rance, Davida & Angus Whimster, Gareth, Amanda & Jasper and Margaret Blamey.

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.

All Saints' New Haw Weekly Newsletter

To view of a copy of the latest church family newsletter please visit <https://www.allsaints-newhaw.org/news>

Save your Stamps

We are collecting! If you receive stamped cards and letters through the post this festive period (and throughout the year), could you save the stamps and bring them into church? We will recycle them into much-needed funds for Kidney Care UK, who support kidney patients and their families. Thank you. The box is located in church by the Cornerstone exit door.

Mothers Union – All Saints' New Haw

The next meeting will take place on Monday 1st December in Bosco's – Christmas themed with mince pies, mulled wine, readings, a quiz & of course Carols.

Today's readings are **Matthew 24: 36-44** and **Isaiah 2: 1-5**

Advent Groups

There will be ecumenical study groups in Advent on **Tuesdays 2nd, 9th and 16th December**. The meetings will be on the theme of 'Waiting: past, present and future' and will include theological input, creative response and prayer. Meetings will be held at Byfleet Methodist Church (Rectory Lane, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7LL) gathering from 7.00pm for refreshments before a 7.30pm start. All welcome and warmly invited!

Reading the Bible

Some of you may have been stimulated by Bible Sunday to want to read the Bible yourself more regularly. If so, I recommend two possible aids to doing so. The first is to subscribe to '**New Daylight**', a publication by The Bible Reading Fellowship, which provides suggested readings with notes to help you make sense of the passage. Fanny Cross can obtain these for you - 01932 345415 or fannycross9420@outlook.com. An alternative would be to obtain a copy of '**Reflections for Daily Prayer**' which is published by Church House Publishing. This indicates readings for every day of the year from the Church of England lectionary with a reflection upon the reading. This can be obtained from Amazon or Church House Bookshop online. We use this book at Morning Prayer every Monday. *Keith*

ECO Church News

A plea for LEAF CLEARERS!

Saturday 29th November from 10am for as long as you and the weather allows.

We need to bag up the leaves before they damage the lawns.

So, in order to save us £2,000 for our contractor to hire a skip and take away the leaf debris, any time you can spare between this weekend and Saturday 13th Dec would be really appreciated - we can provide the black bin bags if you could bring your tools. Thank you.

Surrey Care Trust Charity Performance at St John's

Surrey Care Trust will be holding a charity performance at St John's **on Thursday 18th December**, all proceeds will help Surrey Care Trust continue to support people across Surrey to overcome disadvantage, gain new skills, and build brighter futures.

Surrey Care Trust have offered a special reduced ticket rate of £10 per person - parish members can book directly via the secure booking link below. Please note, this page is password-protected:

<https://www.surreycaretrust.org.uk/xmascarolvol25/>

Password: WB_Dickens_2025

If parish members would like to find out more about the event, they can visit our main event page here: <https://www.surreycaretrust.org.uk/event/charity-performance-a-christmas-carol/>

Food Bank

Now is the time when we hope to be able to provide a little extra for Christmas to the people that need to access the Food Bank. In addition to your normal donations perhaps you could add something a bit special, perhaps some chocolate, or a Christmas Pudding or a small gift. Thank you to all those who donate throughout the year, the demand is much the same as ever.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 29th November

10:00am Church open

Sunday 30th November

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist Service followed by refreshments

6:30pm Advent Procession

Monday 1st December

9.30am Morning prayer

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 2nd December

10:00am Church open

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

7:00pm Advent Groups at Byfleet Methodist Church (7:30pm start)

Wednesday 3rd December

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 4th December

10:00am Church open

Friday 5th December

10:00am Church open

Saturday 6th December

10:00am Church Open

2:30pm Christmas Community Festival until 6pm

Sunday 7th December

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist Service followed by refreshments

2:30pm Christmas Community Festival until 6pm

Advance Dates

Monday 8 th & Tuesday 9 th December	Christmas Community Festival 2025 (2:30pm- 7:30pm)
Sunday 14 th December	Junior Choir Carol Service, followed by communion
Sunday 21 st December	Carol Service at 6:30pm

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.