

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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

24th May 2026

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



The readings this week, Pentecost, are:
John 7: 37-39 and Acts 2: 1-21

Keith writes....

Over the last few months, we have told the story of how God sent his Son to call his people into a new relationship with him and to share a new vision of God's plan for the world. In Holy Week we remembered that many, including the authorities, found the radical nature of God's grace too hard to receive and Jesus was sentenced to crucifixion. At Easter we celebrated the fact that this was not the end and Jesus rose from the dead. In the light of the resurrection, we saw that the punishment that was intended to eradicate Jesus and his teaching instead became the means by which God inaugurated and secured the new creation that Jesus had promised. At Ascension we remembered that the risen Christ did not stay on earth. After forty days he returned to God's side, assuring us that the one who accepted and conquered death, a human being like us, rules in the heavenly realm.

This Sunday is the festival of Pentecost, the next key stage in the story. It tells us that when Jesus departed, he did not leave us bereft. At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Spirit that forms the church, makes God present to us, and empowers us to live and proclaim the teaching of Jesus, and continue the mission of Christ in the world.

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, Lilian Rance, John Blamey, Graham Smith, Caroline Hill, Michael Dougherty.

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>

Morning Prayer

Please note that there will be NO morning prayer on Monday due to the bank holiday. Morning prayer will resume as normal on Monday 1st June.

Agape Lunch

Thank you to everyone who supported the Agape Lunch. Donations have now been counted, and we are delighted to share that **£340** was raised for Christian Aid. The event was greatly enjoyed by all who attended and provided a wonderful opportunity to share lunch, spend time together in conversation, and support a very worthwhile cause.

Summer Fair – Saturday 13th June

With the Summer Fair fast approaching we would be very grateful if you are able to donate items to be used on the various stalls – we are looking for the following:

Homeware (no electrical ware or bric-a-brac), jewellery, sweets for filled jars, toys, plants, bottles for the tombola, raffle prizes & cakes to be sold on the cakes stall and in the food hall. Boxes for donations will be available in church from **Sunday 24th May**; please bring your donations into church and place in the correct marked box. Cakes & plants to be dropped off on the Friday (12th June) evening or on the morning of the fair.

Parking on the grass

Earlier this year we had new essential soak aways installed in the grounds to help improve the drainage. These soak aways cannot support the weight of vehicles and therefore we will be unable to use the grass area for parking in future. Additional parking will now be available at the junior school each Sunday.

ECO News

This week is not only National Bee Awareness Week but the Chelsea Flower Show - inspirational for those of us who are helping to create the Bee Garden in St John's Grounds. Please take time after the Sunday Service to see what is new and see how many different bees are buzzing around the plants that have been specifically chosen for these pollinators. Your ECO team has been dormant for the past few months, but now we are gearing up to embark upon obtaining the A Rocha Silver Award.

We are meeting to discuss what more ticks in the Survey are required. We are delighted that the Grounds Section is coming together, but there is much to do in the other categories.

If you are interested in seeing what we are hoping to achieve or to get involved please look at www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

Many thanks to members of the congregation who have generously sponsored a shrub - these will provide foliage for our flower arrangers. If you would like to sponsor a plant, please let us know! *Neil & Sue Hatton*

Flower Rota

We are looking for volunteers to join the church flower rota — could you help? You do not need to be experienced in arranging flowers; simple and attractive displays are always appreciated and help brighten our church for worship and visitors alike.

We would also welcome contributions to the flower fund. You may wish to sponsor flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion, and donations towards arrangements would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

World Championships Fundraising

Vicky's 2 boys, both young martial artists, have both recently been selected to join Team England and compete at the ICO World Championships in France this coming October. Prestigious events such as this often come with high costs to participate, along with travel and accommodation. To help the team on their way, Vicky has set-up a Gofundme fundraiser. Every contribution, big or small, will make a real difference. Thank you to those who have donated.

Donations can be made via the following link <https://gofund.me/o6a9d9d8e>

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 23rd May

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 24th May

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Benefice Communion Service for Pentecost followed by refreshments

4:00pm Pentecost Praise

Monday 25th May

10:00am Church open

10:00am New Horizons Coffee Morning

Tuesday 26th May

10:00am Church open

Wednesday 27th May

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 28th May

10:00am Church open

Friday 29th May

10:00am Church open

Saturday 30th May

10:00am Church open

Sunday 31st May

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Saturday 13th June

Sunday 7th June

Sunday 21st June

Monday 10th – Friday 14th August

Summer Fair 11am – 3pm

Music Sunday Evensong at 6:30pm

Patronal Eucharist at 10am

Holiday Club for children age 7-13 years

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: **Amanda Hodson** – 07934 610788. For prayer requests, please contact **Geoff Jones** - 01932 851830