

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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2nd August 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, Trinity 9, are:
Matthew 14: 13-21 and Romans 9: 1-5

Ros writes...

This Sunday's Gospel reading is a very familiar story – the feeding of the five thousand. This year the lectionary concentrates on Matthew, so it's his telling that we hear this year. In beginning to reflect on a Gospel passage I sometimes compare it with any accounts in the other gospels, and this is one story which appears in all four gospels. I was particularly interested to do that with this passage because of one detail that was missing in Matthew's account which I had always thought was integral to the whole story and would always be there. I was surprised to discover that this particular detail appears only in John's version, and that is the fact that it was a young boy who gave up his lunch. In the other three accounts there's no mention of where the loaves and fish came from. If you'd like to see the different versions alongside one another, just type 'gospel parallel feeding five thousand' into your search engine and you can then see them on the Bible Hub website. Don't the different tellings somehow make the story more credible? Just imagine four of us giving an account of the same event; I'm sure the essence would be the same but the details different!

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, Julie Barlow, Simon Foxley, Wendy Ashworth.

Remembering the departed:

Audrey Hassel

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>

Message from Di Manthorpe

My thanks to everyone who contributed to my very generous retirement gifts. I will let you know when I make a significant purchase. Thank you.

Baby & Toddler Group Closure Dates

Our Baby & Toddler group will be closed on the following dates: Wednesday 12th, 19th & 26th August. The group will restart again on Wednesday 2nd September.

Holiday Club 2026

We'll be running our summer holiday club again this year from 10th to 14th August. The club runs the whole week from 10am-4.30pm, each day, and is for children age 7-13. As usual, activities will be based around a biblical theme each day, finishing with a short service at 4pm. Please let everyone know who might be interested! More info from Ian or Vicky - email music@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk. And if you can volunteer to help for a session (morning or afternoon), or a whole day, or more, please let Ian know asap. Many thanks!

Help needed to clear hall loft

We are looking for a couple of people to help clear the hall loft on a Saturday to be announced. If you can help please speak to Terry or Jen.

Help needed to paint picnic benches

We are looking for someone to help preserve the picnic benches. We can purchase all the supplies - brushes and wood preservative. If you can help please contact Terry or Jen.

Cornerstone Kitchen Refurbishment - Help needed Sun Aug 16th

We are pleased to confirm that we have successfully bid for, and been given, sufficient new funds to fully pay for our kitchen refurbishment.

After some preliminary electrical and gas works the old range cooker and dishwasher will be removed on the 12th August. The kitchen fitter and his team will then be on site as of 17th August for 2 weeks.

Help is needed please to empty the cupboards of everything and place items in boxes in the Dora Honor room. We plan to do this immediately after coffee on Sunday 16th August. That afternoon (Aug 16th) 2-3 strong people are needed at about 4pm to help unfix the very large cooker hood from the wall and ceiling and safely lower it for disposal.

Does anyone have a spare mobile phone they could donate?

We want to have a mobile phone and number dedicated to safeguarding matters and concerns, kept by our Parish Safeguarding Officer. Jo Pritchard covers both parishes, so this is for the whole benefice. We need a phone that works and can be used with a new sim card, but it only needs to reliably handle phone calls and messages. Nothing fancy required! If you have an old one you don't need sitting around that we could use, please speak to Jo or Keith.

Revd Gillaine Holland's Working Pattern

We are delighted that Gillaine has now started with us 3 days a week across both churches. Her regular working days each week are Sunday & Wednesday. Gillaine's 3rd working day will alternate between Monday & Tuesday to accommodate the needs of both churches. If you do need to contact Gillaine please do so on her working days. Gillaine's email address is gillaine.holland@allsaintsnewhaw.org.uk

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 1st August

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 2nd August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

6:30pm Hymns & Pimms

Monday 3rd August

9:30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 4th August

10:00am Church open

Wednesday 5th August

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 6th August

10:00am Church open

Friday 7th August

10:00am Church open

Saturday 8th August

10:00am Church open

Sunday 9th August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Monday 10th – Friday 14th August

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. Our Associate Priest, **Revd Gillaine Holland**, works on Sundays, Wednesdays and alternate Mondays or Tuesdays (to accommodate both churches' calendars). She will have a St John's email but her contact is currently: Gillaine.holland@allsaintsnewhaw.org.uk
For prayer requests, please contact **Keith Elford**.