

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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16th 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, Blessed Virgin Mary, are:
Luke 1: 46-55 and Galatians 4: 4-7

Keith writes....

It is easy to make a case that, after Jesus himself, it is the women who are the heroes of the Gospels. It is the women who support and sustain Jesus through his ministry. It is the women who stay strong and loyal, remaining at the cross after the men have scattered. It is the women who are trusted with the news of the resurrection.

Of the women who play such a key role in Jesus' life and ministry it is Mary, his mother, who makes the whole journey with him. When the angel appears to her she would be a teenager as women married young in those days. She must have felt overwhelmed, but she accepts God's will and sees it as a privilege to do so, rather than as a burden to be endured. Thus she becomes the great model of obedience and humility.

This Sunday we are keeping the festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary and we will be considering what her life and example has to say to us today. I like the fact that it is this paragon of humble virtue who makes the most revolutionary statement about power and justice found in the New Testament - in the poem that we call the Magnificat.

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 Doughty, Simon Foxley, Wendy Ashworth, Veronica & Michael Avery.

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>

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.

Help a Friend

If you need a lift to the Benefice Service at All Saints' New Haw on **Sunday 23rd August**, please have a chat with others this Sunday to see if you can arrange a lift or car share. If you are able to offer a lift, please do let someone know – a little help can make it possible for everyone to join us for the service!

Talk, Think, Pray

This Sunday, 16th August, we will talk about Mary, the mother of Jesus, and perhaps some of the other women in the New Testament. We will be keeping the festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary this Sunday, so the services at 8 and 10 should generate some questions or discussion points! We meet at 6.30pm in the Prayer Corner for conversation, silence and Celtic Evening Prayer. All welcome – and you can come to listen – you don't have to talk!

Benefice Service Sunday 23rd August

There will be a Benefice Service at All Saints' New Haw at 10am on Sunday 23rd August. There will be no 10am service held at St John's on this day.

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.

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. The kitchen fitter and his team will 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.

Readers & Intercessors

Would you be interested in taking part in our services by reading the Bible readings or leading the intercessions? If you would like to put yourself forward, or would like to find out more, please have a chat with Ros.

Prayer List

We are currently reviewing our prayer list for those who are unwell. If you have added someone's name to the list, please could you let us know whether they would still appreciate our prayers, or if they are now feeling better and can be removed from the list. Emails can be sent to admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk. Thank you for helping us to keep our prayer list up to date.

Opening & Closing the Church

We are looking for someone who is able to help with closing the church on a Thursday afternoon and opening the church on a Friday morning. If you feel this is something you may be able to help with please speak with Amanda or Jen. Thank you.

Parish Administrator

Vicky will be on leave from Monday 17th August – Monday 7th September. During this time the Parish Office will be closed and emails monitored periodically. For any urgent matters please contact the Churchwardens or Keith.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 15th August

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 16th August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Family Eucharist including Baptism followed by refreshments

Monday 17th August

9:30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 18th August

10:00am Church Open

Wednesday 19th August

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

Thursday 20th August

10:00am Church Open

Friday 21st August

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 22nd August

10:00am Church open

Sunday 23rd August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Wednesday 12th – 26th August

Sunday 23rd August

Sunday 6th September

Sunday 20th September

Saturday 26th September

Baby & Toddler Group Closed
Benefice Service at All Saints' New Haw at 10am
Sung Evensong
Harvest Festival at 10am
Harvest Supper at All Saints' New Haw at 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: **Amanda Hodson** – 07934 610788. Our Associate Priest, **Revd Gillaine Holland**, works on Sundays, Wednesdays and alternate Mondays or Tuesdays (to accommodate both churches' calendars). Gillaine may be contacted at gillaine@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk. For prayer requests, please contact **Keith Elford**.