

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 29th August

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 30th August

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Monday 31st August

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 1st September

10:00am Church Open

Wednesday 2nd September

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

Thursday 3rd September

10:00am Church Open

Friday 4th September

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 5th September

10:00am Church open

Sunday 6th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

6.30pm Sung Evensong

Advance Dates

Sunday 20th September

Saturday 26th September

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. 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**.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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30th 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 13, are:
Romans 12.9-end and Matthew 16.21-end

Keith writes

The threat and practice of violence is a standard feature of our political and social life. Currently we see this expressed particularly crudely. On the world stage President Trump uses lurid rhetoric in threatening Iran. The government of Israel believes that it can solve the decades long problem of relations with Palestinians through domination and extreme violence. I would urge that history suggests such methods are rarely the basis of lasting solutions. It is surprising when violence is rejected and disputes are managed in other ways, such as the truth and reconciliation commission that followed the end of apartheid in South Africa. Closer to home, the language of force and coercion is often adopted and people are ready, if not to act, then to adopt violent rhetoric which sometimes spills over into violent action.

The use of force has been so much the way of the world that the exchange between Peter and Jesus in Sunday's Gospel is still shocking. Jesus has just appointed Peter the rock on which he will build his church. In the next breath he announces that he will die at the hands of the authorities in Jerusalem. Peter is appalled – and it is easy to see why. But Jesus insists that the divine way to life and victory involves the paradoxical willingness to lay down one's life and to accept loss. We still struggle to work through what this means for us individually, let alone how to apply it politically. We have along way to go and a lot of work to do!

This Week's Prayer List

For the sick:

Joyce Ebbage, Lionel Griffiths, Roy Metcalfe, Ollie, Rose & Marie Crocket, Hannah, Pauline Kennedy, Sarah Helmy, Lilian Rance, John Blamey, Caroline Hill, Michael Doughty, Simon Foxley, Veronica & Michael Avery.

Remembering the departed: Catherine Bell

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>

Harvest Supper

This year we will be holding our harvest supper on 26 September, 7.30pm, at All Saints'. Tickets are £5, £2.50 for under 16s, and available from Hazel.

Fire drill

It is a long time since we tested our ability to handle an emergency at church. We need to be confident that in the event of a fire or other emergency we can evacuate the church safely and with sufficient speed. We will, therefore, be holding a fire drill on a Sunday morning in the nearish future. In order to make this a real test, we will not offer more specific information in advance!

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.

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.