

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

www.stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk
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27th September 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, Creationtide 4, are:
John 6: 1-15 and Leviticus 25: 1-7

Ros writes...

In this Sunday's reading from Leviticus, God commands a sabbatical year for the land. Every seventh year the land is to be left fallow, and the people are to trust that there will be enough food for that year. The following chapter of Leviticus spells out the consequences of not observing the sabbatical command for the land. During Creationtide we are being reminded of some of the consequences of failing in our stewardship of the land and the other resources entrusted to us. Elsewhere in the Old Testament people are commanded to mark the sabbath by resting themselves one day in seven. God commands us to build regular periods of rest into our routine; this requires us to stop and trust that there will be enough time to do what we need to do, or that others may have to step in or step up. Exploiting anything to its limit – be that the land, the earth's resources, ourselves or other human beings – will have disastrous consequences, and we do well to remember that. Enjoy some rest each week and trust that all will be well!

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 Dougherty, Simon Foxley, Veronica & Michael Avery.

Remembering the departed: Cathy Devitt

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>

Afternoon tea: save the date

The Vicar and Wardens are holding a tea to say thank you to those who do so much for St John's in voluntary roles of various kinds. October 25th 2.30pm. Details to follow.

Bible Study

Mark Richmond will be hosting a weekly bible study starting on **Wednesday 30th September 4-5pm at Ciccio's Cafe (not Deli)**. We'll be looking deeply at a piece of Scripture and applying it to 2026 starting with Acts 3:1-10. Do join us!

The Ariel Consort of London - Concert

We are pleased to invite everyone to a concert at 7.30pm on Saturday 3rd October (includes refreshments and finishing around 9pm). The Ariel Consort of London consists of some of the finest chamber-choir singers on the London choral scene. Meeting when they were members of the Chorus of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, its members have also sung with the Monteverdi Choir, the Corydon Singers, the Tallis Chamber Choir and the Choir of the 21st Century. Performing a wide range of music from madrigals to major masses and oratorios, the group is delighted to be making its first appearance at St John's Church. Free entry, with a retiring collection (all proceeds to St John's). **If you can help serve the refreshments and/or give out programmes at the door, please contact Ian - thank you!**

Church Growth Conference – 8 October

We are all warmly invited to this year's Diocese of Guildford Church Growth Conference which will be held on **Thursday 8th October** (10am-3.30pm) at Welcome Church Woking. We will be welcoming two inspirational keynote speakers, ideally placed to help us make the most of this time of spiritual openness to grow our church: the Rt Revd Ruth Bushyager, Bishop of Horsham and a sought-after platform speaker, and Gavin Calver, evangelist, author, broadcaster and Chief Executive of the Evangelical Alliance.

Everyone is welcome and the conference is particularly designed to enable those who share in the leadership and ministry of each parish to come as a team. There will also be an exhibition, opportunity to hear Bishop Paul and the diocesan team and a wide range of support available.

A number of us are attending and, if you would like to join us, please book your place (£12 including lunch) at www.ChurchGrowth2026.eventbrite.co.uk

What is God calling you to?

This is the title given to a group that has been meeting over the last year to look at discipleship and vocation. The next meeting will be **12th October at 7.30pm** in the DH Room at St John's. If you have not been part of the group to date but would like to think about what God might have in store for you, please do attend – you will be very welcome. Just let me know that you plan to join us. *Keith*

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 26th September

10:00am Church Open

7:30pm Harvest Supper at All Saints' New Haw

Sunday 27th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Monday 28th September

9.30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

Tuesday 29th September

10:00am Church Open

6.15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 30th September

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8.15pm Choir Practice

4:00pm Bible Study at Ciccio's Cafe

Thursday 1st October

10:00am Church Open

Friday 2nd October

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 3rd October

10:00am Church open

7:30pm The Ariel Consort of London Concert at St John's

Sunday 4th October

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10:00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

6:30pm Choral Evensong

Saturday 14th November

Christmas Fair 11am – 3pm

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**.