

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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20th 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 3, are:
Luke 12: 16-30 and Deuteronomy 28: 1-14

Gillaine writes...

Today we celebrate Harvest. Even though I once got to drive a combine harvester (badly), I'm mindful that it's easy to forget the long chain of people who bring food to our plate. From time to time, global events cause the food chain to wobble, but it remains normal for many of us to get what we want and have more than we need.

We forget that an abundant harvest is a gift of God designed to be shared, that land is never truly our own, and that growth and flourishing of any kind is an act of divine grace.

Today is a festival of gratitude and trust: gratitude because we have so much more than we need, and trust that God who gives us our daily bread will do so again tomorrow. We do not need bigger cupboards to hold God's generosity. We need bigger hearts to ensure it is shared with those who have less.

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: 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>

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.

Harvest Gifts

Donations of non-perishable Harvest gifts will be donated to Runnymede Foodbank as well as another charity.

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.

Christmas Fair Meeting

Bridget is holding a Christmas Fair meeting on **Monday 21st September at 7:30pm** in the Dora Honnor room. We would love to have as many people as possible involved in this year's event so please come along. All are welcome.

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 12 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*

Talk, Think, Pray

This month, on Sunday 20th September, at 6.30pm, at St John's, we will discuss the church's role in tackling the green agenda and the emergency we face. You might like to look at the summary of the National Emergency Briefing available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1P9uT3P_EPZ5JP3xk5YuK_OYjGOGGTOES/view?pli=1 Discussion will be followed by silence and Celtic Evening Prayer.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 19th September

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 20th September

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Harvest Festival followed by refreshments

6:30pm Talk, Think, Pray

Monday 21st September

9.30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

7:30pm Christmas Fair meeting in the DH Room

Tuesday 22nd September

10:00am Church Open

6.15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 23rd September

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8.15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 24th September

10:00am Church Open

Friday 25th September

10:00am Church Open

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

Saturday 3rd October

Saturday 14th November

The Ariel Consort of London Concert at St John's

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**.