This week's readings

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Romans 11.1–2a, 29–32

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.' Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?' He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.' But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable to us.'

Then he said, 'Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'

Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Matthew 15.10–28

CHRIST CHURCH, WEST WIMBLEDON

Sharing God's Love

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SUNDAY 16 AUGUST 2026

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF TRINITY

Collect
God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Post Communion
Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Green World Prayer
We lament that 12 million hectares of once fertile land is lost every year to desertification and drought. We lament that an increase in degraded soil will likely affect food production. We lament for when we have chosen quick profits instead of sustainable agriculture. We lament the use of certain types of pesticides which bring increased yields for the moment but, in the long term makes the soil incapable of sustaining life. **Amen**

8am
HOLY COMMUNION
Readings
Romans 11. 1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15. 10-28

10am
PARISH EUCHARIST
Readings
Romans 11. 1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15. 10-28
Hymns
747, 4, 648, 612

6.30pm
EVENSONG
Readings
2 Kings 4. 1-37;
Acts 16. 1-15
Hymns 554, 340, 246,
Psalm 90. 1-12



For our prayers this week

Those who are ill or in need…
Val Hancock, Liana, Sara Taylor
Those who have died…
Anniversary of death… Jane Little (2016)
Our Link Parish St Francis of Assisi, Barham Green, Zimbabwe

THIS WEEK

Sunday 16 August
TRINITY 11
8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist with Baptism of Arlo William Llewellyn
6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 20 August
9.15am No Toddler Group
(Summer Holiday break)
12 noon Prayer Group

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 23 August
TRINITY 12
8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 26 August
9.15am No Toddler Group
(Summer Holiday break)
12 noon Prayer Group



WESTMINSTER ABBEY PASS

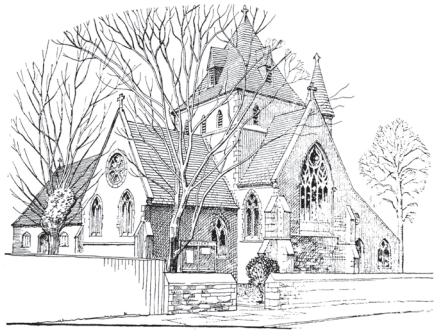
We have a free pass for Westminster Abbey that admits four adults/children (aged 6-16). We can use it six times during a 12-month period.

Please enquire via the Churchwardens, Tish or Sarah.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY…

BEATING THE BOUNDS
13 September
with Holy Trinity, Roehampton after 10am Service. More details soon…

THEOLOGY & GARDENING
6:30pm, 30 September
A lecture in Kew Gardens by Carmody Grey, Professor of Integral Ecology at Radboud University, Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics and a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *The Moral Maze*. Details and tickets: **kewtheologyandgardening.org.uk/events-schedule**



NOTICES

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP
Meets at Mair Rabagliati's and simultaneously on Zoom – everyone is welcome to join for lively discussion and coffee. For further information and date of the next meeting contact Lynda Coleman via the Parish office.

CREATIONTIDE DISPLAYS
Please put your pictures, paintings, photographs and objects for this year's Creationtide Display in the box on the table at the back of church between 12 July and 16 August. If it's difficult for you to print photos, you can email them to Mary Ann Bown via ccwwecochurch@gmail.com or via the parish office by 17 August. This year, we especially welcome images of waterways and ponds, including from Wimbledon Common (with locations, if possible), to reflect our themes for Creationtide.

Would you also enjoy decorating one of the church alcoves for Creationtide (1 September to 4 October)? Again, please let us know via Mary Ann (ccwwecochurch@gmail.com) or the parish office.

HELP SECURE THE FUTURE OF FAITH IN ACTION
The project urgently needs to find new premises. You are invited to a meeting 7pm, 17 September to help identify premises, funding opportunities and practical support. More details at mertonfaithinaction.org or the poster in the church.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE MISSION OF CHRIST CHURCH...

by scanning the QR code below to donate. Your generosity helps us cover essential costs and continue our work in the community. Every contribution, big or small, is deeply appreciated. If you would like to donate using our card reader at the cross aisle, you will see that there are two options, one is for a donation to the Church, and the other option is for special services (a specific charity in a given week), we are able to differentiate.

Thank you for your kindness