

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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11th October 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 19, are:
Matthew 22: 1-14 and Philipians 4: 1-9

Gillaine writes....

Today we read one of those pesky parables that leaves us more than a little uncomfortable (if we have any basic sense of how people should/should not behave!) Even if we're ok with the King obliterating those who murdered his servants (not a story for the faint-hearted) then it's not unreasonable to balk at the idea of being thrown into the outer darkness for pitching up at a party in the wrong clothes, especially if you were dragged off the streets at the last minute to fill the gap at the table! How we read Scripture and what we do with the difficult bits is an important question for any of us who seek to follow Jesus and take Scripture seriously. Parables resist one easy answer. They invite us to stand in the messiness of life and work out what God might be saying right here and right now. Perhaps tomorrow we will be standing elsewhere, and the Spirit might want to show us something different as a result. So today God invites us to step into the story with curiosity, and see what Good News is being offered, even amongst the murder and mayhem.

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>

Nepal/Tibet Disaster

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Nepal appeal. A total of £463.50 was raised and donated to the Red Cross.

Thank You

Thank you for the very generous donations made to support Harrison & Jude and their teammates as they head off to France next week to compete in the ICO World Championships (martial arts). They were all extremely grateful for the support. *Vicky*

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Volunteers Tea - 25th October 2.30pm - save the date

We have an amazing team of volunteers who carry out a large number of activities, without which God's church at St John the Baptist would not function; ranging from cleaning, safeguarding, children's worship, welcoming, providing and serving refreshments, repairing and maintaining the church buildings and grounds (to name a few). We plan to host a "thank you" tea on 25th October. If you volunteer please save the date as we would like to use this opportunity to show our gratitude for all that you do. Nearer the time we may seek donations of cake! *Keith & the Church Wardens.*

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*

Dinners for our times!

One of the most ways in which we can play a part in reducing emissions that are feeding the climate emergency is to switch to a more plant-based diet. I am planning to offer some inspiration and encouragement by offering some dinners in my own home.

Some of you may have come to previous dinners that I have hosted. The format will be the same:

Each dinner party will be for up to 6 /7 people and will consist of three courses of plant based foods and wine. Individuals, couples or a whole party of 6 will be most welcome. Invitation time is 7.00pm.

The price of the food and wine will be met by me. anyone wishing to make a donation to the National Emergency Fund for Climate Change, may of course do so, and envelopes provided for that will be supplied. Proposed dates:

October 23rd Friday or October 24th Saturday;

November 6th Friday or November 7th Saturday;

Friday OR Saturday to be negotiated with those interested. Grace Gray, 07766 711712.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 3rd October

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 11th October

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Monday 12th October

9.30am Morning Prayer with Our Lady RC Church

10:00am Church Open

Tuesday 13th October

10:00am Church Open

6.15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 14th October

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8.15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 15th October

10:00am Church Open

Friday 16th October

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 17th October

10:00am Church open

Sunday 18th October

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10:00am Family Eucharist followed by refreshments

6:30pm Talk, Think, Pray

Advance Dates

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**.