

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 17th October

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 18th October

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10:00am Family Eucharist including Baptism followed by refreshments

6:30pm Talk, Think, Pray

Monday 19th October

9.30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church Open

Tuesday 20th October

10:00am Church Open

6.15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 21st October

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church Open

4:00pm Bible Study Group at Ciccio's Café, finishing at 5pm

8.15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 22nd October

10:00am Church Open

Friday 23rd October

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 24th October

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 25th October

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10:00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

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**.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

www.stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk

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18th 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:
Luke 19: 1-9 and Acts 16: 6-12a

Keith writes

In Sunday's Gospel, from Luke, we read that 'after this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs'. He has previously sent out the twelve – now it is the seventy. When I think about this I am intrigued. Who were these seventy people? We know that crowds follow Jesus but we have no information that leads us to think that, aside from the twelve, this is in any way an organised group. But the sending out of the seventy suggests that there is another, recognisable group of followers 'beneath' or 'behind' the twelve that Jesus can call on. I wonder if they expected to be called in this way? Were some jealous of the twelve, itching to get a piece of the action, delighted when the call comes? Were others hoping not to be noticed, content to remain part of the crowd, aghast at being chosen now?

I wonder how you would have felt. I wonder how you would feel now if Christ were to tap you on the shoulder and call you, somewhat unexpectedly, out of the crowd and into a role, as he called the seventy. Our group considering 'what is God calling you to' met last Monday. Members of that group are thinking seriously about what the call of God might look like for them and they expressed a range of emotions about it. Perhaps Sunday's reading might inspire you to think about it too, and maybe even join that group as 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 Doughty, Simon Foxley, Veronica & Michael Avery, Rosina.

Remembering the departed:

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>

Talk, Think, Pray

At the end of Prisons Week, Talk, Think, Pray is an opportunity to consider our justice system and what we hope to achieve by locking people up. Is it for punishment or rehabilitation? In other words does prison work? In this short article, John Humphrys sets the scene and asks some questions:

<https://yougov.com/en-gb/articles/47666-john-humphrys-does-prison-work>

Gillaine will be leading this session and brings experience of being a prison chaplain and working with Sycamore (a restorative justice programme in prisons). Sunday at 6.30pm, discussion, silence and Celtic Evening Prayer.

Volunteers Tea - 25th October 2.30pm

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.*

Dinners for our times!

One of the 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.
