

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

www.stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stjohnswestbyfleet

1st November 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, All Saints' Day, are:
Matthew 5: 1-12 and Revelation 7: 9-17

Ros writes...

In this Sunday's readings we're presented with some topsy turvy notions. Firstly, in the reading from Revelation we have a vision of elders whose robes have been washed white in the blood of the lamb; that doesn't make much sense if taken literally. Then, in a paradoxical twist, the lamb becomes the shepherd. Our reading from Matthew's gospel is the Beatitudes (the first part of the Sermon on the Mount). This is a beautiful passage and one of my favourites, but there's no denying that it can appear counter intuitive, and somewhat puzzling, as Jesus begins to describe those groups of people who are blessed, including the poor in spirit (Luke's version just says 'the poor'), those who mourn, the meek and the persecuted. These certainly don't chime with modern society's idea of those who are blessed. As if to compound the paradoxes, perhaps the most surprising message for us this All Saints tide is that we ordinary folk with less than exemplary lives are saints. The word saint is used 67 times in the New Testament. It derives from a Greek word meaning holy or set apart. In every instance it refers to all God's people, and it almost always appears in the plural. Across the boundaries of time, space and background, we have a spiritual solidarity with the whole Communion of Saints!

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, Isla Helen Kirkby.

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>

Christmas Fair Donations

Our Christmas Fair takes place on **Saturday 14th November, 11am – 3pm**. We are looking for donations of the following items; toys, books, jewellery, gifts, preserves, wrapped sweets, bottles & chocolates. Please bring any donations into church and place in the labelled boxes. We also require cakes for the Cake Stall and for Refreshments - Please leave your donations in the Dora Honor Room kitchen on Friday evening or bring to the Hall on Saturday morning. Please mark clearly 'Stall' or 'Refreshments'. All donations are gratefully received.

Botanical Place Bible Study Group

Clive Kirk will be leading a new series of meetings exploring the Bible to be held in the lounge at Botanical Place. Meeting weekly on a Tuesday at 3pm, including this Tuesday 3rd November. The meeting is for residents of Botanical Place and everyone else! If you want to get to know and understand the Bible better this is for you! **Please contact Clive for further information on 07566 241766.**

All Souls

Our service will be on **Sunday 1st November at 6:30pm**. A short service of remembrance and thanksgiving for loved ones who have died. The service takes the form of a mixture of reflection, music & prayers.

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 31st October

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 1st November

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10:00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

6:30pm All Souls Service

Monday 2nd November

9.30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church Open

Tuesday 3rd November

10:00am Church Open

3:00pm Botanical Place Bible Study Group

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 4th November

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 5th November

10:00am Church Open

Friday 6th November

10:00am Church Open

Saturday 7th November

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 8th November

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**.