



CELEBRATE, SHARE AND GROW IN CHRIST

SUNDAY, 18th October 2026, Trinity 20

Isaiah 45.1-7; 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10; Matthew 22.15-22

~~~ SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE FOR THIS WEEK ~~~

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 am HOLY COMMUNION (BCP), St John's Epping

9:20 am SUNG COMMUNION, St John's Epping

With hymns 676, 569, 736, 452, 477, Anthem *Agnus dei*, (Samuel Webbe) and Voluntary Fanfare, (William Mathias).

11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, All Saints Epping Upland

11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, St Alban's Coopersale

1:00 pm BAPTISM of Loucas & Ben Wellings, All Saints Epping Upland

6:00 pm SUNG COMPLINE, St John's Epping

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Monday - Wednesday, St John's Epping

8:45 am MORNING PRAYER

Monday - Thursday, St John's Epping

5:00 pm EVENING PRAYER

Wednesday - 9:30 am, HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping

Thursday - 10:00 am, CHURCH MICE, St John's Epping

Although St John's is usually open daily for private prayer it will be closed when unattended until the installation of the new porch doors has been completed, expected to be this week.

Please switch your mobile phone to silent mode or switch it off before a Sunday service begins and take time to pray that we may be fully present with each other and with Christ.

~~~~~ **FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM** ~~~~~

## **Saint Francis of Assisi**

This month, October 2026, marks the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi in 1226.

Saints in heaven provide great examples of lives lived well, lives converted and examples of people called to be saints in our world, modelling holy lives and witnessing to peace.

The 'poor man of Assisi' is one of the best-known Saints that we have. An Italian mystic, poet and friar who founded the religious order of the Franciscans who take three religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, or perhaps more easily understood as simplicity, fidelity and humility.

Saint Francis is remembered for the giving up of his very wealthy life style and choosing to live and preach in complete poverty. His is the patron saint of animals and ecology, in statues he is often depicted preaching to birds. He is also remembered as the one who staged the first ever live nativity scene, to help people connect with the birth of Jesus.

As we approach our own All Saints season at the end of the month, we might reflect on which saints inspire us in the way they lived their lives. Or we might challenge ourselves to reflect on how we, in our own lives as Christians in Epping, are bringing inspiration to those around us?

A film recommendation. If you can ignore the quite dreadful 1970's folk music, you might enjoy 'Brother Sun, Sister Moon' a ( 1972 PG) film about the conversion and life of Saint Francis. The costumes and cinematography are great, but the music isn't!

Best wishes

Kate

~~~~ READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY ~~~~

Isaiah 45, 1 - 7. Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him - and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

I Thessalonians I, 1 - 10. Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Matthew 22, 15 - 22. Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard

people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.' When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

~~~~~ **FOR OUR PRAYERS DURING THE WEEK** ~~~~~

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | For the congregation and parish of All Saints, Epping Upland.                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | For asylum seekers in the UK who are still waiting to hear about their application.                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | For all those still badly affected by war and conflict around the world.                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | For the pupils and staff at Epping Upland Primary School.                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Friday</b>    | For the Ministry Team; for all who contribute to, or lead, our services: for those who lead our meetings, those who carry out 'behind the scenes' activities and those who help fundraising in the Team churches. |

**Those who are sick and for whom prayers have been asked:** June, Caroline, Harriet, David, Rebecca, Sam, Marion, Pam, Jim, Lisa, Eden, Norah.

**Those who have died recently, their family and friends:** Margaret Bale.

**Those whose anniversary of death occurs during this week:** 18<sup>th</sup> October, Emily Wright; 19<sup>th</sup>, Evelyn Eardley, Clifford Ovenden, Julia Sworder, John Bale, Iris Spearman; 20<sup>th</sup>, Francis Pearse, Mabel Thompson, Alfred Brewster, Phil Clark; 21<sup>st</sup>, Kate Mortlock; 22<sup>nd</sup>, Athol Trewman, Florence Penrose, John Durston-Wyatt; Ronald Knight; 23<sup>rd</sup>, Albert Cumming, Hugh Kibblewhite, Peggy Martin, Jacqueline Edwards; 24<sup>th</sup>, Alice Dean, Florence Mumford, Annie Giddons, Henry Hayes, Thomas Clare.

**COLLECT for this Sunday.** God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

~~~~~ **FROM THE TEAM RECTOR AND TEAM VICAR** ~~~~~

STEWARDSHIP at St John's This Sunday, there will be a focus on Christian Stewardship at St John's. There is a leaflet available to collect at St John's containing a response form which can be returned to any service between now and mid November. Electronic copies will be distributed in the week ahead, if a copy does not arrive in your inbox and you would like one, please contact Lisa on teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY On Remembrance Sunday (8th November) there will be a special pattern of services. Holy Communion will be celebrated at St John's at 8am as usual. Later in the day Remembrance Sunday services will be held at 10.30am at St John's Epping and at 10.45am at St Alban's Coopersale (*followed by a said service of Holy Communion - to be confirmed by Revd Kate Moore*) and All Saints Epping Upland. There will be a Civic Remembrance service in partnership with Royal British Legion held at St John's Epping at 3pm to which all are invited as we gather for this significant day in our national life.

NEW MINISTRY PLACEMENT Jessica Wells has joined us on placement in October as she starts her third year of ministerial training. She is studying part time at the Eastern Region Ministry Course. Jess and her husband Nathan have lived in Roydon, Essex for nearly 20 years, having escaped from Central London as soon as they could. (Jess grew up in rural Shropshire and Nathan in rural Northern Ireland, so city life was not for them.)

VOLUNTARY ACTION EPPING FOREST VAEF has its origins as the Council for Voluntary Services for the Epping Forest District. Originally it was a membership body, with a Board drawn from voluntary groups across the District but this changed and there is now a Board of Trustees with no specific affiliations.

In recent times it has become known for delivering a range of services: Community Clubs for people at risk of loneliness, support for people with

Learning Disabilities, Benefits advice and guidance and Men's Sheds. In addition, it stepped up to play a significant role during the COVID period, the Ukrainian resettlement campaign and the Cost-of-Living Crisis.

It is currently considering its future priorities in order to develop a strategy around both continuing to develop services for people in need and also providing wider support for the Voluntary sector, which it continues to do, but with very limited funding. The Board recognises the need for more expertise and energy to be brought in to support our future development. In particular there is a lack Trustees with real marketing and business development experience and a gap for Trustees with lived experience of the types of issues we seek to address.

New Trustees do not need any experience of this type of role, or any management position. Meetings are held quarterly but encourage all Trustees to join one of our sub committees (usually held on- line) and to visit some of the services being delivered.

If anyone is interested in taking up this role please contact the Chair, David Tetlow on dtetlow@vaef.org.uk

BIBLE STUDY GROUP we will continue to meet on the following Saturday dates at 12:00 noon: **October 24th, November 14th, December 12th**. You are very welcome to the vicarage at 9 Seymour Chase for any of the sessions. There will be refreshments provided.

EPPING FOR PEACE WORKSHOP: Alternatives to Violence Project, 15th November, 2:00 – 5:00 pm, St. John's Epping.

St. John's and Epping Quakers continue to work together to create opportunities for promoting promote peace and understanding in Epping. This workshop is delivered by the Alternatives to Violence Project, who are committed to a world where everyone has the courage and capacity to manage conflict non-violently. The workshop will explore the themes of conflict resolution and transformation alongside empathy and trust. We are initially making 20 places available for this session and have capacity to add more if there is enough interest. Our intention is for this event to be a safe space, so we are advertising it within our communities; we welcome attendees who you are able to invite directly and in confidence. To book a place, please contact: Rev. Dr. Liz Gloyn on curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk

At the request of her family, I am able to share the news that **Margaret Sylvia Bale** died on 29th August 2026. She had been a regular at Monday Morning Coffee in St John's until the end of last year.

~~~~~ **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** ~~~~~

**SATURDAY COFFEE CONCERTS** The autumn series of coffee concerts continues in **St John's** concludes on 7<sup>th</sup> November. Coffee is served from 10:30 am and the concerts start at 11:00 am. See also the poster outside the church.

**TREE FESTIVAL at St John's.** We would welcome donations of **bottles and gifts for the tombola and recycled gifts for the gift stall.** Please bring to the Church and leave in the box at that back or give to one us. Thank you, Kate and Cathy

**REPAIR CAFÉ COMING TO ST JOHN'S!** We launched a Repair Café at **St John's** Church during Monday Morning Coffee on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026 and these will continue on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> January and 6<sup>th</sup> February. If you'd like to find out more or get involved, please contact Natalie ([nkelberman@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:nkelberman@eppinganglicans.org.uk)).

**THE CRAFT GROUP** will next be held in St John's on 21<sup>st</sup> October from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. (Note new date).

**THE NEW PORCH DOORS** at St John's are not completed, but are functional; as a consequence the church will remain closed unless there is an activity or service in the church. The completion is due during this week, commencing Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2026.

**SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2026, Bible Sunday**

**8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP), St John's Epping**

**9:20 am Sung Communion** with groups for children and young people,  
**St John's Epping**

**11:10 am Holy Communion, All Saints Epping Upland**

**11:10 am Holy Communion, St Albans's Coopersale**

**6:00 pm No services**

**READINGS:**

**Nehemiah 8.1-4a, 8-12; Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35**

~~~~~ **CONTACTS, GIVING and COLLECTIONS** ~~~~~

There are many ways to financially support the mission and ministry of the parishes. We are grateful for the many ways and forms of giving which express our shared worship of Christ. (Please no foreign coins as the bank will not accept them)

COLLECTIONS IN SUNDAY SERVICES: A cash collection is taken at Sunday services. Please don't feel any embarrassment to let it pass you by.

It is also possible to donate to church funds in each church of the Benefice using a contactless card.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS): Similar to direct debit payments but set up online at www.parishgiving.org.uk providing your bank details plus your church PGS code which is:

Epping Upland All Saints-0806-08029

Epping St John the Baptist-0806-08028

Coopersale St Alban the Martyr-0806-08027

BACS You can give to church by bank transfer; the sort codes and account numbers are listed here:

St Alban's Parochial Church Council 20-29-86, Account: 50776459

St John's is **Epping Parochial Church Council** 20-29-86, Account: 50357219

All Saints Epping Upland 60-07-39, Account 50236520

~~~~~ **BENEFICE OF THE EPPING DISTRICT CONTACT DETAILS** ~~~~~

**Clergy**

Revd John Fry: Team Rector - 01992 934355

Rest day, usually Saturday

E-mail: [teamrector@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamrector@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

Revd Kate Moore: Team Vicar – 01992 265590

Rest days, usually Thursday/Friday

Email: [teamvicar@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamvicar@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

Revd Jessica Bostock: Associate Minister,

E-mail: [jbostock@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:jbostock@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

Revd Dr Liz Gloyn: Curate

E-Mail: [curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**Licensed Lay Ministers**

Diana Lowry: 01992 279696

Email: [Dlowry@eppinganglians.org.uk](mailto:Dlowry@eppinganglians.org.uk)

Steve Snooks: 01992 572185

Email: [stevesnooks@hotmail.com](mailto:stevesnooks@hotmail.com)

**Children, Youth and Family Worker**, Emily Townshend: is now on Maternity Leave

**Church Wardens** for St Alban's Coopersale, please contact the Team Office.

For St John's, contact Sara McLean at 07768 106 406, email: [sdmclean@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:sdmclean@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

For All Saint's, contact James Chappell on 07710 171 166 or email [allsaintswarden@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:allsaintswarden@eppinganglicans.org.uk) for James or Nigel Scott.

**Team Administrator:** Lisa Bazzoni - 01992 579935 - E-mail: [teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**NEWS items for next week;** Geoff Scanlan - 01992 576550 - E-mail: [rosandgeoff@btinternet.com](mailto:rosandgeoff@btinternet.com)

**Please send us any prayer requests, or if you would like someone to pray for you.**

**St John's has a 'T' loop: please ask for help if you need it.**

**MOBILITY AIDS** are at the back of St John's Epping for use in church.

**You can follow the churches of the Benefice on Facebook**