ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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22nd 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, Remembrance Sunday, are:
Matthew 25: 31-46 and **Ephesians 1: 15-23**

Gillaine writes…

As we wait once again for time to turn and for another new (liturgical) year to begin, we might be forgiven for wondering if anything ever really changes. A century on from the war that would end all wars, we continue to act as though might and power is the answer to everything. Politically, economically, environmentally, socially, we can probably all agree there is much that needs healing -whatever our flavour of politics - but the kingdom of God has a way of sneaking up on us.
To quote from a favourite liturgy:
Just when we think we've got it right as to where we should go and what we should do; just when we're ready to take on the world, Jesus comes, like a beggar, to our back door saying this is the way, I am the way and offering us bread and wine.
So today, as we eat and drink with gratitude, at the feast of Christ the King, let us look deeply into his eyes and trust what we find there. Let us commit to living by God's disturbing values rather than the world's ways. And, because we cannot meet the challenge in our own strength, let us ask Spirit of the Lord to cover us with her presence, to anoint us with her wisdom and understanding her counsel and might,
her knowledge and fear of the Lord that we might also preach good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, May we liberate the oppressed, and get to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour as we celebrate Christ the King.
Perhaps then it really will be a happy new (liturgical) year!

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

CCTV Camera

The CCTV camera in the Narthex has been fitted and is now live. The camera complies with diocesan and national requirements for a CCTV system in a public place. If you have any questions about this, then please contact me, Keith or the churchwardens.

Community Christmas Tree Festival

The Community Christmas Tree Festival will be open to the public 5th-8th December every afternoon and evening. We need 40 volunteers to help host the event. It is not an onerous task - a 2 hour slot to welcome visitors and hand out voting slips! This is such a huge community event and is our chance to share the joy of Christmas in our beautiful church. We will be coming round after Sunday worship over the next few weeks to ask you to sign up or please let Amanda or Geoff know if you are willing to help. Many thanks

Safeguarding Survey Audit

As part of the Church of England's independent safeguarding audit programme, the Diocese of Guildford and Guildford Cathedral are being audited by safeguarding specialists, INEQE. You can find out more about the audit on the diocesan website.
As part of this process, INEQE wants to hear directly from people across our parish communities about how we create environments where people feel safe, valued and respected. The surveys are anonymous and confidential, and we encourage everyone to participate openly and honestly. Survey links can be found at https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/guildford/ and will remain open until 1 January 2027. If you have any questions about the audit, please contact the diocesan safeguarding team at ineqe@cofeguildford.org.uk

Christmas Tree

For the past few years, Lodge Brothers have provided us with a beautiful Christmas Tree; unfortunately this year they are unable to cover the full cost and as such we probably need another £100. Although we will have trees here for the festival, at only 4ft, none of them are big enough to fill the space by the pulpit!
If you would like to contribute then please talk to Jen or Amanda. Thank you

ECO Church News

A record of the progress achieved by our Volunteer Gardeners is now available to view in a Scrapbook at the Children's corner entrance to Cornerstones.
What has been accomplished over the past two years is amazing and has greatly assisted us in attaining the ECO Bronze Award status.
Gardening and the grounds, however, require constant maintenance and at this time of year, gathering all the fallen leaves. We have purchased two leaf composter cages, cited alongside the three garden compost bins and would earnestly encourage those who can gather and bag leaves. We can provide large bin bags and several rakes.
Our ground level gutters and drains are at risk of 'Thatching' thereby restricting the escape of rainwater. If you are able to give an hour or so, at your convenience, your help would be greatly appreciated. Let's keep St John's grounds and gardens clean and tidy.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who contributed to my Retirement gift in July. I thought you might like to know that I put it towards a Recliner Chair. This will aid me in my rising and in my sitting. It is both cosy and comfy; just what I need as winter draws on. Thank you again for your generosity. *Di*

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 21st November
10:00am Church Open
11:00am Christmas Fair until 3pm
Sunday 22nd November
8.00am Parish Eucharist
10:00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments
4:00pm Christingle Service
Monday 23rd November
9.30am Morning Prayer
10:00am Church Open
Tuesday 24th November
10:.00am Church Open
3:00pm Botanical Place Bible Study Group
6:15pm Junior Choir Practice
Wednesday 25th November
10:0am Parish Eucharist
11:00am Church Open
4:00pm Bible Study Group at Ciccio's Café, finishing at 5pm
8.15pm Choir Practice
Thursday 26th November
10:.00am Church Open
Friday 27th November
10:.00am Church Open
Saturday 28th November
10:00am Church Open
Sunday 29th November
8.00am Parish Eucharist
10:00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments
6:30pm Advent Procession

Advance Dates

5th – 8th December Christmas Tree Festival

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.**