

# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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31<sup>st</sup> May 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](mailto: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, are:  
**Matthew 28: 16-end and 2 Corinthians 13: 11-end**

### **Keith writes...**

Since the beginning of the year (as every year!) our services have been organised around telling the story of Jesus. We remembered his birth at Christmas, his death in Holy Week, his resurrection at Easter, his glorification at Ascension and, most recently, his gift of the Spirit at Pentecost. On Trinity Sunday we celebrate all that this story has taught us about God. At the centre of this learning is the person of Jesus Christ. He distinguishes himself from the Father yet assures us that to see him is to see the Father. This leads us to conclude that Jesus is the 'Son of God', distinct from the Father yet of the same being. Moreover, he sends us the Holy Spirit who is distinct from both Father and Son yet makes Christ himself present to us and acts as God in the world. So we conclude that the Spirit too is part of the one being of God. Thus, we arrive at the famously challenging conviction that God is both three and one. It is not that God appears to us in different guises at different times (that is a heresy called 'modalism') but that the Godhead comprises three distinct persons. Instead of worrying about how this works, I suggest we focus on what it tells us about God. Firstly it tells us that God is our Father and Creator; secondly that he has entered our world, become one of us, changing our destiny; thirdly that he continues to be active in the world for good – itself a promise that one day he will make all things new. We think of heaven and earth as far apart, but perhaps the doctrine of the Trinity suggests they are closer than we think, that the partitions are thin and that the influence of the one on the other is greater than we think.

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### **This Week's Prayer List**

#### **For the sick:**

Joyce Ebbage, Mark Asplin, Lionel Griffiths, Roy Metcalfe, Ollie, Rose & Marie Crocket, Hannah, Pauline Kennedy, Sarah Helmy, Lilian Rance, John Blamey, Graham Smith, Caroline Hill, Michael Doughty.

#### **Remembering the departed:**

Please send any new prayer requests or updates to [admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk)

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### **Parish Office**

For all general (non-urgent) enquiries, please contact the Parish Office by emailing [admin@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk](mailto: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.

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### **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>

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### **Summer Fair Setting Up**

To prepare for our summer fair on Saturday 13th June, it would be good to have some helpers to get everything ready. If you can spare some time on either **Friday 12th June 4-6pm, or Saturday 13th from 8-11am**, it will be much appreciated. Please let me or Hazel know if you can help. Thank you. *Terry*

## Summer Study Opportunity

We have been planning for a while to create more opportunities for study and discussion in the life of our churches. I am planning to lead four evenings in which we will look at what it means to be a Christian – and, specifically, an Anglican Christian. The series will be based on Sam Wells' book *What Anglicans Believe*, but the sessions will not require you to buy or read the book. These evenings will be suitable for those who want to find out more about their faith – whether you are new to church or not. It will help to answer questions about what is special to the Church of England – why we do what we do and say what we say. It will also consider the range of opinion and practice found within the Church of England and the issues facing our church. It will run on for four weeks on Tuesdays, starting 23 June. Meetings will be 7.30pm in the DH Room at St John's.

Because this programme will require some preparation I am asking you to sign up for it in advance so that I know we have a viable number in good time. You can do that by putting your name on the list at the back of church or emailing me. *Keith*

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## Summer Fair – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June

With the Summer Fair fast approaching we would be very grateful if you are able to donate items to be used on the various stalls – we are looking for the following:

**Homeware (no electrical ware or bric-a-brac), jewellery, sweets for filled jars, toys, plants, bottles for the tombola, raffle prizes & cakes to be sold on the cakes stall and in the food hall.** Boxes for donations are now available in church; please bring your donations into church and place in the correct marked box. Cakes & plants to be dropped off on the Friday (12th June) evening or on the morning of the fair.

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## Parking on Sundays

Additional parking will now be available at the junior school each Sunday.

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## ECO News

Phew, what a hot week! Everyone has been hard pushed to get their gardens, pots, allotments watered, but no-one deserves more thanks than Janet Hodges (the alto singer in the choir!!), who is responsible for the wonderful gardens in St John's. She trudges daily with her watering cans from the tap to the ECO gardens to ensure that all the plants thrive, then she goes to her allotment and sorts that out!

The Wildflower Meadow looked amazing with the red poppies - do hope you have seen them. We desperately need more help to get the grounds in good shape before the Summer Fair. Please help - Saturday mornings or Monday evenings. Janet will give instructions on what needs doing. The rhubarb is coming on as part of our Veg project; there is more veg ready to plant once the turfs are dug up - so able bodied spade wielders wanted!!

We are also wanting more ECO Warriors to help us get to A Rocha Silver Award. We need ideas for involving the Community - any thoughts - please contact us!

Happy watering. *Sue & Neil Hatton 07807 729787*

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## Noticeboard

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

### Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May

10:00am Church Open

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

9:30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

10:00am Church open

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

10:00am Church open

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

10:00am Church open

### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June

10:00am Church open

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

6:30pm Music Sunday Evensong

## Advance Dates

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Summer Fair 11am – 3pm

Patronal Eucharist at 10am

Holiday Club for children age 7-13 years

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## 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](mailto:vicarwestbyfleetandnewhaw@gmail.com) (note the new email address). His normal day off is Friday. For urgent enquiries outside of these times, contact our Churchwarden: **Amanda Hodson** – 07934 610788. For prayer requests, please contact **Geoff Jones** - 01932 851830