

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST WEST BYFLEET

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21st June 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, Patronal Festival, are:
Luke 1: 57-66, 80 and Galatians 3: 23-29

Keith writes....

Today's Gospel reading, again from Matthew, is sobering. First, it indicates how much is at stake in Christ's mission and the Christian endeavour. It is a matter of life and death, and, in particular, the life and death of the soul. The death of the body is bad enough, that of the soul worse. It appears that our souls are indeed in danger and I take this to mean that our true nature, calling and happiness is at risk in a world that is full of rival claims, would be masters of our souls and malevolent powers.

It is in this context that Jesus is so insistent on the absolute nature of his call upon our lives. Only he sees and loves us as we are. Only he can be trusted. But this makes it all the more essential that we do so wholeheartedly, even at the cost of things that in themselves are gifts – our families or even, our lives. Once again, we see that the Christian way, the way to true life, is one which involves many trials, as it did for Jesus himself.

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 Doughy, Chris Adamson.

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>

Churchwardens Swearing in Service – 22nd June at 7:30pm

Every year churchwardens are required to attend a service to be sworn in for their role. This year St John's is hosting one of the services, led by the Archdeacon. Please come if you can, to support Jen Blamey and Amanda Hodson.

Talk, Think, Pray

Our next service is at **6.30pm on 21st June**. We will discuss the doctrine of the Trinity – what is it, what isn't it, what does it mean, do we need it. Discussion will be followed by silence and Celtic Evening Prayer. My Trinity Sunday sermon might be useful pre-reading. You can find it here: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/a4mat1jntk6to2qv87vnn/Trinity-Sunday-2026-St-John-s.docx?rlkey=blol81ulo7s2tna127h9ip7fv&st=omowcaxn&dl=0>. All welcome! *Keith*

Bishop Paul's Gatherings

Bishop Paul has announced his intention to come and pray with the people of each deanery. He is coming to Woking Deanery on **1st July at 7:30pm** at Christchurch Woking. Bishop Paul will be sharing his hopes for the diocese, leading prayer for the deanery and encouraging a culture of prayer. All are invited.

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 23rd 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*

Holiday Club 2026

We'll be running our summer holiday club again this year from 10th to 14th August. The club runs the whole week from 10am-4.30pm, each day, and is for children age 7-13. As usual, activities will be based around a biblical theme each day, finishing with a short service at 4pm. Please let everyone know who might be interested! More info from Ian or Vicky - email music@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk. And if you can volunteer to help for a session (morning or afternoon), or a whole day, or more, please let Ian know asap. Many thanks!

West Byfleet Community Choir

West Byfleet Community Choir is celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year with a summer community concert on **July 11th 6-8pm**; they are collaborating with WB Junior School, Fullbrook School Choir, a jazz ensemble from Heathside and a talented pianist from St. George's College. As we are co-hosting this, we need a team to help on the night at the entrances and to serve refreshments in the interval. If you are able to help, please let Amanda know. If you can't help but would like to attend, it is £5 admission fee (under 12s free) with all profits going to Emma's House (Dementia Day Centre). *Amanda*

Jurassic Coast Mighty Hike

On Saturday 4th July, I am taking part in the Jurassic Coast Mighty Hike - a walk of 26.2 miles to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. This cause is close to my heart and the money I raise will help Macmillan provide vital support to people facing cancer. Every donation helps me keep going (especially up those hills!). Please follow the link to donate. Thank you. <https://www.justgiving.com/marys-fundraising-page771>. *Mary Thompson*

Noticeboard

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

Saturday 20th June

10:00am Church Open

Sunday 21st June

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Family Eucharist for Patronal, with Baptism followed by refreshments

6:30pm Talk, Think, Pray

Monday 22nd June

9:30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Church open

7:30pm Churchwarden swearing in Service

Tuesday 23rd June

10:00am Church open

6:15pm Junior Choir Practice

Wednesday 24th June

10:00am Parish Eucharist

11:00am Church open

8:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday 25th June

10:00am Church open

Friday 26th June

10:00am Church open

Saturday 27th June

10:00am Church open

Sunday 28th June

8.00am Parish Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist followed by refreshments

Advance Dates

Saturday 11th July

Monday 10th – Friday 14th August

West Byfleet Community Choir Concert 6-8pm

Holiday Club for children age 7-13 years

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 (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 **Keith Elford**.