



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 178

April 2025

Are you new to St Jude's?

It's lovely to welcome you among us — in person or online. If you have any questions or requests for prayer or if you would like to come and talk more personally, please contact our Vicar on vicar@stjudeschurch.info

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Saturday 12th April with tea and coffee available. Do come along.

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four Service is on Sunday 27th April at 4pm. Refreshments are served in the Monsell Room from 3.15pm. We look forward to seeing you!

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us when buying things through Amazon, John Lewis by using easyfundraising.co.uk. You have raised well over £1500 (so far) for us through this scheme and that is without any cost to you.

Putting your stamp on it

We are grateful to all who continue to pass on their used postage stamps to us. They are sent on to a charity and put to very good use! Thank you to Joan who so kindly manages this collection for us.

From the Registers

Baptisms: (2nd March) Evie Elizabeth Barclay, Noah James Barclay

Funerals: (14th March) David William Fisher (Funeral held at Holy Trinity Lyne)

Piano Recital

by Joe Stapleton
(with Geoff Chew)

Saturday 5th April
St Jude's Church

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments

I am the Resurrection and the Life

One of the most beautiful features of the beautiful church of St Jude's is undoubtedly its stained glass. The glass addresses several Biblical themes, but it is the east window which especially evokes an Easter theme. It carries the inscription "I am the Resurrection and the Life", the words of Jesus recorded in John 11: 25. The window is further inscribed:

In memory of Hugh William Mortimer Cathcart Lieutenant 32nd Light Infantry. Second son of Sir John and Lady Eleanor Cathcart. Born at Addlestrop house, Gloucester on the 20th February 1840. Died at Gibraltar on 1st August 1866. Erected by his brother Officers.

The window was created by Arthur O'Connor, son of Michael O'Connor. The latter was regarded as one of the most prominent stained-glass artists of the mid-19th century. Arthur became a partner in his father's firm in 1851 and created the window in St Jude's in about 1868.

Like Thomas Monsell, son of the Rev John Samuel Bewley Monsell, who was responsible for the foundation of St Jude's, William was a soldier and had possibly been on his way to India when he died. His parents were Scottish. His father Sir John, was a career soldier with royal connections. The Cathcart family was probably based for a while at Windsor and lived briefly in Englefield Green, hence the gifting of this magnificent window to St Jude's. *

The window primarily depicts the resurrection of Jesus on the first Easter Sunday, but it also portrays three scenes from the Gospels where Jesus raised someone from the dead. In the left-hand panel we see Jesus raising the son of the Widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17), an event which literally occurred as the young man was being taken to his burial. In the middle we have the raising of Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:21-24; 35-43). Jairus was an official from the local synagogue and had sent word to Jesus that his daughter was very sick. Jesus was delayed on His way to their home but, nonetheless, was able to restore the little girl to life. The right-hand panel depicts the raising of Lazarus, a dear friend of Jesus, who had been in his tomb for four days when Jesus arrived at the family home in Bethlehem (John 11).

The three panels speak with eloquence of Jesus' profound compassion for those whose hearts have been broken. At the time of writing this article, the tragic earthquakes in Myanmar, and their devastating effects is dominating our news headlines. Hearts are as broken as the battered buildings. May those who sorely grieve meet the compassion of the Divine.

But the window draws our attention first and foremost to the resurrection of Jesus Christ himself. Two of Jesus disciples, the terrified soldiers charged with guarding the tomb, and the women who had come to the garden at dawn to anoint the body of Jesus — all of them are there, looking on. Above are the angels, sounding the note of resurrection joy. But central to the window is Jesus himself, clothed in his resurrection glory.

It is surely significant that this window stands at the east end of St Jude's, having taken the place of the window now to be seen in our Monsell Room. The window draws the eyes of every worshipper to the promise of resurrection life, the promise sealed by Jesus when he himself rose from the dead.

This is the promise we celebrate each time we gather for worship. But most especially, it is the promise of Easter. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find details of our Holy Week and Easter Services. Please come and celebrate with us! In the midst of the destruction and devastation that so often characterise our world today, Jesus' promise yet stands..." I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, though they die, yet shall they live..." (John 11:27).

* (Please note that I am indebted to both Andrew Sheer and Geoff Chew for their work on the history of our windows. Any useful information comes from them. Any inaccuracies are entirely mine).

Judith Allford

Annual Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Vestry Meeting at which the Churchwardens are elected (currently Claudia Tubb and Mike Brooking) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at approx 11.00am on Sunday 18th May. This year, a new Electoral Roll is prepared. If you would like your name to be added to the new Church Electoral Roll, please email roll@stjudeschurch.info for an application form. Please note that this is nothing to do with the local authority Register of Electors.

Readings at Communion

Sunday 6th April (Passion Sunday)	Isaiah 43. 16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3. 4b-14 John 12. 1-8
Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday)	Isaiah 50. 4-9a Psalm 31. 9-16 Philippians 2. 5-11 Luke 23. 1-49
Sunday 20th April (Easter Day)	Isaiah 65. 17-end Psalm 118. 14-24 Acts 10.34-43 Luke 24. 1-12
Sunday 27th April (Second Sunday of Easter)	Acts 5. 27-32 Psalm 150 Revelation 1. 4-8 John 20. 19-end

Food Bank and Community Fridge

The holiday season of Easter us another challenging time for many families and your kind donations to the Runnymede Foodbank will continue to be very gratefully received. Thank you as always for your generous giving and to Geoff Chew for delivering your gifts to the collection point. Donations of imperishable foodstuffs and other items can still be left in the crate in the Monsell Room. Please see Geoff if you would like to make a cash donation.

The work of our Community Fridge and Kitchen continues at the Village Centre and the team there is always happy to accept the gift of perishable foodstuffs which might otherwise go to waste. Food must still be within its sell by/use by date on the Monday or Friday or it will be recycled by the Fridge. If you feel this is something to which you would like to contribute please contact the Village Centre on 01784 471110.

Lent 2025

Wednesdays 2nd, 9th, 16th April, 11am Holy Communion. Our 11am service will be followed by a light Lent Lunch and a brief Reflection on topics in the news for those who wish to stay. Please join us. Lunch is free but, if you can, you are invited to make a small donation to cover our costs. Thank you!

David William Fisher

20th August 1941-14th February 2025

Many of you will perhaps remember David Fisher, who was organist at St Jude's from March 1990 to October 2000. Dave's death, on the Feast Day of St Valentine, was quite sudden and unexpected, although his health had been declining for a while. His funeral service took place on 14th March 2025 at Holy Trinity Church in Lyne, where Dave had been organist for a number of years following his time with us at St Jude's.

Dave had prepared his own Funeral Service with the greatest of care and the Order of Service contained a special greeting to those who attended: "Whether you have come today to mark my passing or just to make sure that I have really gone, thank you for being here"! In fact, the many people present had almost certainly come simply to say, "thank you". Here at St Jude's Dave is remembered with the greatest gratitude and affection for his commitment to the music of our worship, and for his unfailing encouragement and support of our choristers. The congregation at his funeral included those who had been members of other choirs which Dave had led over the years, including the Choir at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

The gathering of so many choristers and the organ playing of James McKee, Dave's successor on the organ at Holy Trinity, ensured what Dave had most desired: "A joyful noise to the God of Jacob".

Tributes were paid to Dave by his eldest niece, Lizzie, by a long-standing friend and a fellow-volunteer at Woking and Sam Beare Hospice. Dave had been a passionate and loyal supporter of the Hospice following the illness and death of his wife, Annie. The Revd Laurence Gamlen, Vicar of Lyne Church, gave his own appreciation of Dave as an organist and above all as a friend.

It is Dave's gift of friendship and his unfailing ability to look out for so many of us, one way and another, that will be most greatly missed. Please remember especially Dave's partner, Pat, his brother, Jerry, his nieces Lizzie, Rosalind and her husband Zeren, Gillian and David's great-niece, Matilda. Thank you Dave.

Diary for April

- 5 Saturday 4.00pm Piano Recital by Joe Stapleton with Geoff Chew
- 6 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 9 Wednesday 11.00am Holy Communion followed by Lent lunch
- 10 Thursday 7.30pm Church Council meets in St Jude's Church
- 12 Saturday 2.00-4.00pm Church open
- 13 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Palm Sunday Liturgy with a procession into church (weather permitting 6.00pm Compline (Zoom))
- 16 Wednesday 11.00am Holy Communion followed by Lent Lunch
- 17 Thursday 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy
- 18 Friday 12 noon Good Friday Liturgy 1.00-3.00pm Good Friday Reflection
- 19 Saturday 7.00pm Easter Vigil
- 20 Easter Day 7.00am Sunrise service on The Green 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 23 Wednesday NO Holy Communion
- 27 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 30 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion

Please note that our 9.30am service each Sunday is always live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. If you are unable to join us in church we warmly invite you to tune in.

The Village Centre

Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

<https://www.villagecentre.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen>

<https://www.instagram.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen>

01784 471110

The first quarter at the Village Centre has been bustling, with all of our outreach programs running at full capacity.

As we welcome April, we're thrilled to announce a major upgrade to our kitchen, thanks to a generous grant from Runnymede council. Since its renovation in 2010, the kitchen has been a cornerstone of our operations. However, this new funding gives us the opportunity to completely refresh the layout and update the appliances, providing a more efficient space to serve the projects better and the community that relies on it so heavily.

Please note that our Lunch Club will be closed on 7th April, but we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday, 14th April.

On 2nd April, we're excited to introduce a new project to the Village Centre: Men's Pit Stop. This drop in initiative, funded by Surrey County Council, launching in the Café, provides a safe, supportive, and judgment-free space for men to connect, talk, and access support for their mental well-being. These sessions will take place every Wednesday from 12.30pm to 2.30pm in the Café area.

From 7th to 17th April, we will operate under our holiday opening hours of 10.00am to 2.00pm, and we will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday. We will reopen as usual at 9.00am on Tuesday, 22nd April. Over the Easter weekend, both the Lunch Club and Community Fridge will be closed, but our Contact Centre will remain open on Saturday, 19th April.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish our local community a peaceful Easter break. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Alison Griffin, Village Centre Manager



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

"Excellence in Education,
Kindness in Community,
Courage through Faith"



Easter is very late this year, and our school holidays begin at the end of the first week of April – with the Summer Term starting after the Easter Bank Holiday. Next term promises to be another busy one so please pray that the Easter break will be a good one for children and families, teachers and all school staff.

This past term we have been thinking about some of the songs (or Psalms) written by the great King David of Israel. Life was often tough for David, and he sometimes found himself on the run. In one of his psalms he said to God "You are my hiding place. You protect me in times of trouble". They are good words for us all to remember in these often-difficult times.

Many congratulations to our Infant School, who have successfully hatched 11 chicks! That's a real Easter message of new life! God Bless you all.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 24th April 2025 at 10.15am

at the Jurgens Centre,

Church of the Assumption of our Lady,

Harvest Road

Everyone is welcome

We have an open invitation to join our neighbours at the Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road, TW20 0QR, on the last Thursday in each month, for their regular Coffee Morning in the Jurgens Centre beside the Church. We welcome anyone who has been bereaved, whether recently, or further back in time. You will find a quiet and welcoming space to talk or simply to listen and to be amongst friends. The invitation is to everyone, you may or may not be a church goer. You may drop in and out as you wish.

We shall be very glad to see you.