



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 117

March 2020

Recital

Chloe Ang (piano)
Chiara Calastri (piano)
Marit Shuman (soprano)

Saturday 7th March
4.00pm

St Jude's Church

Admission free
Refreshments provided
Donations welcome

Annual Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Vestry Meeting (at which the Churchwardens are elected (currently Diana Bendall and Claudia Tubb) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at approx 12.00pm (after the 11.15am service) on Sunday 26th April. This is where we receive the Annual Report and Accounts, amendments to the Electoral Roll and elect members of the Church Council.

We also have an opportunity to say thank you to our church organisations and those who work so hard to keep our church clean and running and those who arrange flowers, look after the gardens round the church and so many other jobs.

From the Registers

Funerals: (28th January) Maurice Albert Jarvis; (30th) Jean Kathleen Sheppard; (11th February) Henry Lucas; (14th) Jeffrey Thomas Wall; (20th) Norman Sidney Pike.

RISE! TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK

World Day of Prayer Service 2020
(formerly known as Women's World Day of Prayer!)

Friday 6th March

The Service this year has been prepared by Christians in Zimbabwe

Please join us at St Jude's Church
at 2pm

or Egham United Church at 8pm

More Work in Progress

A few weeks ago our Church Council spent a morning together reflecting on life at St Jude's! I felt inspired by Diana Bendall's article in last month's edition of the SHIP which gently reminded us that we are all, both as individuals and as a church community, a work in progress under the loving hand of God. I was also inspired by a card Diana presented to us before our meeting, which bore the inscription "A Ship that stays in the harbour is safe — but that is not what ships were built for!"

As you will know, the symbol of the ship is an important one for St Jude's, hence the name and logo of this newsletter!!! The symbol was adopted because it is believed that St Jude's witness to the Lord Jesus Christ took him many miles of travel by sea. Tradition tells us that he was martyred for his faith, possibly alongside St Simon, in modern-day Iran or Lebanon. He leaves the churches which bear his name today an example of courageous and confident witness to the love of God.

We are enormously grateful as a church to be at the centre of a community like the village of Englefield Green. We value the support that the community gives us in so many ways. A few weeks ago the Englefield Green Scouts and Explorers together with some of their leaders, families and friends, provided us with significant help in preparing for some much needed electrical work. We are indebted to them all for the energy and great good humour they put in to helping us in this way.

All these things make me want to ask questions as to how we as a church can better serve our Parish of Englefield Green. We are very definitely a work in progress! We have hopes for 2020 —which we want to turn into plans — plans which may perhaps lead to change in some of the ways in which we do things at present. Like St Jude we want to venture out of our safe and familiar harbour and embrace new challenges which we pray will lead not only to growth but to a greater understanding of the love of God for us all.

This season of Lent gives us a great opportunity for reflection and re-evaluation. Some of us use the weeks of Lent to give up something that we would normally enjoy - perhaps to raise money for a charity or a cause like Sport Relief. But the English word Lent does not itself carry overtones of sacrifice — it means simply "Spring Season" - in other words, it is a time of growth and a preparation for the coming of new life. The pattern for these weeks is the pattern set by Jesus, God the Son, who used the forty days in the wilderness to grow in His own experience of God the Father and to prepare for the ministry that was to be his.

Will you join us on this voyage of reflection, change and growth? Are there ways in which you feel that St Jude's as a church can be more accessible to you? Are there things that you would like to discuss with us? Please let us know.

Later in the year we hope to have a Confirmation Service at St Jude's. This is something that hasn't happened here for some years and on Sunday 25th October we shall be privileged to welcome Bishop Christopher (the Rt Revd Christopher Herbert, one-time Bishop of St Alban's) to lead this service which will welcome people into membership of the Church. Is that an opportunity that you would value? Would you consider taking part in the Confirmation preparation which we shall offer in the summer? Again — please let us know if this is something that you would find helpful.

I want to finish as I began — with reference to Diana's account of the various items languishing in a drawer in her home simply waiting to become works in progress! As a church council we came up with a number of ideas for moving forward in 2020. But we need your help and support if those ideas are to become reality. Our little ship needs a few more oarsmen and women! Are you interested in coming on board?

God bless you all.

Judith Allford

Spotlight on

All-Age Family Worship

This informal service, at 11.15am on the last Sunday in each month, has an special welcome for parents and children. The service is usually led by Diana or Claudia, or sometimes by Judith. It lasts only about 25/30minutes and is interactive, with lively modern music and a short talk on the theme for the day which is always illustrated with a variety of visual aids.

Perhaps you have brought your child or children to Baptism at St Jude's. If so you may find this service helpful in introducing them to the Christian faith in a welcoming environment. We love to give your children the opportunity to join in the service and we provide some child-friendly instruments to encourage them to do just that!

Hopefully the later time of 11.15am also makes the service a bit more accessible for you.

We very much look forward to seeing you. Our next 11.15am service will be on Sunday 29th March.

Readings at Communion

1st March (Lent 1)	Psalm 32 Romans 5. 12-19 Matthew 4. 1-11
8th March (Lent 2)	Genesis 12. 1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4.1-5, 13-17 John 3. 1-17
15th March (Lent 3)	Exodus 17. 1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5. 1-11 John 4. 5-42
22nd March (Lent 4)	Exodus 2. 1-10 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5. 8-14 John 9
29th March (Lent 5)	Ezekiel 37. 1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8. 6-11 John 11. 1-45

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Please do remember that if you register with easyfundraising.org.uk and select St Jude's Church, Englefield Green as your chosen charity, you can then shop online with many organisations (including Amazon, John Lewis, etc) and make money for St Jude's at the same time without costing you a penny.

British Summer Time

Don't forget — clocks go forward one hour at 1.00am on Sunday 29th March.

Diary for March

- 1 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Taizé service
- 4 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 7 4.00pm Recital by Chloe Ang (piano), Chiara Calastri (piano) and Marit Shuman (soprano) — admission free
- 8 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.30pm Evensong and Sermon
- 11 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)
- 15 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 18 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said) 8.00pm Church Council meets
- 22 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 25 Wednesday Holy Communion (said)
- 29 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist Informal all-age service 11.15am

All events are in St Jude's Church unless otherwise stated
The Church is open each Saturday from 2.00-4.00pm for tea and a chat

The Village Centre

(01784 471110)

www.villagecentre.org.uk

February saw a new addition to our programme of regular activities at the Village Centre! We have continued to work alongside the Runnymede Medical Practice to develop fresh ways of offering support to those in our community who are caring for a loved one, friend or neighbour. We are delighted that from Wednesday 5th February Siobhan Elliot (known to some of us already through her relaxation groups) will be hosting a Carers' Coffee morning on the first Wednesday in each month from 10.30am - 12noon. Please come and join us at the Centre for this informal "drop-in" event month by month. It can be enormously helpful simply to meet others in a similar situation to our own. For more details please contact our Centre Manager - details below.

Our other regular activities continue as usual including Ballet classes, Pilates, Music with Mummy, Jazz, Film and Chess Clubs, the Egham Women's Institute (Nightingales) monthly meetings, and an informal Arts and Craft Group. Our Child Contact Centre and our Baby Basics Project are two major areas of outreach. Our Computer Drop-In sessions (Tuesday-Thursday from 9.30am to 12noon) continue to provide support and training on the use of a wide range of electronic devices!

Our thriving Café remains open Mon-Wed 9am-4pm, Thurs and Fri 9am-5pm, and in school holidays 10am-2pm each weekday. Do sample our delicious "Cake of the Week" donated each Monday by local suppliers! We also have rooms available to hire for a variety of celebrations including Birthday and Baptism Parties!

Have you considered becoming a Friend of the Village Centre? We are grateful to all who support us in this way and who in turn enjoy up to 10 free teas/coffees each month!

Further details from our Centre Manager, Ali Watts, on 01784 471110.

Lent Groups

We would like to welcome you to this year's Lent Study at St Jude's Church. We will be using the Church of England's Lent study called, 'Live Lent: Care for God's Creation'.

There will be the opportunity to attend five afternoon sessions at Margaret Taylor's home from Thursday 27th February, at 3.00pm.

Alternatively there will be five evening sessions at the Vicarage from Wednesday 4th March beginning at 7.30 pm.

Will you please let Roy Gouriet or Diana Bendall know what sessions you wish to attend so that we can order the study booklets.