



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 132

June 2021

Audio Visual Equipment

We hope very much that we will be able to return to normal activities soon in St Jude's. It is a building which is conducive to prayer and has good acoustics, so it is a great venue for services and concerts. It also allows people to meet and enjoy refreshments, which has been sadly missed. So we hope that as many as possible will come in person and find meaning, enjoyment and fellowship here.

However it is clear that there is a demand for online services to continue – for those who cannot come in person but are part of the community of St Jude's. We would also hope in future to provide live-streaming for baptisms, weddings and funerals when requested and also for our concerts. At present we are using equipment generously loaned to us, but we feel it is time now to buy our own. The cost (including the power supply) will be in the region of £10,400. Some of the amount has already been pledged and we are asking for donations to complete our target. Please do give generously, if you can, in thanks for all God's provisions for us. Any monies which come in over and above our target will be diverted to other projects within St Jude's.

How to donate

Donations to St Jude's Church can always be made using online banking directly to our accounts (CAF Bank 40-52-40, 00013020) and (NatWest 60-07-33, 02317990)



Please mark donations AV if they are for the AV equipment appeal.

You can also donate to the Audio Visual appeal using the QR code.

Hope

I am writing this a few days before Pentecost Sunday. We are preparing to celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church. In all the celebrations which have sprung up around Christmas and Easter the significance of Pentecost can sometimes be forgotten. We perhaps also sometimes forget the significance of the link between Pentecost and the Jewish festival of Shavuot - or the "Feast of Weeks". As faithful Jews gathered in Jerusalem to thank God for His faithfulness to them, so God poured out the gift of His Holy Spirit on the disciples met together in worship and prayer.

There is a particular poignancy around the celebration of Shavuot and Pentecost in 2021. Once again war and conflict rage in the land where Jesus walked. Yesterday a ceasefire was announced and there have already been a few hours of tentative and longed for peace. But tension and unease, bitterness and the taste of betrayal remain, as they have done for so long. We are mindful of the suffering of those on every side of the conflict and, most of all, of the suffering of the innocent, including the thousands of children who have grown up knowing nothing but fear and the threat of violence.

That suffering is mirrored in countries throughout the world. The pandemic has cast it and the inequalities it exposes, into even sharper relief. COVID 19, and the unevenness of our global response, has thrown many more lives into even greater jeopardy. Here, as I thank God for the gift of two coronavirus vaccinations delivered kindly, skilfully and with perfect timing, my nephew and his wife and their young family have their home in a country where no vaccine is yet available.

The Pentecost poster outside St Jude's has the single word "Hope". It is a word which has been used very often in these last fourteen months and a concept to which we have all clung. We may not live amidst the heat of battle, or find ourselves dependent for our very existence on external aid, but the experience of the pandemic has touched us all deeply. Even now the future path of the virus, and the ways in which it may yet affect us all are shrouded in uncertainty.

What hope can Pentecost bring? I think back to the early disciples of Jesus, fifty days after the news had broken that Jesus, the crucified, had risen from the tomb. Hope had been rekindled on that resurrection day; the bereaved were comforted; a new normal had begun. But fear and uncertainty remained very present companions.

And then God broke into the world anew. He came this time not as a baby to a crude crib; or as a Saviour to a cruel cross; He came in the powerful wind of His Holy Spirit. He came in fire to set hearts on fire with love for Him. He came to unite a divided world; to give everyone equal opportunity to hear His word declared in their own tongue. He came in fulfilment of the prophecy of old, that "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Joel 2:32). He came to bring hope.

On that day of Pentecost the apostle Peter preached his first sermon. He concluded with a plea to his hearers to save themselves from "this corrupt generation" (Acts 2:40). Things did not look very different in the world of the first century from the way they look today. Inequalities and conflict, discrimination and injustice, hunger and disease, exploitation and acts of terror, corporate and individual greed and unthinking misuse of the world's resources, are far from being products simply of our 21st century world. They, and the untold suffering they create, have become endemic to our human condition.

But Pentecost invites us to renew our hope. I cannot express that hope better than in the words of the American pastor and theologian A.W.Tozer: "While it looks likes things are out of control, behind the scenes there is a God who has not surrendered His authority". This is the God who waits still for us to turn in faith to Him. This is the God whose faithfulness has been celebrated in every generation.

We are glad to be getting back to St Jude's. We continue to be seekers after God. Please come and celebrate the Pentecost hope with us Sunday by Sunday.

Judith Allford

Coffee Morning
 outside St Jude's Church
Saturday 26th June
10.00-11.30am
 Offers of cakes, preserves etc
 will be gratefully received
 Please do come along for coffee
 and a (suitably distanced) chat

Exciting News! St Jude's C of E Infant School

We are very grateful to the Head Teachers, Governors and all members of the Staff Team at Englefield Green Infant School and Christchurch Virginia Water Church of England Infant School who are working so hard to set up the new St Jude's Church of England School on the site of the present Englefield Green Infant School. Please find below the press release issued by the Diocese of Guildford which gives exciting insight into this new development!

St Jude's Church of England Infant school is being created by combining Englefield Green Infant School and Christ Church Church of England Infant School in Virginia Water. The two schools have spent the last year working toward making the transition smooth for the children and the wider school community.

Chair of governors (designate), Martyn Shapter said: "We have worked hard to ensure that our plan to open the new school will become a reality in September. By bringing together the two schools, the children and staff will benefit from the advantages of sharing their expertise in teaching and learning, curriculum and early years' education. Our ambition is to make St Jude's Church of England Infant School an outstanding church school and a centre of excellence at the heart of our local community."

The new Voluntary Aided Church School will provide a total of 180 places, with 60 children in each year from Reception to Year 2. The current nursery will continue as part of the new school. Children who live in the parishes of both the predecessor schools will be prioritised for admission.

St Jude's C of E Infant School will join 83 Church of England schools in the wider family of Church schools that serve local communities across Surrey, Hampshire and Kingston. The new school will have distinctive Christian values and provide an inclusive environment where every child can flourish, acquire skills for a happy life and a love of learning, in order to develop a sense of responsibility for themselves and others.

Diocesan Director of Education, Alex Tear, said: "We are delighted to be able to open a new Church school and we look forward to welcoming the school and its children, staff and community to the wider family of diocesan schools. The new school will provide excellent early years and infant education within a framework of strong Christian values where every child can flourish and discover their unique gifts and talents."

The new school will continue to work closely with St Jude's C of E Junior School, and many of the children will transition to the junior school at the end of Key Stage 1. The vision is to develop a strong partnership with St Jude's Junior School which will offer excellent and sustainable education for children aged from 2-11 for the local community.

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.

Diary for June 2021

- 6 Sunday 9.30am Live streamed Informal Holy Communion service in Church
- 13 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion in Church 9.30am Pre-recorded service on YouTube
- 20 Sunday 9.30am Live streamed Holy Communion service in Church
- 26 Saturday 10.00-11.30am Coffee Morning outside church (weather permitting)
- 27 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion in Church 9.30 Pre-recorded service on YouTube

The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk

01784 471110

Our Cafe re-opened as planned on Monday 17th May! As well as welcoming back our customers we were delighted to welcome one member of staff returning from furlough and two others taking up new roles within the Centre. Hours of opening continue to be from 9am-2pm.

Our Community Fridge/ Kitchen was officially opened by the Mayor of Runnymede on Tuesday 25th May. Please visit us on Mondays and Fridays, 9am-11am

Further exciting news is that the Runnymede Foodbank is opening a new client-facing session at The Village Centre, a joint Anglican/Methodist project from St Jude's United Church. Sessions will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 1.00-3.00pm starting on 2nd June. This will complement the work of the distribution centre in Egham to which St. Jude's is now once again also contributing regularly.

Please do get in touch with Ali:

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

if you would like to know more about what we are doing, or if you would like to offer to help in any way.

Readings at Communion

6th June (First Sunday after Trinity)	Genesis 3. 8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1 Mark 3. 20-end
13th June (2nd Sunday after Trinity)	Ezekiel 17. 22-end Psalm 92. 1-4, 12-end 2 Corinthians 5.6-10, 14-17 Mark 4. 26-34
20th June (3rd Sunday after Trinity)	Job 38. 1-11 Psalm 107, 1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 6. 1-13 Mark 4.35-41
27th June (4th Sunday after Trinity)	Lamentations 3. 23-33 Psalm 30 2 Corinthians 8. 7-15 Mark 5.21-43

From the Registers

Holy Baptism: (19th May) Jolene Nevaeh Goddard

Funerals: (14th May) Baby April Leigh Pike

(18th May) John Watson Lewis

(25th May) Edna Shirley Strange

(26th May) Ida Margaret Kaye (Interment of Ashes),

(27th May) Myrtle Iris Usher

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Please note that advice regarding Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals is still subject to review. Please contact us for more details and we shall do our best to help as time goes on. Thank you for all your patience during this past year.

Runnymede Food Bank

St Jude's Church has now resumed its collections for Runnymede Food Bank — donations of non-perishable goods can be left in the Monsell Room in Church which will be taken to the collection point in Thorpe.