



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 166

April 2024

Are you new to St Jude's?

It's lovely to welcome you among us – in person or online. Please make yourself known and let us know how we can help you feel at home. If you have any questions, suggestions, 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 13th April. Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and have a look round.

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four Service is on Sunday 28th April at 4pm. Refreshments are served before the Service (from about 3.15pm) in the Monsell Room. This service is about half an hour long and it doesn't include Holy Communion. We'd love to see you there.

Midweek Holy Communion

Our Wednesday Service of Holy Communion now reverts to its usual start time of 10.00am. The brief change to a later time during Lent was to accommodate the lunches we enjoyed together.

This is a fairly short, said service of Holy Communion, usually including a brief reflection on the readings for the day. Everyone is, as always, warmly welcome to join us, with the option to stay on afterwards for coffee, cake and chat in the Monsell Room.

Up close and personal



One of the highlights for me so far of 2024 has very definitely been the return of our beautiful church clock to its rightful place at the top of St Jude's tower. I have really appreciated the interest and encouragement expressed by many Village residents as the process of refurbishment and restoration got underway. The work would not have been possible without the generosity of donors to whom we owe many grateful thanks. I want especially to mention Jamie and Jodie of Kingsley Avenue who donated all the proceeds of their spectacular Christmas lights display to our appeal.

The clock face has been skilfully and exquisitely restored to its original Trafalgar blue by the specialist firm of Smiths of Derby. The work took several months, testimony to its intricate and delicate nature. I am very grateful to one of my fellow school Governors (and a resident of Englehurst!) who supplied me with the following quotation from the website of the Church of St John the Baptist Tideswell, Derbyshire: *'Many church clocks are blue. It is said that Henry VIII decreed that, following God's command to Moses (Exodus 39) to make Aaron the priest "garments of blue with gold bells", church clocks should be "blew with the signs upon them gilt".'*

It was a wet and windy February day when the clock face was reinstalled. The members of St. Jude's, the representative from Smiths, and the operators of the cherry picker, should be commended for their patience and bravery. It wasn't a job for the faint-hearted!

But now we are enjoying once again the elegance and the sound of our clock. Someone else who lives in Englehurst told me that he had found it difficult to sleep without the clock's hourly chimes! I know for some of you who live nearest to St Jude's the return of the clock may be a mixed blessing, but I am thankful to people who have stopped me in the cemetery and expressed their appreciation. Please join me also in thanking our two churchwardens, Claudia and Mike, for all their hard work in managing the "clock project"!

I was thrilled to see the clock face "up close and personal" before it was returned to the tower! I was astonished to see how big it is! Its probably the only chance I shall get to see it in close proximity, For some reason it made me think me of a the book "Your God is too Small!" published in the 1960s by author and Bible Translator, JB Phillips. Is it because we somehow only relate to God "at a distance" that we sometimes fear He is not big enough to meet our needs?

Our Easter celebrations reminded me afresh that Jesus came to show us the face of God "up close and personal". His death and resurrection show the limitless power of the God who has defeated even death itself. Yet so often I realise that I focus instead on my various anxieties and problems. The more I think about those things, the larger they loom. A bit like the women who went to the tomb of Jesus on that first Easter morning and, even in the midst of the most profound grief, were dominated by the thought of how they would move the stone ("which was very large" - Mark 16: 4) away from the grave. When they got to the grave, the stone had already gone!

Back to our clock; Psalm 31:15 assures us that our times are in God's hands. How we need to know that in our turbulent and ever-changing world. How I need to know that when I wonder what lies ahead for me and for those dearest to me. Maybe the message of the restored clock is more than simply a prompt to begin our services on time! As I look up to it, I want to remember God is far greater than I can see, and more than able to walk with me through every hour of every day! *Judith Allford*

Concert
to be given by
students from
Royal Holloway
Saturday 27th April
4.00pm
Admission free
Donations welcome
Refreshments

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 12th May. This is where we receive the revised Electoral Roll and the Annual Report and Accounts and normally elect members of the Church Council.

If you would like your name to be added to the 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

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| Sunday 7th April (2nd Sunday of Easter) | Acts 4. 32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1. 1-22 John 20. 19-end |
| Sunday 14th April (3rd Sunday of Easter) | Acts 3. 12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3. 1-7 Luke 24. 36b-48 |
| Sunday 21st April (4th Sunday of Easter) (Passion Sunday) | Acts 4. 5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3. 16-end John 10.. 11-18 |
| Sunday 28th April (5th Sunday of Easter) | Acts 8. 26-end Psalm 22. 25-end 1 John 4. 7-end John 15. 1-8 |

Runnymede Food Bank

Thank you as always for your continuing generosity to our Runnymede Foodbank collection. You will know from the national news that the use of Foodbanks continues to increase, and this would not be possible without the generosity shown by so many. Thank you so much. And thank you once again to Geoff Chew for passing on our donations to the Runnymede Food Bank week by week.

From the Registers

Funerals:

(14th March) John Barry Maxwell Dobson
(19th March) Stephen Richard Eckert
(20th March) Lorna Jean Hawk

Putting your stamp on it! Update!

We had briefly to pause our stamp collection when Joan was informed by the charity that they are no longer able to receive stamps. But this was quickly rectified, and another charity was found. So please keep your donations of used stamps coming. They are put to very good use! Thank you!

Diary for April

- 3 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 7 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 10 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 13 Saturday 2.00-4.00pm Church open
- 14 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 15 Monday 7.30pm Church Council meets in church
- 17 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 21 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 24 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 27 Saturday 4.00pm Concert by students from Royal Holloway
- 28 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service

Please note that our 9.30am 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.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter

A special thank you to all those who planned, prepared, and provided for our Lent lunches. These took place each Wednesday in Lent, following our midweek service of Holy Communion. It was a great time of fellowship with several short and thought-provoking videos brought to us by Roger. Already we are thinking about something similar in 2025!!

Our Palm Sunday service would usually have begun with a procession from our Village War Memorials into St Jude's. However, this year it was extremely cold, so we decided to bring the whole service into church. A good decision undoubtedly!

Holy Week was busy with a variety of services as we reflected on Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem and the cross. Special thanks to our Methodist Minister, the Revd Andrew Reed, who conducted our Easter Eve service for us. This is a particularly dramatic and meaningful service with its emphasis on the new light of our risen Saviour.

Easter Day began with an ecumenical sunrise service on Englefield Green at 7am. The Service was organised for us by Diana Bendall and Paul Murphy. Thank you to them both. The congregation included representatives from several local churches. It was a joy to welcome old friends as well as new. Our 9.30am service in church included an aria from Handel's Messiah, beautifully sung for us by H el ene McClellan, accompanied by Geoff Chew on the organ. The aria was one of many Easter blessings and led us to reflect on God's promises fulfilled to us in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. And there was an Easter Egg for everyone to take away and enjoy!

Thank you to everyone who worshipped with us at some point. It was a joy to see you and especially to welcome some of our younger worshippers on Easter Day.

Easter always reminds me of a chorus I learned as a child:
*He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart.
You ask me how I know He lives - He lives within my heart.*

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 25th April from 10.15am onwards

and then the last Thursday in each month

at the Jurgens Centre,

Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road

Everyone is welcome

We welcome those who have been bereaved and 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 churchgoer. You may drop in and out as you wish. We shall be very glad to see you.

The Village Centre

Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX

www.villagecentre.org.uk

Facebook: [villagecentreenglefieldgreen](https://www.facebook.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen)

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

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When I retired, a few years ago, one of the many things on my list of 'things I can now do' was to be able to visit the Village Centre more often. I soon worked out that it took me seven minutes plus a few seconds to walk there and I have enjoyed making that walk on many occasions, although I confess it takes me seven minutes and quite a few more seconds now! For me, the most striking thing about the Village Centre is the warm welcome that is given to everyone who visits. Over the years, I have attended meetings there, study groups, volunteered for the Contact Centre, helped run Messy Church, attended parties and other celebrations and of course drunk numerous cups of tea and coffee and eaten delicious food and most importantly had the opportunity to meet lots of interesting people.

More recently, I have been able to introduce my granddaughter to the Village Centre, which she loves. The play area is well equipped and she particularly enjoys the ball pool. The child menu has a good range, and the mini pizza is a firm favourite.

As well as all the usual activities happening, March saw a busy month at The Village Centre. We received a visit from the CEO of Runnymede Council; Andrew Pritchard, the community launch of a new shopping bus service to Brooklands, a Seniors Tea Party and an adults cooking class in conjunction with Surrey County Council 'Let's talk about Food' initiative. We are always looking for volunteers to join our lovely supportive team at the Village Centre. We have a number of outreach programmes where volunteers can get involved; the more volunteers, the more we can offer to our local community. The Englefield Green Child Contact Centre, our Community Fridge, our Café, and our Baby Basics scheme all benefit from our volunteers' dedicated support, and being a volunteer with us means making a difference and being a welcomed and appreciated part of our family. Please do get in touch if you'd like to join us as a volunteer.

For more details about all our activities and for regular news of events, please do visit our website: <https://www.villagecentre.org.uk/> or take a look at our social media accounts <https://www.facebook.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen> and <https://www.instagram.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen>. If you have any queries, suggestions, requests for bookings, or if you would like to offer your help to the Centre please contact Ali Griffin, our Centre Manager as above. Thank you!

Diana Bendall

Your Village Centre is open, Monday–Friday 9am–2pm and Thursday 9am–5pm



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



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

It's always good to see a full church, and especially so when St Jude's Church is full of children from our two St Jude's Schools, accompanied by many of their teachers. This was what happened on the morning of Maundy Thursday when the schools gathered in church for their Easter service.

The service was led as always by the children themselves. Each school has its own Collective Worship Committee and much of the service was led by children from those two committees, augmented by some more children from Year 6. The children led our worship with boldness and clarity and the singing was amazing as usual! Juan Pemberton, one of the Co-chairs of our Governing Body, joined us for the service.

As church schools we are subject not only to Ofsted inspections, but also to the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools (SIAMS). When this happens, the inspectors are looking to find strong links between schools and their local Parish church. It is incredibly moving to see those links brought to life, as they certainly were on Maundy Thursday. Much of that is made possible by our Head Teacher and Senior Leadership Team, our RE subject leaders, and members of staff who organise the music for the occasion. Thank you all.

The Summer Term is always significant and challenging and perhaps particularly so this year. Please pray especially for the children of Year 2, who will be preparing to transition to the Junior School, and for the children of year 6 who will be getting ready for the move to secondary education.

We wish a happy and joyful Easter break to all our school staff, children, parents, carers and governors.