



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 125

November 2020

Spotlight on our Services

The doors of St Jude's are open and we gladly welcome you to join us in worship.

Our services for November are shown in the Diary overleaf.

Eleven points to remember!

- Services in church will be 30-40 minutes
- Entry and exit is via a one-way system
- Seats are allocated in order of arrival
- A Test and Trace form must be completed.
- We now also have a QR code
- Numbers for Sunday worship are limited to 30.
- Hand Sanitiser is available on the way in and the way out.
- Face coverings must be worn (unless you have medical exemption)
- Congregational singing is still not permitted
- Holy Communion will be in one kind only
- An offering cannot be taken. An Offertory basket is available on the way out

Please use our St Jude's Church website www.stjudeschurch.info and/or our Face book page to access our online Sunday Worship service, live-streamed or recorded, premiered from 9.30am each Sunday on YouTube.

Details of worship throughout the Staines and Feltham Methodist Circuit can be accessed through the circuit website: www.sfmc.org.uk

We are continuing to offer a Bible Study via Zoom. We meet on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm or a Thursday at 3pm. If you would like to join us at one of these please get in touch and we'll send you a Zoom invitation.

Wind and Words of World War II (clarinet and poetry)

Chris Hooker and Valerie Fry

Saturday 7th November 4.00pm

This will be streamed on YouTube — (search for St Jude's United Church Englefield Green or use code →)

Remembrance

By the time you read this newsletter it will be almost a year since I took up my appointment as Vicar of St Jude's Englefield Green. Who could possibly have known what a year it would be? I imagine that only the most scientifically aware amongst us had at that stage heard of COVID 19 and that perhaps none of us had any inkling of its potential effect.

My first Sunday in office was Remembrance Sunday 2019. It was such a privilege to participate in our formal Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial and to conduct the Parade Service which followed in St Jude's. I felt both grateful and humbled to have become part of such a long-standing and meaningful tradition.

Remembrance Sunday 2020 will look very different. As I write it has just been announced that it will not be possible this year for members of the public to attend the annual Remembrance Sunday Service at the Cenotaph. As with everything, the event must be made "Covid-Secure".

Here in Englefield Green attendance at the War Memorial must be similarly restricted so that only six people, socially distanced, will be able to stand on the site of the memorial for the ceremony itself. Those who lay wreaths will be invited to do so individually with entry to the site staggered appropriately. Our Parade service cannot take place in church but we very much hope to involve members of our uniformed organisations in putting together a simple local Act of Remembrance which will go out on our YouTube Channel that day.

It would be unthinkable to set aside altogether the opportunity for remembrance. In the turmoil of COVID 19 the fracture and fractiousness besetting our society and our world are sadly so very evident. We need to take every opportunity to celebrate those many things which unite us. The sacrifice of those who gave their lives so that we might live in freedom and in peace unites us all in humble thanksgiving. The remembrance of their self-offering should likewise unite us in a desire to be at peace with one another and to strive to build a society far more at peace with itself.

This year the theme of remembrance has an even greater poignancy. We remember those in this country and throughout the world who have lost their lives to COVID 19. We remember frontline workers in healthcare and in other sectors whose lives have been lost because of their care for others. We remember those who have lost someone close to them, through COVID or through other causes, who have been denied their final moments with their loved one and have been unable to hold the funeral service they would otherwise have chosen. And we remember those who are still separated from those dear to them because of the threat the coronavirus continues to pose. Our hearts go out to them all.

This time last year I wrote these words: "At this time of Remembrance it is all too easy to be tempted to despair. How can we ever begin to build a better world? How can we honour the sacrifices of those who gave everything for us?"

Those questions are as real today. COVID 19 will continue to bring about huge change. The goal posts of a "new normal" seem increasingly distant. Where do we find the tools we need to build a better world? Perhaps the answer lies in our own hearts. In many ways COVID 19 has generated acts of kindness, even sacrifice, one towards another. In a society which may become less affluent; where we may need to rely to a greater extent on the generosity we can offer each other, such acts of kindness may be needed even more.



QR code for St Jude's

The apostle Paul put it like this: "Now I will show you the most excellent way" (1 Corinthians 12:31). And so he began to unfold that great hymn to love which we find in chapter thirteen. As we commemorate this month the great sacrifices that love can offer let's also be mindful of the greatest sacrifice of all: "This is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (1 John 4:10) *Judith Allford*

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals

In view of the ever-changing circumstances of this present time we would ask you that you contact us at St Jude's when you are beginning to make plans for one of these significant occasions. You can do so either via our website, email (vicar@stjudeschurch.info) or by phoning our Vicar on 01784 434133. We hope to do everything that we can to support you and your family through such significant life events but it will still be a while before we can provide a more normal pattern of services. So please do get in touch with us so that we can talk with you about how best we can help you.

If, very sadly, you are arranging a funeral service for a loved one, our hearts go out to you most especially. We would want to support you in every way that we can but we remain limited as to what we can offer you within St Jude's. Our Vicar is very willing to conduct a service at one of our local crematoria, many of whom can offer facilities for live-streaming so that others can gather with you online and share this uniquely difficult and important occasion with you. Numbers who can attend physically remain restricted, and may differ from crematorium to crematorium. Restrictions are also in place even at a simple graveside service, but we are committed to offering you the opportunity of a personal Service of Remembrance at St Jude's once those restrictions are lifted.

God be with you all. Thank you for your patience.

Readings at Communion

1st November (All Saints)	Revelation 7. 9–end Psalm 34. 1–10 1 John 3. 1–3 Matthew 5. 1–12
8th November (3rd Sunday before Advent)	Amos 5. 18–24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4. 13–end Matthew 25. 1–13
15th November (2nd Sunday before Advent)	Zephaniah 1. 7, 12–end Psalm 90. 1–8 1 Thessalonians 5. 1–11 Matthew 25. 14–30
22nd November (Last Sunday after Trinity)	Ezekiel 34. 11–16, 20–24 Psalm 95. 1–7 Ephesians 1. 15–end Matthew 25. 31–end
29th November (Advent 1)	Isaiah 64. 1–9 Psalm 80. 1–8 1 Corinthians 1. 3–9 Mark 13. 24–end

Annual Meetings

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our APCM, either virtually or actually! It was a very different meeting from anything we may have been used to in the past, not least because it had been delayed from April because of some of the many ramifications of this present pandemic. Congratulations to Diana Bendall and Claudia Tubb on their re-election as churchwardens and to Roy Gouriet and Marion Paige-Hagg as our Deanery Synod representatives.

Diary for November

- 1 Sunday 9.30am Family Communion (live streamed on Youtube)
- 7 Saturday 4.00pm Wind and Words (clarinet and poetry) available on YouTube – please search for St Jude's United Church Englefield Green

Following the government's announcement, there will be services in St Jude's for the foreseeable future (at least until the end of November)

However the weekly YouTube services at 9.30am each Sunday will resume - search for St Jude's United Church Englefield Green or use the QR code on the front page of this newsletter

The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk

Our Village Centre Cafe opening hours at this present time remain 10am - 2pm. Please call in and enjoy our range of meals and snacks, hot and cold drinks.

Whilst Runnymede remains in Tier 1 for COVID purposes, we can continue to operate in the same way as we have done since reopening in September. As a COVID secure area we are permitted to operate under the rule of six, but if you have any queries, or want to make an advance booking, please ring us on 01784 471110. Face coverings must now be worn at all times except when eating and drinking at your table and, of course, it is table service only.

Sadly, the ongoing impact of COVID 19 has meant that we have needed to make some staff changes. We have always been blessed with a loyal and hard-working staff team and we are so grateful to them all. Please continue to pray for them and for those who are moving on from us. We are grateful also for the input of our team of volunteers.

There are exciting new developments on the way also. The Centre is preparing to set up a food collection point for the Runnymede Food Bank and is exploring other ways to strengthen our relationship with the Food Bank. Together with other members of the Mutual Aid Team our Centre Manager is currently reviewing the safe use of our Computer Room with a view to re-establishing a drop-in service within a COVID secure setting. We hope to be able to offer support, for example, to those exploring the use of technologies such as Zoom or beginning to use online shopping.

From the Registers

Funerals:

(30th September) Colin Mark Collins; (2nd October) Dennis Henry Barratt; (5th) Richard Paul George; (6th) Ellen Millicent Clarke; (8th) Rachel Buxton; (15th) Derwent James May; (26th) Patricia Kathleen Crimmin.

Interment of Ashes:

(12th October) Reginald Herbert Doye.

Giving to St Jude's

We are very gratefully aware that all of our income comes from the local community. The highest proportion of that income is from the regular giving of our members; the remainder comes from collections at concerts and occasional services, one-off donations for special purposes, fees from weddings and funerals, and payment for room hire.

At present, of course, most of those streams of income are not available to us and we are extremely grateful to people who have asked how they can best support us at this time.

If you would like to make a donation to St Jude's, you can pay directly into the Church's CAF Bank account. (Sort Code 40-52-40 Account 00013020). More information from treasurer@stjudeschurch.info or on the "Giving to St Jude's" page on our website.

www.stjudeschurch.info