



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 177

March 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 8th March with tea and coffee available. Do come along.

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four service is on Sunday 23rd March at 4pm. We are delighted to welcome Philomena Evans, with us at part of her training for ordination, to lead our service for us. Refreshments are served in the Monsell Room from 3.15pm.

We look forward to seeing you!

Concert

to be given by students
from Royal Holloway

Saturday 15th March

St Jude's Church

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments

Coffee

Morning

Saturday 22nd March

St Jude's Church

10–11.30am

Cakes, preserves, marmalade

Do come along for coffee
and a chat

Chaplaincies

Chaplaincies are a major part of Christian ministry and the mission of the Church, and yet they are so often overlooked. In many ways, it might be argued that it is taken more seriously within the secular world — by hospitals, schools, universities, prisons, and the armed forces — than by the institutional Church itself. This is perhaps strange given that it is Chaplains (more than any other kind of minister) who are engaging with those not yet part of the community of the faithful. But what is it like to work as a priest in a secular environment?

A lot has changed in the 13 years since I started my degree in Chester. I grew up on the Yorkshire coast (my dad is a priest also) and have lived most of my life in the North of England, which is arguably more secular than the South. During my sixth-form and university years everyone was obsessed with celebrity atheists like Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens. It was cool to be a nonbeliever and weird to be religious.

That is no longer the case. Over the course of the last decade, there has been a resurgent cultural interest in faith and spirituality; it is now cool and 'alternative' to be religious. As such, working as a Chaplain is more interesting now than it has perhaps been for a while. The students are fascinated by faith ministers (whether priests, rabbis, imams, or gurus) and brimming with questions about God and meaning. Moreover, my staff colleagues are astonishingly receptive and supportive of the work that I and the other Chaplains do. The Chaplaincy is multifaith (mostly Christian and Muslim) and we all work well together to ensure that the breadth of religious diversity on campus is nurtured and supervised. I work mostly with Christian (all denominations) and Jewish students.

But, of course, a great many students aren't religious at all...

You hear lots of people say things like: 'I'm spiritual but not religious' or 'I feel like the universe is telling me to do this' or 'Let's generate some positive energy'. It is almost as though students are so clearly searching for God, but they're too afraid to say words like 'God', 'faith', 'religion', or 'spirit' - and so they use vapid and harmless substitutes that require no obedience or personal responsibility. However, rather than sneer at this I'm far more inclined to rejoice that they are actually on this journey to begin with. Listening to the students' diverse and colourful views, their desire for meaning and purpose, and attempting to (gently) direct them into a more substantial framework in which to explore their questions - is an immense privilege.

A lot of my regular commitments are ones you may already be aware of... morning and evening prayer, Evensong on Thursdays at 6.15pm and Sundays at 6.00pm with the Chapel and Founder's Choirs, midweek Holy Communion, a Celtic Prayer group, as well as a variety of courses (an upcoming Lent Course, Confirmation Classes, and Bible Studies). Then there are the day-to-day meetings with the Student Support and Wellbeing Teams for maintaining life and study on campus. All of this needs your prayer and support! Please particularly pray for our Interfaith Coffees as well as the ecumenical unity that the Chaplaincy, Catholic Society, Christian Union, and Christian Staff Group are trying to build together.

Encouraging students to attend their local churches rather than travel further afield has also been another (slow-moving) endeavour of mine. Royal Holloway sits entirely within the parish of St Jude's Church. I'm a big believer in grounding oneself by worshipping (near to) where you live — in the hopes of growing a community that encompasses churches, schools, neighbourhoods, marketplaces, charities... and a university!

I would love to explore more opportunities on how St Jude's Church and the Royal Holloway Chapel can work and worship together. We share a very similar twofold tradition, as the Chapel is both Nonconformist and Anglican. For instance, I would love the choirs to sing more at St Jude's, and for us to share the greater festivals together. Please pray on this and visit the Chapel soon. We would so love to see you!

God bless you all

The Revd Daniel Walker

Lent 2025

Our Lent programme begins on Ash Wednesday, 5th March with two services to mark the beginning of Lent – 10.00am Holy Communion (said) and 7.00pm Holy Communion (with music) for Ash Wednesday, with the imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive it.

For the remaining Wednesdays in Lent (12th, 19th, 26th, March and 2nd, 9th, 16th April), our service will be at 11am and will be followed by a light Lent Lunch. Please join us. Lunch is free but, if you can, you are invited to make a small donation to cover our costs. Thank you!

For anyone who would like to stay on for 20 minutes after lunch has finished there will be a brief time of reflection and prayer focused on the week's news headlines. We understand that not everyone will want to/be able to stay but the opportunity is there for those who wish to do so.

Mothering Sunday 30th March 2025

As Mothering Sunday falls on the fifth Sunday in the month, our 9.30am Holy Communion Service will be replaced by a more informal service of Morning Prayer to celebrate Mothering Sunday. A warm invitation to everyone to join us – including especially of course families, Mums and Carers.

From the Registers

Funerals: (3rd February) June Hutton Hinxman; (19th) Kathleen Frederica Kerslake; (20th) Alan Charles Long "Tom"; (24th) Carol Ann Cornwell; (26th) Maurice Charles Caudell "Charlie"

Readings at Communion

Sunday 2nd March (Sunday next before Lent)	Exodus 34. 29–end Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3. 12–4.2 Luke 9. 28–36
Sunday 9th March (First Sunday of Lent)	Deuteronomy 26. 1–11 Psalm 91. 1–2, 9–end Romans 10. 8b–13 Luke 4. 1–13
Sunday 16th March (Second Sunday of Lent)	Genesis 15. 1–12, 17–18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3.17–4.1 Luke 13. 31–end
Sunday 23rd March (Third Sunday of Lent)	Isaiah 55. 1–9 Psalm 63. 1–9 1 Corinthians 10. 1–13 Luke 13. 1–9
Sunday 30th March (Fourth Sunday of Lent)	1 Samuel 1.20–end Psalm 34. 11–20 Colossians 3. 12–17 John 19. 25b–27

Diary for March

- 2 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 3 Monday 7.30pm Church Council meets (Zoom)
- 5 Ash Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Holy Communion (with music)
- 8 Saturday 2.00–4.00pm Church open
- 9 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 12 Wednesday 11.00am Holy Communion followed by Lent Lunch
- 15 Saturday 4.00pm Concert by students from Royal Holloway
- 16 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 19 Wednesday 11.00am Holy Communion followed by Lent lunch
- 22 Saturday 10.00–11.30am Coffee Morning
- 23 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 26 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion followed by Lent lunch
- 30 Mothering Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Service (NO 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.

World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer service will take place in St Jude's Church on Friday 7th March at 2.00pm. The service entitled "I made you wonderful" has been planned and prepared Christian women from The Cook Islands. There will be refreshments afterwards. Please join us.

Dave Fisher

Many of you will remember Dave who was organist and choirmaster at St Jude's from the Spring of 1990 until October 2000. Sadly, after a long period of being unwell, Dave has now died. His funeral service will be at Holy Trinity Church, Lyne on Friday 14th March at 11.45am. Dave's family is hoping that as many friends as possible will join them for the service.

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 and thank you to Joan who so kindly organises this collection for us.

Food Bank and Community Fridge

We continue to be grateful for your donations and to Geoff Chew for passing on those donations for us. Thank you as always for your generous giving. 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.

Geoff also invites us to remember that our Village Centre has a Community Fridge which is open each Monday and Friday from 9am–11am. The Community Fridge recycles food which would otherwise go to waste. Donations of fruits, vegetables and unopened bread and other bakery items are always welcome. These can be dropped off at The Village Centre, Monday–Friday, 9.30am–2pm. Thank you all.

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.

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.

Future Concerts

5 Apr Royal Holloway students
17 May James Kirby students
24 May Isabella Morgan (piano)
7 June Christopher Hill (flute)
5 July Ben Norris (piano)
19 July Julian Hellaby (piano)
4 Oct Julie Aherne and group (baroque chamber music)
8 Nov James Kirby (piano)

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

There are many things that are happening at the Centre, including:

Community Fridge on Mondays and Fridays (09:00–11:00)
Over 55s Monday Lunch Club
Runnymede Food Bank on Wednesday (13:00–15:00)
Englefield Green Community Bus Service on Thursdays*
Various Cooking Classes*
Child Contact Centre
Baby Basics Outreach
Film Nights *
And of course, the café.

* see website or contact the centre for details

A building like ours is Grade II listed and therefore carries all the restrictions and requirements that comes with that status! Many of the smaller maintenance tasks are carried out by our volunteer handy man, for who we are so grateful. We are currently planning for the installation of a new kitchen to improve the facilities that are available for our projects and users. In addition, there are a number of additional costly property matters that are being navigated. These include replacement of the very old boiler, repairs to the tower, refurbishment of toilets and general decoration internally and externally.

Like many other organisations we will also be affected by the National Insurance changes in April 2025 relating to our employed staff.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who assist with the running of the Village Centre throughout the year, both as volunteers or paid staff either directly interacting with our visitors or behind the scenes.

Here are 2 challenges for you this new year:

If you haven't found us yet, please pop in! A warm welcome is always extended to everyone. If you can — please introduce a friend to the work of the Centre.

Do you have a skill that could be used at the Village Centre? This could include anything from helping in the Café to helping with one of our outreach programmes or with maintenance. Please do get in contact with the centre Manager.

For more details about all our activities and for regular news of events etc please visit our social media or website using the details above.

If you have any queries, suggestions, requests for one off bookings please contact Ali Griffin, the Centre Manager.

The Village Centre Opening Hours (please check website for any changes particularly during School Holidays)

Monday	09:00–14:00
Tuesday	09:00 –4:00
Wednesday	09:00–14:00
Thursday	09:00–17:00
Friday	09:00–14:00
Saturday & Sunday	CLOSED

Do come in out of the cold and enjoy a hot drink, snack, or even lunch with us.



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

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



We have a special invitation to which to draw your attention this month!

Are you — or is someone you know — thinking about a nursery setting for a child for September 2025? If so — you may be interested in attending a special Open Morning, Saturday 22nd March 10-11.30am at St Jude's C of E Infant School Nurseries Barley Mow Road, Englefield Green, TW20 ONP.

Please contact the school office to book your attendance: 01784 435586
or email: office@stjudesinfant.surrey.sch.uk

At the time of writing our St Jude's Schools have returned to work after their well-deserved half time break. Please continue to pray for our children, Senior Leadership Team, Teachers and all school staff, parents and carers and governors during the busy weeks ahead. Our theme for Collective Worship is "Hope". As we celebrate the signs of new life and growth around us once again this Spring, we rejoice especially in the hope our faith gives us, even in the most challenging of times.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 27th March 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 for their regular Coffee Morning in the Jurgens Centre beside the Church. The Coffee Morning is on the last Thursday of each month. 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.

Runnymede Deanery Synod Open Meeting

There will be an open meeting of the Runnymede Deanery Synod at Christ Church, Virginia Water, GU25 4PT on Tuesday, 11th March 2025, at 7.15 for 7.30pm start

The main topic of the meeting will be: "Reports from Mission Fields in Runnymede"

The speakers are: Laurence Gamlen, Vicar at Holy Trinity, Lyne & Longcross / Chaplain at St Peter's Hospital: "Pastoral and Spiritual Care — your place or mine?"

Daniel Walker, Chaplain at RHUL: "No Proselytising, Please: the Gospel in a Multifaith Campus"

Sarah McNulty, Hub Leader - Addlestone: "The Youth Catalyst Project"

All are welcome!

Carbon Literacy Course

"Giving up Carbon for Lent"

The Eco group at Christ Church Virginia Water is organising a Carbon Literacy course for church congregations this Lent at Christ Church. It will take place at Christ Church over 2 half days on Saturdays, 15th and 29th March from 9.30am–2.30pm.

More details available on our Monsell Room noticeboard.