



# The Ship

**St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter**

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 156

June 2023

## Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 3.00pm and 4.30pm on 10th June (a slightly later time this month). Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and have a look round.

## Growing Church!

The Diocese of Guildford is challenging all its churches to grow! Our Ecumenical Church Council is being asked to think about how we might "Grow Disciples", "Grow Diversity" and "Grow Community". This is an exciting opportunity to look afresh at how we do things at St Jude's. Please watch this space – and please, if you don't worship with us already, do think about coming to join us! We hope you will feel that you receive the warmest of welcomes. We know that so many people have a real heart for St Jude's and we are grateful for your friendship and fellowship. God bless you.

## Audio Visual Project

We are delighted that we now have a number of people worshipping with us online Sunday by Sunday via our YouTube Channel. It is so good to be able to include you as members of our extended congregation! There is still a bit more work to do in reducing the various teething problems we have encountered in the early days of the AV installation. Thank you for your patience and your fellowship. Please persevere with us – we hope all will soon be resolved. We remain extremely grateful to Guy Bunce for all his support.

## Concert River City Saxes

present a range of popular  
music for wind instruments

**Saturday 3rd June  
4.00pm**

**St Jude's Church**

Admission free

Refreshments provided

Donations welcome

## Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence is a topic that is very much in the news at the moment. I expect that most of us have dealt with AI on the internet; perhaps during a conversation with a company about an order we have placed or about a problem to do with a piece of technology. Sometimes the machine can help, but sometimes it has to hand us on to a human in order to sort things out. I understand why people are concerned about what may happen with AI as these machines become better at what they are doing. We find ourselves wondering whether they will become cleverer than we are. We know that there are lots of difficult questions, but perhaps the ability of a machine to carry out routine tasks, which may be tedious rather than difficult is something we might well be happy for them to do. The debate continues. The Christian faith contains a concept relating to the Holy Trinity which, for me, falls into the category of a "difficult" topic. The subject itself is considered to be so important that we even have one Sunday each year dedicated to it. This year the service is due to take place on 4th June; Trinity Sunday.

In my role as the superintendent of the Staines and Feltham Circuit of the Methodist Church one of my tasks is to prepare "The Plan" which sets out details of who is preaching in the Churches I cover. The area is quite big and ranges from Feltham right out to here at Englefield Green. It can be quite difficult to find preachers who are comfortable leading a service on Trinity Sunday. The reason seems to be related to the "problem" of explaining what is meant by "Trinity". This is a word which you will not actually find in the Bible. Although St Paul comes close at the end of the second letter that he wrote to the Christians living in Corinth which he ended by writing, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you." (NRSV). Here in this blessing St Paul refers to God, Jesus and Holy Spirit and yet Christians believe in just one God. Over the years theologians and individuals have attempted to explain how three can become one and how one can be three. I am sure that you will be aware of explanations that include people having different roles, about three leaved plants, about water as a liquid, as a gas and as a solid. The list goes on. Sadly each time someone comes up with a suggestion someone else comes along and explains why it does not work. One theologian wrote, that the doctrine of the Trinity confronts us with perhaps the most difficult thought that the human mind has ever been asked to handle. He goes on to write, that even though it is not easy, it is true. I wonder what AI would make of it? In the meantime, we will be looking at the subject in Church on 4th June at 9:30am. Maybe you might like to come along and explore the topic with us.

God bless.

*Andrew Reed*

## Food Bank

Please continue to help us support the work of our local Runnymede Food Bank. Contributions of non-perishable goods can be left in our Food Bank crate in our Monsell Room and are regularly taken by Geoff Chew to the Food Bank Collection and Distribution Centre. Your amazing generosity is hugely appreciated.

## Easyfundraising.org.uk

Please do remember that if you register with [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://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. So far we have raised over £1200 by this scheme.

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting 14th May 2023

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our APCM in May which was a special opportunity to talk about God's blessings to us. More formally, we elected our two Churchwardens and we are grateful to both Claudia Tubb and Mike Brooking for their willingness to serve as Churchwardens for another year. They shoulder the responsibility of caring for St Jude's in many different ways.

We also elected two representatives to the Runnymede Deanery Synod, which is an important tier of Church Governance. Marion Paige-Hagg, who has just completed her first term of three years service on the Synod, was re-elected for another three years. Thank you, Marion. Thank you also and congratulations to Jackie Kjos who has been elected as our second representative. We wish both Marion and Jackie well.

We have a good record of service on Synod and we remain very grateful to all who have been our representatives, both recently and in years past. Roy Gouriet stepped down this year – Roy had served on the Deanery Leadership Team and in the last year had been Deputy Lay Chair or, as he was affectionately known, "Father of the House"! Cassandra Gouriet had been one of our previous reps and, between them, she and Roy have clocked up over 20 years of Synod service!! Thank you and congratulations to them both.

If you were unable to attend the APCM you may like to know that there are a number of copies of our Annual Report for 2022 still available in church. The Report contains our church accounts for the year and also a review of the activities both of St Jude's and of our Village Centre. It makes for interesting and encouraging reading. Please do just take one or ask our honorary treasurer, Brian Hooker, for a copy.

You will see from our Church accounts for 2022 that we were able to cover our costs for the year and we are grateful to all those of you whose generosity in giving to the work of St Jude's made that possible once again. In 2023 we are facing increased charges in many different areas and we remain very thankful for the support of so many. If you would like to contribute further to our programme of regular planned giving you will also find in church copies of our Standing Order and Gift Aid forms. Thank you all so much.

## The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk 01784 471110

We are delighted that we were able to hold our very own Coronation celebration in the Centre on 12th May. We received funding from the local authority which enabled us to make this event free to everyone who attended. We ran two bounce and play sessions, at 3.30pm and 4.30pm and these were followed by a dinner of hotdogs and cake! The Hall was set up with a bouncy castle and with giant games such as Connect 4, Jenga and Lego. Approximately 20 children attended each event and a very good time was had by all!

During May we said "Thank you and Farewell" to our very own IT wizard, Paul Doherty. Paul had supported the work of the Village Centre over a number of years by running a regular Computer "Drop In" session each Wednesday. Over that time many users of the Village Centre have benefited from Paul's wisdom and expertise in guiding them through some of the complexities of the world of technology. Many of us have taken our devices along to Paul to troubleshoot when we've encountered a problem, and some of us have also been very grateful for his skill in setting up new items of equipment for us. Paul is moving to pastures new on the south coast and we wish him all the very best for the future. He has indicated that he may come back to see us from time to time so his advice and reassurance may still occasionally be on offer! Thank you, Paul.

As always, 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 below. Thank you!

### From the Registers

Baptism:

(3th April) Albie David Bennett Lamble

Funerals:

(18th May) Patricia Courtenay Robinson

Thanksgiving and Interment of ashes:

(5th May) Beryl Rosemary Keable Wills

Interment of Ashes:

(12th May) Kenneth Mervyn Smart;

Margaret Irma Smart

### Readings at Communion

4th June  
(Trinity Sunday)

Isaiah 40. 12–17, 27–end  
Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13. 11–end  
Matthew 28. 16–end

18th June  
(Trinity 2)

Exodus 19.2–8a  
Psalm 100

Romans 5. 1–8  
Matthew 9.35–10.8

11th June  
(Trinity 1/ Barnabas the Apostle)

Acts 11. 19–end  
Psalm 112

Galatians 2. 1–10  
John 15. 12–17

25th June  
(Trinity 3)

Jeremiah 20. 7–13  
Psalm 69. 8–11, 18–20

Romans 6. 1b–11  
Matthew 10. 24–39

### Diary for June

- 3 Saturday 4.00pm Concert River City Saxes admission free – refreshments provided – donations welcome
- 4 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 6 Tuesday 7.30pm Church Council meets in St Jude's Church
- 7 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 11 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 14 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 18 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion
- 21 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 25 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 28 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion

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.



## St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



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

Congratulations and thank you to all involved in hosting the Happy Circus on 11th May! We're not yet quite sure of the total funds raised but we do know that a lot of fun was raised!!

At our Annual Parochial Church meeting in May we received a report from Mrs Vicki Chiverton, Head Teacher at our St Jude's Junior School, about the work of both the Junior and Infant Schools, now of course known as the "St Jude's Church of England Schools. Here is a quote from her excellent report:

*The most significant event for the infant and junior schools this year is their federation. After a year of consultations and joint working, we now have one governing body across the two schools. This is representative of the effective collaboration that has taken place over the last few years, started initially by Jan Pells, when she was the Head Teacher of the infant school and continued by Michelle McNamee. It was a pleasure to work with them both. Michelle has now resigned from her post and will be moving down to Sussex to live nearer to her family, which means that the leadership structure of the infant and junior schools over the coming year has yet to be resolved. These are changing and challenging times for education.*

We thank God for Mrs Chiverton and all the Senior Leadership Team, Teachers and Teaching Assistants and all the Schools Staff. It is indeed a challenging time in education as indeed in many parts of the Public Sector. Please continue to pray for the work of both schools and indeed for all the educational establishments in our Parish.