



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 622

November 2024

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell



St Mary's Ewell

www.stmarysewell.com

Remembrance Sunday



10 November 2024

**10.45 at the War Memorial for a service of
Remembrance and wreath laying followed
by a memorial service in church**

We will Remember them

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Fr Mark Stafford writes

Those of us who grew up in the 70's will always remember "lip smacking, thirst quenching, ace tasting, motivating, good buzzing, cool talking, high walking, fast living, ever giving, cool fizzing, Pepsi...." The reality was more like sugar laden, burp making, fake tasting, not quite a coke... Pepsi.

Marketing is a fascinating dark art, the study and management of the relationship between people and product. It is the process of identifying, anticipating, and satisfying customers' needs and wants. The ability to read the mood of a nation, a time, and a generation, and then define and promote a product in a way that connects the product with the popular experience.

Clever marketing can create demand. Think about the adverts we are bombarded with today, the never-ending tech developments, the advanced kitchen gadgets, the latest fashion item or high-tech training shoe.... the question we all face is do I really NEED to have the latest, the biggest and the best or will what I have be enough?

It seems that we have too much, too much choice, too much luxury, just too much STUFF, and this excess is causing global problems and instability.

We live in a world where the rich have much, and the poor have little. In a 2024 report Oxfam shared:

- *Over a third of world's biggest 50 corporations -worth \$13.3 trillion- are now run by a billionaire or has a billionaire as a principal shareholder.*
- *Global South countries own just 31 percent of global wealth, despite being home to 79 percent of global population.*
- *The richest 1 percent have more wealth than the bottom 95 percent of the world's population put together.*

I often wonder what the effect of this conspicuous consumption has on our planet and on our moral compass.

It would have been virtually impossible in recent years not to have heard something about climate change and the debate around how this is happening, can it be stopped and what impact it may or may not have on life on our planet.

As I was preparing this, I read that in 2016 it was estimated that if everyone on earth consumed the same amount as the average US citizen four planet earths would be needed to sustain us.

The story gets worse with even wealthier countries, with an estimated 5.4 planet earths needed to sustain us if we all lived at the same standard as the United Arab Emirates.

I guess there was a time when this level of consumption by the wealthy nations was potentially sustainable, albeit that the cost of this luxury was borne elsewhere in the world.

However, as the global economy grows and poorer countries become wealthier the levels of demand on the planet are increasing and it seems to me that the reality is that we are living in a way that is unsustainable. The point where the planet cannot recover from our presence is called the global tipping point.

In 2023 the University of Exeter conducted a major study into global tipping points. The key notes from this were:

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com
Registered Charity Number 1128409

CLERGY

Vicar: Fr Mark Stafford 020 8393 1297

Email: vicar@stmarysewell.com

Day off: Friday

Assistant Priest: The Reverend Sue Ayling OBE; 020 8337 6347; Email: assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com

Day off: Wednesday

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Valerie Wood 020 8393 5991;

Email churchwarden1@stmarysewell.com

Mrs Vicky Gocher 07732 459281;

Email churchwarden@stmarysewell.com

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs Wendy Paxman 020 8224 2851;

Email: pastoral@stmarysewell.com

Lay Pastoral Visitor

Mrs Marian Morrison 020 8391 2325;

Email: pastoralvisitor@stmarysewell.com

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Helen Crossley;

Email: safeguardingofficer@stmarysewell.com

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Jackie Broadfoot 07918 559387;

Email: jackie.broadfoot@cofeguildford.org.uk

Finance Officers

Day-to day financial queries

Donna and David Boosey 07791 993261;

Email: financeteam@stmarysewell.com

Stewardship Recorder

Mrs Sarah Holmes;

Email: plannedgiving@stmarysewell.com

Private Prayer

The Church can be opened for private prayer on request - please contact Fr. Mark on 020 8393 1297

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

Office hours are normally 9.30-12.00 Mon, Wed and Fri and 9.30-11.00 on Tues, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

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- Environmental stresses could become so severe that large parts of the natural world are unable to maintain their current state, leading to abrupt and/or irreversible changes. These moments are called Earth system 'tipping points'. We are already at risk of crossing five major tipping points at the present level of global warming: the Greenland and West Antarctic ice sheets, warm-water coral reefs, North Atlantic Subpolar Gyre circulation, and permafrost regions.
- These threats could materialise in the coming decades, and at lower levels of global warming than previously thought. They could be catastrophic, including global-scale loss of capacity to grow major staple crops. Triggering one Earth system tipping point could trigger another, causing a domino effect of accelerating and unmanageable damage. Tipping points show that the overall threat posed by the climate and ecological crisis is far more severe than is commonly understood.
- This will multiply crises in the same way that the COVID-19 pandemic caused cascading stress to societies and economic systems globally, with unequal and unjust consequences. These impacts could escalate to threaten the breakdown of economic, social and political systems, triggering destructive tipping points in societies experiencing stresses beyond their ability to cope.
- Global governance is currently inadequate to minimise tipping point threats and to do so equitably. Governance is needed across multiple scales to address the different drivers, potentially rapid changes, and diverse, often irreversible, impacts of tipping points. An immediate priority for governance actors is to set an agenda for developing this framework. Governance must also guard against counterproductive reactions to tipping point threats, such as the misguided reliance on speculative solar geoengineering approaches.
- Some Earth system tipping points may still be triggered in the time it takes us to undertake global emergency action. Mitigating risk is still possible by reducing vulnerability, and becomes ever more urgent, because each manifestation of a tipping point threat diverts attention and resources to disaster response, eroding away some of our agency to tackle the underlying drivers. This increases the risk of triggering more Earth system tipping points, creating a vicious cycle.

You can download more information at: <https://global-tipping-points.org/resources-gtp/>.

I am sure that if we dig deep, we can find other research that will counter this and suggest that the future of the planet has not been significantly impacted by our presence and quest for more and more stuff, however I would suggest that just by using common sense we can see that a finite resource (the planet) cannot support an infinite demand (us)!

Despite all the negativity around climate change, the report from Exeter has stated that Mitigating risk is still possible, and this is GOOD NEWS!!!!

However, it would seem that the window of opportunity is narrow and that all of us have a responsibility to look seriously at our personal impact on the planet and how we can reduce our negative impact and seek ways that we can have a positive effect!

I have recently completed the free WWF Carbon footprint quiz, the results of which were enlightening and made me think about the things I can change and the things that I am unable to change, if you would like to try this, here is the link: <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>

I am almost sure that most of us can make small changes to reduce our impact on the planet and would suggest that this is something we urgently consider and action before the "Mitigating risk is still possible" changes to "Mitigating risk is no longer possible!"

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER AT ST. MARY'S

All Souls' Tide – Saturday 2 November, we will be holding two memorial services for All Souls' Tide. There will be a said Requiem Mass at 12 noon and a Service of the Word at 5.00pm. The 5pm service will be live streamed and also available to view on the Church Facebook page for one week following the service. If you would like to add your departed loved ones' names to the list of those to be remembered at both services, could you write their names down and place your papers in the blue box at the back of Church, or email parishoffice@stmarysewell.com before 21 October.

All Saints' Day – We will be celebrating All Saints' on Sunday 3 November at 8.00am with a Prayer Book Communion service and again at 9.30am at our Choral Mass.



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Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

Warm Space/ Conversation Café – St Mary's Church will be working in partnership with Surrey County Council and The Good Company to run a Warm Hub and Conversation Café from 5 November - March 2025, Tuesday evenings between 5.45 and 7:00pm at Ewell Hall. We will provide hot food and refreshments and offer warm packs, heating vouchers and energy advice. In addition, this warm hub will provide a conversation space for our refugee community to give opportunity for them to improve their conversational English. We are looking for volunteers to help at these cafés. If you would be able to help, please come and speak to Fr Mark to learn more.

Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal 2024 – This year we are supporting the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal. You can collect a leaflet about this from the back of the Church. Filling a shoe box is great fun and a great way to help those in need through the winter. Shoeboxes will be collected from church the week beginning 5 November. If you still have a shoebox to drop off at St. Mary's, please talk to Fr Mark or Linda Staff.

Messy Church goes Wild – Saturday 2 November at 2.30pm in and around the Church. An outdoors eco service for all the family (see page 7 for details).

5 November – Come and join us at 1.05pm for our regular organ recital '**Bach on Tuesday**', followed by cake, tea and coffee.

Remembrance Day 10 November – At 11.00am we will have an Act of Remembrance and wreath laying at the War Memorial. This will be live streamed into Church for those who are unable to gather at the War Memorial. This will be followed by a memorial service in Church. If you intend coming to the Church service at 11.15 please sign up on the form at the back of the church as seats will need to be reserved. (The Church will be open from 10.30am).

16 November at 7.30pm – You are invited to watch the concert following our Come and Sing day. '**The Armed man**' with St Mary's Parish Choir.

20 November – **Church online quiz** – Our online quiz is open to all, if you would like to register please use the link that will be in our weekly notes the week before the quiz! You can also register by emailing zoom@stmaryswell.com.

23 November at 6.00pm – St Mary's will be hosting Ewell Community Cinema. We will be showing **Bohemian Rhapsody** - a must for all Queen fans, Ticket price is £5 on the door, but tickets can also be purchased on Eventbrite.

28 November 1.05pm – We will be joined by Simon Gregory for our **Advent organ recital**.

30 November at 6.30 for 7.00pm – Our social committee invite you to our next church dinner. Join us for '**A Highland Fling**' – see page 11 for details.

Advent Gatherings – Come and join us each Tuesday in Advent at 7.30 in the Parish Room at the rear of Church (3, 10 and 17 December) as we explore staying calm and managing stress at Christmas.

Do check the calendar on the back page for the full list of services and events happening in November.

Every blessing

Fr Mark



ORGAN RECITALS

5 November 1.05 pm

**Tuesday lunchtime organ recitals
plus musicians from local schools**

Jonathan Holmes continues his Bach lunchtime series

16 November 7.30 pm

Karl Jenkins 'The Armed Man'
with St Mary's Parish Choir

28 November 1.05 pm

Thursday lunchtime Advent Organ Recital

Simon Gregory

*This Thursday lunchtime recital is followed by afternoon tea
The Saturday concerts have a suggested donation of £10 (free to students and children). Tuesday concerts are free with donations for the organ fund being welcome*

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A Prayer for November



By tradition, November is a month for remembering.

On November 1, we remember all those called to be saints. November 2 is All Souls' Day when we take time to remember loved ones who have died. Although now called 'Bonfire Night' November 5 was traditionally a time for remembering a past historical event, the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. November 11 is Remembrance Day when we remember all those killed in war.

It is certainly a time for quiet reflection; a time for remembering and a time for prayer. But in our reflecting, may we also remember in faith the one who died for our sins and rose again, our dear Lord, Jesus Christ. Whatever has befallen us, our families, our friends and neighbours, and the wider world during the past year, we can still cling to that which gives us hope.

Lord God, we pray for ourselves and all leaders of the Nations, asking You to pour out Your Holy Spirit of hope, love, and reconciliation on them and on us. Give us all a longing to bring freedom from fear and freedom from want to all peoples. Give strength and courage to those who particularly bear the heavy responsibilities for the peace of the world. May they and we work with all to break down the barriers which divide people. We pray that, whatever faith we may profess, we may also learn to respect those who sincerely hold another faith and build a community where there is harmony and understanding, that all may live together in peace. **AMEN**

WITH OUR CHRISTIAN PILGRIMAGE IN MIND...

Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust and hostility to evaporate. *Albert Schweitzer*

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away your ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer. *Corrie ten Boom*

Man sees your actions, but God your motives. *Thomas a Kempis*

Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair. *GK Chesterton*

PATRONAL FESTIVAL RECITAL

7 September

Jonathan and Sarah Holmes

The Patronal Festival is a major event in St. Mary's Church life. The Organ Recital presented by the Director of Music is associated with it. Jonathan was at pains to talk about the story of our 'Father' Henry Willis organ and how it came to be here. Willis was the founding father of a family of organ builders spanning the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It is impressive how much survives of Willis's 1889 instrument. Its capacity for 'tone colour' that is, its variety of sound, was displayed to excellent effect in Jonathan's programme.

This organ always sounds effective in film music. **Hans Zimmer's** score for Christopher Nolan's 2014 film *Interstellar* demands additional effects; these were ably supplied by Sarah on our vintage synthesizer. We have the talented Anna Lapwood to thank for her enterprising organ arrangements of sections from this score: *Stay*; *No Time for Caution* and *Cornfield Chase*. Anna has done a marvellous job as a kind of ambassador for the organ.

Some pieces today were adaptations of orchestral works. A vivid example is the piece which opened the programme: *Jupiter – the Bringer of Jollity* from *The Planets*. **Holst's** superlative orchestral sound is well expressed on the organ.

During Henry Willis's stay in France, his colleague there was the leading French organ-builder, Aristide Cavaille-Coll. Many French composers wrote for the magnificent organs he built, many of which still exist today. Though not himself an organist, **Debussy's** *Danse styrienne* which he composed for piano sounds good in an organ arrangement. The arranger is the young 'organiste titulaire' at the church of Saint-Eustache, Paris, **Thomas Ospital**. The organ at this church dates from 1989 but does contain a Willis stop from the old instrument built for Joseph Bonnet, a Corno di Bassetto. What is of interest to Ewell readers, is that our organ at St. Mary's also possesses an example of the same stop. **Joseph Bonnet** worked primarily as a travelling virtuoso; eventually he moved to Quebec where he died. One of his pieces is *Etude de Concert* written to show off his, or his pupils', skill on the pedals. Another name from the same era is that of **Eugene Gigout** whose superb *Toccata in B minor* dates from 1890 and which, from time to time, Jonathan plays as a voluntary at church. **Camille Saint-Saens** is perhaps not so well known for his organ music yet some of them are little gems such as the *Fantasia in E flat*. **Charles-Marie Widor** is familiar to many for his ebullient *Toccata*, often played at weddings. Vastly more restrained than this, however, is *Andante cantabile* from the *Symphonie No. 4* for organ, simple and rather touching music which we hear from time to time at church during Communion.

Felix Mendelssohn's name is familiar for his Wedding March. Another march he wrote, sounding equally splendid on the organ, is *War March of the Priests*. The nineteenth-century English organ virtuoso W.T. Best, arranged this and, indeed, many contemporary orchestral pieces in the days before gramophone recordings. Finally, **Tchaikovsky** is known primarily for his songs and orchestral works such as the *1812 Overture*. Here, a modern concert organist, Jonathan Scott, has made a terrific arrangement of this exciting piece. Admittedly, our Willis organ lacks some of the effects Scott requires. Sarah ably stepped into the breach with our aged synthesizer replacing bells and bass drum. These helped bring the evening to a resounding conclusion.



PUBLISH YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETING IN EPN

In December EPN we plan to include a page of Christmas greetings to EPN readers from members of our church family

If you would like us to include a greeting from you, please email it to epn@stmarysewell.com no later than Saturday 9 November. You will need to post early for Christmas!

An early Merry Christmas &
thank you in anticipation!

EPN production team

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

**One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One
God and Father of us all (Ephesians 4:5)**

22 September Willow Evelyn West

HOLY MATRIMONY

**An honourable estate, instituted of God
(BCP Marriage rite)**

19 September Louis James Cardona and Sarah
Alexandra Marks

FUNERAL

**And now, Lord, what is my hope?
Truly my hope is even in thee
(Psalm 39, used in the BCP Burial rite)**

11 October Mary Josephine Jones, aged 80

EPSOM & EWELL FOODBANK

Our local foodbank relies on your goodwill and support. Over 90% of the food distributed comes from donations. Your food donations are vital - please help if you can.

Urgently needed: tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, tinned spaghetti, tinned fish, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes, cooking sauces, tinned soup, peanut butter, breakfast cereal, tea, custard, savoury biscuits, ketchup/mayo/brown sauce, squash, rice, instant mash, long-life sponge puddings, microwave rice, shampoo & conditioner, shower gel, male deodorant, washing up liquid and washing powder

Please no more of these items as we are fully stocked: pet food.

You can donate food at:

St Mary's Church Ewell, Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose Epsom and Banstead, Asda Burgh Heath and Tesco Leatherhead, or directly to Epsom & Ewell Foodbank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Primary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG. Open Monday to Friday 9am - 2pm excluding Bank Holidays.

You can make a monetary donation via the Foodbank website

www.epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk

* Please make sure all donations are sealed,
in date and do not contain alcohol *

ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES



We hold monthly on-line quizzes using Zoom

These are very popular and great fun
for all the family

**Our next quiz is on Wednesday 20 November
at 8.00 pm**

We would love you to join us

**You will need to register beforehand by clicking on
the link in the Weekly Notes or you can
simply email zoom@stmarysewell.com**

Ewell community cinema

**Saturday 23rd
November**

**BOHEMIAN
RHAPSODY**

St Mary's Church, London Road, Ewell, KT17 2AY.
Ticket £10 with a glass of Fizz.
Tickets from Church/ eventbrite- licensed bar
Doors open 18:30

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

Saturday 7 December
Ewell Hall
10am- 1pm or 2 - 5pm £25



Have you always wanted to know how to make a Christmas Door Wreath? Then why not come along for a fun workshop and leave with your own creation for your front door. Basic materials and some greenery will be provided. You can bring some foliage, ribbon, baubles and other accessories to personalise your wreath. (Further details on application.)

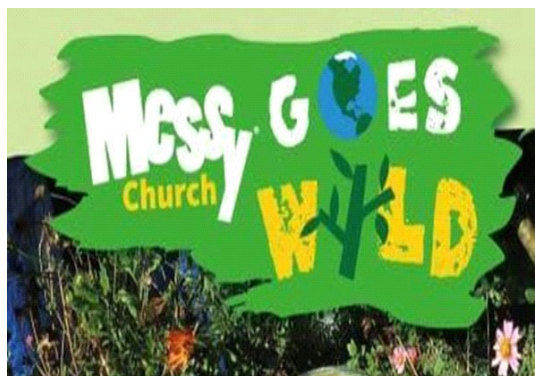
Please contact Lucy at flowers@stmarysewell.com for further details, or see me at church after the 9.30am service. You can choose between a morning or afternoon session, but places are limited so do book early. Payment is required in advance by 23 November to secure your place.

CONGRATULATIONS!



We offer our congratulations to Sarah and Louis Cardona who were married at St. Mary's on Thursday, 19 September.
(Photographers Instagram @violasworldweddings)

Messy Church Goes Wild



During the past year, we have run our new enterprise, **Messy Church goes Wild** on a Saturday afternoon at the beginning of each month. The Saturday afternoon at the beginning of October was beautifully warm and sunny. The group wandered through the 'new' graveyard, across the road from church. We were thinking about where creatures such as harvest mice might live and what they might find to eat. We thought about the importance of leaving some spaces, particularly on the edges of fields (or graveyards) where mice might safely hide and build their homes. We found plenty for such creatures and birds to eat - berries of different kinds, grass seeds, plants, and insects. In keeping with a harvest theme, our story was the parable of the sower.

So don't forget to join us, rain, or shine, for our exciting outdoor venture for all ages this coming autumn

Saturday, November 2	2.30 to 4.00pm
Saturday, December 7	2.30 to 4.00pm

We will gather in the Parish Room as usual before discovering the great outdoors. Outdoors unless the weather is really, really, bad! Having completed our outdoor activity, we will return to the Parish Room to share and reflect on what we have done, enjoy craft activities, a Bible story and a song or two to celebrate God's creation and enjoy a welcome drink and refreshments together.



Come and join us. We would love to see you there!

AV/SOUND DESK AT ST MARY'S

We continue to seek volunteers to learn how to operate our AV/sound desk and to join the team helping with livestreaming/videos at our services.

This is a vital part of our outreach so if you think you may be able to help, please contact the churchwardens, our clergy or John Larkin.

HARVEST JOYS! A DAY FOR ALL 2024

On Saturday 28 September, interspersed among several rainy days, we were blessed with a gloriously sunny day for A Day for All, and lots of people – of all ages – came along to enjoy themselves. As has become the tradition, the wonderful sound of the church bells of St Mary's launched the day and – for the first time – the opportunity was given for people to see how the bells are rung. Then followed the ever popular dancing of Ewell St Mary's Morris Men, displaying their skill, first with the traditional wooden sticks and then with white scarves, accompanied by their musicians

The return of the two Shetland ponies, with their small friends – guinea pigs, rabbits, a snake and a bearded dragon – proved extremely popular. For me, seeing a child loving to cuddle a rabbit, or to groom a pony, or to stroke a guinea pig was evidence of the sense of well-being that animals bring. Kingswood Shetland & Friends use animal therapy to help many young people facing challenges in life and you can find more at <https://kingswoodshetlands.org/> The team who came said "It was an absolute pleasure to attend the day and meet lots of friendly and welcoming faces. We had lots of interactions and questions about the different animals, which is always lovely. My favourite was a 92 year old lady holding a snake for the first time, Jasper, our ball python, was very accommodating and we were very impressed with the bravery! We had all ages from birth to elderly and it was amazing to see just how many smiles the animals produced. We can't wait until next time."

One of the events was an illustrated talk about the Lost Lands of Ewell - telling the story about how the suburban landscape we live in today used to be full of farms - going back at least to Domesday Book and before. Ewell only really got its modern appearance in the 1920s and 1930s - even though much of the medieval layout still remains. Hamish Reid, who gave the talk, said "I greatly enjoyed doing the research for this talk -

you can be in one spot and travel through several hundred years." Fiona Dowle gave an illustrated presentation on how honey is harvested by hobby beekeepers. She explained the process in detail from how the frames of honey are removed from the hive, through uncapping the frames, extracting and filtering the honey and jarring it up ready for future consumption.

As always, the Children's Craft Activities, the SWOP shop, the Prayer Corner, the Mouse Trail and the Prayer Trail were much enjoyed. Those serving (free) refreshments during the day and the bread and soup lunch were kept very busy! The Photo Competition provided interest throughout the day and the winners can be viewed on the church website.

Lots of positive feedback was received.

Someone experiencing A Day for All for the first time wrote "The day is a wonderful concept which brought together a well organised team with a real drive to welcome so many. It was great to see and hear the church so full and buzzing. People ebbed and flowed during the day, in and out of the building. The wide variety of events and activities provided something for everyone and the surrounding chatter was relaxed and happy. I'm looking forward to the next one already!"

One regular to A Day for All volunteered "it really was a glorious day of sunshine, fun and a generally lovely community feel!"

A member of the planning team emailed "I thought it was a brilliant day. Everyone I have spoken to about it, loved it."

Many thanks to the planning team, to the many volunteers who made the day possible and to everyone who came along – you all made it such a great day!

Sue Ayling



A DAY FOR ALL 2024

PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

13 and over: Winner - Nigel Bird



13 and over: Second - Julia Graham-Maw



Under 13 Joint Winner - Henry Knight



13 and over: Third - Tania Haywood



Under 13 Joint Winner - Barnaby Knight



OUR FATHER..... THE LORD'S PRAYER EXPLAINED

Many of us have grown up with The Lord's Prayer. It is the most well-known of prayers. It is the prayer that the Lord taught us, but how often do we really think about what we are saying and what the words mean? Too often we recite the words by rote, without engaging with them. A group of us met for six sessions during September and October to look at it in depth and how it can lead us into a closer walk with God.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name

Jesus invites us into a new relationship in prayer with God as our Father and we are sisters and brothers together. Through the life and ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus we can know God as Father. Every time we say this prayer we are part of the Christian family. "Hallowed" reminds us of the awe and majesty of God and His name is something we reverence.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven

We considered how we can live as faithful members of God's kingdom. When we pray for God's kingdom to come, we are asking for our world and our lives to be marked by the justice that God loves so much. As Christians we must do everything that we can to ensure that we live justly now.

□ A reminder to thank God for all that He gives us, not just bread but all the material things that we enjoy. We explored the question of why we chase wealth and discussed the significance of "having enough" and being contented and what we are taught about sharing and helping others, how the world might be changed if we changed our views towards our own wealth.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

What is sin? It is going against the will of God by thoughts and actions and it is also what we have not done. We discussed the effects of sin on humans, the planet, God and everything. God sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins and to open up the way of forgiveness but we cannot expect God to forgive us if we are unwilling to forgive others. Challenging!

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

What is temptation? The inclination to sin, the desire to engage in short-term urges for enjoyment that threatens long term goals. It can be doing or not doing. What is evil? Evil is opposition to God and contrary to goodness. It is morally incorrect behaviour causing unnecessary pain and suffering.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen

We noted that the Lord's Prayer begins and ends with worship and praise. We can worship God collectively in liturgy and singing or individually in silence. These final words of the Prayer were added later and are found in 1 Chronicles 29:10-14.

At the end the group's consensus was that we were now reflecting much more carefully on the words and their meaning and not just reciting them by heart almost without thinking.

Thank you Mark and Sue for leading us in our discussions which were based upon The Church of England's Pilgrim course on The Lord's Prayer.

AGT

THE GOSPEL SIDE OF ELVIS



An hour before the show started on 21 September, queues began to form outside the Church, with fans eager to get a good seat. It became obvious early on that the audience that the Elvis show appealed to were staunch supporters of 'Elvis singing Gospel'. Many of the audience had been before and most knew every word to every song. In total, we had three Elvi (is that the correct collective noun?) A lovely older Elvis that had travelled all the way from Swansea, one that had travelled from leafy Surrey and a young Elvis who at 15 years old was a delight.

Each Elvis sang individually, but the two older Elvis's sang some duets with superb harmonies and had powerful voices. The Church was full of arm waving, swaying and the odd individual dancing. Many of those who had not visited before were amazed at the beauty of our Church and those living locally are now keen to experience some of our other events. A good two and a half hours later, after the standing ovations, the show came to an end and many of the audience stayed on to chat whilst we cleared things away. It was a late night for all - especially Father Mark who had services on Sunday morning!

Lucy Stafford

duo

CHRISTMAS WITH DUO!

**SATURDAY
14 DECEMBER**

ST MARY'S, EWELL

AT 7.30PM

FOR TICKETS GO TO
duoguitarmusic.com/live
 OR SCAN QR CODE BELOW!

AS FEATURED ON

PCC MEETING REPORT 1 October

Fr Mark reported that, in order to have the Church open more often on weekdays, he and Ian Burgess have been looking into the necessary additional security. Since the public cannot be recorded during services, a separate CCTV system would be required. Two cameras which can be turned off during services would be placed in the chancel and on the pulpit at a cost of approximately £1,100. This would especially offer security for Lynne working in the office. Fr Mark will check with the insurance company and the diocese before a final decision is made. Volunteer Welcomers will be sought for whenever the church is open.

It was noted that replacement communion wine has to be ordered soon. Members were asked to consider whether the replacement wine should be alcohol free, as there are some members of the congregation who abstain from alcohol. Following discussion, it was decided that samples will be brought to the next meeting for tasting. It was suggested that gluten free wafers should also be considered.

Members were informed that David Dance has decided to retire from the role of Data Protection Compliance Officer, a role which he has held for a good number of years. It was noted that David has been extremely efficient in setting up and monitoring all the appropriate required systems, policies and procedures. Members wished that their grateful thanks be recorded to him for all his work over the years in the role. Julian Freeman will take over the role.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 November.

Liv Divall PCC Secretary

REPORT FROM THE CHURCH TREASURER

The financials show a loss for the 9 months to 30 September 2024 of £19k. If we extrapolate this loss over 12 months, we would expect a loss of £25k for the year ending 31 December 2024.

The figures are in for the Ewell Village Fair and this year we made a profit of £5.5k, which is similar to the profit from the fair in 2023. We would like to thank all those involved for their hard work in making a great community event for us all to enjoy.

Ewell Hall has made a cash profit for the year to date of £12k. This is higher than we expected but this is due to Barb's hard work in getting outstanding debtors paid, so thank you Barb.

At the end of September, our cash at bank was £351k. With an expected cash burn and deficit of £25k we should be able to keep going for more than ten years without tweaking too much before cash becomes a critical issue. However, with our continued ministry and new initiatives we can grow our Church family (and funds!) and get to a breakeven point.

If you have any questions about our finances, or wish to know more about ways you can give to St Marys please contact me at financeteam@stmarys.ewell.com.

Donna Boosey, Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL CHORISTER DAY SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER



To celebrate this year's International Chorister Day, the two choirs of St Mary's, Ewell sang the Parish Eucharist.

The church is almost unique in the diocese in that it is able to run two choirs. They each fulfil a vital role in supporting the services through each month as well as enjoying each other's company and making music.

The Singers operate at the monthly service of Mattins and Baptism on the fourth Sunday and the group is made up of members of the congregation supported by a very few members of the Parish Choir. They perform a vital role of outreach and inclusivity for those who are able to sing a hymn accurately. The Parish Choir is the main choir and, during term time, sing every week at the Sunday morning Eucharist and sing monthly services of Choral Mattins and Choral Evensong. They also sing away at cathedrals a number of times a year utilising their vast repertoire for worship.

Both choirs are robed but could do with more singers especially sopranos and basses. If you might be interested, please contact the Director of Music, Jonathan Holmes on 07825 041427 or meet him at church on a Sunday. Alternatively, check out the church website at www.stmarysewell.com.

A HIGHLAND FLING



The next church dinner organised by our Social Committee will be held in Ewell Hall on Saturday 30 November at 6.30 for 7.00 pm.

Come and join us on St. Andrew's Day for a delicious three course meal with entertainment between courses. The evening will have a Scottish theme.

Tickets cost £15 and are on sale in Church after Sunday morning services,

Our church dinners are always very popular. We regret that we cannot reserve tickets in advance so please buy your tickets early as they sell out very quickly.



ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP

How much do you know about where our energy comes from and who uses the most?

Take the quiz below to find out

Answers at the bottom of the column

1. *What is the most efficient type of light bulb?*
a. Iridescent b. Fluorescent
c. LED d. Halogen
2. *Which of these uses about half the Country's energy production?*
a. Cars and Lorries b. Commercial Buildings
c. Personal Electronic Devices d. Smartphones
3. *What percentage of energy is saved by simple actions such as switching off lights and equipment when not in use?*
a. 0.5% b. 5% c. 10% d. 20%
4. *Global Warming is primarily concerned with the increase of which gas in the atmosphere?*
a. Sulphur Oxide b. Carbon Dioxide
c. Nitrogen d. Helium
5. *What is the primary source of energy on this planet?*
a. Oil b. Food c. Electricity
d. The Sun e. Nuclear Power

Altering our impact on Climate Change can seem overwhelming – but we can all play our part in bringing our relationship with God's creation back into balance. If we all apply the same approach to saving energy and reducing waste, those little things will add up across a village the size of Ewell, "Great acts are made of small deeds" *Lao Tzu*.

Eco Tip for November

That box of unused cables we all have tucked away in case they come in handy can be used to help conserve precious elements we all need to survive in the modern world. It is estimated that cables contain 20% of copper and the unused cables in households across the UK is worth £266m and could provide 30% of copper for our greener needs going forward. These can easily be recycled at the Blenheim Road recycling centre. But, instead of all of us taking the estimated 23 cables each household is hoarding, I have offered to collect them from St. Mary's after the Service on 8 December 2024 and take them all in one trip. There will be a box in the back of the church for your unused cables from 1 December.

Denise Donovan

If you have an ECO tip or would like to join our ECO Group, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with our chairman, Fr. Mark on 020 8393 1297 or vicar@stmarysewell.com.

Quiz answers

1. LED, 2. Commercial Buildings, 3. 10%, 4. Carbon Dioxide, 5. The Sun

NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS ON CHURCH OF ENGLAND'S AMBITION TO REACH NET ZERO CARBON

More than £20 million has been allocated so far to dioceses to help support parishes and schools to reduce their carbon emissions, according to a new report.

The first Net Zero Carbon 2030 Impact Report highlights the impact of the Church of England's Net Zero Programme since it was mobilised last year.

The ambitious programme aims to equip, resource and support all parts of the Church to reduce carbon emissions from the energy used in its buildings and schools and through work-related transport by 2030.

The interactive online report, covering the period from January 2023 to March 2024, reveals:

- £14.5 million projects and grants have been established
- £6.5 million projects funded and grants signed
- 100 retrofit surveys have been completed on clergy and retired clergy houses
- A £2.4 million 'Quick Wins' fund has been launched for dioceses to help parishes with small scale projects such as LED installations, pew heaters or double glazing
- The programme is seeking to support 114 churches to become Demonstrator Churches, with each receiving additional funding and support to be an exemplar church in their region
- A £2 million National Framework for Schools Decarbonisation has been developed for Church of England schools to help secure external grants and deliver net zero projects
- And 4,865 churches are now engaged with conservation charity A Rocha UK's Eco Church scheme, a great starting point for churches helping them begin their eco journey

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, the Church of England's lead Bishop for the Environment, said: "This report illustrates the incredible progress being made to reach the goal set by General Synod to be net zero carbon by 2030.

"This ambition is at the core of the Church of England's response to the climate crisis to help safeguard God's creation and achieve a just world.

IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

It was:

100 years ago, on 2 Nov 1924 that the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express.

65 years ago, on 1 Nov 1959 that the first stretch of the M1 motorway opened in Britain. Britain's first motorway service station also opened at Watford Gap.

50 years ago, on 25 Nov 1974 that South African heart surgeon Dr Christian Barnard performed the world's first double heart transplant. The original heart was left in place and a donor heart was connected to it to support its workload.

30 years ago, on 14 Nov 1994 that the first fare-paying passengers travelled through the Channel Tunnel.

Together at Christmas



Are you alone at Christmas this year?

Come and join us for a traditional festive dinner!



'Churches Together in Ewell'

is pleased to offer a Christmas dinner plus festive activities to all who would otherwise be on their own.

Christmas Day 12:30 - 4:15pm

at a local church.

This offer is open to all Ewell residents.
Transport can be arranged.

No charge

To join us call: 07999 805 475 or
e-mail: christmas.dinner@dsl.pipex.com



All Saints, West Ewell	Oasis at Auriol	Christ Church, Ewell
Epsom Vineyard Church	Ewell URC	Generation Church
Ruxley Church	St Clement's RC	St John's, Stoneleigh
St Mary's, Cuddington	St Mary's, Ewell	St Paul's, Howell Hill
Stoneleigh Baptist	Stoneleigh Methodist	The King's Church, Epsom

TOGETHER AT CHRISTMAS: WE NEED YOU!



We need volunteers for the 'Together at Christmas' lunch. If you are available to give up a few hours of your Christmas Day to make this a great time for those that would otherwise be on their own on this special day we would love to hear from you.

We need people to help at the lunch with washing up, acting as table hosts etc. We also need drivers who are willing to collect people before the meal and/or take them home afterwards. If you can offer your services in any way please contact us by phone on 07999 805475 or via our dedicated email Christmas.dinner@dsl.pipex.com.

Christmas Eve:

at times to be agreed (probably about 5.30 pm)

To decorate the hall and lay the tables at Stoneleigh Baptist Church, The Glade, Stoneleigh, KT17 2HL.

Christmas Day: 12:00 – 17:00

Chef and kitchen helpers, to be part of a small team preparing and serving the meal

Table Hosts, being with a small group of guests – offering them a pre-dinner drink, sitting and looking after them during the lunch, - escorting your guests between church areas and serving them tea - and at the end helping them to collect coats and find their drivers. Final clearing of the hall.

Table Hosts will have a meal with their guests but other volunteers will be offered a meal after their 'shift' is finished.

Servers, 12:15-15:00 being part of a small team serving meals and clearing tables

12:00 – 12:25 Drivers to bring guests in time for 12.30 start

13:00 – 14:15 Wash up (1st Shift)

14:15 – 16:15 Wash up (2nd Shift)

16:00 - Drivers arrive to take guests home at 16.15

16:15 – 17:00 Clearing up final hall clearing

15:15 -16:15 Entertainers, anyone able to help us put together a short 'entertainment' slot as part of our post lunch entertainment programme

Raffle Prizes: we would be grateful for donations of any unwanted items which would make good raffle prizes

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Changes to the Winter Fuel Payments

Are you impacted this Winter?

Are you worried about your energy bills this winter?
Have your Winter Fuel Payments stopped?
You might be eligible to receive benefits.
If not, we can still help you.

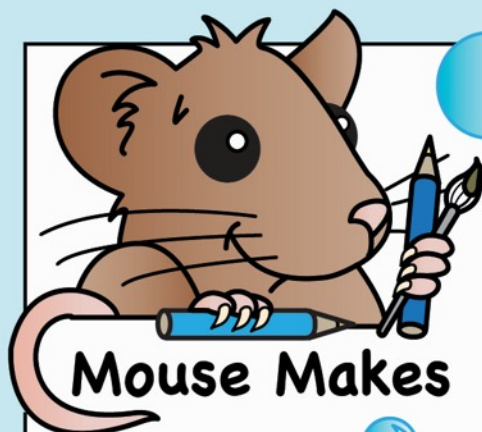
What you should do:

- Check for benefits here: www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support
- Contact us, we can help you check and apply if you are eligible
- If you are not eligible, but are struggling to pay bills, we may be able to help with funds

How to get in touch with us:

Drop in sessions: Mon & Tues 10am – 1pm, Thurs 10am – 3pm
Old Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom KT18 5AG
Call our Adviceline on 0808 278 7963
Visit our website www.cae.org.uk





Mouse Makes



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17

"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.
I have set you an example, that you should
do as I have done for you."*



By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

S C L O T H I N G S
N U N D E R S T A N D T
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C H O S E N F S
F E A S T

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We can raise much more if more people register and shop via www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Please select **St Mary the Virgin Parish Church - Ewell** as your nominated charity and remember to make purchases via the EasyFundraising website.

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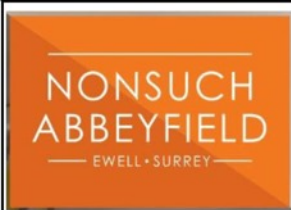
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'...giving to anyone who has need.'

St Mary's is part of the ACTS435 network of Churches. ACTS435 is a Christian online giving charity that anonymously connects those who want to give with those who are in need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. Please visit the web site below to help explain how ACTS435 works or speak to Fr Mark.

www.acts435.org.uk/our-mission/how-we-work/

Calendar for November



Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Thursday and Saturday and shown online (Saturdays will be specifically Prayers for Peace)

- S 02 ALL SOULS' DAY**
1200 Said Requiem Mass
1430-1600 Messy Church Goes Wild
1700 Service of the Word
- S 03 ALL SAINTS' DAY - 4th before Advent**
0800 Said Holy Eucharist 1662 (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Holy Eucharist
- T 05**
1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
1305 Lunchtime Bach Organ Recital
1745-1900 Warm Hub/Conversation Cafe (Hall)
1930 PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
- Th 07**
1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
1545 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 10 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 3rd before ADVENT**
0800 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
From 1015 - Parade to War Memorial: Prayers, Act of Remembrance, The Exhortation, Last Post
1100 and Reveille, wreath laying, Procession to Church for Remembrance Day Service
- T 12**
1000 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
1745-1900 Warm Hub/Conversation Cafe (Hall)
- Th 14**
1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- S 16**
1930 'The Armed Man' - St Mary's Parish Choir
- S 17 2nd before ADVENT**
0800 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Holy Eucharist
1730 Choral Evensong
- T 19**
1000 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
1745-1900 Warm Hub/Conversation Cafe (Hall)
- W 20**
2000 Quiz on Zoom
- Th 21**
1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
1545 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- S 23**
1800 Ewell Community Cinema: 'Bohemian Rhapsody'
- S 24 CHRIST THE KING - 1st before ADVENT**
0800 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Holy Eucharist
1115 Holy Baptism
- T 26**
1000 Said Holy Eucharist (Lady Chapel)
1745-1900 Warm Hub/Conversation Cafe (Hall)
- Th 28**
1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
1305 Advent Organ Recital - Simon Gregory
- S 30**
1830 for 1900 Church Dinner (Hall)

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And finally...

An atheist has no invisible means of support.

People are like tea bags - you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are.