



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 170

August 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 3.30pm on 10th August. Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and then maybe stay on for the piano recital.

Fourth Sunday at Four A service for a summer afternoon

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four Service is on Sunday 25th August at 4.00pm. 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.

Could this be you?

We are very grateful to those who act as sidespersons or "Meeters and Greeters" at our Sunday Services. It is always so very good to see the welcoming smiles of people like Susie, Renuka, Brian, Pat, and others as we come into church. But they need help to continue this vital ministry. If you would like to join them, please contact us on enquiries@stjudeschurch.info or please speak to Claudia or Susie, who will be happy to tell you more about the role.

Piano Recital

Asia Bonuccelli

playing music by JC Bach,
Haydn, Mendelssohn,
Schumann, Rachmaninov

Saturday 10th August

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments

Running with perseverance

As I write, the Paris Olympics are well under way. We wait to see which teams will go home with armfuls of medals, which individuals will be lauded and awarded with honours and who will leave the games this time carrying a burden of disappointment, even of loss. Excitement, joy, tears, relief, exhaustion - every emotion possible seems to play out before us on our TV screens. With steady advances in technology, the margin separating the victors and the vanquished seems to get ever narrower, even sometimes as narrow as two hundredths of a second.

But, along the way, we have heard the testimonies of some of those who have missed out in previous games, who this year have tasted success. And the taste is even sweeter because of what has gone before.

Life teaches us all that we cannot always be winners, even when we are trying our hardest and our best. Neither do we always get things right. But mistakes and disappointments often prove to be the soil from which fresh opportunities and new hopes can grow.

Very recently I came across a poem by the Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai called "The place where we are right". It is a short poem and perhaps already known to you. I just quote a few lines:

*From the place where we are right
flowers will never grow in the spring.*

As a child at school, I was always afraid to raise my hand in class, terrified of looking stupid if I got an answer wrong or asked a foolish question. It took me a very long time to begin to realise that learning often comes from getting things wrong or admitting that we don't understand something. I was a very conventional little girl, fearful of looking out of place, or being judged to be different. I waited a long time to become comfortable in my own skin and to find it far wiser to lift my hand and ask, rather than doggedly pursue my ignorance. So, this poem resonates with me - and I love the promise in the lines which follow:

*But doubts and loves
dig up the world...*

Every time I conduct a wedding, I have the great privilege of reading the beautiful preface to the service, which talks about the meaning of marriage. It refers to Jesus' presence as a guest at a wedding in Cana of Galilee, as recorded in John 2. That wedding, at which Jesus and His mother were both guests, could have ended in disaster when the wine ran out. The bridegroom, who was responsible for making adequate provision for the guests could have been socially disgraced and financially ruined. It was a grievous mistake. But it opened the way for one of Jesus' most memorable miracles, when six stone jars of water were transformed, not simply into an adequate replacement, but into wine of the finest vintage. Reputations were rescued, harmony preserved but, above all, God was glorified – and all because someone got it wrong.

And that story has been told and retold for centuries as a testament to the unfailing compassion and almighty power of a God who still longs to meet us in the place of our doubts and human frailties and create from them something beautiful and meaningful. All of us, like every Olympic athlete, are works in progress! And all of us are invited "to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus" (Hebrews 13:1), whose cross looked like foolishness but transformed the world and is still transforming lives today.

Judith Allford

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us by using easyfundraising.co.uk when buying things through Amazon, John Lewis etc. You have raised £1544.62 (so far) for us through this scheme.

Spick and Span

We are immensely grateful to those who clean our church month by month.

BUT – many hands make lighter work!!!

If you have an hour to spare once a month on a Saturday morning, PLEASE come and join our Team!

We can guarantee fun and friendship as well as the satisfaction of keeping our beautiful church looking good.

Please contact Judith on 01784 434133

Readings at Communion

Sunday 4th August
(10th Sunday after Trinity) Exodus 16.2–4, 9–15
Psalm 78. 23–29
Ephesians 4.1–16
John 6.24–35

Sunday 11th August
(11th Sunday after Trinity) 1 Kings 19. 4–18
Psalm 34.1–8
Ephesians 4.25–5.2
John 6. 35, 41–51

Sunday 18th August
(12th Sunday after Trinity) Proverbs 9.1–6
Psalm 34.9–14
Ephesians 5.15–20
John 6.51–58

Sunday 25th August
(13th Sunday after Trinity) Joshua 24.1–2a, 14–18
Psalm 34.15–end
Ephesians 6.10–20
John 6.56–69

Runnymede Food Bank

Once again this year we have received a lovely "Thank you" card from the Runnymede Foodbank in recognition of the regular donations from St Jude's. Thanks are due to everyone who has given so consistently and generously through another year. We are so grateful to you all and grateful also to Geoff Chew who passes on our donations to the Runnymede Food Bank week by week. Donations of imperishable foodstuffs and other goods can still be left in the crate in the Monsell Room. Thank you all.

From the Registers

Baptism: (21st July) Theo Aidan Terence Hurrell

Wedding: (27th July) Jermaine Aston Mark Williams to
Megumi Esther Howells

Funerals: (3rd July) Christine Margaret Scriven
(19th July) Jean Dorothy Johnson
(24th July) Beverley Jane Cooke

Putting your stamp on it!

A reminder to please keep your donations of used stamps coming. They are put to very good use! Thank you and thank you to Joan who so kindly organises this collection for us.

Diary for August

- 4 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 7 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 10 Saturday Church open 2.00–4.00pm Piano recital 4.00pm
- 11 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 12 Monday 7.00pm Church Council meets
- 14 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 18 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 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 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.

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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This month we have a special message from our Village Centre Team.

As some of you may already know, Andrew Sheer, who, since the opening of the Village Centre, has been our Honorary Treasurer, has indicated his wish to relinquish the role in the very near future. We are immeasurably grateful to Andrew for all his conscientious hard work over the last 14 years or so. We are reluctant to let him go but we need to find a successor for him!

Andrew has kindly helped us to put together a Job Description. We need someone who is in full sympathy with the Christian foundation and ethos of the Centre. He or she needs to be someone with the time available to fulfil the day-to-day requirements of the role. This is of course a voluntary position, but we hope the post-holder would find that regular contact with the Centre, its staff, volunteers and visitors, brings with it a real sense of purpose and reward.

We hope that perhaps someone reading this article may know of someone who could be right for this role and who would be willing to consider it. So – for further information and a Job Description, please contact Ali Griffin, our Centre Manager on 01784 471110. Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you! Please pray with us that the right person will be found.

And...please continue to enjoy our Centre facilities during the summer. Our Café opening hours during the school holidays are 10am–2pm, Monday to Friday. Our over 55s lunch on Mondays at 12noon will continue. There is no charge for lunch, but you will need to book in advance, by lunchtime on Friday please, by calling 01784 471110. The Community Fridge sessions on a Monday and Friday morning, 9am–11am, are also running throughout the summer months.

We are currently taking bookings for our Children's Cooking Class which is taking place on the 8th August, 10.30–12.30. The children will be learning about Brazilian food culture and making some classic dishes well-known to the country. To book, email on communityfridge@villagecentre.org.uk.

For more details about all our activities and for regular news of events, visit our website: or follow our social media accounts (see above). If you have any queries, suggestions, requests for bookings, or if you would like to offer your help to the Village Centre, please contact Ali Griffin, our Centre Manager as above. Thank you!



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



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

Last month we reported that an Ofsted inspection had taken place in our Infant School. Just before the end of term we received the Inspectors' judgment. This article is an extract from the letter sent to parents and carers immediately afterwards by the Co-chairs of our Governing Body, Xavier Brice and Juan Pemberton. They wrote:

"Although the inspectors judged our school as 'Good' on 4 out of 5 aspects, they rated Quality of Education as 'Requires Improvement'. Quality of Education is a 'limiting judgement,' so it means that our overall rating cannot be better than this.

The inspectors recognise much that is positive about our school: our ambitious curriculum, and the nurturing, supportive environment that our dedicated teachers and support staff provide for the children. As the opening paragraph of the report says: *"This is a friendly and welcoming place where pupils are happy and feel safe. The school prides itself on knowing each pupil well. Pupils know they have trusted adults they can speak to if they have any worries. Pupils behave well in lessons and around the school."*

When the inspectors shared their conclusions with us, they were clear that, whilst there has been a lot of improvement over the last 18 months, there is a need to show more progress before we can be rated as Good. The report notes that the school has a plan in place to do this: *"Although it is clear that pupils' achievement is not yet good enough, the school has identified the right priorities and are taking the right actions to tackle them."*

Thank you to everyone – parents, carers and children – who filled in Ofsted's questionnaires. And we are grateful to Vicki Chiverton, the leadership team and the teachers and support staff for their work. It all helped result in, what we feel is, an accurate representation of our school".

Please continue to pray with thanksgiving for both our schools. And please pray for a safe, happy and relaxing summer break for staff, parents and carers, pupils and governors. We can be very proud of you all.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 29th August 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 those who have been bereaved. 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.

Stop Press!!

"The Trumpet and Clarion are now back and available on the Great"! Some of you, like me, may struggle to interpret the precise meaning of this piece of news, but some of you will understand its implications! The trumpet stop on the St Jude's organ has now been at least partially restored, meaning that we can once again revel in the joy of a magnificent piece of music like Jeremiah Clarke's "Trumpet Voluntary".

Those of you who are especially familiar with church organs will know that there is always work remaining to be done. Such a beautiful sensitive instrument needs almost constant attention. But this latest news gives us the opportunity to say "Thank You" to those of you whose generosity has contributed to the latest set of repairs. Thank you also to our organ builder, and to our resident organist, Professor Geoff Chew, for managing the work for us.