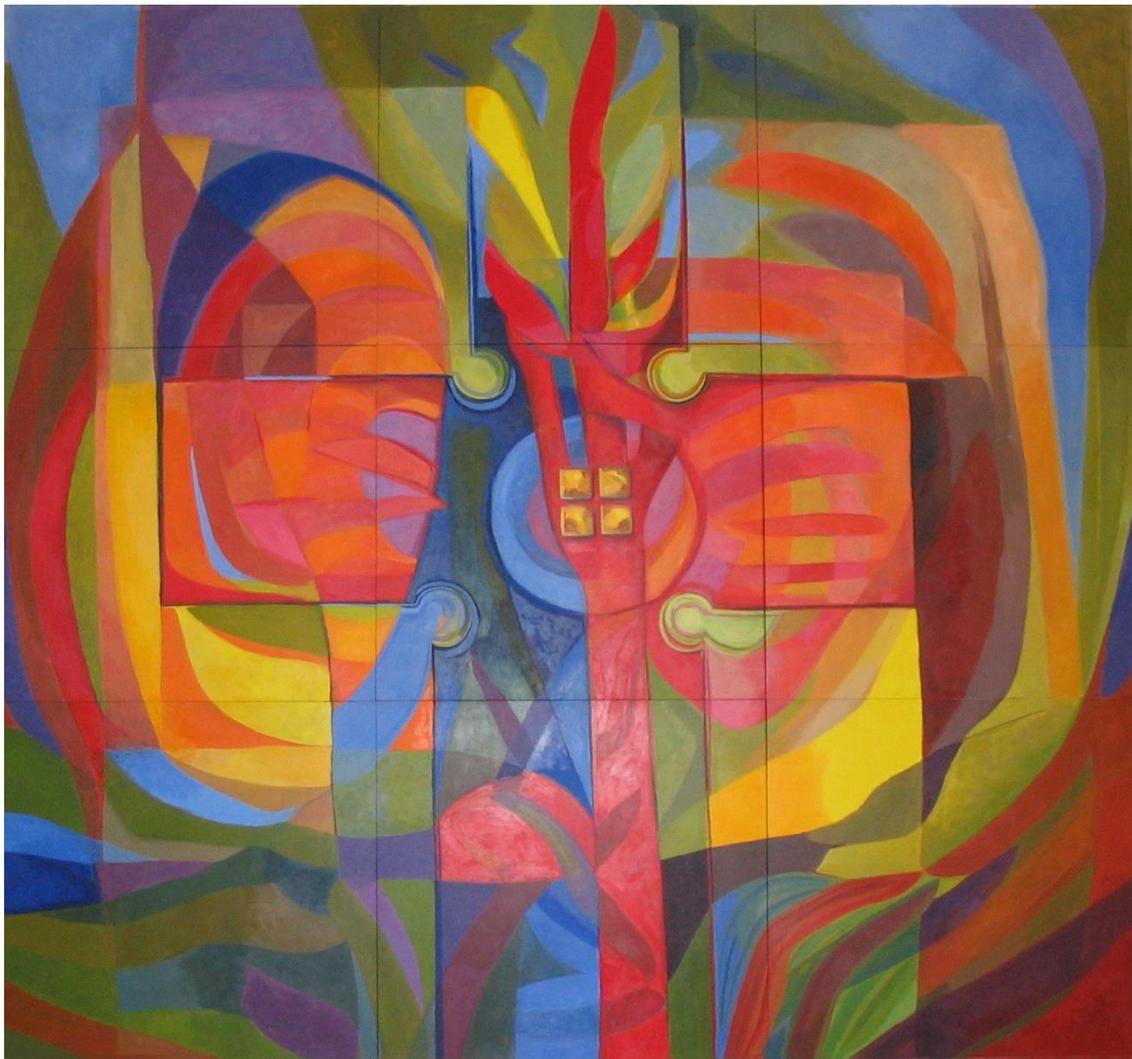


St Barnabas Church
Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8HA

*Parish Information News
Sheet*



March 2020

Events in March:*(Unless stated otherwise services take place at St. Barnabas Church)*

Sunday 1st	8.00am	Holy Communion (St Martin's Church)
	10.15am	All Age Worship
	11.30am	Traditional Holy Communion- Christ Church
Wed. 4 th	8.00pm	Hope into Action: Epsom – (at Methodist Church)
Thursday 5 th	11.00am	Coffee Morning
	12.30pm	Soup Lunch
Friday 6 th	10.30am	World Day of Prayer Service
Sunday 8th	8.00am	Holy Communion (St Martin's Church)
	10.15am	Parish Eucharist
Monday 9 th	10.00am	Knit and Natter (Christ Church)
Sunday 15th	8.00am	Holy Communion (St Martin's Church)
	10.15am	3 on 3
Thursday 19 th	12.30pm	Soup Lunch
Friday 20 th	2.00pm	Knit & Natter – St Barnabas
Sunday 22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion (St Martin's Church)
	10.15am	Mothering Sunday
Monday 23 rd	11.00am	Christ Church Knit & Natter at The Cricketers
	8.00pm	PCC Meeting
Friday 27 th	7.30pm	Quiz

Sunday 29th	8.00am	Holy Communion (St Martin's Church)
	10.15am	Parish Eucharist
Monday 30th	8.00pm	Parish Prayers

Lectionary for March:

Sunday 1st

Matthew 4.1-11

Sunday 8th

Genesis 12.1-4a

John 3.1-17

Sunday 15th

Exodus 17.1-7

John 4.5-42

Sunday 22rd

tbc

Sunday 29th

Ezekiel 37.1-14

John 11.1-45



WARDENS' WORDS:

The English word for Lent derives from the Anglo-Saxon word "Lenten" which means Spring time. It conjures up images of buds bursting, daffodils pushing up through the ground, lengthening days and warmer sunshine and the first cut of grass. Lent is a word filled with promise and hope.

Lent needn't just be a time of "giving up" or "taking on" something, although new helpers are always greatly appreciated at St Barnabas. If we are talking about Spring time, then we could also use the time to reflect on the new life that Lent offers, the wonder of creation and the sheer joy of new beginnings and always the presence of hope.

We are now into our 7th month of the interregnum. But it is an interregnum filled with hope. More and more clergy are experiencing leading worship at St Barnabas, discovering the variety of our worship and how we seek each week to really be in God's presence.

As you know Martin Breadmore, Archdeacon of Dorking, led us in worship in January. He is spending time getting acquainted with the Epsom Deanery and meeting the Clergy, as well as the Clergy outside Epsom Deanery too. He covers a wide area including Runnymede, Woking, Elmbridge, part of Reigate and Banstead and Mole Valley so he is being kept pretty busy as he gets his feet under the table, so to speak.

We don't know what our future holds, but we are fairly certain we will have one, what we offer at St Barnabas is unique to the area and very much valued by the Clergy and others. We know though that, as we have said lots of time before, we cannot afford a full time Vicar, and indeed we would struggle to afford a part time Vicar. This is a sad fact of our Church life, but we have been in a poor financial position and struggling to make ends meet for many years.

As we know the world has moved on, whether we like it or not, and the Diocese is now relying on parish share contributions and having no reserves to make up shortfalls. So what we can afford, becomes more important in this interregnum than ever before.

With a new Archdeacon, especially one who has been appointed because of his wealth of experience in leading on the “Transforming Church, Transforming Lives” agenda, we pray for God to guide those in the Diocese, in particular Martin Breadmore, as those in the Diocese consider our future. We need to ask God for a solution that secures our mission as a Church and helps us to grow our resources, both people and financially.

We all have a responsibility to pray for our future, so please try and join us at this month’s hour-long prayer meeting on 30 March, (8.00pm). When we pray together, God promises to be with us and we know he hears us. Each week we say our interregnum prayer during the service, but can we also take time to say it during the course of our week too? We have a history at St Barnabas of knowing God’s faithfulness to us and that our prayers have been answered.

In case you are not sure what to do for your devotions during Lent then the Bishop of Guildford has a lent challenge focusing on the theme of “Keeping Things Simple”. There are daily reflections to focus on our personal and spiritual wellbeing, in relation to the busy and driven world we live in. To sign up and receive a daily email go to: <http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/lent>.

Traditionally in lent it is the time of personal reflection on our own relationship with God, can we also try and think too about our own place in St Barnabas and what God may be calling us as individuals to do in his Church. Is it perhaps to take on something (reading/intercessions/sidesperson/refreshments, for example), to support something else, or to join with others and to focus on

prayer perhaps? In addition, it may offer the ideal time, especially if you have not revisited it for a while, to look at your own planned giving.

Please don't hesitate to talk to us as you ponder. We always love feedback as we journey through our interregnum together.

Helen and Sarah

Coffee Morning: This month's coffee morning will be Thursday 5th at 11am. Please do join us for a chat.

Soup Lunch: Our Soup Lunches, organised by Viviane, have proved very popular. They continue on 5th and 19th March at 12.30pm. A lovely meal of several different soups, bread, cheese, fruit and cake all for £5.

Knit & Natter: Our next date is Friday 20th at 2pm. Please come along to natter even if you can't knit!!

Christian Aid Week –12 – 18 May 2020 – Looking For A Volunteer – Could It Be You?

Do you feel called to be St Barnabas's coordinator for Christian Aid this year? In the last few years we have not undertaken door to door collections, but we have done an envelope collection amongst the congregation, held a soup lunch, and had a plant and cake sale. Last year we raised £406.

Unless we have a volunteer to coordinate things at St Barnabas then we are unable to participate this year. Please do have a think and see if this is something you could offer to do, and form a team and decide how you may like to fundraise this year. If you are interested then please do speak to the Churchwardens.

Parish Prayers – 30 March

At February parish prayers, we used 2 readings set for the first Sunday of Lent to direct our prayers for St Barnabas. These were Psalm 32 and Romans 5, 12-19. We found the psalm especially helpful and prayed about repentance and seeking God's direction for St Barnabas during Lent. There were 4 people in attendance, approximately 10% of our regular congregation. The next parish prayer meeting will be on Monday 30th March, 8.00-9.00pm. It would be great to see you there.

Events and Services for Lent

As in previous years during Lent the congregation is warmly invited to services that are being held within the Epsom Ministry.

We will not be “hosting” any Lent or Holy Week services but we will of course be having our normal service on Easter Day at 10.15am.

Lent Courses at St Martin’s:

1. A series of lectures in the evenings at 7.30pm in church on the following days:

Monday 2nd March, Tuesday 10 March, Tuesday 17 March and Monday 23 March

2. Lent study group and lunch on Wednesdays, following mid-morning communion from Wednesday 4 March to Wednesday 1 April as follows:-

10.30am Communion

11.15am Coffee

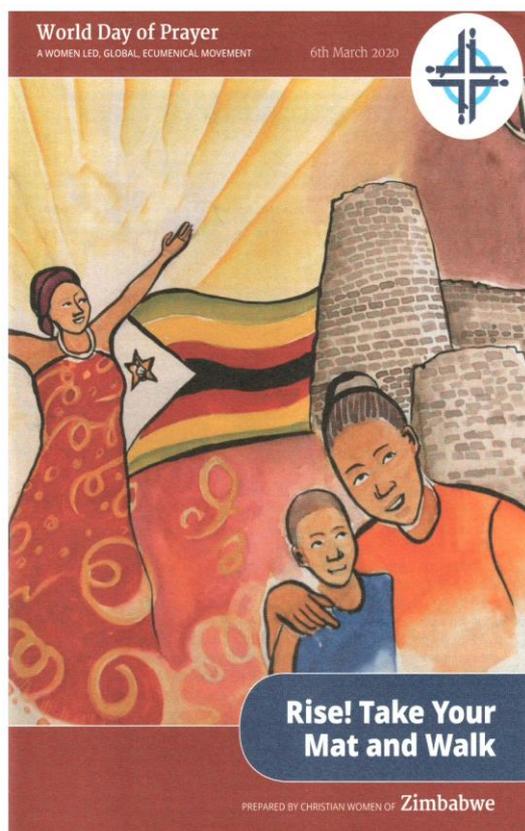
11.45am Study

1.00pm Lunch (In Church House)

Hope into Action: Epsom 'Evening for Investors':

Hope into Action: Epsom is now an official franchise of Hope into Action: UK. and are now able to take further concrete steps towards opening the first Epsom-based house for homeless and vulnerably housed people. To find out more about the progress of our Hope into Action project and the ways in which you can get involved, please come to our 'Evening for Investors' on March 4th 8pm at Epsom Methodist Church. This event will have a particular emphasis on investing financially into the purchase of a house - we will get into the detail of how that works for the investor and how it helps to support the project. We are very pleased that Hope into Action's Regional Advisor, Nigel Goodenough, will be joining us. Nigel has opened two houses in Mid-Sussex with two more due to open very shortly. He brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise. For more details, please contact Chris Shaw at: chris.shaw@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk

World Day of Prayer: 10.30am Friday, 6th March.



This is an annual service held in towns and cities worldwide. This year's service is prepared by the women of Zimbabwe and will be held at St Barnabas. It is always a very moving service and introduces us to the lives of women, sometimes very different to our own. The Mayor & Mayoress of Epsom & Ewell will be attending and we ask you to show your support for the women of Zimbabwe. We are also looking for volunteers to help with refreshments, collections, etc. Please speak to Kathy or Ruth if you are able to help.

Fund Raising and Social Events in 2020:

JOIN US ON FRIDAY 27 MARCH FOR A QUIZ

We are fundraising for new metal supports for our lovely church grand piano. We are never able to just move the piano, as its existing wooden legs are fragile, they always have been!

We have been wanting metal supports to enable us and lots of others to easily move the piano, so we are fundraising to buy these supports. But we want to have some fun, so we will be holding a quiz in the Church, on Friday 27 March at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £12 and include a fish and chip supper. Non alcoholic soft drinks will be available on the night, but feel free to bring a bottle of wine or beer if you prefer! Prizes for the winners!

Please invite your family and friends to join us, teams with a maximum of 6 people, either come as a team or join up with other folk on the night. It promises to be a fun evening!

Tickets can be bought direct via PayPal on the website.....<https://stbarnabas-epsom.org.uk/quiz/> or from the Office.

Further fundraising events during the year will include:

Derby Cream Tea:	Saturday 6 th June
Epsom Male Voice Choir Concert:	Friday 26 th June
Barn Dance:	Saturday, 24 th October

Good Friday Easter Celebration – CTiE:

We would love for you to join us on Good Friday as we mark and celebrate the story of Easter in Epsom Town Centre with a Palm Sunday Parade (including live donkey!), songs, hot cross buns, and the Experience Easter Reflection Space by Spinnaker. Please help us to share the message of Easter with our community. See event poster for details of the many ways you can get involved.

The Good Friday Easter Celebration is being run by Churches Together in Epsom and Ewell and Spinnaker Epsom and Ewell. For enquiries, please contact:

chris.shaw@epsommethodistchurch.org.uk or
cathy.ellis@spinnaker.org.uk



BIRTHDAYS

3 rd	Marion Harris
8 th	Craig Mey
20 th	Travis Mey
24 th	PJ Jansen

Parish Prayer Chain: *Together We Can Make a Difference*

Please sign up to prayer triplets – list in the narthex.

Sick List: We pray for Nigel, David, Penny, Julie, Vanessa, Eileen Lamble, , Nigel Purton, Eileen, Jeff, Andrew, Mandy, Caroline Wareham.

There is a new list in reception if you would like to add anyone's name.

Christian Aid Week – 12 – 18 May 2020 – Looking For A Volunteer – Could It Be You?

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Recycling the “non-recyclable”

Every year, countless pieces of waste end up in landfill sites or incinerators across the UK because most local authorities don't recycle them. We can work with a company called TerraCycle, which operates across 20 different countries, and can collect and

recycle almost any form of waste, from coffee capsules to pens or plastic gloves. We can help to end this enormous loss of resources and protect the environment by starting to collect crisp packets through the Crisp Packet Recycling Scheme. St Barnabas now has a collection box for any brand of crisp packet, plus multipacks from which we just ask to have crumbs removed.

CORONAVIRUS

As we are only too aware, on a daily basis, Coronavirus is becoming of increasing concern worldwide. The Diocese has issued the following guidance and stated that they feel there is no need, based on Department of Health advice, to suspend the Chalice or Sign of Peace.

The advice and guidance around receiving communion, is the same for Coronavirus and is generally applicable for all infectious diseases, i.e. the common cold.

The Diocese reminds us of the fact that it is Anglican teaching that to receive the sacrament in one kind only (i.e. just the bread) is to receive the sacrament in its entirety. Should a communicant feel ill or not wish to drink from the chalice then he or she ought to receive the consecrated bread alone.

We will have hand sanitisers available at the back of the Church, if you would like at anytime to use it. In addition for Clergy and for Servers there will be a hand sanitiser on the altar and on the Credence table (where the bread and wine is kept) for Servers to use as part of their standard preparation.

Any concerns you may have them please bring them to the Churchwardens attention.

Readers and Intcessors: We are still looking for intercessors on 8 and 22 March. The list is in reception and we would be grateful if you could sign up. Thank you.

TIME FOR ALAUGH

Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

At work we have a printer nicknamed Bob Marley – it's always jamming.

You can tell an ant's gender by putting it in water. If it sinks, girl ant. If it floats, buoyant.

I've just burnt my Hawaiian pizza. I should have put it on aloha temperature.

What did the drummer call his daughters? Anna 1, Anna 2, Anna 3.

I'll never date another apostrophe. The last one was too possessive.

Church Notices that didn't get it quite right:

Mrs. Thomas wishes to thank all those members who so kindly assisted in the death of her husband.

Children are usually collected during the offertory hymn.

The talk next Tuesday will be "What is Hell". Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Tuesday at 4pm there will be an ice cream social. Ladies giving milk should come early.

Due to the present financial situation, the light at the end of the tunnel will be turned off at weekends.

Parish Contacts:

Office: Ruth Mey (Thursdays)
Hilary Batt (Fridays)
Email: stbarnabasepsomoffice@gmail.com
Phone: **01372 417813**

Parish Priest: Vacancy

Churchwardens: Sarah Ford
Helen Dyke

Email: churchwardens.stbarnabasepsom@gmail.com

Parish Treasurer: PJ Jansen

Safeguarding Rep for

Children & Vulnerable Adults: Sarah Ford

Deanery Synod Rep: Sarah Ford

Electoral Officer: John King

Stewardship Rep: Isobel Johnson

CTiE Rep: Janet Roberts

Church Website:[**stbarnabasepsom.org.uk**](http://stbarnabasepsom.org.uk)

Parish Church Council:

Kathy Appleyard	Hilary Batt
Helen Dyke	Sarah Ford
Wendy Hurst	PJ Jansen
Ruth Mey	Craig Mey
Frank Sinnock	Muriel Stafford

Clubs and Organisations at St. Barnabas Pastoral Support

Love Me Love My Mind: Various meetings throughout the year with *Epsom Mental Health Week* in October.

Drop-In: Mondays from 4.00 – 7pm(*meal and activities*)

Let's Talk Epsom: Support group for people dealing with depression and anxiety issues. Run by *Love Me Love My Mind*.
Wednesdays 7:30pm

KITES Club: Social and support group for adults with learning disabilities and their friends. Every Thursday from 5pm – 8.00 pm.

The Brigitte Trust: support for people with life-changing illnesses. Meets 2nd Tuesday on alternate months at 7.00pm.

The Meeting Room: Lunch for all. Wednesdays 11.30am – 2.30pm.

Children's Groups and Activities

NCT Toddlers Group: Friday mornings 9.30 – 11.30am *in term time*.

Jo Jingles: Toddlers' group Tuesday 9.30 – 12 noon and Thursdays 9.30 – 12.15pm *in term time*.

Rainbows: Tuesdays at 4.15pm *in term time*.

Brownies: Wednesdays at 5.45pm *in term time*.

Social Groups

Epsom Gardening Society: 3rd Monday at 7.30pm (*except January, February and August*)

Epsom WI: 2nd Tuesday at 7.30pm (*except August*).

A Prayer for our Interregnum

Loving God, as we journey together through this period of Interregnum, we thank you for your everlasting faithfulness to us.

At this time of uncertainty and change we ask that you send us your Holy Spirit, to fill us with your vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer.

We ask that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need and have courage to face our future and embrace the unknown, with praise in our hearts, in loving obedience to you.

Amen.

