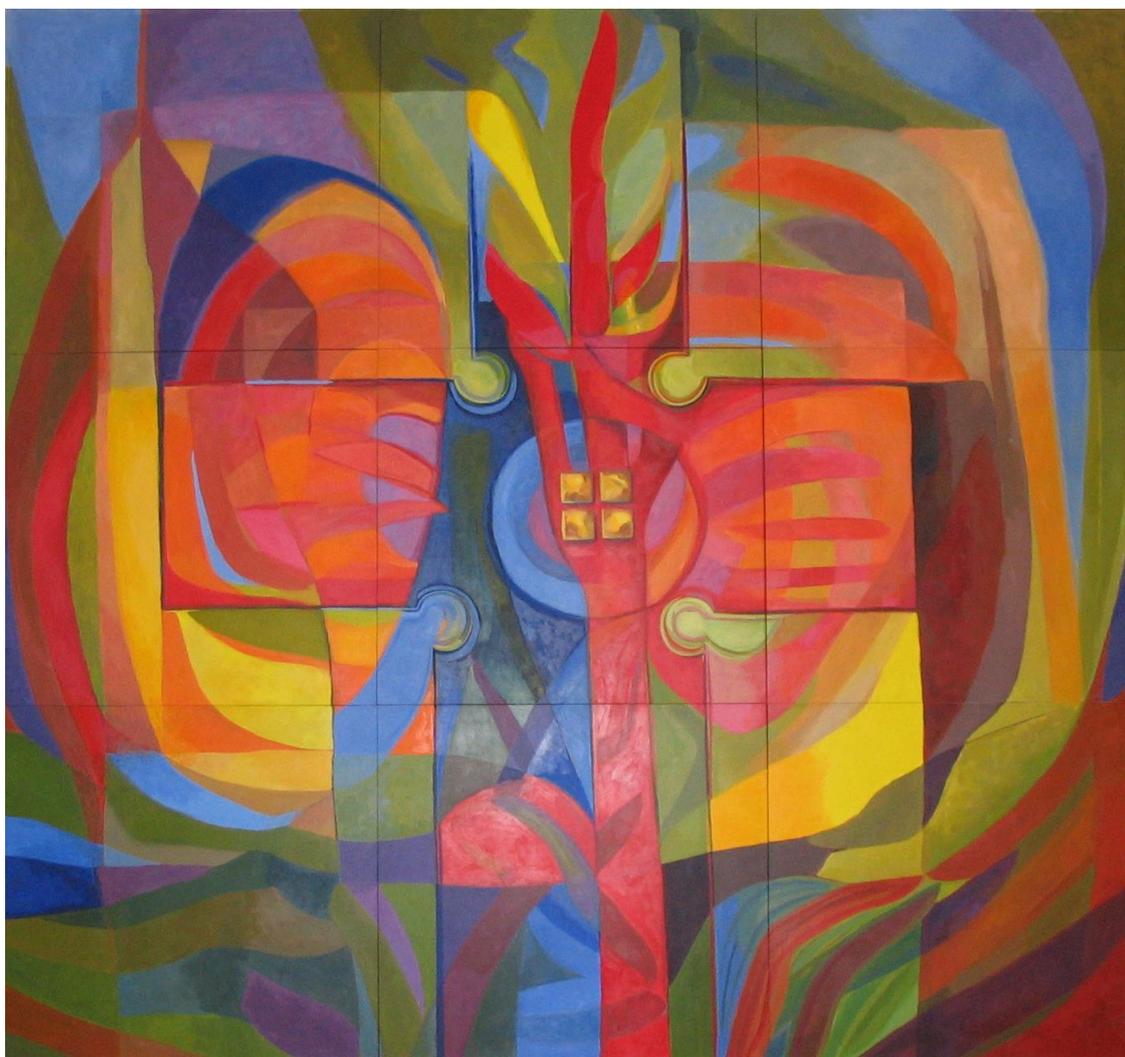


**St Barnabas Church**  
**Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8HA**

*Parish Information News  
Sheet*



***July 2019***

## Events in July

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Coffee Morning
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b> <b>10.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>All Age Eucharist</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b> <b>10.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion

Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Knit & Natter/ Re-upholstering chairs
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b> <b>10.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>3 on 3</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8.00am</b> <b>10.15am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> <b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion

## ***Message from the Vicar's desk:***

**This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. ‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace and prosperity,’ declares the Lord Almighty.’ *Haggai 2:6-9***

I am someone running out of time. There are so many things yet to do and even more to talk about before I move to Old Malden. One of the things that I have long wanted to open the discussion on has been the famous Haggai passage that hangs in the Atrium. It is perfect sermon territory but wouldn't appear until 10<sup>th</sup> November which we are keeping, along with the rest of the Church of England, as Remembrance Sunday instead. Rather than wait another three years and pop back, I thought I would share my thoughts now.

Haggai was a prophet writing to the small band who had returned to Jerusalem after the Exile to Babylon. They were the very first group and found an almost impossible situation. The Temple had been entirely destroyed, the city almost uninhabitable. Zerubbabel, a grandson of a king of Judah and now appointed governor by the victorious Persians, was intent on restoring the Temple. He was overwhelmed by the task and on the verge of giving up. In comes Haggai with his message from God that the “glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house”, all that was required was to start building, it would happen. And it did happen, to a degree. The Temple built was a shadow of Solomon's until the Maccabees and, more importantly, King Herod, rebuilt the lot. The Ark of the Covenant and Ten

Commandments were forever lost, and the Divine Presence that had dazzled Solomon and the crowds, didn't take up residence again. But what had been accomplished was that the people, once defeated, demoralised, and God-forsaken, had finally given up their idols and returned to serve the Living God, the God of their ancestors. God's house now united the nation giving shape to Judaism as we know it today.

I can fully appreciate and understand how, at evening prayer this reading set Fr. Michael and Sue's hearts on fire with hope for the future. You can't read it without seeing the possibilities that God is offering. And because of that fateful evening, everything has flowed from it that has transformed the life and mission of St. Barnabas. It has changed us all for the better. The problem is, as I see it, is how we use it today.

It's from the time before the reordering of the sanctuary and the building works. It feels out of date and speaks of a competition to outdo the St. Barnabas of the past, as if the blessings we have been given aren't really enough and we expect, nay demand, more. St. Barnabas may never see the numbers our forebearers knew as people came from across east Surrey and south London to worship here in a particular style and tradition. Those days are gone. But my greater concern is what does it say about us, what we feel is important, what matters, as it hangs so prominently in the Atrium and rather reads like a Mission Statement. What do all the parents waiting to pick up the Rainbows and Brownies, the Garden Society, Sunnybank, and Mental Health Week visitors take from it when it speaks of "the silver is mine and the gold is mine" and "and I will fill this house with glory", quite a few of whom never get beyond the Atrium or worship with us. "They just care about money!" and "what is glory?", more Church language the wider world just doesn't understand like we do. My question is, "What impression are we making" without even being aware of it? As a Church we struggle everyday with a lack of money and being fewer in numbers than the Diocese

would like us to be. Haggai inspires us, but has it set an agenda at odds with our vocation if money and numbers is what success looks like.

Jesus said, “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”. In one of the early persecutions of the early Church under the Romans, St. Lawrence was arrested and told to hand over all the treasures of his local church. He presented the poor, the sick, the orphans and widows to the authorities and said that they were the treasures of the Church. He was promptly executed, but he made his point. With his example in mind, we all know who our “treasures” at St. Barnabas are. We know that, far more important than gold or silver, more lasting than glory itself, is the love that can and often does flow in and through and out of this building. It comes from our hearts, but gathers strength and purpose whenever we join together to serve the most vulnerable in our society. This won’t change the balance sheet and Archdeacons and Bishops may not get it, but we have taken the higher road, though my own personal journey now has to take an unlooked for detour because I cannot satisfy the demands for silver and gold demanded by others.

My own ministry Mission Statement has always been the Parable of the Mustard Seed. I have lived it out in many places. The lovely picture in the children’s corner about the Mustard Seed speaks far more eloquently to me than Haggai ever will about what St. Barnabas is and strives to be. I hope I’ve given you pause for thought, even if you disagree, and maybe made you begin to think what we really ought to be saying about ourselves to visitors waiting for Rainbows to finish on a Tuesday afternoon.

Michael

**Bobby:** On 31<sup>st</sup> May we gathered together to celebrate the life of Bobby Lawrence. It was one of the largest funerals ever held at this church – a testament to how well loved she was. The service was led by Michael, eulogy by Sue and Anna played piano.



### **Derby Cream Tea:**

Over 40 people supported our cream tea and we enjoyed sandwiches, scones and cakes and a glass of Prosecco before adjourning to the roadside to wave to the Queen as she drove by. We raised £319.40. Thank you to everyone who supported it.





**Patronal Sunday:** This year's Patronal Sunday was on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Michael Preston, our former vicar, preached and also joined us for lunch afterwards.



**Christian Aid:** Thank you to all those who donated plants, cakes and money to Christian Aid and to the helpers on each Sunday. We raised £377.60 which beat the £300 that Christian Aid had asked each church to raise.

**Welcome:** We welcome our youngest member – Forrest. A son for Holly and a brother for Poppy.

We also welcome Martin back, together with his partner Polly and her daughter Vivian.

**Music for Services:** If you have any new songs that you would like us to learn, then please let Anna or Sarah know so they can include them in our early Worship or when choosing the music for the service. In addition, is there a song that we have not sung for a while that you would like us to sing, then please add it to the list in reception.

**Readers and Intercessors:** The July-September list is in the narthex and is looking very empty!!! Please sign up if you are able to assist. It would be really lovely if people could come forward to take intercession, maybe you may consider doing this with someone else, please speak to Michael if you are uncertain about what is involved. Thank you.

**Deanery Synod Representative and Churches Together in Epsom Rep:** We have vacancies for both these posts and would be grateful if anyone who is interested contact either Father Michael or Janet Roberts for further information.



2 <sup>nd</sup>	Joseph Dyke
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Marlene Mey and Margaret Hindmarsh
8 <sup>th</sup>	Graham Lawrence
17 <sup>th</sup>	Helen Dyke

**BIRTHDAYS**

**Knit & Natter:** Our next date is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm. We will also include upholstering of the church chair seats in future get-togethers. At the last meeting we only managed to cover two seats so it is going to take some time. Please try to come along to help.

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 Ford, Eddie (gardener), Leslie, Eileen Lamble, Caroline and family, Liz and family, baby Jimmy, Vanessa and family, Clare B and family, Trina.

### **Churches in Epsom:**

**Knit and Natter News:** Great news for all crafters, Christchurch are starting a monthly Knit and Natter group, so if you can't attend our group or would like another opportunity to relax with like-minded crafters, this could be perfect for you. The group will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of every month in the Upper Hall, Christchurch. The session times are 10.00-1.00 and the group will run on a drop in basis. The next date is 8th July. Please contact Helen Dyke for more information.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

21 <sup>st</sup> September	7.30-10.30pm	Barn Dance
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	10.15am	Harvest Festival
5-12 October	Epsom Mental Health Week	
5 <sup>th</sup> December	10am-3pm	Start of Christmas Tree Festival
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Craft Fair 10am – 2pm	Dinner and Cabaret 7.30pm – 10.30pm

# LAST LAUGH

A man rushed into a busy doctor's surgery and shouted, "Doctor! I think I'm shrinking" The doctor calmly responded, "Now settle down. You'll just have to be a little patient."

One day, a cowboy rode into a Wild, Wild West town. The people in the town love to play jokes on visitors.

After tying his horse to the pole outside a bar, the cowboy went in. "A cup of milk please" he said to the bartender. After drinking, he went out, only to find his horse missing.

Knowing that the villagers did it, he went back into the bar and said to everybody, "I am going to have another drink and when I finish it, I want to see my horse outside! Or else, I will have to do what I did in Texas – HERE!"

The people were very frightened. When he finished his drink, he went outside and saw his horse. The villagers had put it back. Curious, the bartender asked the cowboy, "What did you do in Texas?"

The cowboy replied, "Well, I had to walk home."

*Sign on company bulletins board:*

This firm requires no physical fitness programme. Everyone gets enough exercise jumping to conclusions, flying off the handle, running down the boss, flogging dead horses, knifing friends in the back, dodging responsibility and pushing their luck.

A helicopter carrying passengers suddenly loses engine power and the aircraft begins to descend.

The pilot safely performs an emergency landing in water, and tells the passengers to remain seated and to keep the doors closed, stating that in emergency situations, the aircraft is

designed to stay afloat for 30 minutes, giving rescuers time to get to them. Just then a man gets out of his seat and runs over to open the door.

The pilot screams at him, “Didn’t you hear what I said, the aircraft is designed to stay afloat as long as the doors remain closed?!”

“Of course I heard you”, the man replied, “but it’s also designed to fly and look how good that one worked out!”

Wrath of God: A preacher decides to skip Sunday services and go to the golf course to hit a few.....

When he gets there, he discovers there isn’t anybody else around and he has the entire course to himself.

But he does have witnesses.... It seems God and Jesus are keeping an eye on him and they don’t approve of his church hooky-playing.

“Look at that guy,” Jesus says, “He should be in church instead of out there. Come on Dad; let me hit him with a lightning bolt or something.”

“No,” God says, “I’ve something else in mind for him. Watch what happens when he makes his next shot.”

He sets up a ball, drives it off the tee – it sails 200 yards and lands squarely in the hole.

“What kind of punishment is that, Dad?!” Jesus yells, “That has to be one of the greatest golf shots in history!”

“That’s right, son, indeed it is and because he’s alone, he can’t tell anyone about it.”

## Parish Contacts:

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Michael Roper (*day off: Friday*)  
Tel: 01372 722874  
email: [gore\\_lodge@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gore_lodge@yahoo.co.uk)

**Churchwardens:** Sarah Ford  
Helen Dyke

**Parish Treasurer:** PJ Jansen

### **Safeguarding Rep for**

**Children & Vulnerable Adults:** Deborah Kind

**Deanery Synod Rep:** Vacancy

**Electoral Officer:** Anne Baxter

**Stewardship Rep:** Isobel Johnson

**Children's Ministry Leader:** Helen Dyke

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

### **Parish Church Council:**

Fr. Michael Roper (*Chair*)

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*) and **Wednesday mornings** at 10.00am for coffee.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 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:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7.30pm (*except January, February and August*)

**Epsom WI:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7.30pm (*except August*).

## **Special prayer for our church**

Ever faithful God, you alone hold all time and eternity in your hands; help us to trust in you as we look to the future; give us courage, strength and faithfulness to listen to your voice and do your will, that all of us at St Barnabas may grow in faith, hope and love. As we journey on together, deepen our faith, that as your disciples at work in Epsom and beyond, we may bring others to the dazzling brightness of your light and knowledge of your love, so that all your children may experience the joy of your presence in all our lives, today, tomorrow and forever, in Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

