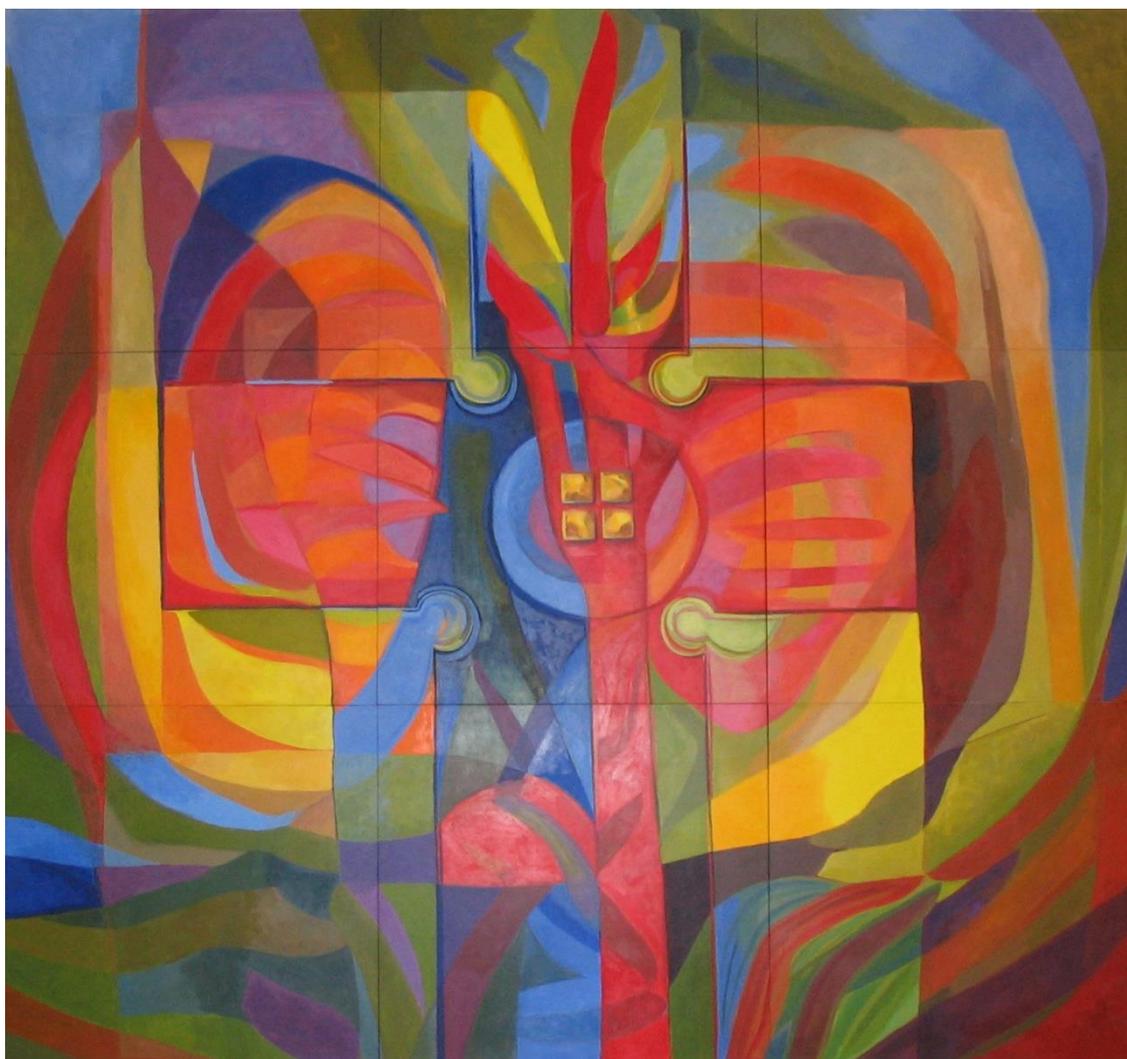


St Barnabas Church

Temple Road, Epsom KT19 8HA

*Parish Information News
Sheet*



August 2019

Events in August

Thurs 1 st	11.00am	Coffee Morning
Saturday 3 rd	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 4th	8.00am 10.15am	Holy Communion All Age Eucharist
Monday 5 th	9.00am 8.00pm	Morning Prayer Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 6 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 7 th	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thurs 8 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 10 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 11th	8.00am 10.15am	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist
Monday 12 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 13 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 14 th	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thurs 15 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Friday 16 th	2.00pm	Knit & Natter/ Re-upholstering chairs
Saturday 17 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer

Sunday 18th	8.00am 10.15am	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist
Monday 19 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 20 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday 21 st	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thursday 22 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Saturday 24 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 25 th	8.00am 10.15am	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist (Michael's last Sunday)

As we will be in an interregnum, future weekday services at the time of going to press are yet to be decided.

Monday 26th Bank Holiday

Tuesday 27th

Wednesday 28th

Thursday 29th

Saturday 31st

From the Vicar's desk:

Earlier this summer there was a surprise in the Vicarage garden. In three or four different places several large pale green plants appeared that had not been there before. At first I thought they might be weeds, but something told me to wait and see what they turned out to be. Week by week I watched as they grew taller and taller, looking more and more out of place against the roses. Still I held back and did not pull them up. Then suddenly, one day, the buds opened to reveal large pink poppies with dark purple centres. I don't know where they came from and I hadn't planted any poppy seeds at all. Now, at the end of July they still stand tall with seed heads ready for autumn to start the cycle all over again. A surprise and a very pleasant one at that.

On the 31st of May we gathered to celebrate the life of Bobby Lawrence. We all know what a wonderful presence Bobby was at St. Barnabas and our loss is Heaven's gain, but what did surprise me, though it shouldn't have, were all the people who came to church to pay their respects to this remarkable lady. Over 400 all told. People from all the different parts of Bobby's life drawn together by the light she brought to our lives and the love she shared. The surprise for me was actually how many people from the Longmead were here, many not having been here since before their parish church was reordered years ago. The community we want to connect with were here and they were here because of Bobby.

I spoke to a clergyman I didn't recognise after the service. He was Fr. Michael Godwin and had been vicar here from 1966 until 1985. He told me how he'd first met Bobby as he visited the Longmead, then a new estate, and how she became his indispensable sidekick engaging the estate and wider community. Bobby had a gift for people and she used that gift to great effect for the good of the Gospel and St. Barnabas. When I came to Epsom, Bobby was keen to renew our outreach to the Longmead. We toured the estate and she took me for the first time to the Community Centre for lunch introducing me as "our new American vicar" to everybody we met. It wasn't enough

for me to leave the estate to the Kings Church, though they do good work there. I wanted to serve that area especially as it so often is at the bottom of the list of priorities in the grand scheme of things, and estate ministry is amongst the most rewarding. Since those early days christening and funeral visits have opened doors. I always get a welcome as I walk round the estate and pray the various streets, stopping to chat and listen to whatever people feel called to share. There is no hostility towards the Church or St. Barnabas in particular, rather a sense of disconnection, physically and mentally, between our pleasant bit of “posh” Temple Road and the challenges of living out on a limb in a deprived neighbourhood, almost forgotten by Epsom’s comfortable middle classes. Life can be hard and the comfort and support the Church offers can feel so far away and unobtainable. Thankfully through Drop-in and a few members of the congregation living on the Longmead, there are still connections, and these may yet bear fruit.

St. Barnabas’ mission has always been to serve the people who live in our parish community. We have done this in various ways over the century we’ve been here. Our parish was built to serve the workers in the hospitals round about. Today in many places we’re likely to see an Audi or a Mercedes parked in front of what was once a two up two down, as house prices have risen and Epsom remains a most desirable place to live. Our link to Love Me Love My Mind has opened a door to connect with the community, but as things continue to change around us we need to find new ways to continue connecting with the wider community if St. Barnabas is to have a future. As we build community we will keep attracting others by our inclusivity and welcome. This will continue growing and developing, and everyone has their part to play as God works out his purposes for Epsom.

My last official act here will be to bury Bobby’s ashes in our Garden of Remembrance over the August Bank holiday weekend. It feels perfectly appropriate and a very great honour, especially as Bobby was the first to welcome me with opened

arms long before I was “official” that December day we met on the platform at Epsom Station. Like Bobby, we too have planted seeds that may yet spring up into new life growing in the light of God’s love. Below the surface out there in the community lie many things waiting to emerge from the darkness, and we have the great privilege to watch over and tend them so that others may share our joy as God’s children in this place. *Michael*

Accounts For 2018: Just to let you know that we are pleased to report that these are now being independently audited and verified. When they have been signed off there will be an opportunity after a service in September, for copies to be available and any questions you may have to be answered.

Safeguarding At St. Barnabas: As you will be only too aware, in the last few years safeguarding has been a matter of considerable concern everywhere. We, at St. Barnabas, have made sure that we have appropriate reporting systems and that the correct procedures are in place. We are greatly indebted to our Safeguarding Officer, Deborah Kind who has worked hard to ensure that at all times we are compliant. Deborah has though decided that the time is right for her to step down from this work and the PCC have placed on record their thanks to Deborah.

***Sarah Ford** has therefore been appointed by the PCC to be our **Safeguarding Officer**. So please don't hesitate to contact Sarah if you have any concerns that you would like to discuss or report.*

Building Maintenance – Reporting: As you will know we have a Building Maintenance Committee which looks after the fabric and maintenance of the Church. We are going through all the detailed information following on from the Quinquennial inspection and other maintenance matters that we would like to deal with too. Every item, however small, is now listed on a spreadsheet that has been created for us by Ivan Hurst. Under his guidance we now have an all singing and all dancing spreadsheet! It tells us about outstanding work, when reported, how it is being dealt with, what the Building Maintenance Committee has decided to do, then follows through to who has repaired it and how much it cost.

Through Ivan's hard work we now have one document which helps us to manage looking after the Church more easily, and also far more efficiently. We are very grateful to Ivan for this.

Church Clean Up: We had a good turn-out on Saturday 29th June, including 2 people from the Brazilian church - they did sweeping inside and out and also took the broom up under the eaves on the front of the extension. Craig painted the woodwork in the 2 end toilets and Michael touched up the walls in the hall. Helen cleaned out the fridge and, with Ruth, emptied the shed (wowsers!). Michael also oversaw the storing of the mural in his garage. Vivian came late but stayed after everyone else had gone, working outside in the shade. Hilary tackled the cobwebs everywhere, Kathy cleaned the stairs up to the gallery and Janet hoovered the carpet by the painting. Muriel sorted out the cutlery and the kitchen drawers as well as getting tea and coffee ready for break time. Poppy also came - she did some outside sweeping too.

There is now a pile of rejects along where the bins usually reside and if you can help with taking some away in your car to the tip we would be very grateful.

Charity Giving: Earlier this year we gave you details of our charity giving each year. We nominate five charities – two at home and three abroad. We now need your nominations by the end of August so that the PCC can finalise this at the September meeting.

Garden: Have you noticed how well our garden is looking at the moment? Very many thanks to our gardening team whose work is never ending.

Roof Repairs: We have had a very expensive time with repairs to the roof – it has cost over £6,000 and hopefully will last for another 100 years! The Building & Maintenance Team are working their way through the recommendations from the Quinquennial inspection - there is a lot still to be done. Please pray for the work and also the money to fund it.

Knit & Natter: Our next date is Friday 16th August at 2pm. We will also continue upholstering the church chair seats in future get-togethers. Please try to come along to help.

Baptisms: In July we baptised:

Henry James Tomkins Dorrell and Bentley Joshua Winsall. May these children grow in strength, wisdom and love in Jesus' name.

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 on the intercessor side!!! 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.



1st
3rd
12th

Ruth Mey
Michael Roper
Susie Marter

BIRTHDAYS

Prayer Meeting: Monday 5th August at 8pm. A time to sit and pray either silently or aloud. Please do come along – and leave enriched and heartened.

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, Vanessa and family, Clare B and family, Trina, Penny Spring.

Barn Dance: Tickets are now on sale for our Barn Dance on Saturday 21st September – at £10 each. Limited tickets available so please book early

Macmillan Coffee Morning: Will be held at St Barnabas on Thursday 3rd October at 10.30am. Please add this to your diary and invite friends and relatives along. We hope to have the Mayor of Epsom in attendance.

Churches in Epsom:

Knit and Natter News: Christchurch's monthly Knit and Natter is on 12th August 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.

Dates for your Diary:

21 st September	7.30pm	Barn Dance
22 nd September	10.15am	Harvest Festival
5-12 October		Epsom Mental Health Week
7 th December	7.30pm	Dinner and Cabaret

LAST LAUGH

Want to be happy? Switch on the radio: If you want to feel positive and far more energetic, listen to the radio. A recent survey has found that our mood and energy levels soar when we tune in. By contrast, watching TV and browsing the internet, while also raising happiness and energy levels, come nowhere near what radio can do for you. It seems that simply listening to media, as opposed to also watching it, stimulates very positive brain engagement levels.

Can't get up in the mornings? A cure:

A mousetrap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you press the stop button!

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics with the same complaint. Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The **FIRST** patient is examined within the hour, is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The **SECOND** sees his family doctor after waiting 3 weeks for an appointment, waits 8 weeks to see a specialist, then get an x-ray, which isn't reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for 6 months from then.

Why the different treatment for the two patients?

The **FIRST** is a Golden Retriever.

The **SECOND** is a Senior Citizen.

Next time take me to a vet!

Said Hamlet to Ophelia,

I'll draw a sketch of thee,

What kind of pencil shall I use?

2B or not 2B

Glass: The two window panes were arguing as to which one was made of the better glass. One said to the other, “Well, you may think you are a better glass, but I know what you are trying to prove. Believe me, I can see right through you.”

Shampoo: I don’t know why I didn’t realize this sooner. It’s the shampoo we use in the shower. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning, “FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY.” No wonder I have been gaining weight. I am getting rid of the shampoo and am going to use dishwashing liquid instead. Its label reads, “Dissolves fat that is otherwise difficult to remove.” Problem solved!

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, “Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side.” Very quietly, the doctor said, “I don’t know...”

“You don’t know? You’re a Christian man and don’t know what’s on the other side?”

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, “Did you notice my dog? He’s never been in this room before. He didn’t know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I know one thing..... I know my Master is there and that is enough.

Parish Contacts:

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Roper (*day off: Friday*)
Tel: 01372 722874
email: gore_lodge@yahoo.co.uk

Churchwardens: Sarah Ford
Helen Dyke

Parish Treasurer: PJ Jansen

Safeguarding Rep for

Children & Vulnerable Adults: Sarah Ford
Deanery Synod Rep: Vacancy
Electoral Officer: Anne Baxter
Stewardship Rep: Isobel Johnson
Children's Ministry Leader: Helen Dyke

Church Website: 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 3rd 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: 3rd Monday at 7.30pm (*except January, February and August*)

Epsom WI: 2nd 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

