



Welcome to Christ Church, Epsom Common



Worshipping and witnessing
At the heart of the community

www.christchurchepsom.org.uk



#CCEpsom

Welcome

As Vicar of Christ Church Epsom I am delighted to welcome you to our community, whether you are just visiting, or looking for a church family to join more regularly.



Within this leaflet you will find information about the practical aspects of our Sunday worship as well as our vision and aims as a community within the Church of England. (For more detail about the purpose and nature of our worship, please see the companion leaflet on “Our Worship”.) If you have further questions, don’t hesitate to ask our welcome team - or indeed anyone, as all will be willing to assist you and help you to make new friends, perhaps through our various weekday social and fellowship activities.

Our congregation is made up of young and old, couples, families and many single people too. It is an intentionally broad community. It includes individuals at all stages of their faith journeys and accommodates a broad range of theological positions. Everyone seeking a closer relationship with God is welcome to worship here.

On practical matters, our premises have good wheelchair access and loop systems for those with hearing difficulties. For those with limited sight, large print hymn books, Bibles and service sheets are also available.

This is a short introduction to an active and thriving parish. For more detail, see our various notice boards, publications and our website, or follow us on twitter to see what we are up to.

I look forward to meeting you in due course.

Revd. Rosemary Donovan

On your first few visits

Joining an established community is always a bit daunting. To make this as easy as possible for you, we have a Welcome Team, members of which you may have already met, who can be found at the back of church before and after the service. They will ask you for your contact details so that you may be invited to future events and introduced to others who live near you. They would also be able to accompany you into the hall for coffee after the service so that you can meet other members of the congregation and the Staff Team. Our Home Groups are another particularly good way to get to know people. A member of the Staff or Pastoral Team would always be happy to visit you at home if you would like that, in which case please ask one of the Welcomers or Clergy directly.

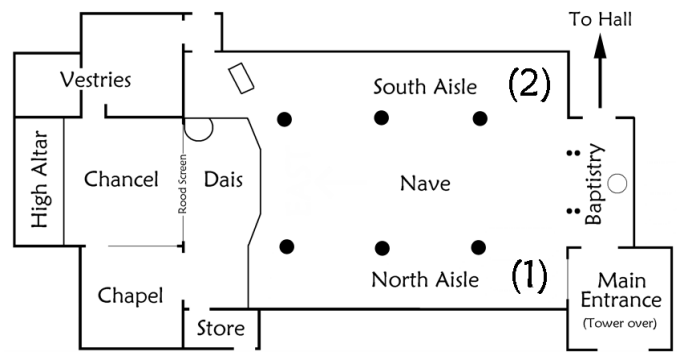
Relevant literature about Christ Church may be found on the Welcome Desk at

the back of church and photographs of key people in the porch.

Families with Children

Christ Church welcomes all families, and has a crèche and activity groups for children that operate throughout the term times as part of the 10am Sunday Parish Communions. “Happy bags”, containing quiet toys for use with young children during the service can be found hanging alongside the pigeonholes at

(1) on the plan. You are welcome to take your child to the Sunday School when invited during the service – children return in time to join parents at Communion, where they will receive a blessing.



Where to find things

Also at (1) on the plan are the pigeonholes for internal communication and alongside it is a table with information about the Missions we support and various courses and activities.

At (2) on the plan, are two comfy chairs for nursing mothers or where parents of very young children can be during the service. Also here is a small library where you can borrow books.

Toilets (including provision for the disabled and baby-changing) are off the lobby of the Hall alongside the church.

The Church Hall

The downstairs Hall is where refreshments are served after the main services. On weekdays during term time, the Little Hands Nursery meets here. The upstairs hall is used for other activities such as Wheels and Squeals, Mothers' Union and the Youth Club. Also upstairs is the Parish Office which is staffed every weekday morning.

Both halls are available to hire in evenings or weekends.

While we try our best to keep the grounds and church looking well maintained and loved, the car parking area alongside our site is on Council land and thus its responsibility.

Different Services

We have a variety of worship services – more details can be found on the website, including the weekday and special services.

8.30am Holy Communion (said, in traditional language)

10am Usually Parish Communion (with hymns and other music) plus Children's groups. On the third Sunday of the month, the 10am service is All Age Worship. This usually follows a theme and we all learn together in a more informal and interactive way.

6.30pm **REVIVE** is a lively praise service on the 1st Sunday of the month
EMBRACE is more contemplative in style, on 3rd Sundays.

Our Mission and Purpose

We are called to be a community open
to God's love so that many are:
Drawn to the light of God's love
Transformed in the fire of Christ's love
Sent out in the power of the Spirit's love

This is being worked out via the three key strategies of Spirituality, Discipleship and Mission. We have an annual programme of activities under each heading.

We seek to know God through prayer and worship and to make God known through caring and serving. As such we aim to be

Knowing Growing Going

(KNOWING GOD = Call to Pray)

(GROWING IN FAITH = Call to Discipleship)

(GOING OUT IN SERVICE = the Call to Mission)

Living Well

We have been thinking and praying about the kind of community we want to be and are working towards our 2020 Vision plan that enables us to expand on these aspects. To this end we hope that "Christ Church will be a Living Well, i.e. a place of resource for the local community, and that Christ Church people will be living well", as in having healthy, fulfilled lives.

"Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*"

We hope that you will want to be a part of our vision and community.

