



CELEBRATE, SHARE AND GROW IN CHRIST

19th October 2025, Trinity 18

Genesis 32.22-31; 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5; Luke 18.1-18

~~~~~ **FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM** ~~~~~  
**PERSISTENCE OF THE WIDOW'S FAITH SOUGHT JUSTICE, OUR  
PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER SEEKS GOD!**

We like to be treated fairly and impartially yet in our world today we might wonder if that statement is true. We have evidence of injustice all around us from judicial sentencing guidelines favouring certain ethnicities to the indiscriminate bombing of civilians in Kyiv, including tragically the death of another pregnant woman. Where was her justice? The widow's persistence in Jesus's parable paid off, but the judge only relented and gave her justice against her opponent because he was tired of being bothered by her. A somewhat flimsy reason for doing his job. The widow's justice was not due to a Godly righteousness or offering good will in God's name. Our persistence with prayer is important for us because we reinforce our faith every time we pray, alone or with another. We need prayer and learn that God is nothing like the unjust judge, which shows how much more willing God is to help us by listening and responding to our prayers. We though are not powerless widows, when we persist in prayer we are loved by God and have access to Him, thanks to Jesus. We are not turned away. Persistence in prayer equals faith. God loves to hear from us and will not tire of our repeated prayers. Jesus showed His care for women; the widow was the key character in His parable. God wants to hear from us, we can approach prayer with confidence, but we should choose to persist in faith with prayer and continue to do so because we have been invited by God.

Amen.

Steve

*Please consider switching your mobile phone to silent mode or switching it off before a Sunday service begins and taking a moment to pray that we may all be fully present with each other and with Christ.*

~~~~~ **SERVICES IN THE TEAM FOR THIS WEEK** ~~~~~

SUNDAY

8:00 am BCP HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping
9:20 am SUNG COMMUNION, St John's Epping
11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, St Alban's Coopersale
11:10 am PARISH COMMUNION, All Saints Epping Upland
1:00 pm BAPTISM of Maeva Safo-Jones, St John's Epping
6:00 pm No Service, St John's Epping

MONDAY

8:45 am MORNING PRAYER, St John's Epping

TUESDAY

8:45 am MORNING PRAYER, St John's Epping
9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping

THURSDAY

10:00 am CHURCH MICE, St John's Epping

Contact Kate Collin on 07951484805 or email kate.collin212@gmail.com.

ST JOHN'S IS OPEN DAILY FOR PRIVATE PRAYER,
except Bank Holidays or other specific occasions.

READINGS NEXT WEEK, Bible Sunday, 26th October 2025

Isaiah 45.22-end; Romans 15.1-6; Luke 4.16-24

COLLECT for this Sunday.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

~~~~~**READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY**~~~~~

**GENESIS 32, 22 - 31**

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

**LUKE 18, 1 – 8**

Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."

And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

~~~~~ **FOR OUR PRAYERS DURING THE WEEK** ~~~~~

Monday For the congregation and parish of All Saints Epping Upland.
Tuesday For the asylum seekers waiting for the outcome of their application and still suffering abuse from demonstrators outside their hostels.
Wednesday For continuation of the discussions about Palestinian destiny and peace in the Middle East.
Thursday For all pupils and teachers of Epping Green Primary School.
Friday For the Ministry Team, especially for our Rector; for all who contribute to, or lead, our services: for those who lead our meetings, those who carry out 'behind the scenes' activities and those who help fundraising in the Team churches.

Those who are sick and for whom prayers have been asked:

Graham, June, Caroline, Harriet Breen, David, Jean Goldsmith, Rebecca Salmon, Bobby Campbell, Ted Owen.

Please note that names will appear here for a short time only, unless the request to the Team Office is repeated.

Those who have died recently, their family and friends:

Christopher Dean, Catherine Bancroft, Mary Pegrum, Basil Corea.

Those whose anniversary of death occurs during this week:

19th October, Evelyn Eardley, Clifford Ovenden, Julia Sworder, John Bale, Iris Spearman; 20th, Francis Pearse, Mabel Thompson, Alfred Brewster, Phil Clark; 21st, Kate Mortlock; 22nd, Athol Trewman, Florence Penrose, John Durston-Wyatt; 23rd, Albert Cumming, Hugh Kibblewhite, Peggy Martin, Jacqueline Edwards; 24th, Alice Dean, Florence Mumford, Annie Giddons, Henry Hayes, Thomas Clare; 25th, Florence Roberts.

~~~~~ **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** ~~~~~

**CRAFT GROUP** next meetings are in St John's on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 (note corrected date) and 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

**MINDFUL ART** A free painting session in St John's church from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month.

**FOODBANK COLLECTION POINT** in St John's. There is a desperate need of items to give our support to those that are in need and use the Epping service. Ask Roger Lowry for the list of 'URGENT most needed' shopping.

**HEATERS FOR SALE** as used in St John's. Some electric heaters are for sale. The black patio heaters are £9.77 each (3 available) and the fan heaters are £22.50 each (5 available). See Nick Wold.

**ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL.** We are now collecting wrapped gifts, for the children's lucky dip. If you can help, please bring in small wrapped gifts, labelled, boy or girl, and leave at the back of Church. Thank you all so much for your support. Thanks, Kate and Cathy

**ALL SAINTS and ALL SOULS** There is a special quiet, reflective Team service at 4.00pm on Sunday 2nd November at St John's to remember in God's presence a loved one who has died. It will comprise hymns, Bible readings, and an opportunity to light a candle as an act of prayer. The service takes place annually in the Team on the first Sunday in November after All Souls Day, when the church on earth remembers all those who have gone before us.

**OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS.** Please note that the old phone number (01992 575570) and email ([office@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:office@eppinganglicans.org.uk)) are now disconnected. The correct details are on the back page.

**A CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS** will start from 6th October 2025: Monday & Friday 9:00 - 12:30, Tues, Wed, Thurs, 9:00 – 12:00.

**THE NEXT MAINTENANCE MORNING** in St John's is proposed to take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November. Watch this space for the list of work we need to address.

**EPPING COMMUNITY WALK** Following the success of our September Peace Walk, Epping for Everyone would like to warmly invite you to join us for the Epping Community Walk on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November from 1:00 pm, and this time we will be starting at the end of Bell Common (Hemnal St) - to avoid having to walk across the mud! Finish at Stonards Hill Recreation Ground, with tea and cakes at Jack Silley Pavillion - any

cakes will be gladly accepted! Children and dogs welcome. With warm regards, Eleanor Marshall

**HARLOW CHORUS** will be performing Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle in St John's Church on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £15.00 ( under 18s £5.00) from 01277 362440 or email: tickets@harlowchorus.org.uk

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~~~~~ **FROM THE TEAM RECTOR** ~~~~~

SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 26th October 2025, Bible Sunday

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) at St John's Epping

9:20 am Sung Communion with at St John's Epping

11:10 am All-age Service at All Saints Epping Upland

11:10 am Holy Communion St Alban's Coopersale

6:00 pm No Service at St John's Epping

SUPPORTING THOSE LIVING IN THE BELL. The local Care4Calais group are extremely grateful for the clothes donated to give to the residents at the Bell Hotel, and also for some items better suited for the families and children at the Phoenix in North Weald. Any further donations of clothing, in particular small and medium sized items, will be most welcome. The collection box for donations is in St John's Church.

THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM would like to draw your attention to the following invitation from the Mayor of Epping who has chosen Dementia Awareness as her project for the year. Janet Whitehouse writes "During my year as Mayor of Epping I'm aiming to raise awareness and understanding of dementia. I'd like to invite you to a Dementia Awareness session developed and led by the Alzheimer's Society. The next sessions are on Friday 31st October, noon – 1;30 pm or 2:00 – 3:30 pm at Epping Hall, St John's Rd. For information and to book please contact Janet Whitehouse.(janet.whitehouse7@gmail.com or 01992 560289. Revd. John Fry and Jo Waller

POSADA Thanks to the generosity and skill of a member of St John's congregation, this year there will be a Posada set to travel around the parishes between the beginning of Advent and Christmas Eve. Posada is based on a Mexican tradition where figures of the holy family travel

around the parishes as a reminder of the journey Mary made before the birth of Jesus. If you would like to host the set for a night between Sunday 30th November and Wednesday 23rd December, please email your name and contact details to teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk (Priority will be given to those with under 16's living at the address).

HYMN BOOKS AT ST JOHN'S From the beginning of November, the words of hymns and songs used in Sunday services will mainly be taken from new hymn books. Sidespeople will offer copies with standard size and large print words. As a result, the weekly email with the words of the hymns will come to an end. But, should you wish to receive a copy of the hymns by email to enable you to vary the size of the text yourself, please contact Lisa in the Team Office.

FINDING A NEW TEAM VICAR The post of Team Vicar in the Epping District Team was readvertised last month with a closing date of 5th October. Unfortunately, there were no applicants and the appointment panel have met with the Archdeacon to discern the next steps. It has been decided to advertise again in January 2026 and the panel will be reviewing the profile prior to that taking place.

~~~~~ **GIVING AND COLLECTIONS** ~~~~~

There are many ways to financially support the mission and ministry of the parishes. We are grateful for the many ways and forms of giving which express our shared worship of Christ.

COLLECTIONS IN SUNDAY SERVICES: A cash collection is taken at Sunday and midweek services. Please don't feel any embarrassment to let it pass you by.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS): Similar to direct debit payments but set up an account by calling PGS on 0333 002 1271 providing your bank details plus your church PGS code which is:

Epping Upland, All Saints-0806-08029

Epping, St John the Baptist-0806-08028

Coopersale, St Alban the Martyr-0806-08027

BACS: You can give by bank transfer as follows:

All Saints Epping Upland, 60-07-39 50236520

St Johns Parochial Church Council, 20-29-86 50357219

St Alban Parochial Church Council, 20-29-86 50776459

EPPING TEAM MINISTRY CONTACT DETAILS

Team Clergy

Revd John Fry: Team Rector 01992 934355
E-mail: teamrector@eppinganglicans.org.uk

Revd Jessica Bostock: Associate Minister,
3 Sundays a month and Mondays.
E-mail: jessicabostock@yahoo.co.uk

Dr Liz Gloyn: Curate,
E-mail: _curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk

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|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| LLMs | Diana Lowry: | 01992 279696 |
| | Email: lowryepp@gmail.com | |
| | Steve Snooks: | 01992 572185 |
| | Email: stevesnooks@hotmail. com | |

Team Pastoral Assistant, Jo Waller:
Email: jo.waller37@btinternet .com

Children, Youth and Family Worker, Emily Townshend:
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.
E-mail: cyf@eppinganglicans.org.uk

Church Wardens for Epping Upland and Coopersale, please contact the Team Office.

For **St John's**, contact **Marian Winters** at 07790 532570, email marianwinters@aol.com or **Sara McLean** at 07768 106406, email sdmclean@virginmedia.com

Team Administrator: Lisa Bazzoni 01992 579935
E-mail: teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk

NEWS items for next week; **Geoff Scanlan** 01992 576550
E-mail: rosandgeoff@btinternet.com

Please send us any prayer requests, or if you would like someone to pray for you.

St John's has a 'T' loop: please ask for help if you need it.

MOBILITY AIDS are at the back of **St John's** for use in church.

You can follow **St John's**, **All Saints** and **St Alban's** on Facebook
WE ARE A MEMBER OF VOLUNTARY ACTION EPPING FOREST