



**CELEBRATE, SHARE AND GROW IN CHRIST**

**10th AUGUST 2025, TRINITY 8**

**Genesis 15.1-6; Luke 12.32-40**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ **FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM** ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**WE ARE SHOWN AND GIVEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD SO DO NOT FEAR! (Luke 12:32-40)**

This is an appropriate time to consider our blessings as our town has suffered turmoil recently. The reminders for me of God's abundant gifting to His disciples are around the gift of life and creation, the gift of eternal life, the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, and the gift of Christ's body and blood in Communion. The theme is clear, we have been abundantly gifted by our God who loves us and desires good for us, and echoes God's covenant with Abraham from (Genesis 15:1-6). Notable here is the encouragement to not be afraid and to store up our treasures in heaven, rather than on earth. Luke is not suggesting an ascetic lifestyle, but rather a strategic allocation of our possessions, where giving to others is central to the follower of Christ.

These verses do not point to a simple quid pro quo of "be prepared and you will be saved." Instead, the idea here is to be ready so that when God calls you to action, you seize the opportunity and spread the good news. Being alert and being ready are like potential energy, ready to be turned into kinetic energy when prompted. The energy produced here is for the gospel: healing, justice, love, grace, peace, etc. Those who are ready for the return of the master will be served by God. This theme contradicts our usual notion that we are to serve God. Instead, God will be serving us! This is not a works-righteousness system.

Rather, it is more of a promise of what will happen when we have begun to focus our lives on God; the good news of Christ will serve you in your life so that you are not afraid. Where we place our priorities is relevant. The importance of the Sabbath can be helpful, encouraging us to rest from how we normally live our lives so that we understand better where our treasures from God are.

**Amen, Steve**

----- SERVICES TODAY & THIS WEEK -----

**SUNDAY**

**8:00 am BCP HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping**

**9:20 am UPFRONT with Communion, St John's Epping**

**11:10 am MORNING WORSHIP, St Alban's Coopersale**

**11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, All Saints Epping Upland**

**6:00 pm NO SERVICE throughout August, 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 is not held throughout the school summer holidays**  
(it will resume in September), **St John's Epping**

**FRIDAY**

**MORNING PRAYER.** Over the summer months, Morning Prayer will not be said publicly at St Alban's Coopersale on Friday mornings. The service will resume in the Autumn.

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

**READINGS NEXT WEEK, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025 Trinity 9**

**Jeremiah 23.23-29; Luke 12.49-56**

**CHILDRENS' GROUPS IN ST JOHN'S from September**, we will be slightly changing the age ranges for the groups. They will go as follows:

Little Lambs – Babies to Reception

Sunday School – Year 1 to Year 5

Go Gen – Year 6 to Year 10

All groups are now having their summer break.

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

**Genesis 15, 1 - 6**

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'

And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'

And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**Luke 12, 32 - 40**

'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

'But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

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

**Monday** For the congregation and parish of **St Alban's Coopersale**.

**Tuesday** For families that they may live happily together and resolve any issues in a Christian way.

**Wednesday** For those dealing with immigration and those they help; also, that any demonstrations may be peaceful.

**Thursday** For all pupils and staff in our schools and colleges, that they may have a happy and pleasant holiday time.

**Friday** For the Ministry Team, especially for our Rector and those about to become a new member; 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.

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

Graham, June, Caroline, Harriet Breen.

Please note that names will appear here for 4 weeks only, unless the request to the Team Office is repeated.

**Those who have died recently, their family and friends:**

**Those whose anniversary of death occurs during this week:**

10<sup>th</sup> August, John Whitman, Audrey Jordan, Joyce Eynon, Marice Ince;  
11<sup>th</sup>, Archibald Ridgewell; 12<sup>th</sup>, Edward Felton, John Hoskin, Richard  
Lewin; 13<sup>th</sup>, John Roberts, Edwyna Swarder, Olive Matthews, Roy Baker,  
Alan Spearman; 14<sup>th</sup>, Albert Piper; 15<sup>th</sup>, Donald Timothy, Ernest Monk,  
John Bright, Caroline Docking; 16<sup>th</sup>, Mary Reid, Dorothy Cumber, Violet  
Cottle.

**COLLECT for this Sunday.**

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

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----- **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** -----

**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. **There is no session in August.**

**CRAFT GROUP** will next meet in **St John's** on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

**MAINTENANCE MORNINGS IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH** The next session is planned for Saturday **6<sup>th</sup> September** 2025, from 9:30 am to lunchtime. There is always something to do and this helps to reduce our costs. Please bring your own gardening gloves and wear suitable clothes. Most tools can be provided.

**ST JOHNS ENERGY APPEAL, UPDATE.** We are deeply grateful to everyone who has responded so generously to our recent financial appeal. So far, we have raised almost half towards the £39,000 needed to clear our electricity bill debt. If you've not yet had a chance to return your response form or make a donation, we would warmly encourage you to do so as soon as possible. With heartfelt thanks, The PCC of St John's

**ST JOHN'S CHOIR** - a message from Simon Winters. You may have noticed that the choir isn't as large as it used to be on Sunday mornings. Although the children's section is developing well, we are very short of men's voices (tenors and basses) and more sopranos and altos wouldn't be a bad thing either. I'm passionate that we maintain our choral tradition, one which has lasted many decades in our lovely church. If being part of the choir is something you've thought about, now is your chance! Please do speak to Simon in the next few weeks. Thank you.

**FOODBANK COLLECTION POINT in St John's.** There is a **desperate need** of the following items to be able to provide our support to those that are in need and utilising the service. Our '**URGENT most needed**' shopping list is: Pasta Sauce, Rice Pudding, Tinned Tomatoes, Rice (Microwaveable or packs), Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables, UHT Milk. Also Toiletries, such as Shampoo, Shower Gel, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Feminine Hygiene, Toilet Roll, Nappies.

**UNPLEASANT ODOUR IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH.** Despite efforts cleaning and checking possible sources, there is still an occasional unpleasant odour in the church. If you smell an unpleasant odour in the church, please let a member of the Fabric Committee (Nick, Mike, Geoff, David) or a Church Warden know where in the church and when it was.

**ST CLARE HOSPICE Launches Urgent Appeal for Furniture Donations as Summer Drop Hits Stock Levels.** St Clare Hospice is urgently appealing for donations of good quality furniture after experiencing a significant drop in contributions over the summer months. The charity, which supports people with life-limiting illnesses and their families across West Essex and East Hertfordshire, relies on the sale of donated furniture in its shops to help fund its vital care services. However, the recent seasonal slowdown has left stock levels low. Every item donated helps to contribute to the hundreds of thousands of pounds St Clare Hospice's shops need to raise each year. We're especially looking for light or neutral-toned furniture in good condition, whether it's wardrobes, chest of drawers, or dining room sets. While we're not currently accepting beds, dark brown furniture, or TV cabinets, your donation of the items we know are popular in our shops could make a real difference to local people facing the toughest times.

**NEWS for 17<sup>th</sup> August. I will be "putting this to bed" on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August, so please send me any items for the NEWS before then.**  
**Thanks, Geoff**

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

**SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) at **St John's** Epping  
9:20 am Sung Communion at **St John's** Epping  
11:10 am Holy Communion at **All Saints** Epping Upland  
11:10 am Holy Communion at **St Alban's** Coopersale  
6:00 pm No Service at **St John's** Epping

**EMILY, our CHILDREN'S, YOUTH AND FAMILIES WORKER**, is away from the Team for now and will be returning to be amongst us again from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

**RIDE AND STRIDE 2025** takes place on Saturday **13<sup>th</sup> September 2025**, sponsored by the Friends of Essex Churches Trust. For further information, see [www.friendsofessexchurches.org.uk/ride-stride](http://www.friendsofessexchurches.org.uk/ride-stride).

**BAPTISMS** There will be a Baptism at **All Saints** on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, from 11:30 am.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ PLEDGED GIVING AND COLLECTIONS ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Giving to the Church by Text** You can give a one-off donation by Text. To do so please text 70450 with the words EPPINGCHURCH followed by the amount you wish to give, e.g. '**EPPINGCHURCH10**' to give £10. All money received in this way will be shared between our three churches.

**The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)** This is similar to paying by direct debit. You can set up an account by calling the PGS on: 0333 002 1271. You will need to provide your bank details and it will speed up the process if you can give them your church's PGS code:

**Epping Upland, All Saints:** 0806-08029

**Epping, St John the Baptist:** 0806-08028

**Coopersale, St Alban the Martyr:** 0806-08027

**BACS** You can give to church by bank transfer; the sort codes and account numbers are listed here:

**St Alban's** 20-29-86, Account: 50776459

**St John's** 20-29-86, Account: 50357219, Epping PCC

**All Saints** 20-29-86, Account: 60359106, Epping Upland PCC

### **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

**Revd Liz Gloyn:** Curate,  
E-mail: \_curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk

**LLMs**             **Diana Lowry:**                             01992 279696  
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**Steve Snooks:**                             01992 572185  
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**Team Pastoral Assistant, Jo Waller:**  
Email: jo.waller37@btinternet.com

**Children, Youth and Family Worker, Emily Kirby:**  
E-mail: emilykirby.eppingteam@gmail.com

**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**