

PARISH Magazine

 Croydon
Minster and St George's, Waddon

Oct / Nov 2021



Minster 10th Anniversary Celebrations

Mr Litolff's Painting

David Morgan

Silence and Remembrance

Jon Blanchard

Apple, Cheese and Bread: A Poem

Sue Kibler

Parish Diary

Croydon Minster

October

Fri	01	2.00pm	Minster Juniors Harvest Festival
Sun	03	10.00am	HARVEST FESTIVAL
		8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
			Bite-sized Catechesis: The Apostles' Creed
		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		3.30pm	Service for families – St Francis
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Tue	05	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys)
Wed	06	4.30pm	Evensong – Whitgift House
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls and Lower Voices)
Thu	07	7.00pm	Choral Evensong (Men's Voices)
Sun	10	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist
			Bite-sized Catechesis: The Beatitudes
		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Mon	11	5.30pm	Choral Evensong sung by Old Palace School Choir
Tue	12	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys and Lower Voices)
Wed	13	5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls)
Thu	14	7.00pm	Choral Evensong (Men's Voices)
Fri	15	12.00 noon	Funeral in church
Sun	17	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist

Cover image: Autumn forest path (shutterstock.com/sun ok)

Sun	17		Bite-sized Catechesis: Sacraments
<i>contd.</i>		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong
			<i>Half term – no choral services this or next week</i>
Tue	19	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
Fri	22	12.30pm	Memorial Service for Jane Davey
Sun	24	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Parish Eucharist
			Bite-sized Catechesis: The Bible
		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		6.30pm	Evensong
Tue	26	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
Sun	31	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist for All Saints
			Bite-sized Catechesis: The Communion of Saints
		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		6.30pm	Requiem Mass for All Souls
November			
Tue	02	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys and Lower Voices)
Wed	03	5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls)
Thu	04	7.00pm	Choral Evensong (Men's Voices)
Sat	06		Holy Matrimony
Sun	07	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist
			Bite-sized Catechesis: Receiving Holy Communion
		11.30am	Holy Baptism
		3.30pm	Family Service – For all the Saints
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Tue	09	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys)
Wed	10	5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls and Lower Voices)
Thu	11		Armistice Day

Thu	11	7.00pm	Choral Evensong (Men's Voices)
Sun	14	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.55am	CIVIC SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
			Confirmation Rehearsal – time TBA
		6.30pm	Sung Eucharist
Mon	15	5.30pm	Choral Evensong sung by Old Palace School Choir
Tue	16	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys and Lower Voices)
Wed	17	5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls)
Thu	18	7.00pm	Choral Evensong – (Men's Voices)
Sun	21	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist for Christ the King with Holy Baptism and Confirmation
Tue	23	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys)
Wed	24	5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Girls and Lower Voices)
Thu	25	7.00pm	Choral Evensong (Men's Voices)
Sun	28	8.00am	(Said) Eucharist BCP
		10.00am	Sung Eucharist for Advent Sunday
		6.30pm	Advent Carol Service
Tue	30	12.00 noon	Lectio Divina (on Zoom)
		5.30pm	Choral Evensong (Boys and Lower Voices)

St George's

Thursdays 10am Eucharist

Sundays 10am Eucharist

Diary date

Sat 9 October, 7pm Harvest Quiz – please contact Fr David to book

St George's Safeguarding Officers:

Anne Tanner 020 8686 3760 / 07715 581046

Christine Crawley 020 8688 0609 / 07770 613948

Autumn Reflections

We are coming to that time of year when the days are noticeably shortening, a chill in the air first thing and mist and dew becoming more prevalent. Yes, it's autumn. It's a time when we reflect on the evening of the year, the thanksgiving for harvest and abundance in creation and thoughts of Remembrance come to mind.

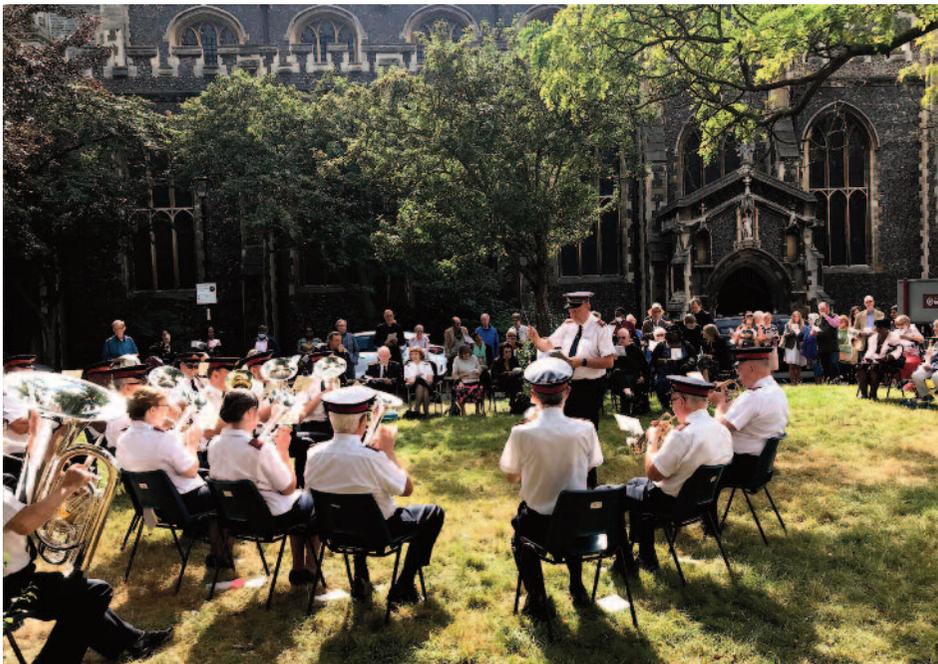
This edition of the magazine sees David Morgan telling a story that starts with a classic painting of the Minster from the nineteenth century that opens up the story of the Litolff family and takes us through to 1916 and the height of the Great War.

Jon Blanchard takes us to the theme of Remembrance and the conflicting feelings and ambiguities that many people have when it comes to war and Remembrance. Jon notes that it is important churches reflect the Act of remembrance but also what another author has called 'the pity of war'.

And on the harvest-related theme Sue Kibler reflects, in poetry, on the marvellous transformation of ordinary things into what is nourishing and life-giving. She ends with the power of the Bread of Life. For me she connects the way that the harvest and production of food expresses the mystical reality of the transformative power of the Eucharist and the purpose of the incarnation. 'We shall all be changed' declares St Paul, and as an early and enduring prayer puts it: 'may we share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity'. We are indeed changed 'from one degree of glory to another'.

I hope that reading this edition of the magazine you will find your mind and heart expanded and enjoy soaking up the insights of our contributors, to whom we are most grateful along with all who have produced this edition.

Fr Andrew



10th Anniversary Celebrations

On Sunday 12th September, Bishop Christopher joined us to preach and preside, marking 10 years since he designated us a Minster Church.

The celebrations continued after the Eucharist with a 'Bring Your Own' picnic and outdoor hymn singing in the sunshine with the Salvation Army Band. It was a wonderful occasion enjoyed by everyone.

Minster Records

Baptism

Piper-Louise, William-Albert and Sophie-Marie Humphrey,
Reeva and Marlon Ogbuehi, Louis Herron, Julia-Marie John,
Grace Nwanegbo, Roxy Newman, Davari Onoapoi, Leilani Banjo

Holy Matrimony

Krystian Sysa and Chyna Williams
Martyn Newton and Victoria Winter

R.I.P.

Shirley Eller, Marilyn Coverdale, Christopher Griffiths (priest),
John Witt, Ian Cook, Helen Barlow, Maureen Garrod,
Daphne Ranger, Julia Flack, Dennis Card, Jean Charlton,
Eileen Ell, Beryl Arnold, Elizabeth Asu-Boateng

Memorial Services

David Raeburn, Janet (Jane) Davey

Mr Litolff's Painting



Among the many paintings of the Croydon church held in the Minster archives is one dated 1875. The artist, painting from a position in what would now be the middle of the dual carriageway on the Roman Way, has captured the grey colour of the stonework as well as giving us a view of what the graveyard looked like back then. Outside the main west door stands an ancient tree, judging by the girth of the trunk. On the back of the painting is written the artist's name, Mr. Litolff, and a sentence showing that it was presented to the church by the artist's great-nephew in 1960.

My search to discover more about the artist ended with the discovery of the death of a Lance Corporal of the King's Royal Rifle Corps in 1916.

Local directories for Croydon provide much information about the Litolff family. In 1851, A A Litolff is listed as a pianoforte maker at 111 Church Street. In 1866, A A Litolff is described as a Professor of Music. In this entry his son, A A J Litolff, was also listed as living at the property. He was described as an engineer. These two were Augustus Alexander and Augustus Alexander James. A A J's son David James was subsequently listed as living at 4 Drummond Road in the early years of the twentieth century before he, his wife Eliza and their son Alexander David moved to Pembury, Chelsham Road.

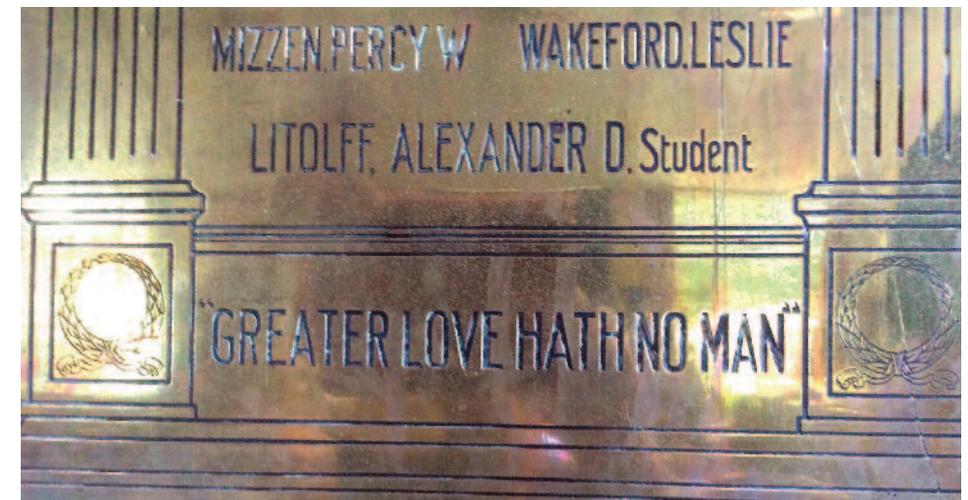
Alexander David Litolff, who was born on 10th January 1897 in Drummond Road, was heading for a career in education. After attending Archbishop Tenison's school he went on to become a student teacher at Dering Place School, which today is Howard Primary School. In September 1915 he enrolled at Goldsmiths' College to further his teacher training, but the call to help the armed forces in the Great War resulted in him leaving education and joining the Kings Royal Rifle Corps, 21st Battalion.

After his initial training, Litolff and his new army comrades sailed for France at the beginning of May 1916, embarking at Le Havre at 8.30am on the morning of the 6th. It was a Saturday. Lance Corporal Litolff survived for only just over three months in the front line. He was badly gassed and died on 9th August 1916. The official war diary for the battalion states that on the 9th they relieved the 15th Battalion Hants Regiment in Ploegsteert Wood. The KRRC were in position by 6.30am on this part of the Western Front that was part of the Ypres Salient. Gas was often used as a weapon in this sector with alarms being regularly sounded. The stretcher bearers could get Litolff no further than a field ambulance before he died. He was buried in the Ferme Olivier Cemetery in Belgium.

The young aspiring teacher was mourned in Croydon and beyond. His name was etched on several memorials. He is remembered on the plaque at Goldsmiths'

College in New Cross. His name was on the brass plaque at his local church, Bartlett Street Methodist Church, but this memorial was moved to South Croydon United Church, Aberdeen Road in 1977. This brass plaque is especially poignant as it was erected by the teachers and children from the church's Sunday School. "Alex", as they refer to him was a "scholar, valued helper and church member."

The vicar of Croydon, Revd Pat McCormick, himself a Great War Chaplain, unveiled a plaque at Dering Place School, now Howard Primary School, containing the names of young men who lost their lives and who had been scholars there, together with two of their teachers. Alexander Litolff is on that list as a student teacher. The ceremony took place on 21st June 1921. The memorial plaque can still be viewed on the school hall walk today at Howard Primary School, having been restored and blessed as part of the school's centenary celebrations in 1998.



As to the exact identity of the artist who signed the church painting, it remains uncertain. I assume that it was Alexander's grandfather but I have no absolute proof. Given the artistic skills necessary to produce the Croydon Church painting

of 1875, Mr. Litloff surely painted other scenes and landscapes. Perhaps they still adorn someone's wall or have been neglected and ended up in an attic. Nonetheless, the discovery of a Victorian painting has uncovered another local tale of remembrance associated with the Great War.

David Morgan

Parish Magazine Committee

Magazine Editor: Liz Watkins, 07973 172807

Commissioning: Fr Andrew, Liz Watkins

Liaison with advertisers: Deborah Miller

Proofreading: Alice Bishop

Please email contributions to liz.watkins@intermain.org.uk

Deadline for the December 2021 / January 2022 issue:

Thursday 18 November

Please note: The views in the articles of the magazine reflect the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the editorial board.

Silence and Remembrance

When I started school we were often left with paper and crayons to make drawings. I was surprised that some of the boys continually drew scenes from what they called "The War." At that date this could only mean the Second World War, which their parents would have lived through. They did not draw scenes of Auschwitz or the Blitz but dog fights in the air with lots of purple and black crayon work swirling around.

I asked my mother, "Mummy, who won the war?" She replied that there had been so much suffering and loss on both sides that "nobody really won it". I am sorry to say that my immediate reaction was to say, "O that means that we won it really". But if nobody really won it, in that particular war an appalling evil was defeated. That however is no excuse for smug triumphalism on the part of the survivors.

I never heard my mother make a similar comment again but looking back it was quite extraordinary given the background of my family and where we lived.

Although my mother did not know bereavement or loss of home during the war, she would have lived through those six years of anxiety. I remember her saying that one day the school bus had to stop short because the Germans had bombed Exeter the night before. She visited a Jewish friend from school and she recalled that when relations of that family were shot down by the Germans, the Jewish mother would pray that they had died rather than fallen into the hands of the Nazis.

But this constant anxiety was never mentioned. As a child my main impression of the war years was that in some way it was one big jolly, with Vera Lynn, Tommy Handley and Arthur Askey leading the fun. This was reinforced by the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall which I duly watched on television. What I did not realise is that this nostalgia could have been a way for coping with traumatic



memory. I did not realise the pathos there would have been in Vera Lynn singing 'The White Cliffs of Dover' at a time when Nazi-occupied France would have been visible from those white cliffs.

And likewise the solemn service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph was certainly a way to cope with the pain, fear and loss that people had suffered and it also honoured the dead. The dead were of course both military and civilian although I cannot remember being much aware of civilian deaths in these ceremonies.

But there would have been those for whom these occasions were no comfort at all and would rather put their memories behind them. When I knew my mother was not due to live much longer I thought it would be good to learn more of her memories. She was very reluctant to say anything about it, only adding it was a funny time to grow up. Perhaps it is very appropriate that we remember by keeping silent.

I hardly heard anything from my male relations about the war. I only learnt after his death in old age that one uncle was in the RAF and regularly taking part in flying missions with a high chance of not returning. My father never mentioned his experience of the war. He only told us with wry humour how a British tank ran over one of his feet while he was doing National Service after the end of hostilities. For the rest of his life the Ministry of Defence paid for one of his shoes to be built up.

My father's father had fought in the First World War. Again I do not remember him ever talking about it, but what survives is a number of exquisite water colours he painted when he was in France. Most of these show scenes of French life (a scene from St Valery-sur-Somme is shown on the facing page), except one showing a night scene with fire raging along the horizon (following page). There is no caption to say what this shows, but it is almost certainly a scene from the front.

It is only too right that we should remember war in church, not just wars that involved Britain but throughout the world, and remember death and heroism, not just military

but civilian as well. But I fear it is all too easy for some to forget what the Second World War was fought for: not to show Britain was a world-beating power, but together with many other peoples to oppose violence and racist and genocidal nationalism. It is too easy to regard war as those small boys at my first school drawing dog fights and not taking account of what I was taught at my mother's knee.



Some of my previous articles for the magazine can be found on my blog 'View from the Pew' at <https://anglicanchurchlife.wordpress.com/blog/>

Jon Blanchard

The Church Times

Price **£2.95** (of which £1.50 goes to the church)

Monthly/Annual subscriptions available

Contact Denise for further details

Apple, Cheese and Bread

An apple from the tree in my garden

Red with streaks like the sun's flares

I taste the sweet crunch

And see the dance of the pollinator that made the blossom pregnant.

*The swelling fruit that this tree made for me of air and fire and water
and its own earth.*

My incarnation sustained through this gift – the tree now part of me.

A lump of cheese

Grass become milk by a miracle

*Shaped into the life-giving morsel that pleasures my senses
as it nourishes my body.*

Another gift that keeps my body alive – the grass now part of me.

A hunk of bread

*I see the wheat sheaves golden, swollen by rain, waving in the sun
and taste the solid earth from which they grew – that too now part of me.*

*I think of the Bread of Life which earth has given
and human hands have made*

*The ultimate sacrifice of a loving Creator
Who sustains my incarnation by His creation
And sustains my Life – becoming part of me.*

Sue Kibler



eldon housing

passionate professional caring

Are you, or someone you know, considering Sheltered Housing?

Eldon Housing Association specialises in the provision of sheltered housing. We welcome enquiries from anyone currently living in the London Borough of Croydon (or with a Croydon connection). Applicants must be over 60 years and in need of sheltered housing (younger applicants who are registered disabled will be considered)

Our Ordinary Sheltered schemes offer:

- 1-bedroom self-contained flats with the benefit of alarm pull chords in all rooms
- regular visits from our Welfare & Support Officer
- a Premises Officer on site Monday-Friday
- social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)
- laundry facilities



Our Extra Care schemes offer:

- 1-bedroom or studio self contained flats with the benefit of alarm pull chords in all rooms
- dedicated on-site staff team including House Manager
- freshly cooked midday meals 7 days a week
- on-site Carers 24 hours a day
- domestic and laundry services
- social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)

If you would like make an enquiry please contact us on **020 8655 6724**, sjohnson@eldonhousing.co.uk.

Information is also available from our website – www.eldonhousing.org




PEONY COURT
BARCHESTER HEALTHCARE



We are here to
help *you* and
your loved one.



Peony Court Care Home is welcoming new residents and provides the reassurance that residents' well-being and safety are our priority.

- Personalised residential and respite care.
- All staff are well-trained in infection control and dementia care.
- We're keeping relatives connected with their loved ones.
- Wide choice of nutritious and delicious menus, prepared by talented chefs.
- Daily life-enriching activities, to keep the fun in everything we do.
- Part of Barchester Healthcare – one of the UK's leading care providers – with 25 years' experience and award-winning health and safety record.

Call to book an appointment to find out how we can help.

020 4533 8926

Peony Court Care Home, 58 Addiscombe Road, Croydon, CR0 5PH
www.barchester.com



Barchester Healthcare is proud to be the only care provider to win the RoSPA Health and Safety Award in both 2019 and 2020.



Funeral Services Managed by the Rowland Family since 1873

A proud tradition of care, understanding and trust



Rowland Brothers is a family business serving the needs of bereaved families since 1873. During this time we have earned an enviable reputation for excelling in the traditions of quality, service and reliability.

Our range of products and services are designed to provide you with a funeral that lets you remember your loved one with dignity and respect.

- Burials & Cremations
- Chapels of Rest for all Religions
- Specialists in Worldwide Repatriation
- All Memorial & Stone Work
- Grave Maintenance Plans
- After Care Services & Home Visits
- 24 Hours, 365 Days Service
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
- Exhumations
- Easy payment plans available

Established in 1873

Email: info@rowlandbrothers.com

www.rowlandbrothers.com



299 - 305 Whitehorse Rd,
Croydon CR0 2HR
020 8684 1667

44 High Street,
Purley CR8 2AA
020 8660 5547

9 The Parade,
Old Coulsdon CR5 1EH
01737 555 202

434 Limpsfield Rd,
Warlingham CR6 9LG
01883 623 067

32 Central Parade,
New Addington CR0 0JD
01689 842 046

Betterflow Plumbing Services

For all your plumbing work

- Installation, servicing and maintenance of gas boilers and all gas appliances
- Complete central heating installation
- Bathroom/shower installation
- Unvented cylinder installation, servicing and maintenance
- Wall and floor tiling
- Installation, servicing and maintenance of all plumbing appliances and fittings

No job too small

Call Tony on 07751 900899

Website: www.betterflowplumbingservices.co.uk

email: bfps@ymail.com

Fully insured (Public Liability Insurance)

NO CALL OUT FEE

You can check Betterflow Plumbing Services in the Gas Safe Register

SAFEGUARDING

Croydon Minster's Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) is

Denise Mead

She can be contacted on:

020 8688 8104 (work) or 020 8688 5971 (home)

07957 149005 (mobile) in emergencies

croydonminster@gmail.org

mad_mead@tiscali.co.uk

J.B. Shakespeare

Limited

FAMILY FIRM OF
Funeral Directors

Established 1877

Immediate Personal Service

Head Office:
1 Norfolk House
Wellesley Road, Croydon CR0 1LH

Telephone - 020 8688 1447 & 020 8688 2003
Fax - 020 8688 5330

Chapel and Monumental Works:
21/27 Sheldon Street, Croydon

Contact us for Pre-Arranged
Funeral Expenses Plans

National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD)

Contacts

CROYDON MINSTER (St John the Baptist)

Church Street, Croydon CR0 1RN - 020 8688 8104 (Fax 020 8688 5877)

Email: croydonminster@gmail.com Website: www.croydonminster.org

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Barrow Road, Waddon CR0 4EZ - 020 8688 7006

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop	020 8688 8104
Advisor and Assisting Priest	Canon John Ackland	07831 516662
Assistant Priest	Revd Alan Bayes	07792 846452
Priest, St George's	Revd David Adamson-Hill	020 8688 7006
Hon Curate, St George's	Revd Peter Smith	07856 365561
Lay Readers		
Croydon Minster	Elaine Cooper	020 8686 7315
St George's	Marcia Grant-Che	07969 653110
Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary	Diana Hemmings	020 8667 0575
Churchwardens		
Croydon Minster	Arlene Esdaile	020 8657 5187
	Pamela Hall	07966 521761
St George's	Christine Crawley	07770 613948
	Carol Milgate	07984 112804
Director of Music	Ronny Krippner	020 8688 8104
Verger and Parish Administrator	Denise Mead	020 8688 5971 (home)
Vicar's PA	Angela Bond	020 8688 8104
Master of the Ringers	Shirley McGill	020 8406 3083
PCC Secretaries		
Croydon Minster	Sue Kibler	07941 744101
St George's	Lynne Kerwood	020 8688 1666
Treasurers		
Croydon Minster	Deborah Miller	020 8688 8104
St George's	Carol Milgate, Treasurer	07984 112804
	Ethel Dixon, Assistant	

Times of Services

Croydon Minster

Morning Prayer, Monday – Friday 8.30am

Sunday

8.00am – Said Eucharist

10.00am – Sung Eucharist

6.30pm – Choral Evensong

Monday

11.00am – Said Eucharist

Tuesday

11.00am – Said Eucharist

5.30pm – Choral Evensong (Boy Choristers) *

Wednesday

11.00am – Said Eucharist

5.30pm – Choral Evensong (Girl Choristers) *

Thursday

7.00pm – Choral Evensong (Men's Voices) *

Friday

11.00am – Said Eucharist

* Term time only

St George's, Waddon

Sunday

10.00am – Eucharist

Thursday

10.00am – Eucharist