

Collect for the week.

**Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;
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.**



Join Us for Morning Prayer, Every Tuesday & Thursday Jeremy Douglas will be leading morning prayers in Ian's absence. Why not come along and join with him and others? We meet: 8:45-9:30am each Tuesday in All Saints' (with coffee!) 9:00-9:30am each Thursday on ZOOM (click the link on the home page of our website: <https://www.eastleighparish.com/>) "The fervent prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16



Next Sunday 7th June 2026 is our 'Come to the table' service. After Communion we can have lunch which is being organised by Sarah and Colin. If you are able, it would be appreciated if you could bring quiche and salad or a summery dish of their choice.

We are looking for someone to provide oversight of our Health and Safety policy here at Eastleigh Parish Church. Please let Keith, Dot or Mike know if you could help.

Keep in touch

- Wardens: Keith 07905 249 860 & Dot 07446 072 097
- Naomi: naomi@eastleighparish.com (for Children's Ministry)
- Vicar: ian@eastleighparish.com 07809 668 118 ON SABATICAL
- Sue: sue@eastleighparish.com 07502 427 693 ON SABITICAL
- Safeguarding: Mike Sarson - safeguarding@eastleighparish.com
- Rev. Oliver oliver@eastleighparish.com 07940 851612

OUTLOOK

EASTLEIGH
PARISH

Sunday 31st 2026 – TRINITY SUNDAY



Trinity Sunday celebrates the **one God in three persons**—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It marks the mystery of God's nature revealed through Scripture, honours the unity and diversity within the Godhead, and invites Christians to worship, reflect, and live within the life and love of the Trinity.

Today we look at Stephen, one of the first Christian deacons, who was seized after boldly preaching about Jesus and challenging the religious leaders. Brought before the Sanhedrin, he delivered a powerful speech recounting Israel's history and accusing them of resisting God. Enraged, they dragged him outside the city and stoned him. As he died, Stephen saw Jesus standing at God's right hand and entrusted his spirit to Him. He prayed for his attackers' forgiveness, becoming the first Christian martyr and triggering wider persecution of the early church.

We are grateful today to have the Rev. Oliver (9:30am) and Danny Stupple (11.00am) officiating.

Acts 6:8-15 - Stephen seized - ⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called) – Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia – who began to argue with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke. ¹¹ Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, 'We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.'

¹² So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. ¹³ They produced false witnesses, who testified, 'This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. ¹⁴ For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.'

¹⁵ All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Act 7:54-8:3 - The stoning of Stephen - ⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.'

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep.

8 And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men

buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

Luke 20:9-19 - The parable of the tenants - ⁹ He went on to tell the people this parable: 'A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰ At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. ¹² He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.

¹³ 'Then the owner of the vineyard said, "What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him."

¹⁴ 'But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. "This is the heir," they said. "Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." ¹⁵ So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. 'What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.' When the people heard this, they said, 'God forbid!' ¹⁷ Jesus looked directly at them and asked, 'Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone"?

¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.'

¹⁹ The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

