

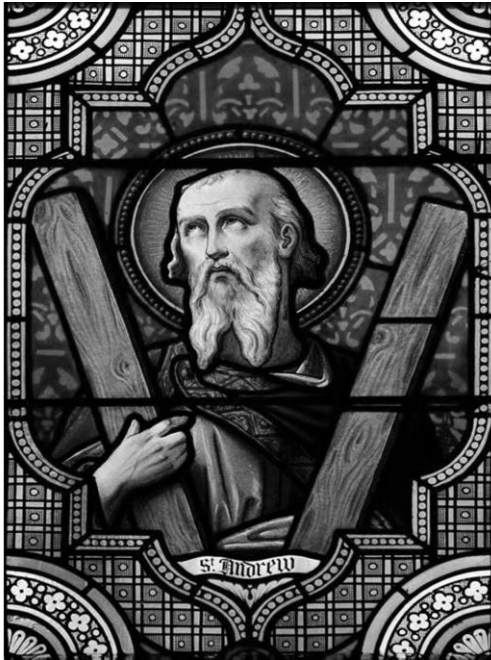
In Our Prayers This Week

The Alternative Collect for Advent 1

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Prayer of Praise

O thou who hast made light to shine in the darkness, we praise thy holy Name and proclaim thy wonderful goodness. We thank thee that in the fullness of the times thou didst gather thy light into life, so we could see. Jesus the star of the morning and the light of the world. **Amen**



Stain Glass window of Saint Andrew, St Mary, Gloucester, USA.

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

<i>Those in acute need</i>	Alison Steel	John Canelie
Margy Fitter	Edward	Rev. Geoffrey
Gina Hrela	Michael	Connor
Joan Jackson	Harrison	Joan Davies
Mary Reeve	<i>Those in long-term need</i>	Leo Koymans
June Scully	Vincenzo Blandini	Simon Portal
Hew Service	Theo Bulkai	Annie Redmile
Sebastian Shaw		James Worsley

and for all who have died recently

Christopher Buckmaster	Arthur Dawes	Eva Fraser
Andrew Gillespie	Tony Gordon	Wayne Matthews
	Karl Julius Silchenstedt	

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

The Parish and Vicarage offices are open from 10am – 5pm

Vicar: Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 6032
Associate Vicar	vacant	
Curate: Mother Alice Ormondroyd	curate@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4737
PA & events: Leonora Service, PA	pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4731
Churchwardens: Guy Heald	guyheald@hotmail.com	
Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Parish Office: Petter Kringberg	parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 2419
Vestry: Simon Fitter (<i>Head Virger</i>)	virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 5136
Tom Mendel, Amanda McRae and Sam Kibble (<i>assistant virgers</i>)		
St Mary Abbots Centre: Adam Norton	centremanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 8885
Children's Work Admin: Martina Sadovska	children@smaw8.org	
Safeguarding Officer: Andrew Freestone	safeguardingofficer@smaw8.org	
Stewardship Secretary: Emma Porteous	stewardship@smaw8.org	07866 258 814
Electoral Roll Officer: Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Bellringing Secretary: David Holdridge	david.holdridge@ntlworld.com	07904 954 959
Friends of St Mary Abbots: Steve Atack	friends@smaw8.org	07585 705 281



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

29th November 2020

From 3rd December we are once again open for public worship. The church is open for private prayer from 10am to 2pm daily. Keeping the church open is dependent upon our maintenance of good practices including:

- Filling in a Covid Track and trace form at the main door, or using the NHS app which can be found on the notice board and inside the church.
- Sanitising our hands at the entrance
- Wearing masks inside the church
- Maintaining 2 metre distancing from others
- Following the one way system

Evening Prayer is being said by individuals every night at home. Please do light a candle and use the prayers accessed on this website [HERE](#).

SUNDAY 29th November – 1st Sunday of Advent

10am -2pm Church open for Private Prayer

10.30

Online Holy Eucharist

Preacher: Canon Jonathan Sedgwick,
Rector, St George the Martyr, Borough High St

To join either of this service please go to the website www.smaw8.org/services or [HERE](#).

MONDAY 30th November – Andrew the Apostle

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am Church open for Private Prayer

2 pm Church closes

TUESDAY 1st December – Charles de Foucauld, hermit

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am Church open for Private Prayer

2 pm Church closes

WEDNESDAY 2nd December

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am Church open for Private Prayer

2 pm Church closes

THURSDAY 3rd December – Francis Xavier, missionary

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer followed by **Holy Eucharist**

FRIDAY 4th December – John of Damascus, monk

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SATURDAY 5th December

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SUNDAY 6th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8 am

Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9.30am

Family Eucharist

11.15am

Matins

6.30 pm

Advent Service of Light with Advent readings & music from our professional choir.

Numbers will be limited so please reserve a seat via Eventbrite: www.smaw8.org/services

If you do not have access to a computer please contact Petter or Leonora who will register you.



Christmas Services & Concerts

- 6 December Advent Service of Light, 6.30 pm.
 13 December Holy Eucharist & Nativity readings, 9.30
 Messiah (Part 1) 3.30pm & 6.30 pm
 With our professional Choir and The Purcell Players
 18th December Concert by Stile Antico, 6pm
 20 December Lessons and Choral Carols for
 Christmastide. 3.30pm & 6.30pm
 24th December Midnight Mass by candlelight, with our
 professional choir. 11.30am
 25th December Holy Eucharist (BCP). 8am
 Family Eucharist with choir 9.30
 Festal Matins with choir 11.15

Numbers will be limited so in order to attend please book a place on Eventbrite. If you do not have access to a computer please phone Leonora or Petter using the contact details above.

Message from Mother Emma

First of all, we look forward to having you worshipping with us online once more this Sunday, either by Zoom at 9.30 am for the under-5s or at our celebration of Advent Sunday Eucharist at 10.30 am. I am very pleased to welcome Canon Jonathan Sedgwick, Rector of St George the Martyr, Borough High Street, who was supposed to be visiting us to preach in person, but who has kindly recorded his sermon for us, so we can still enjoy his preaching!



We were, of course, delighted to hear the good news from the Government that churches can indeed re-open from December 2nd. We shall be resuming public worship on Thursday 3rd December with the same service pattern as we were offering between the first and second lockdowns, with some additional seasonal services.

While Christmas this year may be celebrated in new and different ways, we remember that for us as Christians, it is the remembrance of Christ's Incarnation among us which brings the greatest joy, hope and comfort and this is a timeless and unchanging story. At St Mary Abbots we shall seek to mark the birth of Jesus Christ with all the awe, love and honour which this great gift deserves, even whilst observing all the precautions needed to keep one another safe. We hold in our prayers those who may be unable to join with us this year but look ahead with confidence and faith to renewed celebrations next year.

As we shall pray at the lighting of our first Advent Wreath Candle this Sunday: *Lord Jesus, light of the world, born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king: be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today.*

With my love and prayers Mother Emma

Confirmation

Monday 7th December 2020

Our confirmation classes will be starting via an initial Zoom call on Monday 7th December at 7pm and, we hope, in person next year. The confirmation will be held the 22nd April 2021 with the Bishop of Kensington presiding. Please speak to the clergy if you would like to join us. Preparation sessions will take place during the Spring Term.

Handel's Messiah (part 1) 13th December at 3.30pm and 6.30pm



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
HANDEL'S MESSIAH
 (part 1)
 A Baroque performance by candlelight
 with our professional choir and
 The Purcell Players
 Please show your ticket at the church entrance

We are happy to announce that our professional choir and The Purcell Players are able in these uncertain times to perform a reduced Handel's Messiah. In order to maintain a covid-safe environment numbers are greatly reduced and tickets need to be bought online, not on the door, and there will be no refreshments or facilities. To try and welcome as many of you as possible we will be putting on two performances, one at 3.30pm and the other at 6.30pm. Tickets can be bought <https://www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020.html>.

A Renaissance Christmas with Stile Antico Friday 18th December, 6.00pm



We are delighted that Stile Antico, one of the world's most accomplished and innovative vocal ensembles will be performing masterpieces by some of the finest composers of the Renaissance, with verses by poets such as John Donne and George Herbert. A feast of words and verse to celebrate Christmas, culminating in John Sheppard's Verbum Caro. Performed without a conductor, its

twelve members have thrilled audiences on four continents with their fresh, vibrant and moving performances of Renaissance polyphony. Tickets for £25 on a first come first served basis and can be bought on tickets@stileantico.co.uk

Silent Auction raises over £2,000

The Friend's Silent Auction has raised £2,000 which given all things around us at present is a splendid result. The Auction in addition to generous purchasers of the lots, kindly given for sale by parishioners, was also sponsored by Knight Frank Kensington and Waitrose on Kensington High Street. If you were unable to bid and wish to donate please send a cheque, payable to "The Friends of St Mary Abbots Church Kensington" to Steve Atack, Founding Patron, 33, Cleveland Square, London W2 6DD.

A HEARTY thanks must go to Sally Bessada who has co-ordinated the online auction.

On a sadder note, we must report the death of one of the strongest Patrons of the Friends, Hon. Alderman Christopher Buckmaster, twice Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. A great supporter of the Friends over many years, a wonderful source of encouragement and a generous donor. He shall be very sadly missed.

PARISH & OTHER NEWS

K&C Christmas Collective – Volunteers needed

If you have not yet volunteered the K&C Christmas Collective are hoping for some help over Christmas with distributing 4000 Christmas boxes to families in need, elderly people and vulnerable adults across the borough, together with a program of Christmas entertainment, and carol singing on the 24th.

If you can help or would like to get involved in any way, please see their website: www.whatifchristmas.com or email whatifchristmas@gmail.com.