In Our Prayers This Week

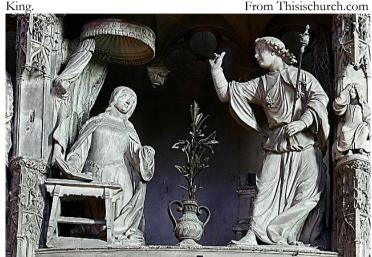
The Alternative Collect for Advent 2

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

An Advent prayer

Lord Jesus forgive us when we live our lives without trusting in your promise that you will come again. Help us to be watchful and prayerful, and living in such a sense of expectation that we use our time modelling our lives on your example. Help us to hear afresh the challenge of John the Baptist to make our lives ready for your coming. May we be filled with an expectancy which causes us to make ourselves ready this Christmas for you to make your home with us. We seek afresh to straighten our crooked paths and may our lives holy places fit for our King.

From Thisischurch.com



The Annunciation. The Choir Screen of Notre Dame de Chartres by Jean Soulas

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

J		J 1 J
Those in acute need	Alison Steel	John Canelie
Margy Fitter	Edward	Rev. Geoffrey
Gina Hrela	Michael	Connor
Joan Jackson	Harrison	Joan Davies
Mary Reeve	Those in long-term	Leo Koymans
June Scully	need	Simon Portal
Hew Service	Vincenzo Blandini	Annie Redmile
Sebastian Shaw	Theo Bulkai	James Worsley

and for all who have died recently

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

and for all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

David Wainwright, 8th December Jo Harriman, 8th December

Josephine Hamilton, 9th December

Robert Courtney, 11th December

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
		nts: Leonora Service, PA	pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4731
Churchwardens: Guy Heald		ardens: Guy Heald	guyheald@hotmail.com	
		Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Parish Office: Petter Kringberg parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk			org.uk 0207 937 2419	
	Vestry: S	Simon Fitter (Head Virger)	virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 5136

Tom Mendel, Amanda McRae and Sam Kibble (assistant virgers)
S⊤ Mary Abbots Centre: Adam Norton

centremanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk
0207 937 8885

Children's Work Admin: Martina Sadovska children@stmaryabbots.org.uk Safeguarding Office: Andrew Freestone safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org.uk stewardship@stmaryabbots.org.uk Stewardship Secretary: Emma Porteous Electoral Roll Officer: Ed Warrick er@stmaryabbots.org.uk david.holdridge@ntlworld.com 07904 954 959 Bellringing Secretary: David Holdridge Friends of ST Mary Abbots: Steve Atack friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk 07585 705 281



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

6th December 2020

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

SUNDAY 6th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Eucharist (BCP) 9.30 am Family Eucharist

11.15 am **Matins**

Preacher: The Rev'd Prof Peter Galloway, Deputy

Priest in Ordinary to HM The Queen

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.

MONDAY 7th December – Ambrose, Bishop 10 am- 2pm Church open for Private Prayer 12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

TUESDAY 8th December - Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer followed by Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY 9th December

10 am- 2pm Church open for Private Prayer12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

THURSDAY 10th December

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom 10 am- 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer followed by Holy Eucharist

FRIDAY 11th December

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom 10 am- 2pm Church open for Private Prayer 12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SATURDAY 12th December

10 am- 2pm Church open for Private Prayer12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SUNDAY 13th December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9.30am Holy Eucharist with children's Nativity

readings

11.15am Matins

Preacher: Canon Thomas Mendal, St Mary the

Virgin, Eastbourne.

3.30 The Messiah (part 1) with our professional choir

and The Purcell Players

6.30 The Messiah (part 1) with our professional choir

and The Purcell Players

Numbers will be limited so please reserve a seat via Eventbrite: www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020 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 with Children's Nativity

readings, 9.30

Messiah (Part 1) 3.30pm & 6.30 pm With our professional Choir and The

Purcell Players

www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020

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

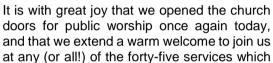
25th December Holy Eucharist (BCP). 8am

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.

Message from Mother Emma

"Through the greatness of your mercy, I will come into your house" (Psalm 5, vs 7)





will take place in St Mary Abbots between today and New Year's Eve. From Morning Prayer on Zoom to our daily service of Midday Prayer in church; from the beautiful and traditional Advent Service of Light to a Service of Lessons and Choral Carols for Christmastide, specially adapted for a Covid season, we look forward to worshipping with you in God's house as we await the coming of the Christ-child at Christmas.

This coming Sunday (6th), there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 8 am, a Family Eucharist with children leading our readings and prayers and Mother Alice preaching to us at 9.30, and a service of Matins at 11.15 am, at which the preacher will be the Revd Prof Peter Galloway. In the evening, we have our Advent Service of Light, with readings and Advent motets which will lead us (by candlelight) to reflect on the message that during this season God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. We are excited that we shall have a full octet to lead our choral music and very much hope that you will be able to join us – there are still spaces available on Eventbrite www.smaw8.org/services or by phoning Leonora.

The following Sunday we have both a new Covid-friendly version of the Nativity with our parish children and in the afternoon/evening, two performances of Handel's Messiah, part 1 – for which tickets are now available to buy on Eventbrite. Our guest preacher at Matins next week will be Canon Tom Mendel, father of our Sunday virger!

We are aware that current restrictions will necessitate some changes to our usual Advent and Christmas services, but we look forward nonetheless to sharing in something of the joy and mystery of this wonderful, holy season and will be delighted to see you back.

We continue to hold in our prayers all who remain at home during this period, and hope that you know you are constantly remembered before the altar and in the heart of St Mary Abbots. Let us together hope and pray that with vaccines on the horizon, this time of separation and limitation may be drawing to a close.

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

Confirmation Monday 7th December 2020

On Monday there will be a Zoom meeting at 7pm to discuss the confirmation classes due to start in January 2021. This will include topics that will be discussed at the weekly meetings as we prepare for the confirmation on 22nd April 2021 with the Bishop of Kensington presiding. Please email pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk or speak to one of the clergy if you would like to have the details of the meeting.





Angels anouncing Christ's birth to the Shepherds by Govert Flinck, Govert Flinck, Public domain, via Wikimedia Common

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

A Baroque performance by candlelight, with our professional choir and The Purcell Players

Sunday 13th December 2020 3.30 pm or 6.30 pm Tickets £20 (£10 under 16)

www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020 or call 0203 479 4731

Numbers are restricted so please purchase tickets on line

PARISH & OTHER NEWS

SMA alternative Christmas lunch

We are still looking for volunteers to help distribute Christmas boxes to families in need, elderly people and vulnerable adults across the borough. These are the people we usually have at the centre for lunch on Christmas day each year and have been particularly affected over this last year. There are three ways to help:

- For those not intending the stay in London over Christmas you could create a box containing a main present and a few extra festive treats or stocking fillers to be delivered to the virgers at the church by the 21st December.
- 2. For those willing to give their time on the day: Pick a name and a present request usually a book or warm Pyjamas. Collect a ready meal from the centre on Christmas eve and deliver it on Christmas day with the present. Spend some time with them while they open it. You can then spend the rest of the day with your family knowing you have brought some Christmas cheer to someone who would have spent the day on their own.
- Volunteer to drive and deliver several present bags on Christmas Eve or Christmas day. More drivers are needed.

To find out more please email Lucille <u>luce@briance.co.uk</u> or phone: 07785 312509