

In our Prayers this week

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for 4th Sunday of Advent

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Advent 3, pintest

<i>Those in acute need</i>		<i>Long-term need</i>
Duncan Stafford Shaw		Hillary Bardsley
Rhoda Bowker	Sara Strong	Christopher
Brian Cripps	Jill Traynor	Browne
Paul Fitch	Luke Thomas	Evelyn Ellison
June Hirschmiller	Adam	Juliet Fenwick
Emmanuel Kupa	Amanda	Paul Proudman
Buyile Phiri	Jean	Michael Turner
James Philpot	Luke	
George Rabbett-Smith	Stephanie	
	Talia	

and for all who have died recently

Camilla Peters Emily Plane James Worsley

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

Anthony Howard, 19th December John Banks, 20th December
 Evelyn Attack, 21st December Barry Luxton, 21st December
 Prudence Watt, 23rd December John Worsley, 24th December
 Sou Yen Crosthwaite, 24th December

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

St Mary Abbots Church Hall, Vicarage Gate, London, W8 4HN

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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON



Sunday 17th December 2023

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

The Church is open daily from 8.30am to 6pm and from 10am - 6pm on Saturdays and Bank Holidays

SUNDAY 17th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
 9.30 am **Choral Eucharist**
 11.15 am **Choral Matins**
 5.30 pm **Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight**

MONDAY 18th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
 8.30 am Bible Study via Zoom
 12 noon **Informal Eucharist** (Sunday on Monday)
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

TUESDAY 19th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
 12 noon **Holy Communion (BCP)**
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY 20th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
 8.35 am **No** Bitesize Bible Group (resume 10 Jan)
 12 noon **Healing Eucharist**
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

THURSDAY 21st December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
 9.30 am **No** School Eucharist (resume 11 Jan)
 12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
 2.30 pm **Wedding of Annabel and Charlie**
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

FRIDAY 22nd December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
 9.30 **No** Mini Abbots (resumes 12 Jan)
 12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
 1.05 pm **No** Royal College of Music (resumes 12 Jan)
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 23rd December

12 noon **Holy Communion (BCP)**
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 24th December – CHRISTMAS EVE

8 am **No** Holy Communion (BCP)
 9.30 am **Eucharist for 4th Sunday of Advent**
 11.15 am **No** Choral Matins
 4 pm **Children's Crib Service**
Children come dressed as a Nativity Character
 5.30 pm **No** Sung Evensong
 11 pm **Midnight Mass by Candlelight**

MONDAY 25th December – CHRISTMAS DAY

8 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
 9.30 am **Festal Eucharist** with our professional choir
 11.15 am **Festal Matins** with our professional choir
 5.30 pm **Christmas Eucharist at the Crib**

Message from Mother Emma

Our heartfelt thanks to Mark, our Director of Music, St Mary Abbots Choir and the Purcell Players for a wonderful "Messiah part 1" on Sunday evening. Thank you, too, to everyone who bought tickets and contributed to making it such a wonderful evening, as we heard the ancient prophecies and the narrative of Christ's birth at Bethlehem set to music by Handel, and then shared mulled wine and mince pies together afterwards. We very much hope to welcome you back on Palm Sunday, March 24th, for Parts 2 and 3 of Messiah, which tell the story of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.



This evening we shall again remember the Christmas story through our candlelit Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5.30 pm. You are warmly invited to be with us as we prepare our hearts, minds and voices for Christmas! You can find details of our Christmas services on the next page and we look forward to welcoming you.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to host eleven external Carol Services and Concerts over the past two weeks, and to meet people from a wide range of wonderful charities and local (and not so local!) schools. The birth of Jesus has been celebrated in word and music, and we are grateful to Leonora, our virgers Simon and Martina, and all of the parish team for all that they put into welcoming visitors from far and wide.

If you would like to contribute a gift for one of those attending the lunch organised in the St Mary Abbots Hall on Christmas Eve, please contact Leonora. You are all very much in the prayers of the church at this time of preparation.

People of God, return! You are called to be God's own. From the mountains announce the good news. God comes in justice and peace to all who follow his ways. You are God's children. Amen [Common Worship Daily Prayer, Advent Wreath Prayer, Advent 3]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

Christmas Outreach

There are a few more gifts (5) left to buy for Lucille's Christmas Eve Lunch, held for our vulnerable older residents living in the area. The gifts are given out during the Christmas lunch which is held at St Mary Abbots Centre. If you would be willing to buy a present (Leonora has the list) or help at the lunch, or act as a driver please contact Leonora by email or call 0203 4794731



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON



Christmas Eve

Sunday 24th December 2023

9.30 am Eucharist for 4th Sunday of Advent

4 pm Children's Crib Service

Children to come dressed as a character from the Nativity

11 pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight

With our professional choir

**NB: Our 8 am and 11.15 am Sunday services
have been transferred to tomorrow – Christmas Day**

St Mary Abbots is part of the Church of England. www.stmaryabbots.org.uk



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON



Crib Service

*Children are invited to come
dressed as a character from the Nativity*

Sunday 24th December 2023

4 pm



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON



Midnight Mass

by Candlelight, with our professional choir

Sunday 24th December 2023

11 pm



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON



Christmas Day

Monday 25th December 2023

8 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Festal Eucharist *with our professional choir*

11.15 am Festal Matins *with our professional choir*

5.30 pm Christmas Eucharist at the Crib

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