

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

We pray for peace in South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and in the world. We commend to you the people of Eastern Ghouta:

*Those who have died; those injured and those mourning
May these terribly suffering populations know stillness.*

*We give you thanks for our children and young people.
We pray for Martina Sadovska Children on Sunday coordinator.
And for all those who leads our Sunday groups.*

*We look forward to welcoming
the Rt Revd SARAH MULLALLY DBE*

We pray for those to whom she leaves behind and for her ministry among us.

We pray today for all those being commissioned as they prepare for their confirmation. May they be led by your spirit and grow in relationship with you.

Please intercede for those who have asked for our prayers

TAREK ALWER : SERGIO AVANZI
JOHN BIGNALL : THEO BULKAI
JOHN CANTLIE : DAPHNE CRAIG
SARAH DEAL : FRANK GAME
TONY GORDON : BRIAN HARVEY
HILAL KIBBARA : LEO KOYMANS
JOSEPHINE PURVIS : MARK REDMAN
ALEXANDRA WATT : CAROLYN
GOHAR : JAMES WORSLEY
OYIN and DAMALOLA

Please pray for all who have died recently
CYRIL TAYLOR : JUNE TAYLOR
LEWIS BLACKMAN : ABDIKARIM HASSAN
SADIQ ADAN MOHAMED

And for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time
IVAN CAMERON (February 25)
ARTHUR HARRIMAN (February 28)
ANTHONY MINOPRIO (February 29)
THOMAS NEVELL (March 3)

**St MARY ABBOTS
CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS**

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

Vicar
The Rev'd Preb Gillean Craig vicar@smaw8.org 020 7937 6032

Vicar's PA
Sophie Gaselee sg@smaw8.org 020 3479 4731

Associate Vicar
Fr Jonathan MacNeaney jm@smaw8.org 07949 468 905
020 7937 2364

Associate Priest
Fr Stephen Fielding sf@smaw8.org 020 7937 4106

Churchwardens
Jamie Dunford-Wood jdunfordwood@gmail.com 07732 842 894
Hannah Stewart hannahstewart@yahoo.com 07813 173 595

Parish Office:
Susan Russell admin@smaw8.org 020 7937 2419

Sr Mary Abbots Vestry:
Simon Fitter virger@smaw8.org 020 7937 5136

Safeguarding Officer
Andrew Freestone safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org

Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children's Champion:
Martina Sadovska m.sadovska@yahoo.co.uk

Sr Mary Abbots Centre:
Adam Norton an@smaw8.org 020 7937 8885

Stewardship Secretary:
Emma Porteous stewardship@smaw8.org 07866 258 814

Electoral Roll Officer:
Sally Bessada er@smaw8.org

Bellringers:
David Holdridge Secretary david.holdridge@ntlworld.com 07904 954 959

Friday Playgroup:
playgroup@smaw8.org

Friends of Sr Mary Abbots:
friends@amaw8.org 07585 705 281

Sr Mary Abbots Appeal:
appeal@smaw8.org

SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday 30 September 2018, the 41st Anniversary of his Ordination as Deacon and 40th as Priest, the Rev'd Preb Gillean Craig will retire from his office as Vicar of St Mary Abbots Kensington. Linda and he hope that you will be able to join us at 4.00pm for a service thanking God for all the blessings that we have received in our sixteen years here, followed by a Party. Children will be very welcome.

Central Kensington Group Ministry
ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
for the week beginning
25th February 2018



Sunday 25th February SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4. 1-8
Gospel: Matthew 15. 21-28

9.30am **SUNG EUCHARIST**
with Children on Sundays Groups
Reading: Genesis 17. 1-7, 15-16
Gospel: Mark 8. 31-38
Sermon: Revd Canon Stephen Fielding

11.15am **CHORAL MATINS**
Old Testament: Genesis 1. 1-9
New Testament: Hebrews 11. 1-3, 8-16
Preacher: The Revd Christopher Boulton

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST
Readings as at 9.30

6.30pm **SUNG EVENSONG followed by HOLY EUCHARIST**
Old Testament: Isaiah 51. 1-11
New Testament: John 8. 51-end
Preacher: The Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney

Monday 26th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
1.05pm INFORMAL EUCHARIST Sunday on Monday
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 27th February

Commemoration of George Herbert

8.00am Morning Prayer
11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 28th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 1st March

St David

8.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am **SUNG EUCHARIST:**
St Mary Abbots School Service- All welcome
5.30pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm 'Conversation in Lent': Sir Peter Bazalgette

Friday 2nd March

St Chad

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
1.05pm *Royal College of Music students' recital*
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 3rd March

9.40am Morning Prayer
10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
3.00pm Renewal of Wedding Vows:
Jilayne Lovejoy & Benjamin Potter
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 4th March

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
First Lesson: Ephesians 5. 1-14
Gospel: Luke 11. 14-28

9.30am **SUNG EUCHARIST**

Children on Sundays Groups
Old Testament: Exodus 20. 1-17
New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1. 18-25
Gospel: John 2. 13-22
Sermon: Revd Canon Stephen Fielding

11.15am **CHORAL MATINS**

Old Testament: Exodus 5. 1 – 6. 1
New Testament: Philippians 1. 1-26
Preacher: The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST
Readings as at 9.30

6.30pm **TAIZE PRAYER AND EUCHARIST**

The Hour is Coming

TODAY SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY:

ADMISSION TO THE CATACHUMENATE

This alarming heading indicates a joyful and straightforward act: at today's 9.30 Eucharist we present to the congregation those who are **PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION** later this year.

They will publically commit themselves to this key stage in their following the Way of Jesus; and we'll commit ourselves to support them in prayer. As usual, for various reasons some of them are not able to be with us this morning, and note that some of the Junior candidates worship at other churches but want to be confirmed with their friends at our School.

**BIANCA ANTE-FERKO JODY ASHMORE ALEX BESSADA
ELIZABETH COKAJ KIMBERLEY COLLISON
DANIEL D'SOUZA AVELNE EICKELBERG
JASPER EICKELBERG JACOB EMMANUEL
ROXANA FOLESCU NOELLE IRVINE
MORGAN JONES GILBERT KANDAMATH KIKI KRISTENSEN
ELI KWAKYE FLORA LYSTER KAREN MAK
ELIO MESSIMERIS TASSIA MESSIMERIS HONOR PURVIS
JAMES REDMOND STANLEY REYNOLDS ANTONIS VAKIS
WILLOW WHITFIELD CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS RAN XU**

Of course, we hold them all in our prayers and support.

The junior group meets on Wednesday afternoons; the Adult Group on Tuesday evenings. NB We have some candidates who are unable to come at these times and we are making special arrangements to prepare them – so unavailability is no excuse not to join in!

We take the process of preparation seriously, offering a four-month course of weekly sessions exploring Christian faith and practice, extending through the crucial church seasons of Lent, Eastertide, Ascension and Pentecost, with the Confirmation itself on May 24th. We prepare children from school Year 5, about 9+ in age. Remember, no-one's too old: there are many adults who haven't been confirmed or who, even if they receive the Sacrament, have not shared in this vital process. In every recent year, other people have joined these groups once they got underway. One of the advantages of having a full three-and-a-half month preparation period is that it is possible to catch up with what has been missed.

So - it's ABSOLUTELY not too late to join in!
email jm@smaw8.org or see clergy for details

NEW MUSICAL PROVISION at main morning services

Today we offer our experimental once-a-month provision: the professional quartet, whose splendid singing graces 11.15 matins weddings & funerals, but never our main Sunday service, will join forces with the voluntary choir to offer special music in **9.30 SUNG EUCHARIST**. Our worship will be enhanced by anthems by Richard Farrant, SS Wesley, and Michael Wise – all English composers today!

If you enjoy singing, we'd be delighted to hear from you if you'd like to explore joining our voluntary choir. There is a potential range of involvements: the regular weekly 9.30 Sung Eucharist, the monthly 9.30 Sung Eucharists where the professional quartet joins and we offer more challenging music, and the roughly monthly Choral Evensong. And twice a year the really major sings: Bach's St John Passion and Handel's Messiah. Last month no fewer than three new singers joined – perhaps it's YOUR turn? For details, contact our Director of Music uglowmark@yahoo.co.uk

At **11.15 SUNG MATINS** we are delighted that JULIET AMES LEWIS, the professional quartet soprano, will act as **professional cantor**, leading the music generally and offering two solos: 'Have mercy on me O Lord' by William Byrd, and 'Komm in mein Herzenhaus' by JS Bach.

VISITING PREACHER AT CHORAL MATINS

We're delighted to welcome as our visiting Lent Preacher the Revd CHRISTIPHER BOULTON, Chaplain of Bromley and Sheppard's Colleges.

DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK.

Thanks to all who support this vital service, especially needed in this desperately cold weather. Please continue to support this work with your regular donations.



SPECIAL LENTEN SUNDAY ON MONDAY

During the six weeks of Lent, our weekly service of Sunday on Monday are focussed on the Lord's Prayer. Within the short service of holy communion, Fr Stephen and Fr Jonathan will be looking at each of the petitions of the prayer that Christians have used since the time of Jesus. They will be showing how the prayer is a gateway to the Christian Gospel as a whole and a guide to a better understanding of our faith. *All welcome* 1.05 - 1.40. Followed by sandwiches, tea and coffee.

For further details please speak to Fr Stephen on (020) 7937 4106.

Next Sunday March 4th at 6.30pm

TAIZÉ PRAYER

'The Hour Is Coming'

Continues this Thursday - St Mary Abbots' unique Lent Course:

CONVERSATIONS IN LENT

As he approaches the end of his full-time parochial ministry your Vicar is, with customary self-indulgence, organising a series of conversations in church with some of the marvellous people he has come to know over the last 40 years, people prominent in public life. They will talk about their work, their values and convictions. It's deliberately not ostensibly a religious exercise – many of our guests would hesitate to wear that label – but I am convinced that their stories and work will intersect with our faith and give us much to think about in our own story, and how we live out our lives.

Each session will be held in church, starting with a light supper at 7.30

Last week we had a splendid start with LORD YOUNG OF GRAFFHAM *Former Government Minister, Secretary of State for Employment, etc etc.*



This Thursday March 1 SIR PETER BAZALGETTE

Executive Chairman of ITV and Chair of the Arts Council England 2013-17. He recently led an independent review into the UK's creative industries as part of the Government's new Industrial Strategy. Peter is also Chairman of HM Government's Holocaust Memorial Foundation, serves on the Advisory Boards of BBH and YouGov. is currently Chair of the Baillie Gifford Non-Fiction Book Prize and former Chief Creative Officer of Endemol TV.

March 8 – SIR ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Founding editor of The Independent, First Church Commissioner etc etc

March 15 – GAVIN HENDERSON CBE

Director, Brighton Festival, TrinityLaban Conservatoire, Royal Central School

March 22 – REAR ADMIRAL NICK WILKINSON

Formerly DA-Notice Secretary, Author of 'Secrecy and the Media'

Join us for this remarkable line-up. Book via Jonathan's email

jm@smaw8.org or fill in the form on the flier.

Suggested donation (if you can afford it) £25 for the course; £5 session.

As our Lent Charity we are supporting

DIOCESE OF LONDON HOMELESSNESS APPEAL

Launching the Appeal, the Acting Bishop of London explained: *Our Capital is faced with an immense challenge of homelessness. 8,000 people sleep rough in Greater London every year, double the recorded figure in 2010. Freezing conditions can prove fatal for anyone sleeping rough, and winter night shelters play a hugely important role in providing homeless people with a haven that is safe, warm and off the streets. This Appeal will support & raise awareness of the vital work done by winter night shelters, many hosted by our churches often working in partnership with others.*

The challenge may be Diocesan wide but it is very much a local issue so we are in partnership with charities from across the Diocese (including Glass Door in Kensington) to carry on **Tackling Homelessness Together**.

Next Sunday all the children in our groups will assemble their own collection boxes for the Appeal – and adults will be coerced into playing their part!



LENT QUIET DAY – a few places left:

THE JOY OF LENT

Addresses, silence, simple lunch, refreshments Led by the Vicar at St Mary's Convent, Chiswick on **Wednesday 7 March from 9.30-3.00.**

There are posters & fliers in church with full details.

To book your place email jm@smaw8.org or sign

the list in church. We invite a **voluntary** donation of £10ish.

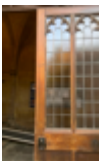
YOUR Opportunity for Christian Service?

Helping with our Butterflies Children on Sundays Group

Is God calling you to lead our young people in worship and discipleship? Unlike many churches our size our excellent children's work is primarily supported by members of our congregation. At this time we are looking for leaders for our butterflies group (early school years). If you discern that you may be being called into this ministry please speak to Martina our Children on Sunday coordinator or Fr Jonathan who can provide you with a job description and answer any questions – *you'll find his email and phone numbers on the back of the newsletter.*

We are deeply grateful to congregation member

PIER CAORERIO who with his marvelous team of workmen – they're all expert craftsmen, able to turn their hands at anything from specialist heritage repairs to designing and building a Santa's Grotto for the Christmas Bazaar - have done a splendid job of repairing the broken leaded lights to the **south porch door**



STAY IN TOWN FOR EASTER! GO AWAY AFTER!!

This year the Festival is early, with the school holidays falling afterwards. So this is YOUR chance to experience the finest and most moving of all our annual services:

March 25 **PALM SUNDAY 6.30 Bach's St John Passion**

March 29 **MAUNDY THURSDAY 7.00 Solemn Eucharist etc, Vigil**

March 30 **GOOD FRIDAY 12 Preaching the Passion; 3.00 Liturgy**

April 1 **EASTER DAY 5.00am Vigil; 8.00, 9.30, 11.15, 12.30. 5.00**