

In Our Prayers This Week

*Simeon was filled with hope when he recognised the presence of Jesus.
So dear Lord, we pray that we too would have lives open to the awareness of your presence.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,
you transform the darkness of human lives with the light of your salvation.
So we pray that your transforming light would drive out darkness and fear and bring hope
to the lives of those who do not know your presence with them.*

*We commend to you father St Mary Abbots' School. Praying particularly at this time for
the Governing Board as they prepare to select the next head teacher. We pray for all
candidates applying and for the wisdom of your spirit to guide all decision making.*

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

<i>Those in acute need</i>	James Philpot	<i>And those in long-term need</i>
Sheila Bradshaw	Patsy Ramsay	Sergio Avanzi
Theo Bulkai	June Scully	Vincenzo Blandini
Phoebe Coleman	Sue Spicer	John Cantlie
Sarah Deal	Margy Wheeler	Joan Davies
Tony Gordon	Ben	Leo Koymans
Joan Jackson	Gohar	Sylvia Nazareth
Richie Marienthal	Carolyn	Simon Portal
Jean Normand	Roger	Annie Redmile
Michael North	Julia	Sonia Samuels
	Joseph	James Worsley
		Carl-Fredrik

Please pray for all who have died recently

Nancy Todd Larissa Sardarova Luke John Ross John Hodge

and for those whom we love but see no longer,

and all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

Leith Mcgrandle (4 February) Sarah Lamping (6 February)
Antony Carr-Gomm (9 February) Annie Lloyd (9 February)



St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

Vicar	vacant		
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 Vicar	Canon Stephen Fielding	sf@smaw8.org	020 7937 4106
Churchwardens	Jamie Dunford-Wood	jdunfordwood@gmail.com	07732 842 894
	David Banks	dcjb@btinternet.com	077 3274 3228
Parish Office:	Susan Russell	admin@smaw8.org	020 7937 2419
Church Vestry:	Simon Fitter <i>Head Virger</i>	virger@smaw8.org	020 7937 5136
	William Arthurs <i>Asst Virger</i>		
Safeguarding Officer:	Andrew Freestone	safeguardingofficer@smaw8.org	
Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children's Champion:	Martina Sadovska	m.sadovska@yahoo.co.uk	
St Mary Abbots Centre:	Adam Norton	an@smaw8.org	020 7937 8885
Stewardship Secretary:	Emma Porteous	stewardship@smaw8.org	07866 258 814
Electoral Roll Officer:	Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Bellringers:	David Holdridge <i>Secretary</i>	david.holdridge@ntlworld.com	07904 954 959
Friends of St Mary Abbots:		friends@smaw8.org	07585 705 281

Central Kensington Group Ministry ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH



NEWSLETTER

3rd February 2019



Services for Sunday 3rd February The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

8.00am Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Family Eucharist
Children on Sunday's Groups
Preacher: Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney

11.15am Choral Matins and Eucharist
Setting: Missa super Ich stund an einem Morgen - *HANDL*
Anthem: Nunc dimittis - *TOMKINS*
Preacher: Canon Stephen Fielding

There is no 12.30pm Holy Eucharist

6.30pm Candlemas Choral Evensong
Introit: *ECCARD* – Maria wallt sum Heiligum
Canticles: *STANFORD in G*
Anthem: *PHILIPS* – Hodie beata virgo Maria
Followed by Holy Eucharist

Monday 4th February Gilbert of Sempringham

8.00am Morning Prayer
1.05pm Sunday on Monday – Informal Eucharist
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 5th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
11.30am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 6th February Accession of Queen Elizabeth II

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am Holy Eucharist
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 7th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
9.30am St Mary Abbots School Eucharist All Welcome
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Friday 8th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am Holy Eucharist
1.05pm Royal College of Music Recital
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 9th February

9.40am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Eucharist
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Services for Sunday 10th February

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30am Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism
Children on Sunday's Groups
Preacher: Canon Stephen Fielding

11.15am Choral Matins
Benedictus: Morning Service in F - *SMART*
Anthem: O Lord, grant the Queen a long life - *CHILD*
Preacher: Canon Stephen Fielding

12.30pm Holy Eucharist

6.15pm Organ Prelude
Chorale No 2 in b - *FRANCK*

6.30pm Sung Evensong
Preacher: Clare Heard – Licensed Lay Minister

There is no celebration of Holy Eucharist tonight

Candlemas Choral Evensong

This is one of the great services of the year with worship offered in darkness illuminated only by the candles each one of us will hold. The combined voluntary and professional choirs lead our worship.

A Candlemas Reflection

A traditional title for this feast, *The Meeting of the Lord*, connects with the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the infant Christ child. Their story reminds us of the importance of faithfulness and of being prepared to patiently wait. We live in an age where we can seemingly have everything we want almost immediately. Being prepared to wait is seen as an irritating hindrance and Anna and Simeon's demeanour can serve as a useful corrective to a view that can so often be about us as individuals, focusing on ourselves.

How wisely did the priest and poet R. S. Thomas conclude his poem *Kneeling* with the words, "The meaning is in the waiting". Often it is in times of waiting that we can develop and grow in our appreciation of God, his creation, one another and ourselves.

This title also reminds us that God cannot be ordered to meet us when we think it is convenient. He has, to put it simply, his own sense of timing, he will not be rushed. He is not at our beck and call. Rather we are to be like Anna and Simeon and believe that he will come to us. We are to be open and alert to recognise him and his work in our world and in our lives, which can so often be through encountering other people. This includes people of other faiths. We are reminded of this in the story of Jesus' encounter with the Roman Centurion who wanted his servant healed. And when he is challenged by the Canaanite woman whose daughter was unwell.

Charles Chadwick – Parish development adviser for the Dorchester area

J S Bach - St John Passion

You can now buy tickets for Sunday, 14 April 2019 from 18:30 to 21:00. An Easter performance by candlelight. St Mary Abbots Choir, The Purcell Orchestra (on period instruments) Tickets here: <https://stjohnpassion19.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Dalgarno Trust Foodbank

Was in significant use over Christmas and expects to continue seeing inflated numbers over the next months. Thank you for your generous support for this vital work. The most popular regular items remain: Baked beans; Tinned meat/ fish; Pasta; Rice; Pasta Sauce; Chopped tomatoes; Coffee; Tea bags; Washing up liquid; Long-life milk, Shower gel; Loo roll and Nappies

St Mary Abbots Reading Group

Launched under the capable leadership of David Strong. We are currently reading Kazuo Ishiguro's - Never Let Me Go. The next meeting is on 13th February 3pm at Kensington Central Library. You would be most welcome even if you haven't read the book and you will be able to pick up the next title whilst there.

Service Pattern 2019

From January the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated twice a month after our Sunday 6.30pm service rather than every week. This will enable us to invite local licensed lay ministers to lead the service of Evensong. The dates when the Eucharist will not be celebrated are Feb 10th & 24th Mar 10th & 24th April 28th May 12th & 26th. We are sorry about this disruption to our worshipping pattern and we thank you for your understanding.

Confirmation 2019

Bishop Graham will be present at St Mary Abbots on 23rd May 2019 for a service of confirmation. We run two groups one for teenagers and adults and one for children in years 5-6. The adults group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at the St Mary abbots Centre starting on Tuesday 5th March 7.00pm. The children's group will be meeting Wednesday afternoons following school in church, starting Wednesday 13th March 3.40pm. If you are interested please let Sophie know: sg@smaw8.org

The Rainbow Poetry Circle

The next Meeting of the Rainbow Poetry Circle will be on Thursday 7th February in the Holland Chapel as usual at 2.30pm and the topic will be "Explorations" Visitors welcome as ever.

Flower Rota

After some time convalescing the flower rota is now being revitalised. Experienced arranger and new florists welcome. All flowers and materials provided. Quarterly commitment. Contact Lesley Pullen to express interest: pullen.london@btinternet.com Introduction day planned for Sat Feb 23 10.30am.

St Mary Abbots Lent Courses

The Clergy will be leading a series of Lenten presentations on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am leading into the 11.30am Eucharist.

There will be a single evening Lenten event taking place on the evening of Wednesday 13 March on the theme of C.S Lewis. Please put this date in your diaries and invite your friends and neighbours.

Ecumenical Lent Course

The Ecumenical Lent Course 2019 will take place on five Thursdays, at 7.30pm, commencing 14th March - again using CTBI materials, The Mystery of God - <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent/>

- Thursday March 14th: St James Norlands (C. of E.)
- Thursday March 21st: St Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Orthodox
- Thursday March 28th: St Marks, Coptic Orthodox Church
- Thursday April 4th: Carmelite Priory (RC)
- Thursday April 11th: St John's Notting Hill (C. of E.)

Deanery Evensong

St. Paul's Cathedral Choristers are visiting St John's Holland Road to sing one of their 'Deanery Evensongs' on the 3rd February at 3.15pm. All warmly welcome

Quiz Supper

As a member of the team who won last year let me begin by saying that entry to the quiz is a worthless and futile pursuit. Masochists only need apply. All ye who enter be warned that the associate vicar takes it all rather too seriously. Wednesday 13 February, 7.30 pm. Teams of 8 per table, £10 per person payable on the night. Bring your own supper. Wine will be available for a donation. To book a table, email sg@smaw8.org There is also a sign-up sheet available on the table by the south door in case you would like to be placed on a table.

Hello from the vicarage!

Our family of five – Mark, Louise and three small boys – moved in three weeks ago after being kindly offered the house while St Mary Abbots selects its next vicar. Mark has recently started as curate at SMA's sister parish, Christ Church Kensington. He divides his time between the church on Victoria Road and the Houses of Parliament, where he also works as a chaplain to the Christians in Parliament All-Party Parliamentary Group. The group provides pastoral support to MPs, Peers and staff, including weekly chapel services, Bible studies and one-to-one meetings. It holds events and courses that seek to offer the grace of Christ to all and it also provides theological resources for thinking about public life and political practice. Prior to this role Mark spent 15 years working for Finsbury, the financial communications consultancy founded by Roland Rudd, of this parish! Louise spent 14 years as a business journalist with The Sunday Times and then The Daily Telegraph. She now has her hands full with Jake (4), Arthur (2) and baby Robin who is just three months. Thank you very much for having us here and we really look forward to meeting you as we settle in and to seeing you at the usual garden parties at the vicarage in the summer!

A New Electoral Roll

Every six years we are required by the church to create a brand new electoral roll. The slate is wiped clean, that which has gone before is forgotten and we begin with a blank page. It is all rather like forgiveness and absolution. The electoral roll of the church bears no relation to the electoral roll held by the council. Being on the electoral roll of the church demonstrates your commitment to the parish as well as making it much easier for us to communicate with you. Additionally it gives you voting rights at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and it allows you to be married in church amongst other things. Please fill in a form ideally online at: <https://tinyurl.com/smaroll> Or a paper copy picked up from church. Our electoral roll officer is Ed Warrick: er@smaw8.org Who will be happy to answer any further questions