

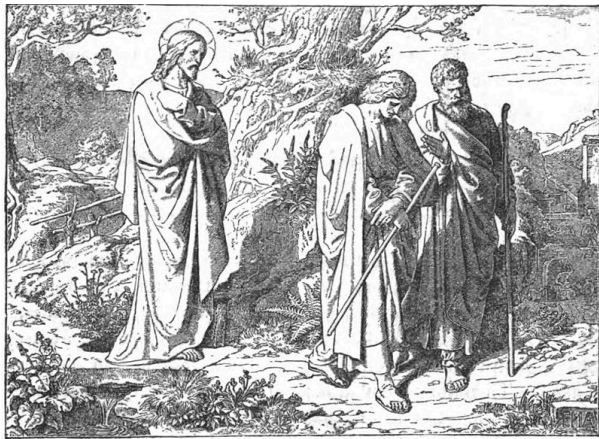
## In Our Prayers This Week

### The Collect for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Lent

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

### Prayer during the Coronavirus outbreak

We are not people of fear: we are people of courage. We are not people who protect our own safety: we are people who protect our neighbours' safety. We are not people of greed: we are people of generosity. We are your people God, giving and loving, wherever we are, whatever it costs; for as long as it takes wherever you call us. **Amen.**



*Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers*

<i>Those in acute need</i>		<i>Those in long-term need</i>
Katie Aston	Mary McKenna	Vincenzo Blandini
Francesca de Bono	Diana Nicol	Theo Bulkai
Rebecca Cable-Nunn	Michael North	John Cantlie
Sarah Deal	Holly Raber	Rev. Geoffrey Connor
Margy Fitter	Mary Reeve	Joan Davies
Tony Gordon	Maria Reis	Leo Koymans
Sarah Hack	June Scully	Simon Portal
Joan Jackson	Sue Spicer	Annie Redmile
Margaret Lyon	Roger	James Worsley
	Rosie	
	Victoria	

*and for all who have died recently*

Amine El-Kadi	Adel El-Kadi	Kevin FitzGerald
Elva Macpherson	Elizabeth Morhange	
Agnes Ndiweni (or Masuku)	Jennifer Pinney	
	Christine Wattlesworth	

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

Winifred Howe, 24<sup>th</sup> April

## St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

*Church Website:* [www.smaw8.org](http://www.smaw8.org)

<b>Vicar</b>	Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	<a href="mailto:vicar@smaw8.org">vicar@smaw8.org</a>	020 7937 6032
<b>Vicar's PA</b>	Leonora Service	<a href="mailto:pa@smaw8.org">pa@smaw8.org</a>	020 3479 4731
<b>Associate Vicar</b>	Fr Jonathan MacNeaney	<a href="mailto:jm@smaw8.org">jm@smaw8.org</a>	07949 468 905 020 7937 2364
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Jamie Dunford-Wood	<a href="mailto:jdunfordwood@gmail.com">jdunfordwood@gmail.com</a>	07732 842 894
	David Banks	<a href="mailto:dcjb@btinternet.com">dcjb@btinternet.com</a>	077 3274 3228
<b>Co-opted Churchwardens</b>	Guy Heald		
	Ed Warrick		
<b>Parish Office:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Church Vestry:</b>	Simon Fitter <i>Head Virger</i>	<a href="mailto:virger@smaw8.org">virger@smaw8.org</a>	020 7937 5136
<b>Safeguarding Officer:</b>	Andrew Freestone	<a href="mailto:safeguardingofficer@smaw8.org">safeguardingofficer@smaw8.org</a>	
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<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Ed Warrick	<a href="mailto:er@smaw8.org">er@smaw8.org</a>	
<b>Bellringing Secretary:</b>	David Holdridge	<a href="mailto:david.holdridge@ntlworld.com">david.holdridge@ntlworld.com</a>	07904 954 959
<b>Friends of St Mary Abbots:</b>	<a href="mailto:friends@smaw8.org">friends@smaw8.org</a>		07585 705 281



## ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

### NEWSLETTER

26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

St Mary Abbots' church building may be closed, but the St Mary Abbots church community continues strong in faith and fellowship. With technology we continue to pray for one another's needs and to share each other's hopes and fears.

### DAILY PRAYER

The Clergy continue to say the daily office in the quiet of their homes at **8 am and 5.30 pm**. If you would like to be with us in spirit, please do light a candle and use the prayers accessed here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

### SUNDAY SERVICE

A link for the service will be on the website and sent out by email.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30am

**Sung Eucharist**

### Message from Mother Emma

Please see below a very sad message from our Head Virger, Simon. Our hearts go out to Margy and Simon, and I know that they will be held in the thoughts and prayers of so many at St Mary Abbots at this time.

### A message from Simon

You may know that my wife, Margy, was treated for breast cancer two years ago. We have been blessed with a wonderful time since then. Unfortunately, secondary cancer has now been discovered in her right lung. There is no cure as such, but chemotherapy treatment should reduce and control it, and delay it spreading elsewhere. I'm pleased to say she feels absolutely fine at the moment. The prognosis is for a small number of years, if things go well. We are certainly aiming for that, and are devotees of looking on the bright side! Our faith is a great support and comfort in all this.

It has forced us to look long and hard at the future, and it is with the heaviest of hearts that I shall now be handing in my resignation. I feel my place is to be with Margy as she undergoes her treatment in Gloucester, where we have a house, and to be spending as much time with her as possible. As she will be high risk during the chemotherapy, we will have to self-isolate for about 3 months.

I am continuing to work, remotely, from Gloucester. There is much paperwork, admin and updating to be done, so all the files and the Vestry phone have travelled with me! We expect to be back at St Mary Abbots for the last part of my notice period. The Head Virger's job has been endlessly fascinating and rewarding. But it is also very demanding, all-encompassing and a long way from Gloucester. So we shall look on this as early retirement, and intend to enjoy the time that is left together.

We have loved getting to know the good folk of SMA – easily one of the best parts of the job! We thank you for your help and support over these years. And we hope and pray that you manage to stay safe and well during this testing time.

**Simon Fitter, Head Virger**

## Quiz Night

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 7.30pm

We would like to invite you to attend the annual St Mary Abbots Quiz Night online which will take place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30pm to 9pm. There is no entrance fee but we will be asking you to make a donation to the NHS. Here are the log in details of the [Zoom meeting](#) and [donation information](#)

## Reading volunteers for the Family Eucharist For Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020

If any of the children would like to take part in the Family Eucharist on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May we are looking for recordings of readers of the lessons, the gospel and the prayers. If you would like to take part please contact either Father Jonathan on [jm@smaw8.org](mailto:jm@smaw8.org) or Leonora at [pa@smaw8.org](mailto:pa@smaw8.org) who will send you the details.

## School Prayer Meeting Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020 at 2pm

Mother Emma and the parents prayer group have arranged a zoom prayer meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> of May at 2pm for both parents and children. If you would like take part please contact either Father Jonathan on [jm@smaw8.org](mailto:jm@smaw8.org) or Leonora on [pa@smaw8.org](mailto:pa@smaw8.org) and they will send you the log in details.

## A Message from Louis, our Ministry Assistant

Back in May last year whilst I was researching placements and internships within the Church of England my fiancée, Santi discovered M.E.S (the Ministry Experience Scheme). I delved into it with gusto. I saw a list of Dioceses and without any reason why I was drawn to Kensington. It just felt right. As of September I officially started my journey with St Mary Abbots. Truly it was a huge change of scene to what I had been used to working in within the deprived areas of South Wales. Coming from the Mission to Seafarers I must say I was worried I may have been out of my depth, but this was soon dispelled by the support and guidance I received from Mother Emma, Father Jonathan and of course Simon our glorious Virger!



Throughout my time I had the honour of representing the Church at numerous services especially those held for Remembrance Ceremonies. I also had the privilege to work closely with so many members of the congregation such as Martina, Jan and teaching staff from the School to name a but few. Not many people can say they are to be married in the Church they were Baptised and Confirmed through and for this both Santi and I are eternally grateful.

I would like to finish with my most cherished memories, which was hearing the news of little Caspar coming into the world and being asked to lead the annual pilgrimage to St Paul's Cathedral. It was a beautiful day, surrounded by a diverse group from the congregation. It was a lovely way to introduce ourselves to the church and form the start of what I hope to be life long friendships.

I can't thank you all enough for the welcome I received, the support I garnered and the friendships that have been built. I truly have met some wonderful members of the Church which I fully intend to continue to pester with my incessant chatting, so fear not, both Santi and I will be visiting often!

**Louis Howard-Krelle**

## Supporting Friends of St Mary Abbots

This year thus far has seen a much increased number of new members and renewals. Please help us maintain the momentum and increase our reserves much of which will, we hope, be dedicated to the provision of toilets and disabled toilet facilities within the church when building can begin.

Single membership per annum is £15, Joint Membership and International Membership £25, 10 year Membership £100. Cheques made payable to "Friends of St Mary Abbots Church Kensington" to Founding Patron, Steve Atack at 33, Cleveland Square, London W2 6DD or you can make a bank transfer to "Friends of St. Mary Abbots Church Kensington", Natwest Kensington Royal Garden Branch, Sort code 50-30-10, Account 86018957.

## OTHER NEWS

### Help and Advice from RBKC Council

Kensington and Chelsea Council are offering help and advice on housing support, job retention and self employment claims, support for those feeling anxious or depressed, advice of how to get help for elderly or vulnerable residents and on line activities and for children's during lockdown. If you need help with any of these the website address is <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19>

### Course in Christian Studies

The Diocese of London are launching in May a new online course for Christians to learn more about their faith. The course is being co-ordinated with the staff of St Edmunds Lombard Street and topics cover the Old and New Testament, doctrine, ethics, spirituality, mission and vocation. <https://www.london.anglican.org/st-edmunds-course-in-christian-studies/>

### Pastoral & Practical Care

We will continue to provide both emotional and spiritual care, both for our own congregation members and locals in the parish who would like a chat. We intend to stay in regular touch, but would also welcome anyone who would like to phone or email us at any point. If you know of anyone in need of support please email Father Jonathan: [jm@smaw8.org](mailto:jm@smaw8.org)

### Mutual Aid

We continue to work with 'Kensington and Chelsea Mutual Aid', a group of local volunteers have set up a Mutual Aid system whereby vulnerable, elderly and housebound residents in Kensington & Chelsea can request support for grocery shopping, prescriptions collection at Boots, or on the phone support. Please share with family and neighbours in the area: <https://www.mutualaidkc.com>. Our Sunday school convenor Marina Lussich is the administrator for zone 3 Kensington & Chelsea Mutual Aid - covering Holland, Campden and Pembridge wards.

### Food Bank

Now more than ever the foodbank is in need of donations as more people rely on them for provisions. The church is not able to act as a collection point at the moment, however a number of supermarkets are collecting at their exits so please make use of this system. Alternatively you can give financially by sending cheques made payable to 'Dalgarno Neighbourhood Trust' and marked 'foodbank' on the reverse to: The Dalgarno Trust, 1 Webb Close Dalgarno Way, London, W10 5QB. If you wish to do a direct bank transfer please ask Fr Jonathan ([jm@smaw8.org](mailto:jm@smaw8.org)) for the bank details.