

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

O Lord Jesus Christ, as a child you were presented in the Temple and received with joy by Simeon and Anna as Redeemer of Israel: mercifully grant that we like them, may be guided by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge and love you until the end of our lives

O God, who in the work of creation commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may shine into the hearts of all your people, dispelling the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, and revealing to them the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

With Joy and Thanksgiving we celebrate the announcement, as the Bishop Elect of London, of

the Rt Revd SARAH MULLALLY DBE

We pray for those to whom she currently ministers and for her safe move.

Please intercede for those who have asked for our prayers

- TAREK ALWER : SERGIO AVANZI
- JOHN BIGNALL : SHEILA BRADSHAW
- JOHN CANTLIE : DAPHNE CRAIG
- SARAH DEAL FRANK GAME
- TONY GORDON : BRIAN HARVEY
- HILAL KIBBARA : LEO KOYMANS
- MARK REDMAN : ALEXANDRA WATT
- JAMES WORSLEY : OYIN and DAMALOLA
- CAROLYN : GOHAR : JOANNA AND FAMILY

Please pray for all who have died recently

- NIGEL LEYLAND : JOHN ESCOTT :
- JOAN MARTIN : SAMIR : JOHN MORLEY
- JOAN SANCROFT: YOLANDE DARRELL

And for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

- LEITH MCGRANDLE (February 4) SARAH LAMPING (February 6)
- ANTONY CARR-GOMM (February 9) ANNIE LLOYD(February 9)

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 St 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 Revd 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
4th February 2018



Sunday 4th February **SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11. 19-31
Gospel: Luke 8. 4-15

9.30am FAMILY EUCHARIST
with preschool Childrens Groups
All-age Address: The Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney

11.15am CHORAL MATINS
Old Testament: Genesis 2. 4b-25
New Testament: Luke 8. 22-35
Preacher: Revd Canon Stephen Fielding

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST *readings as at 9.30am*

6.30pm **CANDLEMAS CEREMONIES, PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EVENSONG**

followed by HOLY EUCHARIST

Monday 5th February

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

Tuesday 6th February

The Sixty-Sixth Anniversary of The Accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

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

Wednesday 7th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
 8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
 1.05pm *Meditation Group*
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 8th February

8.00am Morning Prayer
 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST
 St Mary Abbots School Service - *All welcome*
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

Friday 9th February

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

Saturday 10th February

Commemoration of St Scholastica

9.40am Morning Prayer
 10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 11th February **THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13
Gospel: Luke 18. 31-14

9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST & HOLY BAPTISM
with Preschool Children on Sundays Groups
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4. 3-6
Gospel: Mark 9. 2-9
Sermon: The Rev'd Gillean Craig

11.15am CHORAL MATINS leading into CHORAL EUCHARIST
Old Testament: 1 Kings 19. 1-16
New Testament: Mark 9. 9-13
Preacher: The Revd Gillean Craig

No 12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST *today*

6.30pm **SUNG EVENSONG**
Old Testament: Exodus 24. 12-18
New Testament: Mark 9. 2-9
Preacher: The Revd Sephen Fielding

followed by HOLY EUCHARIST

This week inaugurates our FAQ section in the newsletter...

1. Where's Fr Gillean?

He's taking his post-Christmas weekend off – going to Edinburgh to conduct the wedding of a godson.

9.30 Family Eucharist Today

An all-age modern language service designed for the whole family to worship together. Younger members of our fellowship will play many roles: sidesmen, taking the collection, acting as servers and readers. We are indeed blessed to receive their ministry to us in this way



THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS



The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, aka the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

falls on February 2nd, last Friday. This is the climax of the cycle of Incarnation Festivals that stretches from Advent through Christmas and Epiphany. We not only celebrated the feast on the day itself:

This evening Sunday 4th February we hold our powerful 6.30pm SPECIAL CANDLEMAS CELEBRATION

One of the year's most dramatic and moving services. We gather in the Resurrection Chapel for the Ceremonies of Light, then proceed via a powerful Candlelight Procession to CHORAL EVENSONG. It's a moving liturgy of light with great Candlemas music sung by our combined professional & voluntary choirs. *Book the date now!*

If you enjoy singing, this would be an excellent time 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. For details, contact our Director of Music uglowmark@yahoo.co.uk

HAVE YOU VISITED THE CRIB YET?

Between the Epiphany (January 6th) & Candlemas the Resurrection Chapel altar is transformed into the Crib. It's accessible especially to children – and to the child in all of us, whatever our age, a focus for prayer and devotion, of simple awe that God is with us.

This morning is your last chance to do so this year!



DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK.

Thanks to all who support this vital service, seeing increased use every week. Please continue to support this work with regular donations – check the 'shopping lists' in church for what is needed. Pick-ups every Thursday. Especial thanks our co-ordinator **Alice Bulkai**

The new season of 1.05pm Friday Lunchtime is now well under way

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC STUDENT RECITAL

There's a flier with details of all the Recitals between now and Easter – take one for you and lots for your musical friends. You can eat your lunchtime sandwich, and there's tea & coffee.



Next Sunday 11 February

11.15am Choral Matins & Eucharist

Our augmented professional choir sings a full setting of the Eucharist. The Mass setting is . Instead we will have GABRIELLI'S splendid **Missa Brevis**.

The anthem will be BOYCE's **O Where Shall Wisdom Be Found?**

The Rt Revd SARAH MULLALLY DBE, will indeed be the 133rd Bishop of London!

Last Wednesday week, the feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Prebendaries of our cathedral church (including your vicar) met and obeyed our Gracious Sovereign's instruction and elected her. She will be Installed on May 12th – watch out for details & keep her in your prayers



FRIDAY MORNING PLAYGROUP

Children from birth to 4yrs (with a parent or two) warmly welcomed at our playgroup, now meeting again after the Christmas break, in StMA Centre, Vicarage Gate W8 4HN. Details from laurasyvester@mac.com

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

This year's Confirmation will be on Thursday 24th May.

We take the process of preparation very seriously, and offer a four-month course of weekly sessions exploring Christian faith and practice, starting very soon and extending through the crucial church seasons of Lent, Eastertide, Ascension and Pentecost. We prepare children from school Year 5, about 9+ in age, and we'll have groups of children, teenagers and adults. 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. The weekly study and discussion groups explore the major themes of Christian belief and practice, so we may play our full part in the church's life. See the clergy for more details.

It's not too late to join in – we're assembling our **CHILDREN'S GROUP** and we have their application forms to fill in – see the clergy to get one.

The Initial meeting for Adults (say over 16s) is on Tuesday 13th February at 7.00pm
[email jm@smaw8.org](mailto:jm@smaw8.org)



Dr JOAN MARTIN

Our beloved friend Joan has died at the great age of 102. She was known by all at St Mary Abbots and far beyond as a wonderful example to us all of self-giving Christian witness and service. As a junior doctor she dealt with one of the most horrific civilian tragedies of WWII, the Bethnal Green tube disaster, worked faithfully as a local GP and received the OBE for her remarkable work of swimming therapy with the disabled. Her funeral will be at StMA, Thursday 15 February at 11.00am.

Rest eternal grant to her O Lord : and let light perpetual shine upon her



KENSINGTON LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

is available for all to see online. We have thanked all the shops & organizations who presented window displays **MAKING SPACE FOR HOPE with a special awards celebration**, when Lady Arnold, HM Deputy Lieutenant, presented awards

to the most impressive windows in three categories. See the dedicated website: smaw8.org/living-advent-calendar.html

Easter is early this year: Lent is less than a fortnight away!

FEBRUARY 14th IS ASH WEDNESDAY

After Good Friday, this is the most solemn day of the church's year, when all Christians will want to reflect on their relationship with God and turn again to experience his mercy and forgiveness. Our main services are:

1.05pm SUNG EUCHARIST

7.00pm SOLEMN EUCHARIST

The music at both of these services will be led by our professional choir, and will include the famous **ALLEGRI Miserere**

A VITAL MINISTRY TO KENSINGTON HIGH STREET

But in addition to these familiar liturgical observances in church, we will once again be **taking to the streets**.

7.30 – 9.00am; 12.30 – 1.30pm; 5.00 – 6.00pm

At these three key periods throughout the day we will be outside the church, by the War Memorial, offering a prayer card and to sign the foreheads of all who want with the sign of the cross in holy ash.

YOU can share in this ministry: members of the congregation who would like to join in, please speak to the clergy.

To make the Ashes we burn last year's Palm Crosses - so please bring yours from home and bring in or outside the Vestry asap.

THROUGHOUT LENT we keep this holy season as a time of renewing and deepening our knowledge of God, our Discipleship of Jesus, and our membership of his servant church. Our Lent Course will be rather unusual:

CONVERSATIONS IN LENT

The Vicar will hold conversations with people prominent in public life about their work, their convictions – and how these might intersect with our faith.

All on Thursday evenings at 7.30: Feb 22; March 1, 8, 15 & 22