

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

*We pray for the leaders of the nations.
 Father, send your spirit of wisdom upon those making decisions
 in this tumultuous world.
 We pray for the work of diplomats and for peace on warring nations.
 We pray for the Bishop elect of London
 the Rt Revd SARAH MULLALLY DBE*

We pray for all those preparing at St Mary Abbots for confirmation:
 JAMES ALEXANDER BIANCA ANTE-FERKO
 ALEX BESSADA ELIZABETH COKAJ
 KIMBERLEY COLLISON DANIEL D'SOUZA
 AVELNE EICKELBERG JASPER EICKELBERG
 JACOB EMMANUEL ROXANA FOLESCU
 GUNNAR HANSON VICTORIA HANSON
 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

Please intercede for those who have asked for our prayers
 TAREK ALWER : SERGIO AVANZI
 JOHN BIGNALL : SHEILA BRADSHAW
 JOHN CANTLIE : DAPHNE CRAIG
 THEO BULKAI : SARAH DEAL
 FRANK GAME : TONY GORDON
 BRIAN HARVEY : HILAL KIBBARA
 LEO KOYMANS : GEORGE RANCHEV
 MARK REDMAN : ALEXANDRA WATT
 JAMES WORSLEY : CAROLYN
 TARA : GOHAR

Please pray for all who have died recently
 KEN DODD : STEPHEN HAWKING
 LAURENCE CURTIS : DERRICK HOLDEN-BROWN
 BARBNARA DE ZALDUONDO : JOSEPHINE PURVIS

And for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time
 BEN REGAN (19 March)

**St MARY ABBOTS
 CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS**

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- Friends of St Mary Abbots:**
 friends@amaw8.org 07585 705 281
- Sr Mary Abbots Appeal:**
 appeal@smaw8.org

NEW TODAY:

A SIMPLE WAY TO GIVE TO St MARY ABBOTS!
 Scan to donate to St Mary Abbots with just three clicks on
 your Apple or Android smartphone. Try it now!



Central Kensington Group Ministry
ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
 for the week beginning
18th March 2018



- Sunday 18th March PASSION SUNDAY**
 8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
Epistle: Hebrews 9. 11-15
Gospel: John 8. 46-59a
- 9.30am FAMILY EUCHARIST**
Children on Sundays Groups
Old Testament: Jeremiah 31. 31-34
Gospel: John 12. 20-33
Address: The Revd Canon Stephen Fielding
- 11.15am SUNG MATINS**
Old Testament: Exodus 7.8-18-9
New Testament: Luke 22. 1-13
Preacher: The Revd Preb Gillean Craig
- 8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST - readings as at 9.30
- 6.30pm **PLAINCHANT EVENSONG OF St JOSEPH**
Old Testament: Hosea 11. 1-9
New Testament: Luke 2. 41-end
Preacher: The Revd Preb Gillean Craig
- followed by HOLY EUCHARIST
- Monday 19th March St Joseph of Nazareth**
 8.00am Morning Prayer
 1.05pm INFORMAL EUCHARIST Sunday on Monday 'The Lord's Prayer'
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
- Tuesday 20th March St Cuthbert**
 8.00am Morning Prayer
 11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST
 12.00pm Burial of Ashes – Joan Martin RIP
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
- Wednesday 21st March Commemoration of Thomas Cranmer**
 8.00am Morning Prayer
 8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
 1.00pm Meditation Group
 2.00pm HEALING EUCHARIST with Laying-on-of-Hands & Anointing
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
- Thursday 22nd March**
 8.00am Morning Prayer
 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST: Joint St Barnabas & St Philip & St Mary
 Abbots Schools Service- All welcome
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
 7.30pm 'Conversation in Lent': Rear Admiral Nick Wilkinson
- Friday 23rd March**
 8.00am Morning Prayer
 8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
 1.05pm Royal College of Music students' recital
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
- Saturday 24th March The Blessed Oscar Romero**
 9.40am Morning Prayer
 10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
- Sunday 25th March PALM SUNDAY**
 8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
First Lesson: Philippians 2. 5-11
Gospel: Matthew 27. 1-54
- 9.00am PROCESSION OF PALMS**
from the Church Hall Courtyard, Vicarage Gate, to
9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST
with Children on Sundays groups
First Reading: Philippians 2. 5-11
Gospel: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD
 ACCORDING TO ST MARK
- 11.15am CHORAL MATINS**
Old Testament: Isaiah 5. 1-7
New Testament: Mark 12. 1-12
Sermon: The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney
- 12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST readings as at 9.30am**
- 6.30pm ST JOHN PASSION – JS BACH**
*St Mary Abbots Choir, the Purcell Orchestra and the St Mary
 Abbots Singers present a candlelit performance (£20/£15).*

Today is **PASSION SUNDAY** – the first day of Passiontide, the last fortnight of Lent. As we approach even closer to the annual commemoration of the suffering and death of Jesus our worship becomes more intensely austere, and the church itself physically reflects this. The leaves of the great reredos above the Resurrection Chapel altar are closed, and all the crosses are veiled in purple. This is not because we don't want to see the crucified Jesus – it derives from an ancient practice when crosses were made of the most precious material that could be afforded, and covered with jewels, and it was thought improper to flaunt so much glory as we approach the anniversary of the crucifixion

St MARY ABBOTS SERMONS AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Didn't quite get your fill on Sunday morning? Jonathan's sermons are accessible here: [youtube.com/user/jmacneaney/](https://www.youtube.com/user/jmacneaney/) All other sermons are available: [goo.gl/rMaUYN](https://www.google.com/search?q=goo.gl/rMaUYN) Alternatively check our facebook or twitter feed on Monday to see links to the previous days sermons.

DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK.

Thank you for the fantastically generous response to our urgent appeal last week on account of the extremely bitter weather. Keep up the good work!



NEW SIMPLE DIRECT WAYS TO MAKE DONATIONS TO STMA: See QR Code for your smartphone or reader for credit cards!



The St Mary Abbots 2018 HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CARDS

Available in church – take several and give to your friends and neighbours. We hope that you find it an attractive and effective advertisement of what our church offers at this, the very heart of the church's year. In recent years we found it harder to find volunteers to deliver them to every address in the parish, so once again a distribution company did it for us.

SPECIAL LENTEN SUNDAY ON MONDAY - 1.05-1.40pm

Our weekly of Sunday on Monday services are focussed on the Lord's Prayer. Within this short service of holy communion, Fr Stephen and Fr Jonathan look at each of the petitions of the prayer that Christians have used since the time of Jesus, showing how the prayer is a gateway to the Christian Gospel as a whole and a guide to a better understanding of our faith. Coffee, tea & sandwiches afterwards. All welcome. Fr Stephen (020) 7937 4106.

Concludes this Thursday – our final unique Lent Course:

CONVERSATIONS IN LENT

As he approaches the end of his full-time parochial ministry your Vicar has, with customary self-indulgence, organised a series of conversations in church with a few of the marvellous people he has come to know over the last 40 years, people prominent in public life. We've already heard about four fascinating and contrasting lives and work, giving us much to think about in our own story, and how we live out our lives.

The session is held in church and starts with a light supper at 7.30



Don't miss this Thursday 22nd March REAR ADMIRAL NICK WILKINSON

After a distinguished career as a sub-mariner in the Royal Navy (he was last Commandant of the Royal Naval College when it was based in its historic home of Greenwich Palace, Nick was the DA-Notice secretary (basically telling the media what they could and couldn't say about matters of national security). His contacts and experience of the world of security and espionage are, alas, of particularly pressing interest to us all – so don't miss!

Do join us. Book via jm@smaw8.org Suggested donation: £5

DIOCESE OF LONDON HOMELESSNESS APPEAL

St Mary Abbots Responds:

Our Children on Sunday have been learning about **homelessness** and our local support organisations. Each child received and decorated an empty (it is Lent after all) smarties tube. Throughout Lent they will be collecting money in these tubes for the diocesan homelessness appeal. We will return them on Easter Sunday when the previously evacuated smarties will also make an appearance. Our local organisation is **GLASS DOOR** which offers shelter, food and advice for homeless people in Kensington. In addition to collecting money please pray for them and their work this Lent.

Adult members of the congregation:

If you feel that you're missing out, why not seek out one or more of the children over coffee and give them a few coins for their tube?

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Our Confirmation Groups meet each week: 17 in the Junior Group and 12 adults (including 3 teenagers) – do hold them in your prayers. Juniors Wednesday afternoons; Adults on Tuesday evenings. nb Some candidates can't come at these times and we've made special arrangements for them – so unavailability is no excuse! **It would still be possible to join in!** email jm@smaw8.org or see clergy for details.

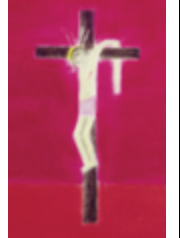
NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY



Our main Sung Eucharist begins *not at 9.30 but at 9.00am* in the Church Centre Courtyard, Vicarage Gate, where Palm Crosses are blessed and, remembering Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, we make a **joyful procession** down Kensington Church Street to St Mary Abbots. Now the mood changes completely and we read dramatically the whole of Matthew's account of the **Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ**. All Collections are for the **DIOCESAN LENT APPEAL**

BACH: ST JOHN PASSION PALM SUNDAY 25TH MARCH 6.30

St Mary Abbots Choir & Chorus & Baroque orchestra This glorious work, one of the great peaks of Christian art, is for many of us central to our keeping of Holy Week. **TICKETS £20 / £15 u16s ON SALE NOW** www.smaw8.org or at services or vestry. Please take posters and handbills to distribute to friends and place in local windows etc.



THEN IT'S HOLY WEEK. SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

HOLY MONDAY, TUES & WED – March 26, 27 & 28

9.00pm: Devotional Address (Jonathan MacNeaney)

followed by Compline

This ancient Office ends the day in the peace and calm of our church.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – 29th March

7.00pm: Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

In obedience to Our Lord's command, this deeply moving service includes a re-enactment of the feetwashing. **We need volunteers prepared to have their feet washed – please sign the list in church.** After Communion the Blessed Sacrament is carried in solemn procession to the Altar of Repose and the church is solemnly stripped of all decorations

8.30 - midnight: The Vigil of Gethsemane

We share Jesus's desolation as he awaits betrayal and death, a solemn vigil of prayer and silence in the sacramental presence of Our Lord. **'Could ye not watch with me one brief hour?'- sign the list in church to indicate when YOU will share in this vigil**

GOOD FRIDAY – 30th April

10.00am: Children's Passion Play

Telling in action, song & prayer the story of Jesus' death - for families & children of all ages. We need volunteers to act and assist: jm@smaw8.org

12noon: Preaching the Passion of Our Lord

THE VICAR leads us in two hours' meditation: addresses, hymns and silence

2.00pm: The Good Friday Liturgy

the most solemn service of the year; austere, moving, beautiful. The choir sings Our Lord's Passion according to St John, we Venerate the Cross, pray Solemn Intercessions and share the Communion – the Bread and Wine consecrated yesterday.

HOLY SATURDAY – 31st March

10.00am THE EASTER PREPARATION

We need EVERYONE'S help, young and old, to make our church worthy to celebrate the Resurrection. We sweep, polish, dust, spring clean from top to bottom & decorate it with flowers. The children make an Easter Garden. **Please sign the list in church to confirm that you can help.**

Then everything changes to glory and triumph!

EASTER DAY 1st April - Main Services:

- 5.00am Easter Vigil, Ceremonies & First Eucharist
- 9.30am Family Eucharist, Baptism and Easter Procession
- 11.15am Choral Matins
- 5.00pm Festal Evensong

IS ST MARY ABBOTS YOUR CHURCH?

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th April at 6.30pm

Everyone over 16 who worships with us regularly should be entered on the **CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL** so that s/he can play his/her full part in the life of our church. The current Roll is posted in church. Check whether you are on it and if not fill in a form as long as you are baptised & either: * live in the parish; or, if living outside the parish, * have worshipped regularly here for last 6 months+. Electoral Roll Officer: Sally Bessada er@smaw8.org

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