

In Our Prayers This Week

The Collect for Passion Sunday

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.
Amen

A Prayer during the Coronavirus outbreak

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.
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
Evangelia Brown	Michael North	John Cantlie
Rebecca Cable-Nunn	Holly Raber	Revd Geoffrey
Sarah Deal	Mary Reeve	Connor
Kevin Fitzgerald	Maria Reis	Joan Davies
Tony Gordon	June Scully	Leo Koymans
Sarah Hack	Sue Spicer	Simon Portal
Joan Jackson	Roger	Annie Redmile
Margaret Lyon	Rosie	James Worsley
	Victoria	

And for those who have died recently

Agnes Ndiweni (known as Masuku)
Dr John Hogarth Cleave
Tony de Bono

also for all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

John Attack 3rd April

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

Vicar	Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@smaw8.org	020 7937 6032
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Church Vestry:	Simon Fitter <i>Head Virger</i>	virger@smaw8.org	020 7937 5136
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Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children's Champion:	Martina Sadovska	m.sadovska@yahoo.co.uk	
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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

29th March 2020

St Mary Abbots' church building may be closed, but the St Mary Abbots church community continues strong in faith and fellowship. It seems extraordinary but wonderful that although we are now as far-flung as Norfolk, Kent, Dorset, Shropshire and Yorkshire (to name but a few!), technology still allows us to communicate regularly, and we are able to pray for one another's needs and share in each other's hopes and fears.

Please note: If you are aware of anyone who does not have email or access to the Internet, and would like to be posted a newsletter, with a selection of the items mentioned, please do let us know.

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10.30 am online

Fr Jonathan and I would like to encourage you to worship with us this Sunday, as always, by using [this link](#): As you will see, the service has been created without either of us leaving our own houses, as recommended by the Archbishops, but with all of you very much on our hearts. We have decided to go live at **10.30 am**, at the mid-point of our four regular morning services. This new method allows us to have "chat time" too, before and after the service, so if you are able to join us for worship, we shall be around to "speak" to you afterwards as usual – as you serve yourselves tea and coffee! If you arrive early on the site, you can also chat online with one another.

DAILY WORSHIP

As you know, the church is now fully closed, but Fr Jonathan and I continue to say the daily office in the quiet of our own 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](#):

PASTORAL AND PRACTICAL CARE

Generous offers to help others have come flooding in, but as yet, we have fewer people in need of help than we do volunteers. Please do let Fr Jonathan know if it would be helpful to be assigned someone to help with your shopping or to keep in touch.

However, we are aware that there are many wonderful and practical volunteer groups and organisations out

there, who are perhaps able to organise practical help on a greater scale. Marina Lussich, a regular worshipper at the 9.30 am Eucharist and one of our Children on Sundays co-ordinators, is now Team Lead of one of these voluntary groups, "Mutual Aid". Fr Jonathan and I hope to work closely with Marina and her team, so as to expand our team of volunteers and our list of those in need, so please read her introduction below.

We, however, will be continuing 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.

MUTUAL AID

A group of local volunteers to Campden, Pembridge and Holland wards in Kensington have set up a fantastic network of supporters, around 100 local people willing to help. If you know anyone in the area who is vulnerable and would need help with grocery shopping or getting their medication from the pharmacy, please [click here](#) and you will have all the details:

<https://www.kcmutualaid3.co.uk/>

Likewise, if you would like to volunteer or contribute financially to the ad hoc fund, all the information is on the website. Please share this with your neighbours and friends in Campden, Pembridge and Holland wards (other wards have their own system set up and you can google your ward name followed by the words "mutual aid").

Thank you,

Marina Lussich – team lead, Zone 3 Mutual Aid. St Mary Abbots Sunday school convenor for Butterflies.

LENT GROUP

Fr Jonathan, who was due to lead our Lenten Bible Study last week, has written a handout with a series of questions for reflection on this week's topic, "Stars and Seasons", which can be accessed [here](#). This coming week, our Ministry Assistant, Louis will be sharing some reflections with us on the next section "Creatures of Sea and Sky". We hope this will also be up on the website in due course. We would be delighted to think that you are continuing to share with us in our Lenten study and would always be glad to hear your thoughts if you continue to use the Live Lent booklets distributed in church.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

As you may remember, the APCM and the Annual Meeting of Parishioners at which churchwardens are elected, were scheduled in our church calendar to take place on Wednesday 1st April (next week). However, owing to the extraordinary circumstances caused by the Coronavirus which have prevented gatherings from taking place, both of these meetings have had to be postponed.

The Diocese has contacted us to say that special measures have been passed, allowing Annual Parochial Church Meetings to be held later this year, any time up until 31st October 2020. A notice will be publicised in due course with the new date, once this has been decided. Thank you to all those who have contributed reports for the Annual Report, which will be compiled ready for the postponed APCM.

BACH ST JOHN PASSION

As you can imagine, given Government statements about gatherings and the closure of church buildings, we regret to say that the Bach St John Passion will not be going ahead on April 5th as planned. All tickets have been automatically refunded. We are very grateful to those who have contacted us to say they would like to donate the price of the ticket to the church, but we have found that it is quicker and simpler to refund everyone on the list. If you would like to make a donation or to continue your regular plate giving in due course (as some have asked), we shall be sending out a way to do this in due course. We do, however, fully appreciate that this is an uncertain and difficult time for many financially.

FOODBANK

Now more than ever the foodbank is in need of donations. However the church is not able to act as a collection point at the moment.

A number of supermarkets are collecting at their exits please make use of these facilities or you can give financially. If you would like to do so then please send 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

Alternatively you can do a direct bank transfer ask Fr Jonathan jm@smaw8.org for the bank details.