

In Our Prayers This Week

The Alternative Collect for Advent 2

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

An Advent prayer

Lord Jesus forgive us when we live our lives without trusting in your promise that you will come again. Help us to be watchful and prayerful, and living in such a sense of expectation that we use our time modelling our lives on your example. Help us to hear afresh the challenge of John the Baptist to make our lives ready for your coming. May we be filled with an expectancy which causes us to make ourselves ready this Christmas for you to make your home with us. We seek afresh to straighten our crooked paths and may our lives holy places fit for our King.

From Thisischurch.com



The Annunciation. The Choir Screen of Notre Dame de Chartres by Jean Soulas

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

Those in acute need	Alison Steel	John Canelie
Margy Fitter	Edward	Rev. Geoffrey
Gina Hrela	Michael	Connor
Joan Jackson	Harrison	Joan Davies
Mary Reeve	<i>Those in long-term need</i>	Leo Koymans
June Scully	Vincenzo Blandini	Simon Portal
Hew Service	Theo Bulkai	Annie Redmile
Sebastian Shaw		James Worsley

and for all who have died recently

Christopher Buckmaster	Pearl Collinson	Arthur Dawes
Eva Fraser	Andrew Gillespie	Tony Gordon
Wayne Matthews	Karl Julius Silchenstedt	

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

David Wainwright, 8 th December	Jo Harriman, 8 th December
Josephine Hamilton, 9 th December	
Robert Courtney, 11 th December	

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

The Parish and Vicarage offices are open from 10am – 5pm

Vicar: Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 6032
Associate Vicar	vacant	
Curate: Mother Alice Ormondroyd	curate@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4737
PA & events: Leonora Service, PA	pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4731
Churchwardens: Guy Heald	guyheald@hotmail.com	
Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Parish Office: Petter Kringberg	parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 2419
Vestry: Simon Fitter (Head Virger)	virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 5136
Tom Mendel, Amanda McRae and Sam Kibble (assistant virgers)		
St Mary Abbots Centre: Adam Norton	centremanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 8885
Children's Work Admin: Martina Sadovska	children@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Safeguarding Office: Andrew Freestone	safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Stewardship Secretary: Emma Porteous	stewardship@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Electoral Roll Officer: Ed Warrick	er@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Bellringing Secretary: David Holdridge	david.holdridge@ntfworld.com	07904 954 959
Friends of St Mary Abbots: Steve Atack	friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk	07585 705 281



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

6th December 2020

Keeping the church open is dependent upon our maintenance of good practices including:

- Filling in a Covid Track and trace form at the main door, or using the NHS app which can be found on the notice board and inside the church.
- Sanitising our hands at the entrance
- Wearing masks inside the church
- Maintaining 2 metre distancing from others
- Following the one way system

SUNDAY 6th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8 am **Holy Eucharist (BCP)**

9.30 am **Family Eucharist**

11.15 am **Matins**

Preacher: The Rev'd Prof Peter Galloway, Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM The Queen

6.30 pm **Advent Service of Light** with Advent readings & music from our professional choir.

Numbers will be limited so please reserve a seat via Eventbrite: www.smaw8.org/services If you do not have access to a computer please contact Petter or Leonora who will register you.

MONDAY 7th December – Ambrose, Bishop

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

TUESDAY 8th December – Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer followed by **Holy Eucharist**

WEDNESDAY 9th December

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

THURSDAY 10th December

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer followed by **Holy Eucharist**

FRIDAY 11th December

9 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SATURDAY 12th December

10 am - 2pm Church open for Private Prayer

12 noon Midday Prayer in the nave

SUNDAY 13th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8 am **Holy Eucharist (BCP)**

9.30am **Holy Eucharist with children's Nativity readings**

11.15am **Matins**

Preacher: **Canon Thomas Mendal**, St Mary the Virgin, Eastbourne.

3.30 The Messiah (part 1) with our professional choir and The Purcell Players

6.30 The Messiah (part 1) with our professional choir and The Purcell Players

Numbers will be limited so please reserve a seat via Eventbrite: www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020 If you do not have access to a computer please contact Petter or Leonora who will register you.

Christmas Services & Concerts

6 December Advent Service of Light, 6.30 pm.
13 December Holy Eucharist *with Children's Nativity readings*, 9.30
Messiah (Part 1) 3.30pm & 6.30 pm
With our professional Choir and The Purcell Players
www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020
18th December Concert by Stile Antico, 6pm
20 December Lessons and Choral Carols for
Christmastide. 3.30pm & 6.30pm
24th December Midnight Mass *by candlelight, with our
professional choir*. 11.30am
25th December Holy Eucharist (BCP). 8am
Family Eucharist with choir 9.30
Festal Matins with choir 11.15
Numbers will be limited so in order to attend please book
a place on Eventbrite. If you do not have access to a
computer please phone Leonora or Petter.

Message from Mother Emma

*"Through the greatness of your mercy, I will
come into your house"* (Psalm 5, vs 7)

It is with great joy that we opened the church
doors for public worship once again today,
and that we extend a warm welcome to join us
at any (or all!) of the forty-five services which
will take place in St Mary Abbots between today and New
Year's Eve. From Morning Prayer on Zoom to our daily service
of Midday Prayer in church; from the beautiful and traditional
Advent Service of Light to a Service of Lessons and Choral
Carols for Christmastide, specially adapted for a Covid season,
we look forward to worshipping with you in God's house as we
await the coming of the Christ-child at Christmas.

This coming Sunday (6th), there will be a celebration of Holy
Communion at 8 am, a Family Eucharist with children leading
our readings and prayers and Mother Alice preaching to us at
9.30, and a service of Matins at 11.15 am, at which the
preacher will be the Revd Prof Peter Galloway. In the evening,
we have our Advent Service of Light, with readings and Advent
motets which will lead us (by candlelight) to reflect on the
message that during this season God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light. We are excited that we shall have a
full octet to lead our choral music and very much hope that you
will be able to join us – there are still spaces available on
Eventbrite www.smaw8.org/services or by phoning Leonora.

The following Sunday we have both a new Covid-friendly
version of the Nativity with our parish children and in the
afternoon/evening, two performances of Handel's Messiah,
part 1 – for which tickets are now available to buy on
Eventbrite. Our guest preacher at Matins next week will be
Canon Tom Mendel, father of our Sunday virger!

We are aware that current restrictions will necessitate some
changes to our usual Advent and Christmas services, but we
look forward nonetheless to sharing in something of the joy and
mystery of this wonderful, holy season and will be delighted to
see you back.

We continue to hold in our prayers all who remain at home
during this period, and hope that you know you are constantly
remembered before the altar and in the heart of St Mary
Abbots. Let us together hope and pray that with vaccines on
the horizon, this time of separation and limitation may be
drawing to a close.

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma



Confirmation

Monday 7th December 2020

On Monday there will be a Zoom meeting at 7pm to discuss
the confirmation classes due to start in January 2021. This will
include topics that will be discussed at the weekly meetings as
we prepare for the confirmation on 22nd April 2021 with the
Bishop of Kensington presiding. Please email
pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk or speak to one of the clergy if you
would like to have the details of the meeting.


ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
'Serving the Heart of Kensington'



Angels announcing Christ's birth to the Shepherds by Covert Flinck. Covert Flinck, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

(Part 1)

*A Baroque performance by candlelight, with our
professional choir and The Purcell Players*

Sunday 13th December 2020

3.30 pm or 6.30 pm

Tickets £20 (£10 under 16)

www.smaw8.org/messiah-2020 or call 0203 479 4731

Numbers are restricted so please purchase tickets on line

PARISH & OTHER NEWS

SMA alternative Christmas lunch

We are still looking for volunteers to help distribute Christmas
boxes to families in need, elderly people and vulnerable adults
across the borough. These are the people we usually have at
the centre for lunch on Christmas day each year and have
been particularly affected over this last year. There are three
ways to help:

1. For those not intending the stay in London over Christmas
you could create a box containing a main present and a
few extra festive treats or stocking fillers to be delivered to
the virgers at the church by the 21st December.
2. For those willing to give their time on the day: Pick a name
and a present request – usually a book or warm Pyjamas.
Collect a ready meal from the centre on Christmas eve and
deliver it on Christmas day with the present. Spend some
time with them while they open it. You can then spend the
rest of the day with your family knowing you have brought
some Christmas cheer to someone who would have spent
the day on their own.
3. Volunteer to drive and deliver several present bags on
Christmas Eve or Christmas day. More drivers are
needed.

To find out more please email Lucille luce@briance.co.uk or
phone: 07785 312509