

In Our Prayers This Week

Prayer for 3rd Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer for those baptised today

We thank you that you have claimed for yourself those who have been washed in the waters of rebirth. Uphold them in this new life, that they may ever remain steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and rooted in your love. Father of life, Amen



Eutychia & Lucy at the tomb of St Agatha by Jacobello del Fioire

We welcome those who are baptised this week

Florence Amelia Mari Walden,
Leo Anthonie Martin Le Roux, Ran Xu

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Those in acute need</i> | Fr David Michaels | Sebastian |
| Hillary Bardsley | Patrick North | Stephanie |
| (baby) Jude Bonnet | Maggie Rees-Oliviere | Yves |
| Lily Cameron | Mary Reeve | <i>Those in long-term need</i> |
| James Clark | June Scully | Vincenzo Blandini |
| Geraldine Henry | Hellen Mason- Spyry | Theo Bulkai |
| Gina Hrela | David Strong | John Cantlie |
| Joan Jackson | Jill Traynor | Joan Davies |
| Fiona McWatters | Bob | Annie Redmile |
| Anna Messim | Edward | James Worsley |
| Fr David Michaels | Michael | Conor |

and for all who have died recently

Ann Bradley Elisabeth (Lys) Millership_ Alison Steel
Antoinette Tarlton-Cooper Raymond von Drehle Christine

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

Anthony Rudd, 19th 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: | Fr Christopher Rogers | assocvicar@stmaryabbots.org.uk | 0203 479 4737 |
| Curate: | Mthr Alice Ormondroyd | on maternity leave | |
| Churchwardens: | Guy Heald | guyheald@hotmail.com | |
| | Ed Warrick | er@smaw8.org | |
| Vestry: | Simon Fitter (Head Virger) | virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk | 0207 937 5136 |
| Assistant Virger: | Martina Sadovska | children@stmaryabbots.org.uk | |
| Parish Office: | Petter Kringberg | parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk | 0207 937 2419 |
| PA & events: | Leonora Service, PA | pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk | 020 3479 4731 |
| 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: | Alex Jueguen | safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org.uk | |
| Stewardship Secretary: | Emma Porteous | stewardship@stmaryabbots.org.uk | |
| Electoral Roll Officer: | Ivell Arnold | er@stmaryabbots.org.uk | |
| Bellringing Secretary: | David Holdridge | david.holdridge@ntlworld.com | 07904 954 959 |
| Friends of St Mary Abbots: | Steve Atack | friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk | 07585 705 281 |



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 12th December 2021

*The church is open daily from 8.30am to 6pm
and from 10am - 6pm on Saturday*

When visiting the church please remember to maintain social distancing practices. It has become a requirement again that you wear a mask and use hand sanitiser when entering the church. We would also encourage you to maintain 2m distance and using the Track & Trace forms on the table by the door or NHS App in order to protect and reassure those at greater risk.

Please respect the area at the front South of the church (under the lectern by the Holland Chapel), which has been set aside for those who prefer to remain masked and retain social distancing practices.

SUNDAY 12th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 8.00 am | Holy Eucharist (BCP) |
| 9.30 am | Holy Eucharist with Baptism |
| 11.15 | Choral Matins |
| 3 pm | Handel's Messiah (part 1) |
| 5.30 pm | Handel's Messiah (part 1) |

To book a ticket on the 'what is on page' of our website
www.smaw8.org/what-is-on

MONDAY 13th December – Lucy, Martyr

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 8 am | Morning Prayer via Zoom |
| 8.30 am | Bible Study (online) |
| 12 noon | Informal Eucharist - Sunday on Monday |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in Church |
| 6.30 pm | Private Carol Concert |

TUESDAY 14th December – John of the Cross, Poet

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|---------|--------------------------|
| 8 am | Morning Prayer via Zoom |
| 12 noon | Holy Eucharist (BCP) |
| 2 pm | Private Carol Concert |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in Church |

WEDNESDAY 15th December

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|---------|--|
| 8 am | Morning Prayer via Zoom |
| 9.30 am | St Mary Abbots School Carol Concert |
| 12 noon | Holy Eucharist |
| 1.05 pm | Meditation Group |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in the vicars parlour |
| 6.30 pm | Mayor's Carol Concert in Aid of Glass Door |

THURSDAY 16th December

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|---------|--------------------------|
| 8 am | Morning Prayer via Zoom |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in church |

FRIDAY 17th December - O Sapientia

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|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 8 am | Morning Prayer via Zoom |
| 9.30am | Last Mini Abbots session this year. |
| 12 noon | Holy Eucharist |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in Church |

SATURDAY 18th December

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|---------|--------------------------|
| 12 noon | Midday Prayer |
| 5.30 pm | Evening Prayer in Church |

SUNDAY 19th December 4th Sunday of Advent

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|---------|-------------------------|
| 8.00 am | Holy Eucharist (BCP) |
| 9.30 am | Holy Eucharist |
| 11.15 | Choral Matins |
| 3 pm | Nine Lessons and Carols |
| 5.30 pm | Nine Lessons and Carols |

You can reserve a seat on the 'what is on page' of our website

Christmas Events & Services

Please reserve seats in advance

Via the 'what is on page' of our website
www.smaw8.org/what-is-on or call 0203 479 4731

Sunday 12th December (Ticketed £20)

3 pm Handel's Messiah (Part 1) -
5.30 pm Handel's Messiah (Part 1) –
Performance by candlelight with our professional choir and The Purcell Players

Sunday 19th December

3 pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols
5.30 pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Friday 24th December, Christmas Eve

4 pm Children's Crib Service
Children invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity
11 pm Midnight Mass by candlelight
with our professional choir

Saturday 25th December, Christmas Day

8 am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
9.30 am Festal Eucharist
11.15 am Festal Matins
5.30pm Christmas Eucharist at the Crib

www.smaw8.org/what-is-on

Message from Mother Emma

I do hope that you are all safe and well at this time, as we work out what the new variant and resulting restrictions mean for us all. We are relieved that we made the decision to go for two smaller performances of Handel's Messiah and the Carol Service, and so are able to welcome good numbers of people, whilst remaining very much within the safe guidelines for our performances of Messiah this Sunday. There are still seats available, so please consider buying a ticket for one of the performances (3 pm or 5.30 pm). It will be wonderful to hear our choir alongside the Purcell Players, and we very much appreciate your support for our music, choir and musicians here at St Mary Abbots.



**HANDEL'S
MESSIAH (Part 1)**
*A concert by candlelight, with our professional choir and
The Purcell Players*
Sunday 12th December
3 pm or 5.30 pm
Tickets £20 (£10 under 16)

We shall be delighted to welcome Ran Xu, Leo Le Roux and Florence Walden into the church through baptism at the 9.30 am Eucharist this Sunday morning, and look forward to seeing them and their families and friends as they take this important step on their journey of faith. Please hold them in your prayers.

We then hope very much to see you at our Services of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 19th at either 3 pm or 5.30 pm – places may be booked on via the 'what is on page' of our church website www.smaw8.org. We do now have to ask you to reserve a space if you wish to attend Midnight Mass, so that we can monitor numbers; you will also find this link on the website.



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

A Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols
by Candlelight
With our professional choir
Sunday 19th December 2021
3 pm or 5.30 pm

In line with the new restrictions, as we protect and reassure the more vulnerable among us, we are now asking you to wear a mask again inside the church building, to sanitise your hands on entry and to continue to observe the alternate pew seating.

You all remain in my prayers at this time.

God of power, you are strong to save and you never fail those who trust in you; keep us under your protection and spread abroad your reign of peace, as we await the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen (Common Worship Daily Prayer)

With my love, Mother Emma

Christmas Gifts for Elderly & Vulnerable

Thank you very much to those who have already signed up to take part in the buying and delivering of Christmas gifts to those elderly and vulnerable neighbours who would otherwise be on their own this Christmas. The gifts, along with a specially prepared hamper, are due to go out on Christmas Eve, but we would love volunteers to come and help sort the presents and hampers out in the week before. We are still waiting for a list of people and their present requests from the council but will be in touch with those who signed up as soon as we have this. For those who wish to take part and have not yet signed up the form can be found at the South door.

Friends Silent Auction a success

The Friends of St Mary Abbots Silent Auction closed on Sunday and has raised £2,300 which will go towards improving the facilities in the church. Steve Atack, the Founding Patron of the Friends, would like to thank their sponsors, Knight Frank Kensington, for their generous support together with all those who donated prizes and bid for them. They would also like to thank those who were not successful with their bids but decided to donate their money to the Friends despite not winning a prize. If others would like to do the same, or if you didn't have chance to make a bid and wish to donate please contact Steve on steveatack@aol.com Help us raise our new target of £2500!

A number of people have asked about details of joining the Friends and these can be obtained from the Membership Secretary Ruth Darrell at ruthabarker@yahoo.co.uk. A programme of events is in preparation for 2022 which we hope will be able to take place beyond Covid restrictions.

On a sad note, the Friends announce the passing of Mrs Alison Steel, a dedicated supporter, worker and Patron of the Friends - her contribution over the years was simply enormous. May she Rest in Peace.

Food Bank

The food bank is still in need of your donations, so please bring tinned or packets of food to the church on Sunday or to the vestry during the week. Please do not bring any ready meals as we have no way of storing them in the church. A full list can be found on our food bank page www.smaw8.org/food-bank-support.html Should you wish to donate financially you can send a cheque, made payable to 'Dalgarno Neighbourhood Trust' and marked 'foodbank' on the reverse to: The Dalgarno Trust, 1 Webb Close Dalgarno Way, London, W10 5QB or you can donate directly on their website: www.dalgarnotrust.org.uk