

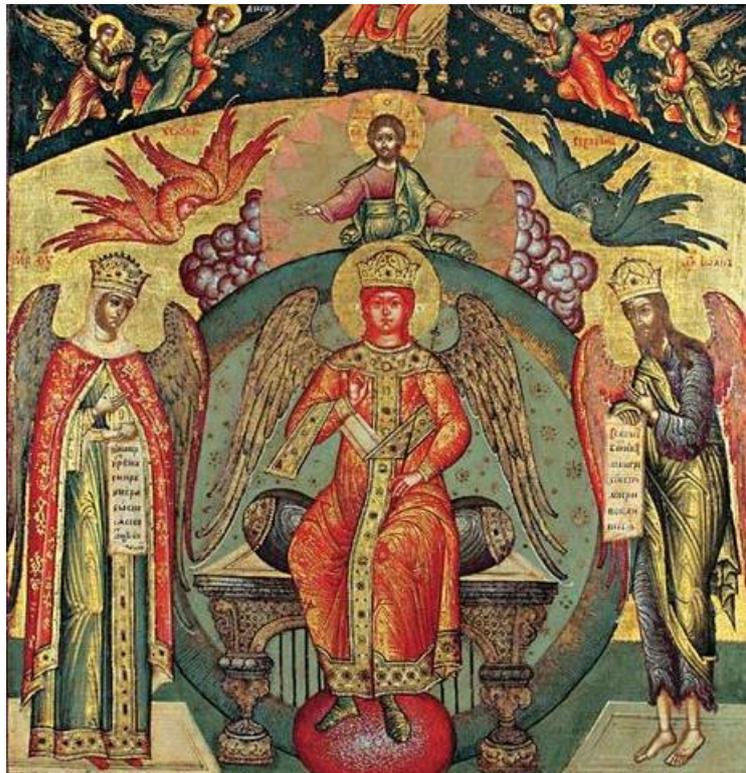
In Our Prayers This Week

Collect for 3rd Sunday 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. **Amen**

O Sapientia – a prayer for Wisdom (BCP)

O Wisdom, which came out of the mouth of the most High, and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: come and teach us the way of prudence. **Amen**



St Sophia of Wisdom, Yaroslavl Museum. Pintrest

Those in acute need

Laila Attia
Hillary Bardsley
Olivia Dawkins
Evelyn Ellison
Alexander Lamping
Monica Libby

Michael Turner

Buyile Phiri
Adam
Candice
Stephanie
Talia

Those in long-term need

Christopher Browne
Fr David Michaels
James Worsley
Conor

and for all who have died recently

Paul Davey Laura Fairhome Rose Kanyangarara
Marie-Christine Nibagwire Barbara Poole
Rosemary Rukmini Wesson

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

Ann Bradley

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

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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

150th Anniversary, 1872-2022

Sunday 11th December 2022

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

The church is open daily from 8.30am to 6pm
and 10am - 6pm on Saturdays & Bank Holidays

The clergy will be saying Evening Prayer in the quiet of their homes at **5.30 pm on Monday 12th December**. Please use the prayers here: www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer. Evening prayer will be back in church on Tuesday 13th December.

SUNDAY 11th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8.00 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30 am **Holy Eucharist with Baptism**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **Handel's Messiah (part 1)**
 Tickets available on-line

MONDAY 12th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Informal Eucharist, Sunday on Monday**
5.30 pm **No** Evening Prayer in church
6 pm Homeless Ministry (*meet outside church*)
6.30 pm **St James's Carol Service**

TUESDAY 13th December – Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Communion (BCP)**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer back in church

WEDNESDAY 14th December – John of the Cross

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

THURSDAY 15th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am **School Carol Service** - all are welcome
11.30 am **Thomas's Carol Service**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

FRIDAY 16th December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 Mini Abbots at St Mary Abbots Centre
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
1.05 pm Royal College of Music concerts
 (resume 13th January)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

SATURDAY 17th December – O Sapientia

12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)
3 pm **Marie-Christine Nibagwire Memorial**
5.30 pm **No** Evening Prayer in church

SUNDAY 18th December – 4th Sunday of Advent

8.00 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30 am **Parish Eucharist**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **A service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

Message from Mother Emma

Thank you so much to all those who took part in the beautiful Nativity Play last Sunday. The children really brought the story alive, and their singing in the choir during Communion was also just lovely. Thanks to Martina and all the parents who supported, helped to practise lines and came to the rehearsal on Saturday, too.



This week we have continued to host a number of external charity and school Carol Services and Concerts, so the church has been blessed with many joyous carols and prayers, and our staff team have been working very hard to offer a traditional warm St Mary Abbots' welcome to all our visitors.

Tonight at 5.30 pm, we have our very own performance of Handel's Messiah, part 1, with the St Mary Abbots Choir and the Purcell Players. Tickets have sold well, but are still available at the door tonight, so please do join us for this Christmas tradition this Sunday evening.

Looking ahead, we also hope very much to welcome you to our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 18th December at 5.30 pm. This is not ticketed and you are warmly invited to turn up and rejoice with us as we hear the story of Christ's birth, listen to the choir and sing our favourite carols.

As Christmas approaches, we do hope that you are able to find a little time for Advent reflection and peace, and to prepare your hearts and minds for the coming of Christ. Do join us at any of our weekday services, to remember that this is a time of faithful hope and expectation, alongside the preparations for the feast itself!

People of God: be glad! Your God delights in you, giving you joy for sadness and turning the dark to light. Be strong in hope therefore; for your God comes to save. You are God's children. Lord, make us one in the love of Christ today and for ever. Amen. [Common Worship, Prayer at the Advent Wreath, Advent 2]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma



A Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols
by Candlelight with our professional Choir
Sunday 18th December 2022
at 5.30pm

Christmas 2022

Sunday 18th December

5.30 pm **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**
by Candlelight

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve

4 pm **Children's Crib Service**
Children are invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity

11 pm **Midnight Mass by candlelight**
with our professional choir

Sunday 25th December, Christmas Day

8.00 am **Holy Eucharist** (Book of Common Prayer)
9.30 am **Festal Eucharist** *with our professional choir*
11.15 am **Festal Matins** *with our professional choir*
5.30 pm **Christmas Eucharist at the Crib**

1st January, New Year

9.30 am **Eucharist & Covenant for the New Year**

St Mary Abbots Christmas Outreach Appeal

A very large thank you to all of those who have offered to buy presents for either the homeless or for the older residents of Kensington and Chelsea – the response has been heart warming and will make a big difference to the recipients. It is not however too late to help if you would like to join in.

We are looking for warm hats, gloves or socks to be wrapped up, perhaps with a kind message, to be distributed on Monday nights by our volunteers and Father Christopher who take soup out as part of our Homeless Ministry. Presents can be left with a note on the bag 'For Father Christopher' in the vestry.

Meanwhile Lucille and her volunteers will once more arranging a Christmas Eve lunch at the centre for vulnerable older residents from the borough. Presents, donated by us and members of several other churches, will be given out. As soon as we have a list of presents we will be in touch with a name and what they would like to open on Christmas day. If you would like to take part, please contact Leonora.

Food Bank

Thank you for the generous amounts of food given this week to the food bank – they are in greater need of your donations than ever so please keep donating! Donation boxes can be found at each entrance to in the church. Please remember not to bring any fresh food or ready meals as we have no way of storing them. Should you wish to find out more or to donate financially their website: www.dalgarnotrust.org.uk