

In Our Prayers This Week

Collect for 4th Sunday of Advent

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Collect for Christmas Eve

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Angel appears to Joseph in a dream by Rembrandt. Pinterest

Those in acute need

Laila Attia
Hillary Bardsley
Olivia Dawkins
Evelyn Ellison
Jill Traynor
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 Tom Day Marie-Christine Nibagwire
Rosemary Rukmini Wesson Rosemary Watt

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

Anthony Howard, 19th December John Banks, 20th December
Evelyn Atask, 21st December Barry Luxton, 21st December
Prudence Watt, 23rd December John Worsley, 24th December
Sou Yen Crosthwaite, 24th December
Gwen Robson, 25th December Tovah Cameron, 25th December

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

Church Website: www.stmaryabbots.org.uk

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	Ed Warrick	ed.warrick@insead.edu	
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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

150th Anniversary, 1872-2022

Sunday 18th December

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 19th December**. Evening prayer will be back in church on Tuesday 20th December.

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**

MONDAY 19th 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 **London Land Management Carols** (*tickets available*)

TUESDAY 20th December

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

WEDNESDAY 21st December

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

THURSDAY 22nd December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am **No** School Service
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

FRIDAY 23rd December opf

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 **No** Mini Abbots in the centre
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
1.05 pm **No** Royal College of Music concerts (resume 13th January)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

SATURDAY 24th December – Christmas Eve

12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)
3 – 7pm **Peal of Bells for Christmas Eve**
Children's Crib Service
Children invited to dress as nativity character
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church
11 pm **Midnight Mass**

SUNDAY 25th December – Christmas Day

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
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**

Message from Mother Emma

It was wonderful to see the church so full for the beautiful performance of Handel's Messiah last Sunday evening – our grateful thanks go to Mark Uglow, the St Mary Abbots Choir and the Purcell Players for bringing alive the story of Christ's Incarnation and preparing us all for Christmas in such a moving and uplifting way. Thanks too, to Leonora, Simon, Martina, and all who volunteered on the evening and all who attended despite the snow beginning to fall!



Now we look forward to our candlelit Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5.30 pm this coming Sunday (18th December) and hope that you will be able to join us. There is no need to book in advance this year – just come along!

Evening Prayer has now resumed at 5.30 pm every day (though there will be no service next Monday when we have our final visiting Carol Service), and this peaceful twenty-minute service will continue right up to Christmas, and again from Boxing Day. During next week we shall be offering all our regular services, including the monthly Healing Eucharist at 12 noon on Wednesday, to which you are warmly invited.

I am delighted to report that our online service of Morning Prayer, meeting on Zoom at 8 am, is continuing to grow. If you would like to join us, please do ask Leonora or one of the clergy for the link.

Many thanks to all who have so generously donated to our Christmas hats, gloves and socks appeal for the homeless – Fr Christopher has written at more length on this in this newsletter – and those who have given gifts for the older vulnerable people who will be attending Christmas lunch at the centre.

Please see in the box above a reminder of our main Christmas services. We do hope that those of you who are remaining in Kensington will be able to be with us, whilst those of you who are travelling will be very much in our prayers.

People of God, return! You are called to be God's own. From the mountains announce the good news: God comes in justice and peace to all who follow his ways. You are God's children. Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ today and forever, Amen [Common Worship, Wreath Prayer for Advent 3]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

Christmas 2022

Saturday 24th December, Christmas Eve

- 4 pm **Children's Crib Service**
Children re 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

A very large thank you to all of those who have offered to buy presents for the homeless this Christmas. Father Christopher says "a huge thanks to all of you who have so kindly donated hats, gloves, socks and scarves for the homeless, whether you have made or bought them! We started to give them out on Monday evening, and the response was overwhelming – big smiles and excitement, and a sense of being loved. One man even responded by playing 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' to us on his saxophone!"

A huge thank you also to those who have very generously bought presents for the elderly, and a quick reminder to deliver them to the vicarage or St Mary Abbots Centre on Monday. These will be given out at the Christmas lunch at the centre on Christmas Eve, which is being organised with Lucille and our neighbouring parish of St George's.



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
150th Anniversary, 1872-2022

Crib Service

Children are invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity

Saturday 24th December 2022
4 pm



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
150th Anniversary, 1872-2022

Midnight Mass

by Candlelight, with our professional choir

Saturday 24th December 2022
11 pm

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