

In Our Prayers This Week

Collect for Christmas Day

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Collect for Christmas

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven. **Amen**



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

150th Anniversary, 1872-2022

Sunday 25th December 2022

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

The church is open daily from 10 am – 6pm from
Monday 26th December to Monday 2nd January

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**

MONDAY 26th December – Stephen, Deacon

8 am **No** Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Eucharist (No Sunday on Monday)**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church
6 pm Homeless Ministry (*meet outside church*)

TUESDAY 27th December – John the Apostle

8 am **No** Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Communion (BCP)**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

WEDNESDAY 28th December – The Holy Innocents

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

THURSDAY 29th December – Thomas Becket,

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

FRIDAY 30th December

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 31st December

12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

SUNDAY 1st January – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

8.00 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30 am **Eucharist and Covenant for the New Year**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **Sung Evensong**



The Nativity, Pintrest

Those in acute need

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

Michael Turner

Buyile Phiri
Adam
Candice
Luke
Stephanic
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
Rosemary Rukmini Wesson Rosemary Watt

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

Gwen Robson, 25th December Tovah Cameron, 25th December
Robert Cook, 27th December Maggie Curry, 29th December
Christine Zochonis, 30th December Sheila Uglow, 1st January
Hartle Bourne, 3rd January Bill Kirkpatrick, 4th January
Simon Egert, 3rd January

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

Church Website: www.stmaryabbots.org.uk

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 curate@stmaryabbots.org.uk 0203 4043042
Churchwardens: Guy Heald guyheald@hotmail.com
Ed Warrick ed.warrick@insead.edu
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: centremanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk or 0207 937 8885
Director of Music: Mark Uglow Music@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Children's Work Admin: Martina Sadovska children@stmaryabbots.org.uk
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Electoral Roll Officer: Ivell Arnold er@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Bellringing Secretary: David Holdridge holdridged114@gmail.com
Friends of St Mary Abbots: Steve Atack friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk 07802 43005

MONDAY 2nd January – The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

- 8 am **NO** Morning Prayer
12 noon **Holy Eucharist (not Sunday on Monday)**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church
6 pm Homeless Ministry (*meet inside the church*)

TUESDAY 3rd January

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

WEDNESDAY 4th January

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

THURSDAY 5th January

- 8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am **School Eucharist** – all are welcome
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

FRIDAY 6th January - Epiphany

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

SATURDAY 7th January

- 12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer in church

SUNDAY 8th January – Baptism of Christ

- 8.00 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30 am **Holy Eucharist with Baptism**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **Sung Evensong**

Message from Mother Emma

As we approach the festival of Christmas itself, Fr Christopher, Mother Alice, Fr Peter and I would like to send everyone in our congregation and community; those who receive our communications, and all who are travelling or at home, our prayers for a peaceful and joyful celebration of the coming of Christ in Bethlehem. We hope very much that we shall be able to welcome you to one or more of our services over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, but will be holding you in our prayers wherever you are!

On the Sunday after Christmas, we shall be marking New Year's Day together, using the words of the New Year's Covenant at both the Eucharist and Matins. It will be good to pray together at the start of 2023, and commit ourselves to serving Christ throughout the year. I hope you will be able to join us. Finally, we shall be offering a Choral Eucharist at 12 noon on Friday 6th January for the Epiphany, as the Magi arrive at the crib and the Twelve Days of Christmas come to an end. You are warmly invited to the service.

As ever, I am so very grateful to serve such a wonderful church and community, and would like to thank you all for your support, generosity and faithfulness throughout the past year. It has been a privilege to celebrate 150 years of our beautiful church building this year (and there are still a few commemorative mugs on sale!), with the many different services, events, exhibitions and gatherings in honour of the anniversary, and I



send a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to them. It has been a momentous year, and we remember with thanksgiving and deep respect the late Queen Elizabeth II, whose Platinum Jubilee we celebrated with the Civic Service in March, and whose death we then sadly marked in September. We pray for His Majesty King Charles III and look ahead to his Coronation next May. Although the celebration of our Patronal Festival with the Bishop of London had to be cancelled due to the mourning period for the Queen, I am delighted to say that Bishop Sarah has already promised to come to preach and preside at our Patronal on 10th September 2023 – please do put it in your diary now! We shall also be welcoming a New Area Bishop of Kensington next year: Bishop Emma Ineson, whom I was honoured to meet following the announcement last week. Bishop Emma will be coming to preside at our Confirmation Service on 25th May.

After the restrictions of Covid, we have been very glad to be able to officiate at numerous baptisms, weddings and wedding blessings during the year, and we send our prayers to all those who have come to the church to mark these life events. We have also been very pleased to be able to re-start so many of the aspects of church life which were paused during the pandemic, and we are very thankful for our readers, servers, welcomers and sidespeople, children's group leaders and helpers, and those who prepare and serve our refreshments between the Sunday services. Please do speak to one of the clergy if you would like to be included in one of these teams. And of course, my personal thanks to our wonderful parish team, whose inspiration, hard work, efficiency and support lie behind everything we do.

Although this has been a troubled year for many, affected by the war in Ukraine, the cost of living crisis, rising energy costs and political upheaval, our community has nevertheless been able to offer support by offering a space for warmth and peace; through the welcome of refugees (who themselves have contributed to our community in so many ways) and in our outreach projects to the homeless and in support of local charities. Above all, we have seen through the input into our Mission Action Plan, that we are all inspired by our shared faith to seek to make St Mary Abbots the place God calls us to be.

O God, who humbled yourself to share our birth and our death: bring us this Christmas with the shepherds and the wise men to kneel before your holy cradle, that we may come to sing with the angels your glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, world without end. Amen.

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma



Merry Christmas

From the clergy and staff
at St Mary Abbots Church