

## In our Prayers this week

### Collect for Easter Day

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### Easter Prayer from Faith and Worship

We are often not the Easter People that we should be, living in the certain knowledge of your great mercy and love. Distracted by the world around us we fail to hear your voice, or hide when faith is challenged as we wander off the path. Forgive us, we pray; restore the love that we first had, a faith that can endure. We will keep our eyes fixed on you, Lord, and with you at our right hand we shall not be shaken. Amen



The women go to the tomb. Pinterest

#### Those in acute need

Rhoda Bowker	Sara Strong	Perdita
Brian Cripps	Jill Traynor	Stephanie
Paul Fitch	Luke Thomas	Talia
June Hirschmiller	Adam	<b>Long-term need</b>
Emmanuel Kupa	Jean	Hillary Bardsley
Buyile Phiri	Julia	Christopher Browne
James Philpot	Luke	Evelyn Ellison
George Rabbett-Smith	Maria	Paul Proudman
Duncan Stafford Shaw	Natalia	Michael Turner

#### and for all who have died recently

Libby Boone	Ailsie Corble
John Paine	Liz Robson
	Jonah Walker-Smith

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

Bruce Dinwiddy, 1<sup>st</sup> April John Atack, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

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

St Mary Abbots Church Hall, Vicarage Gate, London, W8 4HN

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## ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

### KENSINGTON

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

## Welcome to St Mary Abbots

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

### SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Day

8 am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP)
9.30 am	<b>Festal Choral Eucharist</b>
11.15 am	<b>Festal Choral Matins</b>
5.30 pm	<b>Festal Choral Evensong</b>

### MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
8.30 am	Bible Study via Zoom
10 am	<b>Church opens</b> (Bank Holiday)
12 noon	<b>Holy Eucharist</b> (NO Sunday on Monday)
3 – 7 pm	<b>Peal of Bells to Celebrate Easter</b>
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> April

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP)
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> April

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
8.35 am	<b>NO</b> Bitesize Bible Group (resume 17 April)
12 noon	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> April

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am	<b>NO</b> School Eucharist (resume 18 April)
12 noon	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>
2.30 pm	<b>Rainbow Poetry Group</b>
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> April

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am	<b>NO</b> Mini Abbots (resume 19 April)
12 noon	<b>Holy Eucharist</b>
1.05 pm	<b>NO</b> Royal College of Music (resume 19 April)
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> April

12 noon	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP)
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

8 am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP)
9.30 am	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
11.15 am	<b>Choral Matins</b>
5.30 pm	<b>Sung Evensong</b>

## Message from Mother Emma

We have just completed the "Triduum" or Great Three Days: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve, during which we follow the events of Christ's Last Supper, arrest, trial and crucifixion. Each of these is marked with a powerful liturgy in the church, and I know that many of you have taken part in some of these services. On Maundy Thursday we started with the remembrance of the Last Supper, including Christ washing the feet of his disciples, and the first Holy Communion or Eucharist. At the end of the service the altar was stripped of all its hangings, the lights went out and we ended by moving in silence to keep Vigil before the Altar of Repose in the darkness.



On Good Friday with the church still in darkness, we reflected, prayed and sang at the foot of the Cross, and then held the traditional liturgy of Good Friday. Later on we gathered to tell the story of the Cross in a child-appropriate way and at the end broke our fast with Hot Cross Buns!

On Holy Saturday, we again began in the darkness as we heard the story of God's salvation history, but then the Easter Fire, the sign of Christ's New Life, was lit in the churchyard, and we process with lighted candles into the church. We welcomed our baptism candidates to the church and then heard the Easter Gospel, as the women go to the tomb and find it empty.

The wonderful culmination of the story will happen today, Easter Day itself, surrounded by beautiful flowers, music, Alleluias and followed by celebratory refreshments in the churchyard. We look forward to joining together as an "Easter people" as we remember that Christ's Resurrection promises eternal hope for us all.

If you are away at this time our prayers and good wishes go with you, and we wish you all a very joyful Easter

*Almighty God, by triumphing over the powers of darkness Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem; may we, who will this Easter give thanks for his resurrection, praise him in the eternal city of which he is the light, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen* [Common Worship, Night Prayer, Easter]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

## Mini Abbots Easter Egg Hunt



Mini Abbots, our Friday morning baby and toddler group, held an Easter Egg hunt in the vicarage garden. This was the last meet up before Easter, but the group will return on

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to join please contact our Children's Worker Martina.

## Glass Door Walk



Congratulations to the St Mary Abbots Team who took part in the London walk in aid of Glass Door Homeless Charity on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. They raised an impressive £3,692 so thank you very much to

all those who sponsored them and helped raise so much for this vital charity. The sponsorship page is open for another week should you wish to help them meet their new target of £4000.

[www.glassdoor.org.uk/Fundraisers/st-mary-abbots-london-walk](http://www.glassdoor.org.uk/Fundraisers/st-mary-abbots-london-walk)



## Handel's Messiah Parts II & III

A huge thank you to our professional choir and the Purcell Players who put on a wonderful performance of Handel's Messiah, Parts II & III, last Sunday. To add to the atmosphere the setting sun shone in through the West windows, filling the church with golden light – see photo above. We have had wonderful feedback and are delighted that so many of you enjoyed the performance. It was the perfect start to Holy Week.



## Brighton College Chamber Choir Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm

We are delighted to welcome students from the Brighton College Chamber Choir for a free lunchtime concert, starting at 1pm. A programme can be found on the 'what is on' website page. We hope that you will come and support them. The Royal College of Music students will resume their free lunchtime Friday concerts the following week.