

In our Prayers this week

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer for those who lead

Lord, I pray for humility to fill the hearts of new leaders, that they may set aside personal agendas and seek the welfare of the people they serve. Give them a better sense of integrity, honesty, and a genuine desire to pursue justice and righteousness. May love bridge the divides in their country and patience guide their interactions. **Amen**
(Graceandprayers.com)



Thomas, girded by angles with belt of purity, Diego Velazquez. Wikipedia

Those in acute need

Thomas Dawnay	Sara Strong	Mavis
Glyn Jones	Luke Thomas	Stephanie
Roger Merchant	Luke Valavanis	Long-term need
James Philpot	Adam	Hillary Bardsley
George Rabbett-Smith	Jean	Christopher Browne
Hazel Richardson	Luke	Michael Turner
	Maria	

for those who have died recently

Silvia Harris Mark Quinn Roden Richardson

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

Joyce Johnson, 31st January

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 26th January 2025

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 26th January – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am	Choral Eucharist
11.15 am	Choral Matins
5.30 pm	Sung Eucharist

MONDAY 27th January

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
8.30 am	Bible study via Zoom
9 am	Parents' Prayer Group
12 noon	Informal Eucharist (Sunday on Monday)
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

TUESDAY 28th January – Thomas Aquinas, priest

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

WEDNESDAY 29th January

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

THURSDAY 30th January – Charles, King & Martyr

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am	School Eucharist – all welcome
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

FRIDAY 31st January

8 am	Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am	Mini Abbots in the St Mary Abbots Centre
12 noon	Holy Eucharist
1.05 pm	Royal College Concert – all welcome
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 1st February

12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 2nd February - **Candlemas**

	Presentation of Christ in the Temple
8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am	Family Eucharist <i>with presentation and blessing of candles</i>
11.15 am	Choral Matins
5.30 pm	Festal Choral Evensong <i>with blessing of candles</i>

Message from Mother Emma

It was such a delight this year to host the **Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer** for Christian Unity at St Mary Abbots in the form of a Choral Evensong, and to welcome people from a wide range of our local churches of different denominations. My thanks to our choir, to Fr Antony Aziz of St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church, who preached very movingly on our shared faith and the Resurrection, and to Leonora, Chris Luxton and all our staff and volunteers who prepared the service and organised the refreshments which followed.



It is wonderful to see a growing number of people involved in our children's work, readings, serving, and welcoming. Please do speak to one of us if you are wondering about becoming more involved, and we can point you towards the relevant co-ordinator.

Next Sunday (2nd February), we are looking forward to celebrating the **Feast of Candlemas**, with a Family Eucharist, Choral Matins and a Festal Choral Evensong with the blessing of candles. We are so grateful for the generosity of all those who have come forward to donate candles for use in the church's worship for the year ahead, and we shall be giving thanks for them all during the services that day. There are still some candles left on the list, so if you have not yet been able to make your contribution, please do think about signing up on Sunday. There is no need to give a whole box – it is possible that several people or families might like to get together and give a small amount each towards a particular set of candles. It will be so good to know that as we worship together as the Body of Christ, so many of you are represented at the altar in this way.

The clergy and staff are hard at work preparing a number of different events – please watch this space for news about a Saturday afternoon lecture on the Nicene Creed, a Wednesday evening Lent group and the start of Confirmation preparation sessions, all in March. Lots more details will be available very soon.

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may ever be supported by this fellowship of love and of prayer, and know ourselves surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen [Common Worship: Times and Seasons, Epiphany intercessions]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma



Candles for Candlemas

As Mother Emma has mentioned in her message there are a number of candles still available to purchase, ranging from £49 to £8 – if you would be able to help us with this please sign up after church or email Leonora.

3 boxes of votive candles (handheld)	£49 for a box of 500
3 boxes of tall candles on metal stands	£64.40 for a box of 6
6 bottles of Oil	£58.95 for 6 or £13.50 per bottle
120 small plastic cased candles	£36.67 for 40 candles
120 small plastic cased candles	£36.67 for 40 candles
30,000 tea lights	£21.25 for 500
12 eight Hour candles	£14.58 per candle
6 Tall Candles for centre aisle	£8 per candle

Lecture Series starting 15th March

To celebrate the 1,700th Anniversary of the world's first ecumenical council, The Council of Nicaea, we will be hosting a series of three lectures throughout the year, the first taking place on 15th March. More details will follow but please let Father Evan know if you are interested in attending and finding out more.

Message for parents: Does your child hope to attend a primary or secondary CofE school?



School admissions criteria require very precise numbers of church attendances – anything from 12 to 30 services per year over a period of 1 – 5 years (please check the criteria on the relevant school's website – all schools are different!). The Vicar can only sign the school's form confirming the number of attendances if these have been recorded in the Sunday School register. Please make sure that your child is registered by filling in a form with [Martina children@stmaryabbots.org.uk](mailto:children@stmaryabbots.org.uk) and then check that they are marked on the register each time they attend, whether they join Sunday School or remain in church.

Food Bank Donations

A reminder that with this cold snap your donations to the food bank are even more necessary. The blue donation boxes can be found at both entrances to the church but please no fresh food / ready meals as we can't store them. To find out more or donate directly to the food bank please visit the Dalgarno website: www.dalgarnotrust.org.uk.