

In our Prayers this week

Collect for 3rd Sunday of Lent

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for the Annunciation – BCP service CofE

WE beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Annunciation by Murillo, Hermitage Museum, Wikipedia

Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong
Thomas Dawnay
Roger Merchant
George Rabbett-Smith
Viv Robinson
Jono Robinson
Sara Strong
Stan Streater

Luke Thomas
Luke Valavanis
Adam
Jean
Lara
Luke
Maria
Mavis

Long-term need

Hillary Bardsley
Christopher Browne
David Strong
Michael Turner

for those who have died recently

Howard William Hanson Jennifer Lloyd Hazel Richardson
Camilla Valentine Isola

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

Brian Sale, 26 March Arthur Bliss, 227 March

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

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

Website: www.stmaryabbots.org.uk Telephone: 0207 937 2419

Vicar: Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 6032
Associate Vicar: Fr Evan McWilliams	fr.evan@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 479 4737
Associate Vicar: Fr Tim Carroll	fr.tim@stmaryabbots.org.uk	020 7470 6101
Churchwardens: Guy Heald	guyheald@hotmail.com	
Ed Warrick	ed.warrick@insead.edu	
Vestry: Simon Fitter (<i>Head Virger</i>)	virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 5136
Assistant Virger: Martina Sadovska	children@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Parish Office: Petter Kringberg	parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0203 404 3042
PA, Comms & Events: Leonora Service	pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk	020 3479 4731
Sr Mary Abbots Hall:	hallmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk	0207 937 8885
Director of Music: Mark Uglov	music@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Children's Work: Martina Sadovska	children@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Safeguarding Office: Alex Jueguen	safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Electoral Roll Officer: Ivell Arnold	er@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
and Welcome Co-Ordinator		
Bellringing Secretary: Andrew Hodgson	bells@stmaryabbots.org.uk	
Friends of Sr Mary Abbots: Steve Atack	friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk	07802 430055



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON

Sunday 23rd March 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 23rd March – 3rd Sunday of Lent

A representative from *Glass Door*, a local homeless charity we support, will speak at our 9.30am & 11.15am Sunday services.

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

MONDAY 24th March

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 25th March – **Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Communion** (BCP)
4 pm **Youth Confirmation Class at St Mary Abbots**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
7 pm **Adult Confirmation Class online**

WEDNESDAY 26th March

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
6.45 pm *'Who is my Neighbour', a journey through Lent at St Mary Abbots Centre - free entry*

THURSDAY 27th March

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

FRIDAY 28th March

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 of Music – free concert
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 29th March

12 noon **Holy Communion** (BCP)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 30th March – Mothering Sunday

8 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)
9.30 am **Family Eucharist** for Mothering Sunday
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **Sung Evensong**

Message from Father Evan

Today, as we enter the 3rd week of Lent, we look forward to **hearing from Paloma, from homeless charity Glass Door** at both our 9.30 Choral Eucharist and 11.15 Choral Matins. St Mary Abbots have been working with Glass Door for many years, raising money at their annual sleep out in the autumn and occasionally the London Walk in the spring. It will be great to hear about the difference the charity makes to so many in need of homes or help transitioning from homelessness.



Before we know it Palm Sunday and Holy Week will be upon us. **Tickets have now gone on sale for Handel's Messiah, parts II and III** – so please put the date in your diaries and purchase your tickets either online via the 'what is on page', or if you do not have access to the internet, please contact Leonora. This candlelit concert with our professional choir and the Purcell Players will take place on 13 April at 5.30pm – please come and support them.

We are now **looking for a new Hall Manager for St Mary Abbots Centre** after the return to Greece of our much-loved Dimitrios Spanos. The Hall Manager plays a significant role in the day-to-day life of the parish and we are eager to reconstitute our team – so if you know anyone who could be the next St Mary Abbots Centre Hall Manager, please pass on our advert: <https://www.smaw8.org/job-vacancies.html>.

Steve Atack has sent an update to **the Friends of St Mary Abbots fundraising campaign** (the A frames are now on order so please watch this space for an update) but the second stage, raising funds for the notice boards around the outside of the church, is now underway. To find out how to help with this please read Steve's message overleaf.

We remember in our prayers the adults and children preparing for **Confirmation** as they consider afresh what it means to believe and live as faithful Christians. *Grant, O Lord, that they who shall renew the promises and vows of their Baptism, and be confirmed by the Bishop, may receive such a measure of thy Holy Spirit, that they may grow in grace unto their life's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Taken from the 1928 Proposed BCP)*

And lastly a final call for those wishing to attend the **Victorian Society lecture on Pre-Raphaelite Interiors on Monday at 7pm** – tickets are available on the door for £10.

In the peace of Christ, Fr Evan

New Electoral Roll – Sign up to be counted!

Every 6 years we have to start our "electoral roll" from scratch. This lists members of this church who are baptised, are over 16, who live in the parish or attend regularly (over 6 months). The total number of members is sent to the Diocese of London, and the resulting measure of our parish size can affect how many clergy we have, the number of representatives on church bodies, and also fundraising. People on the electoral roll are invited to our general meeting, are able to hold occasional offices at the church such as weddings, and their status is noted in some school applications. The membership list closes on 6th May after which the roll is published in the church. Please talk to Ivell for a form to renew your membership or join the church roll.



Nicene Creed Lectures

There was a good turn out for the first of the Nicene Creed lectures on 15th March and our thanks to Father Simon Cuff for a fascinating lecture. The next talk will be on 14th June, again at 4pm, on 'Who on *Earth* is Jesus Christ? An Early Church Conundrum' by Father Jarel Robinson-Brown. More details to follow, but please save the date!

Friends of St Mary Abbots – Notice Board Appeal

The Friends launched a fund-raising appeal at the start of the year to replace old sandwich boards at all the main entrances to the church. Steve Atack, Founding Patron of the Friends is pleased to report that a fantastic £2,150 has so far been raised, which has allowed for the purchase of all of the four new sandwich boards, the first of which has now been ordered, with three more to follow shortly after. The friends are keen to start on Stage Two: raising funds for the replacement of the larger damaged or vandalised old sign boards on the railings around church. **The sum of £5,700 is now needed** to purchase these. Please send any donation to Steve Atack, Parish Office, St Mary Abbots Centre, Vicarage Gate, London W8 or leave with the Vestry. Cheques made payable to "Friends of St Mary Abbots Church". If you would prefer to bank transfer please contact Steve at steveatack@aol.com for bank details. We would like to thank the Friends and all who donated to the appeal so far and look forward to unveiling the new A frames shortly.

Who is my Neighbour – A Journey through Lent

Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 6.45 pm

On Wednesday our lent group met for the second time for a talk lead by Hakan, our trainee LLM, on giving hospitality to strangers. A good number of people met at 6.45 pm for snacks and conversation before getting started, with some interesting conversations afterwards. Next week's topic is 'Standing up for the Oppressed' and, even if you have not attended previously, everyone is welcome to join.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

a performance by Candlelight **PARTS II & III**
with our Professional Choir & The Purcell Players
at St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, W8 4LA

Sunday 13th April 2025 at 5.30pm