

In our Prayers this week

Collect for 5th Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood. **Amen**

Prayer for those suffering earthquakes. Red Cross

Lord Jesus Christ, who was buried in earth and who rose again to newness of life, after the quake and for the sake of the people of Myanmar, Greece and Thailand we cry to you. We grieve for those lost in death, we long for those who may yet be saved, and we pray for all who need water, food and shelter. From death and dust, may life yet come forth. In sorrow and suffering, may hope dawn. And may courage and love conquer despair. In your name we pray. **Amen**



Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong
Thomas Dawnay
Roger Merchant
George Rabbett-Smith
Viv Robinson
Jono Robinson
Annie Redmile
Sara Strong

Stan Streather
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 Camilla Valentine Isola

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

Judith Marshall, 12th April

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

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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

KENSINGTON

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

Sunday 6th April 2025

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

SUNDAY 6th April – Passion Sunday

A representative from **SMART**, a mental health charity we support, will speak at our 9.30am & 11.15am services.

8 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)

9.30 am **Parish Eucharist**

11.15 am **Choral Matins**

5.30 pm **Sung Evensong**

MONDAY 7th April

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

8.30 am Bible study via Zoom

9 am **No** Parents' Prayer Group - resumes 28 April

12 noon **Informal Eucharist** (Sunday on Monday)

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

TUESDAY 8th April

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

12 noon **Holy Communion** (BCP)

4 pm **No** Youth Confirmation - resumes 29 April

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

7 pm **No** Adult Confirmation - resumes 29 April

WEDNESDAY 9th April

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

12 noon **Holy Eucharist**

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

6.45 pm **No** 'Who is my Neighbour', a journey through Lent - resumes 16th April for final session

THURSDAY 10th April – William Law, priest

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

9.30 am **No** School Eucharist – resumes 24 April

12 noon **Holy Eucharist**

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

FRIDAY 11th April

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

9.30 am **No** Mini Abbots – resumes 25 April

12 noon **Holy Eucharist**

1.05 pm **No** Royal College of Music – resumes 9 May

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 12th April

12 noon **Holy Communion** (BCP)

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SUNDAY 13th April – Palm Sunday

8 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)

9.30 am **Choral Eucharist**
with procession of Palms

11.15 am **Choral Matins**

5.30 pm **Handel's Messiah, Parts II & III**

Tickets online or on the door



Message from Father Evan

Today marks the beginning of what is called **Passiontide, the two-week period encompassing the final week of Lent and Holy Week**. This is one of the most solemn periods of the Church year and I encourage you to enter it prayerfully. Palm Sunday next week marks the beginning of Holy Week during which the story of Christ's suffering (passion) and death is reenacted in the Church's liturgy. So, for Palm Sunday there will be a Procession through the streets waving palms and singing 'Hosanna'. That evening at **5.30pm Handel's Messiah, parts II & III**, will be performed. Tickets are £15 and can be purchased via our website or on the door. If you have never heard the Messiah before, this is a wonderful opportunity to meditate on Christ's death and resurrection through the medium of some truly inspired music.



This Thursday, 3rd April, the **children of St Mary Abbots School** presented us with a preview of Holy Week in their Passion Play – the last service of this term. It was deeply moving to see children of all year groups reenact Christ washing the disciples' feet, enduring crucifixion, and being laid in the tomb - the final three days of Holy Week which is known as the Triduum

The Triduum (April 17-19) comprises Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. My favourite of the three days is Good Friday where we meditate on how, for our sakes, Jesus underwent pain and suffering. The Liturgy of Good Friday (1.30-3pm) includes the choir singing the deeply moving Psalm 22 along with a setting of the story of the Crucifixion. This is followed by the Veneration of the Cross in which we kneel and kiss the cross, symbol of our redemption and heart of our faith, all the while hearing the voice of Jesus crying out 'O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!' There is something beautifully cathartic about admitting the role of our sin in the crucifixion of Jesus and, at the same time, acknowledging that he submitted to that suffering out of love for us.

Beyond the services of Holy Week and Easter day in May and June we are arranging many **concerts and events** - a full run-down can be found via the 'what is on' page of our website.

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross, who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Collect for Good Friday from the 1662 Prayer Book)

In the peace of Christ, Fr Evan

Gardening Project - Pollinator Pathmaker

Next week in St Mary Abbots Gardens, work on the 'Pollinator Pathmaker' garden project starts. This is part of a living artwork for pollinating insects by the artist Dr Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg, and will feature in the forthcoming 'More than Human' July exhibition at the Design Museum. This artwork invites us to look at the world from the viewpoint of pollinators and offers a unique opportunity to contribute to their conservation. With participation of pupils of both St Mary Abbots School and Tadpoles Nursery, the project has been put together by Opportunity Kensington's Urban Gardener with the support of The RBKC, Future Observatory, the Design Museum and the newly opened Kensington Roof Gardens. We are looking forward very much to watching the transformation of the gardens.

ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON

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

Tickets: £15
includes a programme and glass of wine
www.stmaryabbots.org.uk/what-is-on

New Hall Manager for St Mary Abbots Centre

Lastly a reminder that final applications for those wishing to **join our Parish team as the new centre Manger** should be in by Sunday 13th April. For those who have not yet seen it the full job description and application form can be found here: www.smaw8.org/job-vacancies.html or talk to Petter.

Who is my Neighbour – A Journey through Lent

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 6.45 pm

Next Wednesday, 9th April, there is **no Lent Group**, as the long room is needed by our PCC meeting, but it will return for a final session in Holy Week - the subject is '*Being a neighbour to those on the road*'. Held in the long room at the St Mary Abbots Centre the session starts with a catch up before viewing a famous work of art, text from the Bible and then discussing the topic. All are welcome.