

In our Prayers this week

Prayer for Bible Sunday (Westhereford)

We thank you for the gift of your Holy Word. May it be a lantern to our feet, A light to our paths, and a strength to our lives. Take us and use us to love and serve all people in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ **Amen**.

Collect for 19th Sunday after Trinity

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.



The completed gates, October 2025

Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong
Judith Boyd
John Dunkin
Nigel Grieve
Lord Alton of Liverpool
Roger Merchant
Carol Ann Philips
Robin Price
George Rabbett-Smith

Annie Redmile
Sara Strong
Luke Valavanis
Adam
Daphne
George
Christopher
Jean
Luke
Maria

Long-term need

Christopher Browne
Viv Robinson
Jono Robinson
Stefan Rogge
David Strong
Michael Turner

For those who have died recently

Phyllis Beard Hugh Dunford-Wood Brian Johnson

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

George Bessada, 26th October Lenie Dijkhuis, 28th October
Andrew Crosthwaite, 30th October Angela Sellars, 31st October
David Grieve, 1st November

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

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

Sunday 26th October 2025

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

SUNDAY 26th October – Bible Sunday

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

MONDAY 27th October

8 am Morning Prayer or Bible Study on Zoom
9 am **No** Parents' Prayer Group
12 noon **Informal Eucharist** (Sunday on Monday)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

TUESDAY 28th October – **Simon & Jude, Apostles**

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

WEDNESDAY 29th October – James Harrington

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

THURSDAY 30th October

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 **No** School Eucharist – *half term*
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

FRIDAY 31st October – *Martin Luther, reformer*

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am **No** Mini Abbots
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
1.05 pm Royal College of Music free concert
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 1st November

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

SUNDAY 2nd November – **All Saints & All Souls**

8 am **Holy Communion** (BCP)
9.30 am **Family Eucharist**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **The Commemoration of All Souls**
with movements from Duruflé's Requiem

Message from Mother Emma

Just in case you were not able to make it to church last week, may I share my continued delight and thankfulness at the **refurbishment and restoration of the West Gates** to the churchyard. Following an Act of Parliament when London burial grounds were closed, local Councils are required to "maintain (a closed churchyard) by keeping it in decent order and its walls and fences in good repair". This means that the job of refurbishing our railings, together with the upkeep of the churchyard, falls to the Council of RBKC, and we are very grateful to them for their beautiful work on the gates, which had become really quite unsafe as well as unsightly. We very much hope that they will be able to fund the refurbishment first of a few other urgent areas, and then of the remainder of the railings, before too long. Before and after pictures below and overleaf!



Lord, you are ever watchful and bless us with your gifts; as you provide for all our needs, so help us to build only what pleases you, though Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. [Common Worship, response to Psalm 127]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

The Commemoration of All Souls

2nd November 2025 at 5.30 pm

A reminder that if you would like the name of a friend or relative to be read out during the All Souls Service to please email Leonora, or fill in their name in BLOCK CAPITALS on the sign-up sheets by the South door of the church. If possible to sponsor the music in their memory and have their name inside the service sheet so please let us know if you would like to make a donation towards the music.



7th November - Bonfire Night, 6 pm

A few additional tickets will be on sale at 12 noon today (26th October). Please remember that the **tickets are nontransferable**, so if you are giving them to a friend to use, please let Leonora know their names so she can update the guest list. Tickets and names will be checked on the gate. If you have volunteered and did not manage to get tickets for your family please let Leonora know.

Victorian Christmas Fair, 29th November

Sponsored by Riverstone

As mentioned by Mother Emma I am looking for people to bring **delicious cakes** to sell on the cake stall and these can be bought to the church on the day, and we are running low on **good quality bric-a-brac**. If you would be able to donate an item or two for this stall please let Leonora know or bring it to the vicarage office for sorting! We had a wonderful haul of items last year but we are hoping that you might find more that we can sell this year.

We are delighted to announce that thanks to Steve Attack's efforts (founding member of the Friends of St Mary Abbots) we now have a **sponsor for the Fair – Riverstone Living, Kensington**. Riverstone specialise in selling luxury apartments for over 65s who want to keep their independence but with excellent facilities. There is a 24 hour concierge, an on-site maintenance team, a swimming pool, gym, and various weekly exercise classes; an on-site cinema, lectures on opera and more! Riverstone has been introducing itself as part of the Kensington community and has rooms which may be booked for meetings etc. On 25th February, they will be arranging a lunch and tour for any interested members of St Mary Abbots. Please let Leonora know if you would like to join the tour, or visit Riverstoneliving.com to find out more.



As we move through autumn, we look ahead first to All Souls and then to the Civic Remembrance Service at 10.55 am on Sunday 9th November, which we hope are in your diaries; but beyond that, we are already preparing for the **Victorian Christmas Fair** on 29th November from 11.30 am to 2pm kindly sponsored by Riverstone – see next page. As always, this will be a wonderful community event, held in the church itself (freshly decorated for the Christmas season), with Punch & Judy, facepainting, carol singers, mulled wine, external stalls for your Christmas shopping including a Beatrix Potter stall, children's games and activities. For the fair Leonora is particularly looking for Cakes and good quality bric-a-brac.

This coming Sunday is **Bible Sunday**, when we give thanks for the gift of God's holy Word. Fr Evan will be preaching at the Eucharist and Fr Peter Galloway at Matins. As this is the fourth Sunday of the month, we shall also have the treat of our professional choir singing a Choral Mass setting at the 9.30 am Eucharist. Fr Tim is this week offering cover at St Andrew's, Fulham Fields.

We look forward as always to welcoming you to our services. An important reminder that **the clocks will go back one hour** during the night between Saturday and Sunday, so we can enjoy an extra hour in bed before church!