

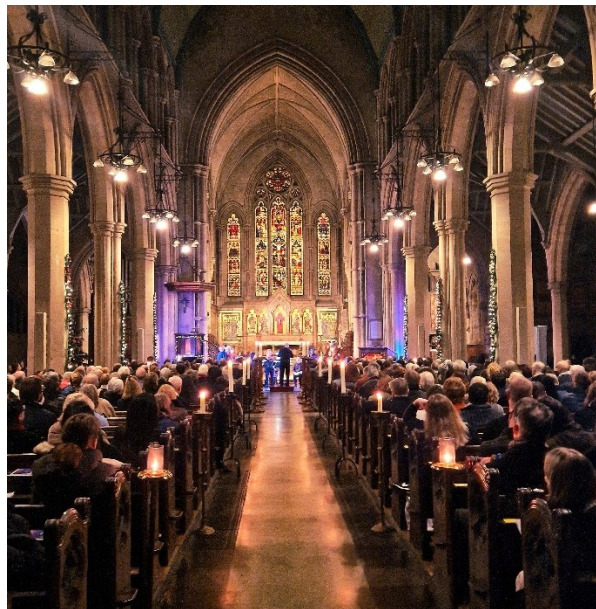
## In our Prayers this week

### Collect for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Musicians prayer

Oh Lord, bless this music that it might glorify your name. May your presence and beauty be found in every note, and may the words that are sung reach the hearts of your people so they will draw closer to you. May your Spirit guide us through every measure so that we might be the instruments of your peace, and proclaim your glory with glad voices. **Amen (belief.net)**



Last Years Christmas Messiah (part 1)

#### Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong	Annie Redmile
Judith Boyd	Sara Strong
Sheila Carter	Luke Valavanis
Nigel Grieve	Adam
Roger Merchant	Jean
Eve Mitleton-Kelly	Luke
Robin Price	Maria
George Rabbett-Smith	

#### Long-term need

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

#### For those who have died recently

Orlando Ames-Lewis	Barb Thurn
David Sherman	Andreas Whittam Smith

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

Anthony Howard, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	John Banks, 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Evelyn Attack, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Barry Luxton, 21 <sup>st</sup> December

#### 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](http://www.stmaryabbots.org.uk) Telephone: 0207 937 2419

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



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH  
KENSINGTON



## Welcome to St Mary Abbots

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025

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

This morning Father Evan is taking a service at St Thomas', Kensal Town

### SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Parish Eucharist

11.15 am Choral Matins

5.30 pm Handel's Messiah (part 1)

*Tickets online and on the day at the gate.*



### MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> December

8 am Morning Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom

9 am Parents' Prayer Group

12 noon Informal Eucharist (Sunday on Monday)

1.30 pm Funeral Service of Orlando Ames-Lewis

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)

3 pm Funeral Service

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

12 noon HEALING Eucharist

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

9.30 am School Carol Service – all welcome

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> December

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom

9.30 am No Mini Abbots – resumes 9<sup>th</sup> January

12 noon Holy Eucharist

1.05 pm No Royal College of Music – resumes 23 Jan

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> December

12 noon Holy Communion (BCP)

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

### SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

8 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Parish Eucharist

11.15 am Choral Matins

5.30 pm A service of Nine Lesson and Carols  
*by candlelight with our professional choir*



## Message from Mother Emma

For any of you who were not in church last Sunday, I would like to share the news (sad for us, but very impressive for him!), that **Fr Tim, our Associate Vicar, has been appointed as the new Vicar of St Peter de Beauvoir in Hackney.** We wish him every blessing as he prepares to take up his first incumbency and are so very grateful for everything he has brought to St Mary Abbots over the past two and a half years, as Chaplain to St Mary Abbots School, as our Outreach Co-ordinator and Lead, and as a wonderful priest and colleague in so many ways. Fr Tim will not be leaving us immediately, as he will work out his three months' notice period, and his final Sunday with us will be on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026, when we shall have the opportunity to say a proper goodbye and thank you.



If you have not yet purchased your tickets for **Handel's Messiah part I, this takes place at 5.30 pm this afternoon,** with our professional choir and the Purcell Players - tickets are £15 and are available on the door. This is a longstanding St Mary Abbots tradition, and we hear the uplifting and inspiring "Christmas" parts of the Messiah, in the candlelit church, accompanied by a glass of mulled wine and a mince-pie. We do hope that you will be able to join us.

Christmas is drawing near, as are **all of our Christmas Services,** from the Nine Lessons and Carols on the evening of 21<sup>st</sup> December, through to the many different services of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. A list can be found overleaf. You are warmly invited to join us for any – or all – of these. If you plan to attend the Crib Service with your family at 4 pm on Christmas Eve, please do encourage your children to come dressed as a character from the Nativity, so that they can join in the service to the full! Details of all services are on the website.

In the meantime, we hope that some of you are enjoying hosting the travelling crib scene in your homes during this Advent season, and that you are taking up the challenge to find time to attend just one extra service during this period as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ-child. The external Carol services and concerts that have taken place every evening over the last two weeks are now completed, and so our **daily evening prayer at 5.30 pm will be available once more from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December.**

*People of God, return! You are called to be God's own. From the mountains announce the good news: God comes in justice and peace to all who follow his ways. You are God's children.* [Times and Seasons, Prayers at the Advent wreath, Advent 3]

With my love and prayers in this holy season

Mother Emma



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH  
KENSINGTON



## A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols *by Candlelight with our professional Choir* Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025 at 5.30pm



### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December

5.30 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Eve

4 pm Children's Crib Service

11 pm Midnight Mass by Candlelight

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day

8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30 am Festal Eucharist *with our professional choir*

11.15 am Festal Matins *with our professional choir*

5.30 pm Christmas Eucharist at the Crib

## Churches Together in Kensington and Chelsea

Are looking for one or two volunteers to take over the roles of secretary and treasurer. Churches Together is a national ecumenical organisation that supports and encourages churches from various traditions to work together in unity. This includes Anglican, Catholic, Pentecostal, charismatic, Orthodox, Lutheran, Free churches, Quakers and more. The roles would include arranging 3 or 4 meetings per year and the AGM and summer party which is usually held in our vicarage garden. If you would be interested in finding out more please contact Antony Aziz, [frantonyaziz@gmail.com](mailto:frantonyaziz@gmail.com)