

In our Prayers this week

Collect for 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer for Christian Unity from Churches Together in England

Loving God, In this fractured world we are called to be instruments of unity. We are called to be a people of prayer, and during this season we pray for greater unity within and between churches, and between Christians of all traditions. Bless us with love for each for each other, with a desire to understand our differences and to live in peace and harmony together. Be with Christians around the world as we pray together that all may be one so that the world may believe. In the name of your son Jesus. **Amen**



Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong
Steve Attack
Judith Boyd
Eric De Bellaigue
Roger Merchant
Robin Price
George Rabbett-Smith
Annie Redmile

Sara Strong
Luke Valavanis
Adam
Daphne
George
Jean
Luke
Maria

Long-term need

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

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

Antony Dawes, 21st January Michael Wilson, 22nd January
Monic Libby, 22nd January

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.egan@stmaryabbots.org.uk 0203 479 4737
Associate Vicar: Fr Tim Carroll fr.tim@stmaryabbots.org.uk 020 7470 6101
LLM: Hakan Sandal-Wilson llm@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Churchwardens: Guy Heald guyheald@hotmail.com
Ed Warrick ed.warrick@insead.edu
Vestry: Simon Fitter (*Head Virger*) virger@stmaryabbots.org.uk 0207 937 5136
Assistant Virger: Martina Sadovska children@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Parish Office: Petteer Kringberg parishmanager@stmaryabbots.org.uk 0203 404 3042
PA, Comms & Events: Leonora Service pa@stmaryabbots.org.uk 020 3479 4731
St Mary Abbots Hall: Gill Fisher 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: Rona Davis safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Electoral Roll Officer: Ivell Arnold er@stmaryabbots.org.uk
and Welcome Co-Ordinator
Bellringing Secretary: Rachel Billinge bells@stmaryabbots.org.uk
Friends of St Mary Abbots: Steve Attack friends@stmaryabbots.org.uk 07802 430055



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH KENSINGTON

Welcome to St Mary Abbots

Sunday 18 January 2025

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

SUNDAY 18th January – Christian Unity Week

8 am **Holy Communion (BCP)**
9.30 am **Parish Eucharist**
11.15 am **Choral Matins**
5.30 pm **Taizé Eucharist**

MONDAY 19th January – Wulfstan, Bishop

8 am Morning Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom
9 am Parents' Prayer Group
12 noon **Informal Eucharist** (Sunday on Monday)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

TUESDAY 20th January

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

WEDNESDAY 21st January – Agnes, child Martyr

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
5.30 pm **Sung Evensong**
With Imperial College Chamber Choir
6.30 pm **Safeguarding Training – Basic**

THURSDAY 22nd January

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

FRIDAY 23rd January

8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am Mini Abbots at St Mary Abbots Centre
12 noon **Holy Eucharist**
1.05 pm Royal College of Music
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 24th January – Francis de Sales, Bishop

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

SUNDAY 25th January – **Conversion of Paul**

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

Message from Father Tim

We are very much back into the rhythm of church and parish life here at St Mary Abbots. Last Sunday we celebrated the **Baptism of Christ** and were delighted to baptise James, Penelope, and Adelaide during our parish Eucharist. It was a real joy to welcome them into the life of the Church, and we look forward to being shaped by their presence among us in the years ahead.



We now continue our journey through the Epiphany season over the next two weeks, which traditionally concludes with the **Feast of Candlemas**. Candlemas celebrates Christ being presented in the Temple forty days after His birth. When Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the Temple, Simeon proclaims Him to be *"a light for revelation to the nations."* In other words, the light of Christ is for everyone, regardless of nationality, language, or race. Christ is for all. Last week we introduced an opportunity for the **congregation to purchase candles** that will be used in our worship throughout the year - and thank you to all those who have participated so far. I have recently learned that this custom stretches back centuries, when families would set aside part of their income for wax so that the parish would have candles for services. Instead of wax, you can now sign up on the sheet in the welcome area after the service. You can also choose particular candles, which is a lovely way to see your contribution being used in the life of the church across the year, or please contact Leonora for the list.

Those who attend our 9.30am **Family Eucharist** will know that we are blessed to see more families and children joining us, and we have recently added a third children's group. This is wonderful news. At the same time, we recognise the need to organise ourselves so that children's experience of worship is as enriching as possible. This Sunday, Martina and the clergy will be discussing how best to use our large building and make the beginning of worship as inclusive as we can, especially for newcomers. We want St Mary Abbots to be as welcoming as possible, helping families and children get the most out of their time at church. Please look out for further announcements and some additional correspondence next week.

You may know that we hold three services a day at St Mary Abbots, concluding at 5.30pm with Evening Prayer, usually said in the Resurrection Chapel. We have a faithful group of regulars, along with visitors who happen to be passing and decide to join us. On **Wednesday 21st, we will have a special sung service of Evensong, led by a visiting choir from Imperial College**. We are very much looking forward to this, and I encourage you to come along if you have never experienced Evensong before. The service normally lasts around 30 minutes.

We hope your year has begun well. Please be assured of our prayers. The clergy are always here for pastoral support.

God bless, Fr Tim

ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON

Choral Evensong

ICU Chamber Choir

Wednesday 21st January 2026
Wednesday 4th February 2026
Wednesday 4th March 2026

At St Mary Abbots Church,
Kensington, W8 4HN

A poster for the ICU Chamber Choir. It features a photograph of the choir members in a church setting. The text is in white and yellow on a dark blue background.

Churches Together in Kensington & Chelsea Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7pm

This year's annual service for Christian Unity Week will be held at Kensington United Reform Church, Allen Street, W8 6DL with the Rev'd Fr Shnok Bagdassarian, Pastor of St Sarkis Church on the theme of 'One body, One spirit'. There will be light refreshments after the service and all are welcome.

Does your child hope to attend a Church of England primary or secondary 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 and then check that they are marked on the register each time they attend, whether they join Sunday School or remain in church.

Tour of Riverstone Residences and lunch 25th February at 11am

Our generous Christmas fair sponsors, Riverstone, are inviting a group from St Mary Abbots for a tour of the apartments followed by a lunch. Riverstone specialises in beautifully designed residences for those over 65 who value independence, individuality and well-being. Facilities include a 24-hour concierge and on-site maintenance team, a swimming pool, gym and spacious studios offering weekly classes in Pilates, yoga and much more. Beyond fitness, Riverstone offers an on-site cinema, lectures on opera and the arts and a host of cultural and social experiences – all designed to help residents live well, stay active and continue doing what they love most. Please contact Jenny Gilder at jenny.gilder@riverstoneliving.com to join the tour.