

## In our Prayers this week

### Collect for 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

### Prayer for Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; **Amen**



Conversion of Paul by Michelangelo. Vatican city. Wikipedia

#### Those in acute need

Steven Armstrong	Mike Roberts
Steve Attack	Sara Strong
Judith Boyd	Luke Valavanis
Eric de Bellaigue	Adam
Roger Merchant	George
Robin Price	Jean
George Rabbett-Smith	Luke
Annie Redmile	Maria

#### Long-term need

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

#### For those who have died recently

Robert Prior Daphne

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

Nigel Leyland, 11 January, Joyce Johnston, 31<sup>st</sup> January

#### 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 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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

#### SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January – Conversion of Paul

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

#### MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> January – Timothy & Titus

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 27<sup>th</sup> January

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

#### WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> January – Thomas Aquinas

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

#### THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> January

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

#### FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> January – Charles, King & Martyr

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 31<sup>st</sup> January

12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP)
3pm - 7pm	Peal of Bells for Candlemas
5.30 pm	Evening Prayer

#### SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> February - Candlemas

	<b>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b>
8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am	Family Eucharist
	Coffee for both services in school hall
11.15 am	Choral Matins
5.30 pm	Festal Choral Evensong

## Message from Mother Emma

We are very much looking forward to seeing you in church this Sunday, as we begin to implement some of the new ways we have been discussing to draw us closer together as the family of God at St Mary Abbots. This week our 9.30 am service will be a **“Teaching Eucharist”**, and we hope to see as many of you as possible as we celebrate the Eucharist while incorporating short explanations about the words, actions, history and theology of the service. We hope that this will enhance the way you see this familiar service, and we ask that you share your thoughts, feedback and ideas with us afterwards.



Meanwhile, at the same service we are introducing our **new-look Children’s Ministry:**

- ❖ We ask that children and families **come to the front of the church** for the start of the service (as you do at the Family Eucharist).
- ❖ We have produced a **new sheet to enable parents** to follow the words of the liturgy with their children and to join in the prayers more easily. This can also be found on our website under Children.
- ❖ The children will leave as normal during the singing of the Gloria, but in a procession from the front of the church and will go out of the South (cloister) Door instead of the West Door.
- ❖ Once in the school, they will all gather together in the School Hall to sing the Alleluia and to hear a reading of the Gospel story, just as we do here in church, before dividing into their age-appropriate groups for discussion and activities.
- ❖ They will meet again in the Hall to pray and to share the Peace before returning to church to receive Communion or a Blessing as a group, before returning to their families (who will already have received).

Having attended a training which suggested that people feel most comfortable in a space which is 60% full, we shall be roping off some of the pews at the back of the church, to encourage us to gather together nearer the altar and to feel more involved in the worship.

These changes have been made with a great deal of prayer and reflection, so we hope and pray that they will enable you to feel closer both to God and to our community; we would value your feedback afterwards.

All this will require a greater number of welcomers, as we shall have more to give out; two processions to facilitate, and people to remind others of the changes. We would also very much value volunteers who could invite newcomers to join us for coffee in the School Hall at 10.30 between the services, which is intended for both Eucharist and Matins attenders. If you would be happy to **join the welcomers’**

**team** once a month, or even every couple of months, please do speak to one of the clergy. Offering Christ’s welcome at the door is one of the church’s most important ministries, so if you attend any of our other services and would like to offer help at those, please do also come forward.

We very much enjoyed hosting the Imperial College Union Chamber Choir to sing Evensong in church yesterday in place of our usual service of Evening Prayer. They will be returning on 4<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March so please do come and join us at 5.30 on those Wednesdays.

*Father in heaven, whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace; grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage, that, fed with the living bread of heaven and united in the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, the place of your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. [Common Worship, Times and Seasons: Dedication]*

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

## 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](mailto: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.



### ‘Jump Start’ – YMIC event

22<sup>nd</sup> February, 5 pm – 7.30 pm

YMIC (Youth Ministry in Communion) are holding their first event of the year which will be at a Trampoline Park in W3. This is for years 7 – 13, tickets are £5 and dinner is included. Please contact Martina to sign up.

### Food Bank Donations

A reminder that at this time of year your donations to the food bank are even more necessary. The donation boxes can be found at the entrance to the church but please no fresh food / ready meals as we can’t store them! To find out more or donate in cash the website is [www.dalgarnotrust.org.uk](http://www.dalgarnotrust.org.uk).