



Last year's Confirmation Group after the service



# ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH KENSINGTON

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

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

### Services this Week

#### SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

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

#### MONDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Polycarp, Bishop

- 8 am Morning Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom
- 9 am Parents' Prayer Group
- 12 noon Informal Eucharist (Sunday on Monday)
- 4 pm Youth Confirmation Class – St Mary Abbots Church
- 5.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 7 pm Adult Confirmation Class – St Phillips Vicarage

#### TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> February

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

#### WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> February

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

#### THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> February

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

#### FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> February – George Herbert, priest

- 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 Concert – free entry
- 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> February

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

#### SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

- 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 9.30 am Family Eucharist  
Followed by Father Tim's leaving drinks
- 11.15 am Choral Matins
- 5.30 pm Sung Evensong

### Safeguarding

St Mary Abbots Church regards the safe care and protection of children and vulnerable adults as of the utmost importance. Please contact Rona at [Safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org](mailto:Safeguarding@stmaryabbots.org) or the Diocesan helpline: 02079321224.



George Herbert, priest, poet and Hymn writer, including 'Let all the world in every corner sing'. Image from St Andrews church Bemerton (27<sup>th</sup> February)



On Sundays, everyone attending the 9.30 Eucharist or 11.15 Matins is warmly invited to join us for coffee and biscuits in the school hall next door at 10.30 am.



Thank you for donating to support our church's work, worship and upkeep. There are cash safes and standing order forms by the South Door and card readers at both entrances, or you can scan this QR code.

### Message from Father Evan

Lent has begun! Now, to be honest with you, I always struggle with Lent. I love the music, and the slightly melancholy tone of the season appeals to my romantic sensibilities. It is, however, difficult to embrace the ideal of self-discipline and self-denial. If you're like me, the best way to engage well with Lent is to make one or two small changes to your life rather than trying to overhaul the whole thing in one try. You might want to consider being more attentive to how you speak to people at work, to encourage more than criticise. Or maybe determine to start apologising more quickly when you've done or said something that hurts the feelings of a family member.



Small shifts in the way we see and behave towards others have the cumulative effect of making us into kinder (and more attractive!) people. And, ultimately, that's what Lent is about: becoming more like our Saviour Jesus in his kindness and humility.

Normally in Lent, St Mary Abbots puts on its own Lent Course as a way to deepen our faith during this penitential season. This year, due to the departure of Fr Tim, we are instead encouraging you to attend a Lent Course put on by **Churches Together in Kensington & Notting Hill**. The course was developed in Chichester Diocese and focuses on aspects of the 'Aberdeen Crucifix', a modern work of art which offers the opportunity to reflect on various aspects of who Jesus is and what he means to us. The course will be taking place in various churches in the local area and details can be found on the events page of our website.

Additionally, on 25 March and 1 April, Mthr Emma and I will be leading a **Lent film and discussion group** where we will consider together the meaning of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection through the lens of modern church life and ministry. More details will be given later

If you enjoyed part I of The Messiah at Christmas, put 29 March at 5.30pm in your diary for parts II and III. **This second half of Handel's Messiah** takes in the suffering death, and resurrection of Christ and is a wonderful way to enter into the spirit of Holy Week and Easter. Tickets are £15 and include a programme and glass of wine and can be bought via the 'what is on' page of website or by contacting Leonora. If you would like to help selling tickets or pouring drinks please let her know.

*O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.* (Collect for Easter Day)

With love, Fr Evan

### Volunteers – Save the date

Over the course of the year we hold a number of events which rely on a wonderful team of volunteers. Leonora will be in touch with those who have volunteered in the past with a list of dates and to find out availability, but if you would be interested in helping at a stall, making cakes, sorting out drinks etc. please let her know and she will send you a volunteer form. The main dates for your diary are as follows:

- Handel's Messiah (part II & III) - Sunday 29 March at 5.30
- Confirmation after party – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June evening
- Summer Garden party – Saturday 13 June from 11.30
- Patronal Festival lunch party – 6<sup>th</sup> September in morning
- Bonfire Night on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30
- Christmas fair – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 11.130
- Messiah (part 1) 13<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30

## Church's Together World Day of Prayer Service

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm

prepared by the Christian Women of Nigeria.

**'I WILL GIVE YOU REST, COME'**

CTINH with CTIKC invite you to

their

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**


**SERVICE**

With a focus on NIGERIA.

**DATE:** Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2026.

**TIME:** 7 PM To 8:30 PM

**VENUE:** St Mary Abbots,  
Kensington Church Street,  
London W8 4LA.

The nearest station is  High Street Kensington.  
Buses 9, 27,28,328,49 and 52.

Parking is free after 6:30 pm.



**A woman-led, global ecumenical involvement.**

**National and cultural attire are welcome.**

**Queries: contact Kristin Akinkugbe**

[kristin555@btinternet.com](mailto:kristin555@btinternet.com)

*Refreshments served and offering taken for WDP.*



### This week we pray for

Ivell Arnold	Mike Roberts	<b>Long-term need</b>
Steven Armstrong	Sara Strong	Christopher Browne
Steve Attack	Luke Valavanis	Nigel Grieve
Judith Boyd	Adam	Viv Robinson
Eric de Bellaigue	George	Jono Robinson
Roger Merchant	Jean	Stefan Rogge
Robin Price	Luke	David Strong
George Rabbett-Smith	Maria	Michael Turner
Annie Redmile		

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

Ivan Cameron, 25<sup>th</sup> February

**For those who have died recently**

Cathleen Fox Daphne

### How to contact us

**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

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