

Services in Holy Week



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH
KENSINGTON

SUNDAY 29th March – Palm Sunday

- 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am Procession of Palms & Choral Eucharist
11.15 am Choral Matins
5.30 pm Handel's Messiah, Parts II & III
Tickets online and on the door

MONDAY 30th March – Holy Monday

- 8 am Morning Prayer and Bible Study on Zoom
9 am No Parents' Prayer Group (*resumes 13 April*)
12 noon Holy Eucharist with Devotional Address
(No Sunday on Monday)
4 pm No Youth Confirmation Class (*resumes 20 April*)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
7 pm No Adult Confirmation Class (*resumes 20 April*)

TUESDAY 31st March – Holy Tuesday

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

WEDNESDAY 1st April – Holy Wednesday

- 8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
12 noon Holy Eucharist with Devotional Address
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
7 pm Lent film & Discussion Group

THURSDAY 2nd April – Maundy Thursday

- 8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am No School Eucharist (*resumes 16 April*)
10.30 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
2.30 pm Rainbow Poetry Group
5.30 pm The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday
with washing of feet followed by
The Vigil of Gethsemane

FRIDAY 3rd April – Good Friday

- 8 am Morning Prayer via Zoom
9.30 am No Mini Abbots (*resumes 17 April*)
10 am Church Opens (*Bank Holiday*)
12 noon Hymns & Reflections at the foot of the Cross
1.05 pm No Royal College of Music Concert (*resume 1 May*)
1 pm Silence Before the Cross
1.30 – 3pm The Liturgy of Good Friday
4 pm Stations of the Cross for Children & hot cross buns
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

SATURDAY 4th April – Holy Saturday

- 12 noon The Litany
1 – 3pm The Easter Preparation
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
8 pm Easter Vigil *with Baptisms*

SUNDAY 5th April – Easter Day

- 8 am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am Festal Choral Eucharist *with Baptisms*
11.15 am Festal Choral Matins
5.30 pm Festal 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 / 07561288178 or the Diocesan helpline: 02079321224.



Sunday 29th March 2026

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



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 Mother Emma

I was delighted to be able to announce last Sunday that we have appointed a new Associate Vicar, Fr Christian Saguyan, who will be joining us in June (exact date to be confirmed), subject to all the usual checks and to the official completion of his curacy. Fr Christian has written a message to introduce himself and his family overleaf and we look forward very much to welcoming him here in the summer.



Today is Palm Sunday, so our 9.30 am Eucharist will begin with a procession along the High Street, and will then include the dramatized reading of the Passion, and in the evening, we have the wonderful performance of the Holy Week and Easter parts (II and III) of Handel's Messiah. Tickets will be available on the door.

Please could I strongly encourage you to join in some of the wonderful, poignant and beautiful services of Holy Week next week, which are shown overleaf or in any of the Easter Cards which can be found in the church. The week begins with a reflection at each of our midday Eucharists, but we then move to the "Great Three Days" of Easter, beginning on Maundy Thursday at 5.30 pm, as we travel with Jesus from his Last Supper to his death on the Cross on Good Friday, and finally come together for the wonderful Easter Vigil on Saturday beginning at 8 pm, as we hear the story of God's saving love in the darkened church, see the lighting of the Easter fire and come back into the church to baptise a

number of adults and older children as we rejoice at the first signs of Christ's Resurrection... Those who attend these services for the first time are often bowled over and say they wish they had been before. If you are around this Easter, do please consider sharing in this journey ahead of the celebration of Easter Day on Sunday 5th.

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the Cross for our salvation; give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you and Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father, Amen. [Common Worship, Times and Seasons, Palm Sunday liturgy]

With my love and prayers, Mother Emma

Introduction to Father Christian



It is a real joy to have been appointed as the new Associate Vicar of St Mary Abbots, and I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all as we share together in the life, worship, and mission of the church in Kensington.

Before I was ordained, I served as an assistant pastor focusing on outreach and support for people experiencing homelessness. I continued to pursue my vocation within the Church of England as a pastoral assistant at St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, working with refugees and asylum seekers. During that time, I became part of the Nazareth Community, a new monastic community in the heart of the city, and was encouraged to train for ordination.

After training at Ripon College Cuddesdon, I served my curacy in the Woodbridge Benefice in North Wiltshire, in the Diocese of Bristol, ministering across six rural parishes and working closely with three church schools. Over the past year, as Curate-in-Charge, I have been especially grateful for the opportunity to grow in the practicalities of parish life, and to help lead and encourage our churches in reaching out more deeply into their local communities. Alongside parish ministry, I have served as a UKME Chaplain in the Diocese of Bristol, supporting those from minority ethnic backgrounds who are discerning a call to ministry. It has been a privilege to walk alongside people in this way and see their confidence and vocation grow.

As I return to ministry in a city context, I am especially looking forward to joining in the life of St Mary Abbots - sharing in its rich worship, becoming part of its warm and inclusive community, and supporting its outreach across the wider parish. I am excited to help nurture and support the life of St Mary Abbots and its school and the wider community. My wife, Janina, and our two children, Cassian and Caiah, are very much looking forward to meeting you all and beginning this new chapter together.

As our Blessed Mother said, *"My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."*

With every blessing, Fr Christian

Handel's Messiah

a performance by Candlelight Part II & III
with St Mary Abbots' Professional Choir & Players

If you have not yet purchased your tickets to tonight's performance of Handel's Messiah it is not too late! Tickets are £15 and will be available on the door. Our professional choir of singers will be joined by a new orchestra, and we are looking forward to welcoming them to the church. See you there.



Holy Saturday – 4th April from 1pm – 3pm

If you are free on Saturday between 1pm – 3pm your help would be very welcome at The Easter Preparation, where we thoroughly clean the church, polish the brass, beat the cushions, dust the surfaces and generally make the church spick and span in time for Easter Day. Please turn up with gloves and dusters and Simon our head virger will put you to work!

This week we pray for

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

and for all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time
Bruce Dinwiddy, 1 April John Atack, 3 April June Scully, 4 April

For those who have died recently

Elke Von Brentano Sara Strong Doreen Weatherhead Bill Wilde

How to contact us

The Parish and Vicarage offices are open from 10am – 5pm
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