**ST Mary Abbots with Christ Church and St Philip ∙ Kensington**

**ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH**

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|  | **NEWSLETTER****for the week beginning****17th January 2016** |  |

***Sunday 17th 2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY***

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST

 *Epistle:* Romans 12. 6-16a *Gospel:* John 2. 1-11

 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

 *with Children on Sundays Groups*

 *Old Testament:* Isaiah 62. 1-5

 *New Testament:* 1 Corinthians 12. 12-18

 *Gospel:* John 2. 1-11

 *Preacher:* The Revd Philip Welsh

 **11.15am** **CHORAL MATINS *leading into***

**CHORAL EUCHARIST**

 *Old Testament:* 1 Samuel 3. 1-20

 *New Testament:* John 1. 29-42

 *Preacher:* The Revd Daphne Green

  ***NB no 12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST***

 6.30pm SUNG EVENSONG AND HOLY COMMUNION

 *Old Testament:* Isaiah 49. 1-7

 *New Testament:* John 2. 1-11

 *Preacher:* The Revd Jenny Welsh

***THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY***

***Monday 18th*** *Commemoration of Amy Carmichael*

 8.30am Morning Prayer

 1.05pm INFORMAL EUCHARIST ‘Sunday on Monday’

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Tuesday 19th St Wulfstan***

 8.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST – *Book of Common Prayer*

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Wednesday 20th*** *Commemoration of Richard Rolle*

 7.10am Morning Prayer

 7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST

*1.05pm Meditation Group*

 2.00pm HOLY EUCHARIST OF HEALING

 *with laying-on-of-hands and anointing*

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Thursday 21st St Agnes***

 7.10am Morning Prayer

 9.30am St Mary Abbots School SUNG EUCHARIST - *all welcome*

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Friday 22nd*** *Commemoration of Vincent of Saragossa*

 7.10am Morning Prayer

 7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Saturday 23rd***

 9.40am Morning Prayer

 10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST

 5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Sunday 24th 3rd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY***

 ***CHRISTIAN UNITY SUNDAY***

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST of Septuagesima

 *First Lesson:* Rom. 12. 16-21 *Gospel:* Matthew 8. 1-1-3

 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

 **with *Children on Sunday* Groups**

 *Old Testament:* Nehemiah 8. 5-6, 8-10

 *New Testament:* 1 Corinthians 12. 12-26

 *Gospel:* Luke 4. 14-21

 *Preacher:* The Revd Jenny Welsh

 11.15am CHORAL MATINS

 *Old Testament:* Numbers 9. 15-end

 *New Testament:* 1 Corinthians 7. 17-24

 *Preacher:* The Vicar,The Rev’d Gillean Craig

 12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST

 *First Lesson:* Rom. 12. 16b-21 *Gospel:* Matthew 8. 1-13

 6.30pm SUNG EVENSONG AND HOLY COMMUNION

*Old Testament:* Jeremiah 1. 4-10

 *New Testament:* Matthew 19. 27-end

 *Preacher:* The Vicar,The Rev’d Gillean Craig

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| ***IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:****We pray for all victims of terrorism, those scarred in body, mind and soul by the violence and hatred of others. We pray for all who seek to bring justice, peace and reconciliation to our world.**Please pray for all refugees and displaced people, those fleeing conflict and danger, those seeking safe haven.**Please pray for the sick and those in distress, especially*WENDELL CADOGANJEAN CARR-GOMMDAPHNE CRAIGBETTY DOWDELLANNA MARIA DURANTECHARLOTTE FELDERHOFFCATHERINE GREENOLWEN HASLAMPATRICK HASTINGSCHRISTIAN HERRMANNJOHN IRISHJAMIE MARSDENANNE PEASEAUDREY RASKINCHARLOTTE REEVEVELMA SCULLYMARGARETA SJOQVISTSUSANNA TODDJANET TOMESWENDY ASHER WORTH*Pray for all who have died recently*LEONARD HOLDSWORTHELEANOR CADAGANGWEN ROBSONLAURA MURPHY*Pray for the repose of the souls of those* *whose year’s mind falls at this time* DENNIS CORBLE BARBARA HOSEGOOD ANNABEL BAIN |

**St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS**

***Church Website:*** [**www.stmaryabbotschurch.org**](http://www.stmaryabbotschurch.org)

***Vicar of the Parish***

 The Rev'd Gillean Craig gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 6032

***Vicar’s PA***  sophie.gaselee@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 6032

***Associate Vicar***

The Revd Jenny Welsh jenny.welsh@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 2364

***Associate Vicar with Special Responsibility for St Philip***

 The Rev’d David Walsh vicar@specr.org 020 7603 4420

***Associate Vicar with Special Responsibility for Christ Church***

 The Rev’d Mark O’Donoghue mark@christchurchkensington.com 020 7937 2966

***Honorary Priest***

 The Rev’d Peter Stubbs peter.stubbsuk@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 8868 8296

***Parochial Church Wardens***

 Jamie Dunford-Wood jdunfordwood@gmail.com 07732 842 894

 Adrian Weale adrianweale@mac.com 020 7937 0765

***Deputy Churchwardens for ST Mary Abbots Church****:*

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 Hannah Stewart hannahvstewart@yahoo.com 07813 173 595

***Parish Office:***

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***ST Mary Abbots Vestry:***

 Virger: George MacAllan george.macallan@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 5136

 Assistant Virger: Nick Benn

***Safeguarding Officer***

Samantha Giles safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org 07702 829 859

***Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children’s Champion:***

 Alexandra Swann alexandraswann@yahoo.com 07957 131 862

***ST Mary Abbots Centre:***

Adam Norton adam.norton@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 8885

***Stewardship Secretary:***

 Emma Porteous stewardship@stmaryabbotschurch.org 07866 258 814

***Electoral Roll Officer:***

 Sally Bessada er@stmaryabbotschurch.org

***Bellringers:***

 David Holdridge *Secretary*  david.holdridge@ntlworld.com 07904 954 959

***Editor of Kensington Parish News*** kpneditor@stmaryabbotschurch.org

***Friday Playgroup:*** playgroup@stmaryabbotschurch.org 07770 920 085

***Friends of ST Mary Abbots:*** friends@stmaryabbotschurch.org 077 3274 3228

***St Mary Abbots Appeal:*** appeal@stmaryabbotschurch.org

***Head of Fundraising:*** Karen Bryant

***It was our great pleasure last Sunday to welcome***

 ***The Rt Revd Dr GRAHAM TOMLIN***

***our new Bishop of Kensington to the 9.30 service and 11.15 services. He wanted to pass on his thanks to you all for the way he was welcomed – and his appreciation at finding***

***such a vibrant and diverse congregation!***

***This Sunday we offer our once-a-month provision:***

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|  | **SUNDAY 17th JANUARY** **11.15 Choral Matins** leading into **CHORAL EUCHARIST**Our augmented professional choir sings a full setting of the Eucharist – this month the Mass setting is the rarely-heard Rheinberger’s *Missa Sincere in Memoriam.*  |

***SUPPORT RWANDAN REFUGEES***

*One of Marie-Christine Nibagwire’s many works of charity and support is working with a Rwandan Women refugees’ sewing project in Kenya. She has a selection of their vibrant, colourful & practical bags & aprons. Please support this work with a purchase or two –Marie-Christine 07904 211 018, or saferefuge@hotmail.co.uk. More details -* [*www.saferefugerwanda.org*](http://www.saferefugerwanda.org/)*)*

**Resurrection Chapel Altar/Crib**

Have you offered a prayer before the altar recently? According to our custom, in the weeks between the Epiphany (January 6th) and Candlemas (February 2nd), the altar at which we say weekday Morning and Evening Prayer, and offer the daily Eucharist, is transformed into the Crib. The Wise Men have now joined the Shepherds, Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary and – is it the Innkeeper holding up the lantern? – in devotion to the Christ Child, God in human flesh. It’s a powerful focus of our devotion, accessible especially to children, and to the child in all of us, whatever our age.

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|  | **2.00pm this Wednesday – 20 January** **EUCHARIST OF HEALING** **LAYING-ON OF HANDS & ANOINTING***Followed by Afternoon Tea*In the heart of winter why don’t YOU resolve to come and participate in this monthly service? If you’re free this Wednesday afternoon – or if what you planned isn’t as important as Christ’s ministry of healing to our community – then: |

a) think which friend or neighbour might value this ministry – & bring them;

b) or still come along and support the sick with your prayers and presence;

c) provide sandwiches, scones or cake for the tea following the service

1.05pm Friday Lunchtime Recitals Back!

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC STUDENT RECITAL**

We are indeed fortunate to be the chosen venue for these splendid free concerts. These talented young musicians cannot be praised too highly – this week: music for piano solo and strings quartet by HAYDN, ROSSINI, BIZET & BRAHMS. There’s a flier with details of all the Recitals between now and Easter – take one for you and lots for your musical friends

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|  | **‘I WAS HUNGRY AND YOU FED ME’*****Our thanks to everyone who gives so generously to the***  |

***DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK***

We’re collecting regularly again on Sundays and at the Thursday school Eucharist in support of our **LOCAL FOODBANK, in the Dalgarno Community Centre in North Kensington**.  Handbills in church provide the shopping lists. We deliver the gifts each Thursday morning - we need a couple more volunteer drivers to join the team. *Details from Jenny Welsh*

**St. Mary Abbots'  Book Club** - **2.30pm Thursday 28th January**

We will be discussing **Andrew Marr’s** ***A SHORT BOOK ABOUT DRAWING*.** After the discussion we will enjoy a friendly and delicious tea.  New members welcome: please contact: [Ann\_Q@Hotmail.co.uk](https://btmail.bt.com/invalidurl.gif)  .

St MARY ABBOTS RECYCLING CHRISTMAS CARDS

Don’t throw away your old cards – the Handicraft Group is delighted to recycle the cards (well the Old Masters, anyway). Deliver to the Vestry.

***THE REVEREND PREBENDARY CRAIG!***

***Just before Christmas your Vicar was amazed and delighted to be nominated by the Bishop of London to be a Prebendary of St Paul’s Cathedral, taking the Prebend of Caddington Minor. It is nevertheless a great honour, so reflecting on our parish. Many previous Vicars of our church have also been prebendaries - it doesn’t mean I’m leaving StMA!***

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK**

**starts tomorrow Monday 18 January**

We join with all our neighbours in Christ of every denomination and church in praying for and re-committing ourselves to a renewed determination

to seek unity among all the Churches.



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| Our main local celebration is on Monday January 25, at 7.15 at St Sarkis Armenian Church, Iverna Gardens |  |

**An invitation from the Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral:** St Paul’s are holding their patronal festival on Saturday 23rd January at 4.30pm. It will be great celebration of the Eucharist sung by the Cathedral Choir with a special focus on the Diocese, and the entire service will be aimed especially for children and young people from churches and church schools. The Bishop of London will preside. Doors will open at 3.30pm, and all are welcome!

**NEW YEAR – YOUR NEW ROLE IN THE LITURGY?**

One of the great privileges of the church is to assist in the proclamation of divine worship. In a church like St Mary Abbots there are many ways in which we can do this, demonstrating that the offering of worship is something that we do together as the Body of Christ, not a performance by the clergy at which the laity form the passive audience. Readers, sidesmen, choir, bellringers, flower arrangers – all contribute to this central ministry. But we’re recruiting new members for a very particular group: we are looking for new servers for our serving team at the 9.30am service.  Perhaps you have wondered if you might be able to take part in this important and enjoyable ministry?  If so, do have a word with Fr Gillean or Jenny.  We would particularly like to encourage adults to join the team – we’ll be holding training sessions in the coming weeks.

**PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION**

Have YOU been confirmed? Nowadays many people reach full adult years without receiving the grace of this sacrament, and feel too shy to come forward and admit the fact. Fear Not! At St Mary Abbots every year we present for confirmation not only schoolchildren but also a group of adults – some really quite elderly. You won’t be alone and there’s no need to be embarrassed. We’re planning our annual preparation courses for Confirmation: Bishop Graham is booked to administer this sacrament here on Wednesday 25th May. We offer a four-month course exploring Christian faith and practice. Children are welcomed from school year 5 upwards, and each year we also have an adults’ group of glorious diversity of age and background – so feel no embarrassment at coming forward if you are of more mature years: email *gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch.org*

**The Holy Season of Lent will be upon us sooner than we think!**

**Wednesday 10th February is ASH WEDNESDAY**

On this most solemn day all Christians turn again to God for forgiveness.

 **1.05pm SUNG EUCHARIST; 7.00pm SOLEMN EUCHARIST**

The music at both of these services will include the famous

***ALLEGRI* Miserere**

**DO YOU WORK IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR?**

**ARE YOU RECEIVING AN OBSCENE ANNUAL BONUS?**

**Why not salve your miserable conscience by making a huge, giftaided donation to your favourite Parish Church? See Treasurer or Clergy**

***ST MARY ABBOTS – RESTORED AND ENHANCED***

***Now the high roof has been re-slated we move on to the next phase:***

Karen Bryant, Head of Fundraising writes: our next round of fundraising to install proper toilets at the church will enable us to build an extension, entered by discreet doors under the windows close to the current site of the font, which will for the first time provide a kitchen and toilet facilities. We will also create a glass lobby inside the west door, open up that space for exhibitions and informal gatherings and re-site the magnificent font, giving it a far more prominent position.

Leaflets in church, website and Facebook give further details

**We need your support: www.stmaryabbotsappeal.com**