

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

*We give thanks and pray for all that leads to unity among all Christian people,
for the work of the Kensington Council of Churches,
for Churches Together in England,
the World Council of Churches,
and for all our neighbours in Christ of other churches and denominations.*

*We pray for all who suffer throughout the world as a result of
terrorism, violence, and oppression - of all faiths,
Christians, Muslims, Jews – and of none.*

Please pray for the sick and those in distress, especially

WENDELL CADAGAN
JEAN CARR-GOMM
DAPHNE CRAIG
ANNA MARIA DURANTE
BETTY DOWDELL
YVONNE ENROEDI
OLWENHASLAM
VALERIE HARDWICKE
CHRISTIAN HERRMANN
JOHN IRISH
JAMIE MARSDEN
ISABEL MILNER
DIANA NICOL
AUDREY RASKIN
CHARLOTTE REEVE
JUNE SCULLY
PATRICK SHINE
MARGARETA SJOQVIST
SUSANNA TODD
JANET TOMES
WENDY ASHER WORTH

Pray for all who have died recently
LEONARD HOLDSWORTH
ELEANOR CADAGAN
GWEN ROBSON

Pray for the repose of the souls of those whose year's mind falls at this time.



NEWSLETTER

for the week beginning
24th January 2016



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

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST of Septuagesima
First Lesson: Romans 12. 16-21
Gospel: Matthew 8. 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: Jeremiah 33. 6-9a
New Testament: John 17. 11b-23
Preacher: Monsignor Jim Curry,
Parish Priest, Our Lady of Victories RC Church

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST
Same Readings as 8.00am

6.30pm SONG EVENSONG AND HOLY COMMUNION
Old Testament: Isaiah 49. 1-13
New Testament: Matthew 19. 27-end
Preacher: The Vicar, The Rev'd Gillean Craig

Monday 25th **The Conversion of St Paul**
8.30am Morning Prayer
1.05pm INFORMAL EUCHARIST 'Sunday on Monday'
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 26th **St Timothy & St Titus**
8.30am Morning Prayer
11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST – *Book of Common Prayer*
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 27th
7.10am Morning Prayer
7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST
1.05pm *Meditation Group*
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 28th **St Thomas Aquinas**
7.10am Morning Prayer
9.30am SONG EUCHARIST - St Mary Abbots School
all warmly welcome
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Friday 29th
7.10am Morning Prayer
7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST
1.05pm *RCM Students Recital*
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 30th **Commemoration of Charles, King & Martyr**
9.40am Morning Prayer
10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 31st **CANDLEMAS SUNDAY**

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST of Sexagesima
First Lesson: 2 Corinthians 11. 19-31
Gospel: Luke 8. 4-15

9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**
with Preschool Childrens Groups
Readings Malachi 3. 1-5
Gospel: Luke 2. 22-40

11.15am CHORAL MATINS
Old Testament: 1 Chronicles 29. 6-19
New Testament: Acts 7. 44-50
Preacher: The Vicar, The Revd Gillean Craig

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST *readings as at 8.00am*

6.30pm **CANDLEMAS CEREMONIES, PROCESSION
AND SOLEMN EVENSONG**
Old Testament: Malachi 3. 1-5
New Testament: Luke 2. 22-40
followed by HOLY EUCHARIST

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS

Church Website: 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:

Jamie Dunford-Wood jdunfordwood@gmail.com 07732 842894

Hannah Stewart hannahstewart@yahoo.com 07813 173 595

Parish Office:

Susan Russell susan.russell@stmaryabbotschurch.org 020 7937 2419

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

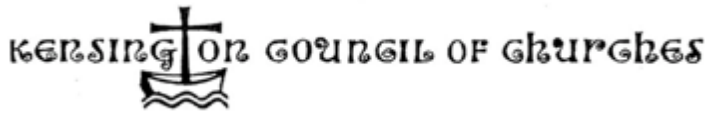
Head of Fundraising:

Karen Bryant

TODAY IS CHRISTIAN UNITY SUNDAY

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.

We are delighted to welcome as our Preacher at 11.15 Choral Matins, Monsignor **JIM CURRY**, the Parish Priest of Our Lady of Victories Church on Kensington High Street. Jim is the Mayor's Chaplain this year, and those who heard him preach at the Civic Service will greatly look forward to his sermon. We greatly value our friendship and common witness with our Roman Catholic neighbours and Christians of all denominations.



Our main local Unity Week celebration is tomorrow, Monday 25 January at 7.15 at St Sarkis Armenian Church, Iverna Gardens

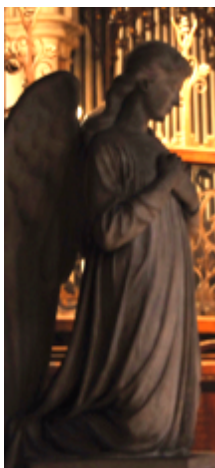


SUPPORT RWANDAN REFUGEES

Marie-Christine Nibagwire's works with a Rwandan Women refugees' sewing project in Kenya. She has a selection of their vibrant, colourful & practical bags & aprons for sale. Her thanks to all those who have already purchased one – she still has more! Marie-Christine 07904 211 018, or saferefuge@hotmail.co.uk. More details - www.saferefugerwanda.org

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.



ROYAL STATUE MOVED

One of the great – although often overlooked – treasures of our church is the ANGEL STATUE carved by HRH Princess Louise, fourth daughter of Queen Victoria, as a memorial to two of her brothers Princes Alfred and Leopold. The best-known example of her work is the statue of her mother in front of Kensington Palace, that faces the Round Pond. We have long thought that the Angel was placed too far back against the pillar, so that it could not be properly appreciated. The conservator who worked on it during the works to the Resurrection Chapel in 2014 pointed out that the drapery and back of the wings are fully modeled and detailed – it was certainly intended to be seen in the round. At last we have moved it forward slightly so that it takes its proper place among the memorials of the Resurrection Chapel – and in a sense shares in

our daily offering of prayer and praise. Further phases of work still remain to bring the chapel to its full glory: first the restoration of the reredos, and, eventually, the repainting of the ceiling, cleaning the walls and monuments, and re-instating of the tabernacle work to the stained glass windows.

This Thursday - St. Mary Abbots' Book Club

28th January at 2.30pm – this month's book is **Andrew Marr's A SHORT BOOK ABOUT DRAWING**. After the introduction and discussion we will enjoy a friendly and delicious tea. Do you enjoy reading? New members welcome: please contact: Ann_Q@hotmail.co.uk

1.05pm Friday Lunchtime

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, Cello and Violin by HAYDN, SCRIBAN & FRANCK. There's a flier with details of all the Recitals between now and Easter – take one for you and lots for your musical friends

St PAUL'S CATHEDRAL NEWS:

INVITATION FROM THE DEAN - Our Mother Church holds her patronal festival next Saturday 23rd January at 4.30pm. This great celebration of the Eucharist, presided over by the Bishop of London and sung by the Cathedral Choir, will be aimed especially for children and young people from churches and church schools. Doors will open at 3.30pm: all are welcome!

INSTALLATION OF VICAR AS PREBENDARY - We now have the date and time of Fr Gilleen's Installation to the Prebend of Caddington Minor in St Paul's Cathedral: it will be on Sunday March 6th (Mothering Sunday, unfortunately) at 3.15pm Evensong. I'm sorry that as yet there are no further details – but all of course are warmly welcomed.

NEXT SUNDAY 31st JANUARY



CANDLEMAS SUNDAY

The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, also known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary is February 2nd, Tuesday week, but we're following the church's recommendation of using the nearest Sunday fully to celebrate this final climax of the cycle of Incarnation that stretches from Advent through Christmas and Epiphany



The 9.30am will be a FAMILY EUCHARIST

With many of the roles and tasks undertaken by the younger members of our fellowship – see clergy to volunteer or find out more.

Then at 6.30 in the evening we hold our **SPECIAL CANDLEMAS CELEBRATION** as we gather in the Resurrection Chapel, for the Ceremonies of Light, then proceed via a powerful Candlelight Procession to **CHORAL EVENSONG**

a moving liturgy of light & great Candlemas music sung by our combined professional & voluntary choirs.

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. We do this in many different ways, 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 a 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've never thought about sharing in this important and enjoyable ministry? We're particularly keen to have more adults in the team – we'll be holding training sessions shortly. Speak to Jenny or Gilleen

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

It's time to register now!

We're gathering our annual preparation Confirmation courses: Graham, our Bishop of Kensington, is booked to administer this sacrament here on Wednesday 25th May. We take the process of preparation very seriously, and offer a four-month course of weekly sessions exploring Christian faith and practice, starting in a couple of weeks and extending through the crucial church seasons of Lent, Eastertide, Ascension and Pentecost.

We prepare children from school year 5, about the age of 9+, and we'll have groups of children, teenagers and adults. Remember, no-one's too old: we're aware of many adults who have not been confirmed or who, even if they receive the Sacrament, have not gone through this vital process. The weekly study and discussion groups explore the major themes of Christian belief and practice, so we may play our full part in the church's life. To find out more, see the clergy – or, even better, talk to someone who took part last year. To register: take one of the forms available in church or from the clergy, fill in & return to Vestry or Centre asap!

There are two meetings for those interested, both in church:
Adults (say over 16s) on Tuesday 2nd February at 7.00pm
Children on Thursday 3rd February 3.45 – 4.45pm
email gilleen.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
Both of these services include the famous **ALLEGRI Miserere**

GWEN ROBSON RIP

We now have the details of Gwen's funeral: it is to be held at 12noon on Wednesday 3rd February, here at St Mary Abbots