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| ***IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:***  *We pray for peace in our world, remembering especially Syria,*  *and for all victims of terrorism, war and violence, and natural disaster,*  *in particular all refugees and those driven from home to escape poverty and famine.*  *We hold before God our nation’s relationship with the other members of*  *European Union, and for all politicians.*  *We pray for all members of our Junior and our Adult Confirmation Groups*  OTTO BARROW : SOPHIE BECKITT  NICHOLAS BOWYER : ESIN CELEBI  CASSIUS CAMPBELL : RONA DAVIS  HARRY DURTNALL : UMA EICKELBERG  GWENDOLINE ENGLISH : ADRIANA FAGERHOLM  ANDREW GIBLIN : EMMA GIBLIN  WILLIAM GOVE : NAZANIN KARVAR  LAN KE : EVA KNIGHTLEY  OKSANA KNIGHTLEY : ANNA LUND  HAL MCEVEDY : MOLLIE NELSON  JAEYUN PARK : DAVID PILLING  GRACIE ROBINSON-LABIA : FILIPE KE WANG  KEWEN WANG : ANGELINE ZHU    *Please pray for the sick and those in distress, especially*  FREDDY BIRCHER : JEAN CARR-GOMM  BETTY DOWDELL : VALERIE HARDWICKE  SICILLE KOTELEWALA : JAMIE MARSDEN  ISABEL MILNER : ANNE PEERLESS  MARK REDMAN : JUNE SCULLY  MARGARETA SJOQVIST : JANET TOMES  SUSAN YOUNG  *Pray for all who have died recently*  GWEN BEW  CHRIS ELSMORE  ESME BASS  SALLY LESLIE  BETTY DOWDELL  *Pray for the repose of the souls of those whose year’s mind falls at this time.*  ARTHUR HARRIMAN (Feb 28)  MARY ISA (Mar 5)  JOSEPHINE GRIEVE (Mar 5) |

**St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS**

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

***Vicar of the Parish***

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***Vicar’s PA***  [sophie.gaselee@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:sophie.gaselee@stmaryabbotschurch.org) 020 7937 6032

***Associate Vicar***

The Revd Jenny Welsh [jenny.welsh@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:jenny.welsh@stmaryabbotschurch.org) 020 7937 2364

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

The Rev’d David Walsh [vicar@specr.org](mailto:vicar@specr.org) 020 7603 4420

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

The Rev’d Mark O’Donoghue [mark@christchurchkensington.com](mailto:mark@christchurchkensington.com) 020 7937 2966

***Honorary Priest***

The Rev’d Peter Stubbs [peter.stubbsuk@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:peter.stubbsuk@stmaryabbotschurch.org) 020 8868 8296

***Parochial Church Wardens***

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Adrian Weale adrianweale@mac.com 020 7937 0765

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

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Assistant Virger: Nick Benn

***Safeguarding Officer***

Samantha Giles [safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org) 07702 829 859

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***Electoral Roll Officer:***

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***St Mary Abbots Appeal:*** [appeal@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:appeal@stmaryabbotschurch.org)

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

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

**ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH**

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|  | **NEWSLETTER**  **for the week beginning**  **28th February 2016** |  |

***Sunday 28th February 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT***

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST

*Epistle:* Ephesians 5. 1-14

*Gospel:* Luke 11. 14-28

9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

WITH COMISSIONING OF CATACHUMENS

**and *Children on Sunday* Groups**

*Reading:* Isaiah 55. 1-7

*Gospel:* Luke 13. 1-9

*Preacher:* The Rev’d Gillean Craig

11.15am CHORAL MATINS

*Old Testament:* Genesis 28. 10-19a

*New Testament:* John 1. 25-51

*Preacher:* The Revd Jenny Welsh

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST

*Readings as at 8.00am*

6.30pm CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH THE PURCELL PLAYERS

*Old Testament:* Deuteronomy 6. 4-9

*New Testament:* John 17. 1a, 11b-19

*with* HOLY COMMUNION

***Monday 29th February***

8.30am Morning Prayer

1.05pm INFORMAL EUCHARIST ‘Sunday on Monday’

5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Tuesday 1st March St David***

8.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST – *Book of Common Prayer*

5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Wednesday 2nd March St Chad***

7.10am Morning Prayer

7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST

5.30pm Evening Prayer

6.30 & 8.00pm Congregational Launch of RENEWING St MARY ABBOTS Phase 2

***Thursday 3rd March***

7.10am Morning Prayer

9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST *St Mary Abbots School Service – all welcome*

2.00pm Funeral: ESME BASS RIP

5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Friday 4th March***

7.10am Morning Prayer

7.30am HOLY EUCHARIST

*1.05pm RCM Students Recital*

2.00pm Funeral: CHRISTOPHER ELSMORE RIP

5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Saturday 5th March***

9.40am Morning Prayer

10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST

5.30pm Evening Prayer

***Sunday 6th March MOTHERING SUNDAY***

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST

*Epistle:* Galatians 4. 21-end

*Gospel:* John 6. 1-14

9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**

**and Blessing and Distribution of Flowers**

**with Preschool *Children on Sundays* Groups**

*Readings, Prayers and Presentation by our Childrens Groups*

11.15am CHORAL MATINS

*Old Testament:* Joshua 5. 9-12

*New Testament:* Luke 15. 11b-24a

*Lent Sermon:* The Revd Victor Stock *Former Dean of Guildford*

12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST *readings as at 8.00am*

6.30pm TAIZÉ PRAYER

with HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Hour is Coming*

**ADMISSION TO THE CATACHUMENATE**

This alarming heading indicates a joyful and straightforward act:

at today’s 9.30 Eucharist we present to the congregation those who are **PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION** later this year.

They will publically commit themselves to this key stage in their following the Way of Jesus; and we’ll commit ourselves to support them in prayer.

As usual, for various reasons some of them are not able to be with us this morning, and note that some of the Junior candidates worship at other churches but want to be confirmed with their friends at our School.

**OTTO BARROW SOPHIE BECKITT NICHOLAS BOWYER**

**CASSIUS CAMPBELL ESIN CELEBI RONA DAVIS**

**HARRY DURTNALL UMA EICKELBERG GWENDOLINE ENGLISH ADRIANA FAGERHOLM ANDREW GIBLIN EMMA GIBLIN**

**WILLIAM GOVE NAZANIN KARVAR LAN KE OKSANA KNIGHTLEY EVA KNIGHTLEY ANNA LUND HAL MCEVEDY MOLLIE NELSON JAEYUN PARK DAVID PILLING GRACIE ROBINSON-LABIA**

**FILIPE KE WANG KEWEN WANG ANGELINE ZHU**

*Of course, we hold them all in our prayers and support.*

In every recent year, other people have joined these groups once they got underway. One of the advantages of having a full three-and-a-half month preparation period is that it is possible to catch up with what has been missed. This means that it’s not too late for YOU to join in!

Speak to the clergy, or email [gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch.org).

**HANDICRAFT GROUP EASTER CARDS**

will be on sale during Sundays morning coffee today & March 13th

**DRIVERS NEEDED** - a few committed members of St Mary Abbots can no longer get to the Sunday service that they have loved for many years – if YOU drive to church, might you be able to offer a lift? Speak to the clergy.

**This Sunday evening 28th February –**



**6.30 CHORAL EVENSONG WITH BAROQUE STRINGS**

We are delighted that once again The Purcell Players will accompany our combined voluntary/professional choirs in a very special Evensong. It will be preceded and concluded with movements from CORELLI’S Trio sonata Op3 No 9, and the *Magnificat* setting is by ALBINONI and great English anthem: PELHAM HUMFREY’s *O Lord My God*. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!

**Tuesday 12noon Lent Group ~~CANCELLED~~**

We regret that we have had to cancel this series. If you’re desperate to come, but simply couldn’t manage the first two sessions, speak to the Vicar

**1.05pm Friday Lunchtime RCM STUDENTS’ RECITAL**

This week: MOZART Clarinet Quintet & SHOSTAKOVICH Viola Sonata.

**NEXT SUNDAY: MOTHERING SUNDAY**

***NOT please ‘Mother’s Day’ – that’s a recent US secularist solecism!!***

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| daffodils | **On Sunday 6th March the 9.30 Service is a FAMILY EUCHARIST; apart from the very youngest, children will stay in church to see the presentations made by the older children and flowers will be blessed & distributed. We hope that many children will take part - & adults will help from 11.00 on Saturday to make up the bunches of flowers – see wardens.** |

***This is one of the year’s most popular services;***

***please invite your family, friends and neighbours.***

All our Mothering Sunday **collections** (apart from pledged Stewardship)

will be given to **St Andrew’s Clinics for Children,** to supports basic primary health care to children and their mothers in Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Zanzibar, Kenya and Ghana, in sub-Saharan Africa. Its top priority is reducing the Under Five Mortality Rate. The U5MR in Sierra Leone is 262 deaths per 1000 live births. In the UK it is 6. Last year StACC provided no fewer than 90,000 patient treatments – 60% for malaria - at a cost of c£1 per treatment.

**VICAR’S INSTALLATION AS PREBENDARY OF ST PAUL’S**

Fr Gillean will be Installed to the Prebend of Caddington Minor in St Paul’s Cathedral on Sunday March 6th (Mothering Sunday, unfortunately) at 3.15pm Evensong. All of course are warmly welcome at that service. If you haven’t yet received an invitation email [sophie.gaselee@stmaryabbots.com](mailto:sophie.gaselee@stmaryabbots.com) or speak to the clergy for a printed invitation. Do reply – approx. numbers needed.

*The limited number of tickets will be posted out by midweek*

**Next Sunday March 6th at 6.30pm**

**TAIZÉ PRAYER**

*‘the hour is coming’’*

**This Wednesday 2nd March:**

**One of our most important events in years**

**TRANSFORMING ST MARY ABBOTS**

**Wednesday 2 March 6.30pm or 8.00pm**

You should all have received an invitation to the Congregational Launch of Phase Two of our Grand Project. We’ve already restored the High Altar Reredos, created the Garth for Cremated Remains, restored the WWI Memorial Resurrection Chapel, renewed the High Roofs, stonework, drainage etc. Now we turn to PHASE TWO: creating a flexible multi-purpose space at the back of the church for a far wider range for activities and events than is currently possible, served with a discreet new extension containing kitchen & WCs.

Come to see & hear about the whole campaign, Phase Two in particular – and how you can play your part! There are two sessions, at 6.30 & 8.00; light refreshments will be served.

RSVP (important): email [appeal@stmaryabbotschurch.org](mailto:appeal@stmaryabbotschurch.org)

**ESME BASS** It is with great regret that we announce Esme’s death last week. For many years until her move to a nursing home she had been a pillar of St Mary Abbots, playing a part in our worship and many of our activities. Many of our more established congregants will have the fondest memories of her strong personality and opinions. Her funeral is to be held this coming Thursday 3rd March at 2.30pm – all of course are welcome.

**LESLEY BILINDA** We’re delighted to pass on last Sundays news that Lesley, only two years since her priesting, is to succeed as the next Vicar of the church where she’s been serving as Curate, St Andrews, Fulham Fields. This progression is usually frowned on, and hardly ever happens – it’s a great tribute to her outstanding qualities. We hold her in our prayers with joy.

**SICILLE KOTELAWALA** A most faithful member of our fellowship in recent years has finally fulfilled her dream to return to her beloved Sri Lanka. Her friends will be deeply shocked to learn that she was immediately arrested and, despite all her health problems, is in prison. Do pray for her

**Thursday 7.30pm Lent Study Course**

*St Mary Abbots Centre, Vicarage Gate W8 4HN - Light supper served*

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|  | **OUR WORK AND OUR FAITH**  ***What do we actually do?***  ***What is our day-to-day work?***  **How do its responsibilities & opportunities relate to our Christian faith & discipleship?**  *Our Congregation is made up of people with the most remarkable work and professions – it is fascinating to discover what your neighbour in the pew actually does!* |

**This week March 3: MAX CROFT**

Our congregant Max – PCC & Synod Member, with daughter Kitty & husband Tom – is a journalist & Assistant News Editor of *The Guardian.* There could be no more important and interesting topic than the media’s role in shaping politics and society, how journalists maintain a moral compass and balance popular appeal with political and ethical conviction. *All Welcome! But if you’re coming do let us know – jenny.welsh*[*@stmaryabbotschurch,org*](mailto:Gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch,org)

**DIOCESAN LENT APPEAL** We’re supporting the Bishop of London’s 2016 Appeal in aid of persecuted Christians in Iraq and Syria. Leaflets in church give the full details – take one, & please give generously!

**MAJOR CHURCH CLEANING LAST WEEK** Thanks to George for keeping the church open and as clean as possible while builders completed their roof works with a high-level internal cleaning of the church

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|  | **Bach: St JOHN PASSION**  **Palm Sunday 20th March 6.30**  **St Mary Abbots Choir & Chorus & Baroque orchestra** This glorious work, one of the great peaks of Christian art, is for many of us central to our keeping of Holy Week. ***TICKETS £15 ON SALE NOW online from church website or at services or vestry* WE NEED YOUR HELP: Please take posters and handbills to distribute to friends and place in local windows etc SPONSORS SOUGHT!** Might you sponsor a soloist, or even the Orchestra? Speak in confidence to the Vicar. |

**STAY IN TOWN FOR EASTER! GO AWAY AFTER!!**

This year the Festival is very early, with the school holidays falling afterwards. So this is YOUR chance to experience the finest and most moving of all our annual services, from **Palm Sunday** 20 March, through **Holy Week**, to **Maundy Thursday** 24 March, **Good Friday** 25th**, Holy Saturday** Easter Preparation – then the glory of **EASTER DAY** Sunday 27th March; services from 5.00am - 5.00pm!