

Sunday 24th Dec **FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS EVE**

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**
Preacher: The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney

Nb no 11.15am or 12.30pm services today

4.00pm **CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE**
11.30pm **MIDNIGHT MASS OF
OUR LORD'S NATIVITY**
Preacher: The Rev'd Canon Stephen Fielding

Monday 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**



8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**
Address: The Vicar, The Rev'd Preb Gillean Craig
11.15am **SOLEMN MATINS**
Preacher: The Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney
12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm **CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON SERVICE**
Carols, Prayers & Communion By The Crib

NB SOME DIFFERENT HOLIDAY SERVICE TIMES:

Tuesday 26th **St Stephen, First Martyr**

9.40am Morning Prayer
10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 27th **St John the Evangelist**

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 28th **The Holy Innocents**

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm Evening Prayer

Friday 29th **St Thomas Becket**

8.00am Morning Prayer
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 30th

9.40am Morning Prayer
10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 31st Dec **THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
CHRISTMAS**

8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST
9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**
with Preschool Children's Group
Preacher: The Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney
11.15am **CHORAL MATINS**
Preacher: The Rev'd Preb Gillean Craig
12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST
4.00pm **NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE**
Carols, Commitment & Communion
as we welcome the Year of Our Lord 2018

St MARY ABBOT'S Parish Church Kensington



NEWSLETTER

24th – 31st

December 2017

Parish website: www.smaw8.org



O Come, Let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

IN OUR PRAYERS AT CHRISTMAS:

*Creator God, who chose us from the beginning to be family
We praise your holy name
Jesus Christ, Son of God, Word become flesh: We praise your holy name
Holy Spirit, present power in our lives: We praise your holy name.*

*We pray for the people of Bethlehem
and for all those living in the land into which Christ was born.
Send you peace upon your Holy Land.*

*And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the
poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn,
the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the
Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.*

– Bidding Prayer

*With Joy and Thanksgiving we pray for the Bishop-Elect of London
the Rt Revd SARAH MULLALLY DBE.*

Please intercede for those who have asked for our prayers

JOHN BIGNALL : SHEILA BRADSHAW
TOVAH CAMERON : JOHN CANTLIE
SANDY CLAYTON : TOM CLAYTON
DAPHNE CRAIG : TONY GORDON
BRIAN HARVEY : HILAL KIBBARA
LEO KOYMANS : NIGEL LEYLAND
JUNE SCULLY : ALEXANDRA WAITT
JAMES WORSLEY : CAROLYN
GOHAR : OLGA : OYIN and DAMALOLA

Please pray for all who have died recently
JEAN WOODROFFE : PETER WALWYN : ROSE MURPHY

And for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

PRUDENCE WAITT (23 December)
JOHN WORSLEY (24 December)
SOU YEN CROSTHWAITE (24 December)
GWEN ROBSON (25 December)
ROBERT COOK (27 December)
MAGGIE CURREY (29 December)

THE COLLECTIONS

at all our Christmas services will be given to
**The Children's Society
& Save the Children,**
working here and throughout the world
with children in greatest need.
Please give as generously as you can.

DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK

Thank you for your continued response. We collect weekly to support a foodbank that operates from a social centre in North Kensington. As the winter deepens, the need could not be greater. As we near the Christmas holidays, remember that the food bank is especially vital—they're keen to ensure that people don't just have enough to get them through, but also some special things to make the Christmas period enjoyable too. We can arrange for you to give **money for on-line orders** for this period, doing your foodbank shopping for you.



Further details from: Alice Bulkai 07973 156 599

who will be happy also to direct your cash donations.

SUNDAY 24th December

Until 4.00pm nightfall this is

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

At the 9.30am SUNG EUCHARIST

ANGELA FIELDING will be Licensed as a Eucharistic Minister – that is, she will receive the Bishop's permission to assist the clergy in the distribution of the Communion Bread and Wine (nb, permission is given for such ministers to distribute both kinds) at the Holy Communion – and also in taking Home Communion to the sick and housebound. This is one of the many ways that members of the congregation, the laity, share the clergy's ministry to our church and to our community. Indeed, the best way to look at it is to think of the clergy as being kindly allowed by you to share in the ministry of the laity!

Note that today there is

no 11.15am Choral Matins

nor 12.30pm Holy Eucharist.

Then in the afternoon the day transforms into

CHRISTMAS EVE

with two great services:

4.00pm Sunday 24th December

CHILDRENS CRIB SERVICE

An amazing Kensington Christmas Eve tradition! Children dress up as characters in the Christmas story, and hear the story of the Nativity, and gradually fill the Crib with Joseph, Mary & the Shepherds.

11.30pm Sunday 24th December

MIDNIGHT MASS BY CANDLELIGHT

Our augmented professional choir leads the music in this most evocative of the year's acts of worship. At the midnight of the year, into the profoundest darkness, bursts forth the overwhelming light and joy of the birth of Jesus, God himself entering his creation, our salvation, hope and peace.

On CHRISTMAS DAY a complete provision of worship - there's something for you, your family and your guests:

- 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Eucharist,
- 9.30am FAMILY EUCHARIST with All-Age Address
- 11.15am SOLEMN MATINS and Sermon
- 12.30pm Holy Eucharist
- 4.00pm 'A BOY IS BORN' – a special Christmas Afternoon service, with readings, carols and Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH & GIFTS FOR ELDERLY

We have a lovely dinner with all the trimmings and entertainment all prepared and guests all ready – but without offers to drive them here and back again it will all be to no avail!

We could still use another driver or two: if you are able and willing **TO DRIVE** the guests to and from the Christmas Dinner at the St Mary Abbots Centre, please speak to Fr Jonathan.

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE GIFTS AND PRESENTS FOR NEIGHBOURS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING

CHRISTMAS WEEK

OUR church remains open daily throughout this holiday season – which of course is only a holiday because it is a succession of HOLY DAYS when we continue to give thanks to God for the Coming of our Saviour, born among us as the Babe of Bethlehem. Each day has its own particular theme or remembrance, many joyful but some – like the Feast of the Holy Innocents, or the Martyrdom of Thomas a Becket, deeply tragic and proof that our faith is entirely committed to the worst, as well as the best, of human experience.

Each day we offer Morning Prayer, Holy Eucharist & Evening Prayer: **BUT NOTE THE SPECIAL WINTER HOLIDAY TIMES.**

They may well fit in better with your daily timetable than usual – do join us in daily prayer and praise.

Next Sunday 31st December is

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

we offer the usual Sunday Morning provision of services – but in the afternoon a special



4.00pm NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

CAROLS, ACT OF COVENANT & HOLY EUCHARIST.

The ideal preparation for 2018, commending the New Year to Almighty God.

**JONATHAN & STEPHEN & GILLEAN
(and Helen and Angela and Linda) -
thank you all for the wonderfully generous
Christmas Wishes and Cards
that so many of our Congregation and Community have
showered upon us and our families,
and in turn hope & pray that you & all whom you love,
and all the people of Kensington
may have a Holy and Blessed Christmas,
and a Healthy, Happy & Prosperous New Year**

New Bishop of London announced!

The Rt Revd **SARAH MULLALLY** DBE,
currently Bishop of Crediton in the Diocese of Exeter,
is to be the 133rd Bishop of London.



Bishop Pete Broadbent, Acting Bishop of London, writes: *Bishop Sarah has proven qualities of leadership and commitment to collaborative working. Her work in the public square uniquely equips her for the important outward focus that is required in leading the Diocese in this great World City. She also brings strong experience of parish and cathedral life, and sees her vocational experience as nurse, civil servant, priest, and bishop as a totality.*

Knowing how precisely correct the people of St Mary Abbots like to be, it's worth pointing out that technically she is at the moment our Bishop **designate**. There is a series of ancient and arcane processes to be completed before she is actually able to proceed to her Installation. As one of them involves your Vicar – it's about the only remaining power wielded by the Prebendaries of St Paul's Cathedral – he is particularly keen to encourage everyone to get this right. In fact the Prebendal confirmation of the appointment is a fictional sham, a ceremony whose outcome is predetermined and immutable – but that's the CofE!

ST MARY ABBOTS CONTACTS:

Vicar	The Rev'd Preb Gillean Craig	vicar@smaw8.org	020 7937 6032
Vicar's PA	Sophie Gaselee	sg@smaw8.org	020 3479 4731
Associate Vicar	Fr Jonathan MacNeaney	jm@smaw8.org	07949 468 905 020 7937 2364
Associate Priest	Fr Stephen Fielding	sf@smaw8.org	020 7937 4106
Churchwardens	Jamie Dunford-Wood Hannah Stewart	jdunfordwood@gmail.com hannahstewart@yahoo.com	07732 842 894 07813 173 595
Parish Office:	Susan Russell	admin@smaw8.org	020 7937 2419
Vestry:	Simon Fitter	virger@smaw8.org	020 7937 5136
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