

## IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

WE PRAY THAT GOD WILL INSPIRE,  
STRENGTHEN AND GUIDE US THROUGHOUT 2018;  
THAT THIS NEW YEAR MAY BE MARKED BY  
PEACE, JUSTICE, RECONCILIATION AND HEALING  
FOR ALL CREATION

*This New Year we are reminded that Your amazing grace,  
is new each day, fresh and bursting with love from here to eternity.*

*We thank God for our parish on its first birthday  
May His Blessing inspire our ministry here and our shared ministry  
with St Philip Earls Court Road and Christ Church Victoria Road,  
together forming the*

### Central Kensington Group Ministry

*We pray for those affected by terrorist atrocity, especially those killed and injured:  
Coptic Christians in Helwan district, Egypt  
Shia muslims in Tabayan cultural centre Kabul, Afghanistan*

*Please intercede for those who have asked for our prayers*

JOHN BIGNALL : VINCENZO BLANDINI  
TOVAH CAMERON : JOAN DAVIES  
SARAH DEAL : TONY GORDON  
BRIAN HARVEY : HILAL KIBBARA  
BILL KIRKPATRICK : LEO KOYMANS  
NIGEL LEYLAND : SONIA SAMUELS  
JUNE SCULLY : ALEXANDRA WATT  
ROXANNA ZADVORNY : CAROLYN  
GOHAR : OLGA  
JOANNA AND FAMILY  
SAMIR : CARL-FREDRIK

*Please pray for all who have died recently*

*And for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time  
HARTLE BOURNE (3 January)*

## St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH AND PARISH CONTACTS

Church Website: [www.smaw8.org](http://www.smaw8.org)

### 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 jdunfordwood@gmail.com 07732 842 894  
Hannah Stewart hannahstewart@yahoo.com 07813 173 595

### Parish Office:

Susan Russell admin@smaw8.org 020 7937 2419

### Sr Mary Abbots Vestry:

Simon Fitter virger@smaw8.org 020 7937 5136

### Safeguarding Officer

Andrew Freestone safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org

### Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children's Champion:

Martina Sadovska m.sadovska@yahoo.co.uk

### Sr Mary Abbots Centre:

Adam Norton an@smaw8.org 020 7937 8885

### Stewardship Secretary:

Emma Porteous stewardship@smaw8.org 07866 258 814

### Electoral Roll Officer:

Sally Bessada er@smaw8.org

### Bellringers:

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

### Friday Playgroup:

playgroup@smaw8.org

### Friends of Sr Mary Abbots:

friends@amaw8.org 07585 705 281

### Sr Mary Abbots Appeal:

appeal@smaw8.org

## Kensington Group Ministry ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH



# NEWSLETTER

for the week beginning  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2017



### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>

### THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

- 8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST  
*Epistle* Galatians 4. 1-7  
*Gospel:* Matthew 1. 18-end
- 9.30am FAMILY EUCHARIST  
*Old Testament:* Isaiah 35. 1-10  
*Gospel:* Luke 2. 41-52  
*Address:* The Rev'd Jonathan MacNeaney
- 11.15am CHORAL MATINS  
*Old Testament:* Isaiah 63. 7-9  
*New Testament:* Ephesians 3. 5-12  
*Preacher:* The Revd Preb Gillean Craig
- 12.30pm HOLY EUCHARIST  
*Readings as at 9.30am*
- 4.00pm NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE  
Carols, Covenant & Communion

### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January THE NAMING & CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST

#### Nb Bank Holiday Service times

- 9.40am Morning Prayer  
10.00am HOLY EUCHARIST  
no 'Sunday on Monday' Service today  
4.00pm Evening Prayer

### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January St Basil the Great & St Gregory of Nazianzus

- 8.30am Morning Prayer  
11.30am HOLY EUCHARIST – *Book of Common Prayer*  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

- 8.00am Morning Prayer  
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST  
1.05pm Meditation Group  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January

- 8.00am Morning Prayer  
9.30am St Mary Abbots School EPIPHANY EUCHARIST - *all welcome*  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January

- 8.00am Morning Prayer  
8.15am HOLY EUCHARIST  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

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

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> EPIPHANY SUNDAY

- 8.00am HOLY EUCHARIST  
*First Lesson:* Isaiah 60. 1-9  
*Gospel:* Matthew 2. 1-12
- 9.30am PROCESSION OF THE MAGI AND  
FAMILY EUCHARIST  
with *Children on Sundays* Groups  
*Old Testament:* Isaiah 60. 1-6  
*Gospel:* Matthew 2. 1-12
- 11.15am CHORAL MATINS AND EUCHARIST  
*Old Testament:* Isaiah 60. 1-9  
*New Testament:* John 2. 1-11  
*Preacher:* The Rev'd Canon Stephen Fielding

No 12.30 Holy Eucharist today

- 6.30pm TAIZE PRAYER & HOLY EUCHARIST  
*Our Gifts for the Infant King*

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

## Today is the SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

And as befits a Sunday in the octave (that is the 8-day period) of the second greatest feast of the year it is kept with all the solemnity and decoration of Christmas Day itself – even if the congregations are somewhat smaller! We move our lovely statue of the



### FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

into the centre of the church to symbolize the Holy Family's escape from Bethlehem to avoid the Massacre of the Innocents.

## At 4.00pm this afternoon a special NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE



## CAROLS, COVENANT AND COMMUNION

Tomorrow, January 1<sup>st</sup>, in addition to being New Year's Day, is also the **THE FEAST OF THE NAMING & CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST** (hence the splendid image we use above)

*Join us for our afternoon service that includes a solemn act of renewal and rededication to God as we look forward to 2018*

### COLLECTIONS AT CHRISTMAS

were dedicated equally to **SAVE THE CHILDREN** and **THE CHILDRENS SOCIETY**, charities working with children in great need both at home and throughout the world. They totalled:

Nine Lessons and Carols	455
Christmas Eve Crib Service	545
Midnight Mass	685
Christmas Day Services	525
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>£2,210</b>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS/HOSPITALITY/ETC ETC

Our thanks to all who worked so hard in the weeks and days up to Christmas to ensure that we kept the feast with appropriate joy, delight and beauty: flower arrangements, candle decorations, tree, pillars, good things to eat and drink. Especial thanks to Simon Fitter Head Virger and his team!

### CHRISTMAS MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY AND ALONE

Thank you all for your hard work and commitment that culminated in a wonderful Christmas lunch for some of our local older people. For drivers and singers, present givers and administrators, waiters and mulled wine mixers; we give thanks. Everybody had a top lunch and a cheerful Christmas. Caring for our community is



at the heart of our Christian calling, as indeed is feeding the hungry. It is a privilege to be able to celebrate Jesus' birth amongst such good company: see you again next year!

*Lucille Briance & Fr Jonathan*

**¶ stop press! LUCILLE BRIANCE has been awarded the MBE in the New Year Honours List for her services to Dance – that should include her services to the elderly of Kensington as well! Our warmest congratulations to her & her family.**

St Mary Abbots School starts its new term on Tuesday: they will anticipate the **FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY** this **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am** **WHOLE-SCHOOL SUNG EUCHARIST** with Procession of the Magi as they offer Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh – all warmly welcome.

## 2018 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



Our major local observance will be at Our Lady of Victories RC on Kensington High Street at 7.00pm on Thursday 18 January. Book the date & watch for details!

## NEXT SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JAN: EPIPHANY SUNDAY



Have you been following the Wise Men on their journey around the church, starting on Advent Sunday? The great **Feast of the Epiphany** is next Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> - when we celebrate the visit to the Christ Child of the Magi and their offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. But nowadays we're encouraged to keep it on the nearest Sunday, so we can all enjoy the great hymns. From Christmas through to Epiphany is best understood as a single, great, feast – we keep our beautiful Christmas decorations in place, so that all may admire and enjoy them.

6.30pm next Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January

**TAIZÉ PRAYER**

*'Our Gifts for the Infant King'*



### DALGARNO TRUST FOODBANK.

Thank you to all who support this vital service, seeing increased use every week with a quarter more families being supported this Christmas. George, who administers the foodbank, was delighted to be able to provide Christmas hampers: *"These hampers were targeted at individuals/families below the poverty-line,*

*that without intervention would not be able to support their basic food requirements, let alone celebrate Christmas."* Please continue to support this generously by dropping off food at the vestry. Pick-ups occur every Thursday. We especially thank **Alice Bulkai** who co-ordinates our efforts.

### NEW PARISH FIRST BIRTHDAY!

The new parish of St Mary Abbots (ie without any other sister or daughter churches) is just one year old tomorrow. I realise that most members of our congregation didn't notice any difference – but it provides us with a good reason to thank God for our ministry here and our shared ministry with our new neighbour parishes of St Philip Earls Court Road and Christ Church Victoria Road, together forming the

### CENTRAL KENSINGTON GROUP MINISTRY



On the Friday before Christmas our mayor helped us bring to a triumphant close the 2017 the Kensington **LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR.**

Our thank to all the different shops & organizations who presented window displays on the theme **'MAKING SPACE FOR HOPE'.**

Kensington Wholefoods; Skillman & Sons; Pickwicks; Bickersteth House; St Mary Abbots School; Burlingtons Dry Cleaners; Hornets Vintage Wear; Romanos Restaurant; Huntsworth Wines; Pestle & Mortar Pharmacy; Rowleys Pictures; Gallery 19; Beauty By Nicole Fenton; David Faulder Opticians; Beatrice Place Care Home

*The almost completed calendar is available here: <http://www.smaw8.org/living-advent-calendar.html>*

### THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

A fortnight today 14<sup>th</sup> January the 9.30am Sung Eucharist includes the **Sacrament of Baptism** & also - the **Renewal of Baptismal Vows.** We're emailed an invitation to everyone recently baptised at St Mary Abbots – do let us know if you haven't receive one.



### FRIENDS OF ST MARY ABBOTS FUNDRAISING EVENT WITH LORD ALTON

One hundred people heard Professor Lord Alton of Liverpool, a Patron of the Friends of St Mary Abbots, recent talk on the theme of "How do you solve a Problem like Korea". We greatly valued his authoritative views on North Korea and partook of Alison Steel's sensational Korean Buffet. Wine was kindly sponsored by Patron Mr Guy Heald and Richard Heald. The raffle was organised with a beautiful Hamper created by Mrs Joanna Bardsley. Founding Patron Steven Atack sponsoring the buffet. Close to £2,100 was raised for the Friends towards its Appeal for the creation of disabled toilet facilities in the church. If you were unable to attend and wish to donate contact Steve Atack [steveatack@aol.com](mailto:steveatack@aol.com) or send cheque ("Friends of St Mary Abbots Church Kensington") to Vestry or Parish Office. 2018 Membership now open - details from Nigel Grieve or from Steve Atack.

**A HOLY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR:  
JUSTICE AND PEACE TO OUR WORLD AND HEALING  
FOR THE SICK IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2018**