

In Our Prayers This Week

The Collect for the 6th Sunday after Easter

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Prayer during Coronavirus

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies, that they may make wise decisions: Lord, hear us. **Amen.**



Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

<i>Those in acute need</i>		<i>Those in long-term need</i>
Katie Aston	Mary McKenna	Vincenzo Blandini
Christine Barnes	Diana Nicol	Theo Bulkai
Francesca de Bono	Michael North	John Cantlie
Rebecca Cable-Nunn	Holly Raber	Rev. Geoffrey Connor
Sarah Deal	Mary Reeve	Joan Davies
Margy Fitter	Maria Reis	Leo Koymans
Tony Gordon	June Scully	Simon Portal
Sarah Hack	Sue Spicer	Annie Redmile
Joan Jackson	Roger	James Worsley
Margaret Lyon	Rosie	
	Victoria	

and for all who have died recently

Kevin FitzGerald Christine Wattlesworth

and for all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

Hugh Thomas, 17th May Violet Sale, 17th May
Ian Tamblyn, 19th May Didier Lenart, 20th May
Nemo Tin, 23rd May Tommy Nevell, 23rd May

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

Vicar	Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@smaw8.org	020 7937 6032
Vicar's PA	Leonora Service	pa@smaw8.org	020 3479 4731
Associate Vicar	Fr Jonathan MacNeaney	jm@smaw8.org	07949 468 905 020 7937 2364
Churchwardens	Jamie Dunford-Wood	jdunfordwood@gmail.com	07732 842 894
	David Banks	dcbj@btinternet.com	077 3274 3228
Co-opted Churchwardens	Guy Heald		
	Ed Warrick		
Parish Office:	Vacant		
Church Vestry:	Simon Fitter <i>Head Virger</i>	virger@smaw8.org	020 7937 5136
Safeguarding Officer:	Andrew Freestone	safeguardingofficer@smaw8.org	
Children on Sundays Co-ordinator & Children's Champion:			
	Martina Sadovska	m.sadovska@yahoo.co.uk	
St Mary Abbots Centre:	Adam Norton	an@smaw8.org	020 7937 8885
Stewardship Secretary:	Emma Porteous	stewardship@smaw8.org	07866 258 814
Electoral Roll Officer:	Ed Warrick	er@smaw8.org	
Bellingring Secretary:	David Holdridge	david.holdridge@ntlworld.com	07904 954 959
Friends of St Mary Abbots:	friends@smaw8.org		07585 705 281



ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

17th May 2020

St Mary Abbots church building may be closed, but the St Mary Abbots church community continues strong in faith and fellowship. With technology we continue to pray for one another's needs and to share each other's hopes and fears.

DAILY PRAYER

The Clergy continue to say the daily office in the quiet of their homes at **8 am and 5.30 pm**. If you would like to be with us in spirit, please do light a candle and use the prayers accessed here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

SERVICES

A link for the service will be on the website and sent out by email

Sunday 17th May

10.30am

Holy Eucharist

We have also prepared a **Healing service** which is on our website now.

If you would like to make a donation during our services, or at any time, we have set up an **online virtual collection plate** **HERE:**

Message from Mother Emma

Thank you all for your continued support of St Mary Abbots, through worship, regular contact, friendship and donations. We are thankful that our community has stayed so strong and faithful, and hope and pray that our shared faith continues to give us strength and hope in this crisis.



Online Services from within the Church

Along with the slight amendments to the lockdown, there has also been much debate around the slow stages to re-open our churches. The Bishop of London has now announced that it is permissible for a member of the clergy to enter the church alone to pray for the parish and to record or livestream material for online services. It currently looks as though churches may be permitted to open for private prayer in July, though this is clearly dependent on Government decisions and the course of the virus.

You will be aware that to my great sadness and frustration, I have been told by the NHS, (because my historic kidney transplant puts me at extremely high risk of complications from Covid-19), to continue to "shield" in my house for the time being. In order that I may, as Vicar, continue to share in leading the worship of the parish, the plan is that we shall be providing a mixture of online services, some from within the church and some, as currently, from the Vicarage garden. I am glad and grateful that this means Fr Jonathan will be able to go into church, so that you will be able to see St Mary Abbots being used for its rightful purpose and know that you are being prayed for before the altar, but hope that you understand my situation. I am glad to announce that next Sunday's Ascensiontide service (24th May) will feature elements both from the church and from the garden.

I share in your sadness that we can't yet go back and worship together, and yet I am uplifted that we worship spiritually together week by week, and will continue to do so. Please be

parish, as well as preparing some of our online services with the kind assistance of Fr Jonathan and Leonora, and holding all of you constantly on my heart and in my prayers. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with me at any time.

With my love and prayers for your health and safety, as ever,
Mother Emma

Confirmation Candidates Thursday 21st May 2020

This coming Thursday, Ascension Day, the Bishop of Kensington was to hold a Service of Confirmation here at St Mary Abbots. Sadly, due to Covid-19, this service has had to be postponed. Many of you will remember our commissioning of the candidates some months ago, and we ask that you keep them in your prayers this week as their journey in faith continues, and as they wait for the time when they can confirm that faith before God in our presence at St Mary Abbots.

New Curate

Mother Emma was asked if St Mary Abbots would take on a part-time curate in Training, who would complete her formation as a priest here in the parish, learning from all that St Mary Abbots has to offer, but also bringing to us the fresh eyes and recent theological insight of someone newly ordained. She was delighted (with the support of the churchwardens) to accept this offer, and our new curate, **Alice Ormondroyd**, will be moving into Fr Stephen's former flat on May 25th. Sadly for Alice, who was supposed to have been ordained on 4th July, the Ordinations for this year have been postponed until the end of September, but Alice will be licensed to preach, teach, lead non-Eucharistic services and offer pastoral care in the parish over the summer, so we will get to know her first through our online services, and then as, God willing, the church re-opens. In September, she will be made Deacon, and then next summer, ordained to the Priesthood, after which she will serve with us for a further two years. It is a great joy and privilege for us as a parish to be able to share in and contribute to this process. We will ask Alice to introduce herself here next week.



Donations to St Mary Abbots Church

Some of you have kindly asked if you could make a donation or continue your regular plate giving to support the work and upkeep of St Mary Abbots so we have set up an online virtual collection plate which can be found under the service information above, or on our website.

As for so many, our income has been reduced at this time, but our fixed costs remain and our mission and ministry continue, so any donations would be very gratefully received. We are, however, very conscious that this is an uncertain and difficult time for many financially.

Archbishops Dial-in worship phone line

Archbishop Justin Welby has set up a phone line for those who wish to worship but can not use the internet. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop of Canterbury before being about to choose from a range of options including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19. The number to dial is **0800 804 8044**.

Archbishop Justin said: "With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are. The Daily Hope service will allow people to hear hymns, prayers and words that offer comfort and hope, especially in this Easter season. I want to urge people to spread the news about this service. If

give them a call and let them know about the Daily Hope. I'm going to phone a friend; will you join me?"

Bible Studies and Creativity

Sam Donoghue, Head of Children & Youth for the Diocese of London suggests a family activity looking at passages from the bible creatively. This is following the tradition of lectio Divina, a combination of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. Reading a passage from the Bible and using pens and papers, playdough or anything else you have to hand to create what the passage means, and to discuss it together afterwards. For more information please look at their website.

OTHER NEWS

Help and Advice from RBKC Council

Kensington and Chelsea Council are offering help and advice on housing support, job retention and self employment claims, support for those feeling anxious or depressed, or help for anyone experiencing domestic abuse or cared for elderly or vulnerable residents as well as a new anti-social line to report those taking advantage of the vulnerable as well as on line activities and for children's during lockdown. Their website is <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19>

Supporting Local Business

Despite lockdown and confinement, many of our amazing shops and supermarkets on Kensington High Street are open, providing us with our daily needs. Kensington Business Forum, a group that promotes local business's on Kensington High Street, have produced a list of local shops that are currently open during the lockdown. We would like to ask you to support these local businesses to help get them through these difficult times and to see our high street survive. Information can be found on <https://kensingtonbusinessforum.co.uk/list-of-open-retailers>

Pastoral & Practical Care

We will continue to provide both emotional and spiritual care, both for our own congregation members and locals in the parish who would like a chat. We intend to stay in regular touch, but would also welcome anyone who would like to phone or email us at any point. If you know of anyone in need of support please email Father Jonathan: jm@smaw8.org

Mutual Aid

We continue to work with 'Kensington and Chelsea Mutual Aid', a group of local volunteers have set up a Mutual Aid system whereby vulnerable, elderly and housebound residents in Kensington & Chelsea can request support for grocery shopping, prescriptions collection at Boots, or on the phone support. Please share with family and neighbours in the area: <https://www.mutualaidkc.com>. Our Sunday school convenor Marina Lussich is the administrator for zone 3 Kensington & Chelsea Mutual Aid - covering Holland, Campden and Pembridge wards.

Food Bank

Now more than ever the foodbank is in need of donations as more people rely on them for provisions. The church is not able to act as a collection point at the moment, however a number of supermarkets are collecting at their exits so please make use of this system. Alternatively you can give financially by sending cheques made payable to 'Dalgarno Neighbourhood Trust' and marked 'foodbank' on the reverse to: The Dalgarno Trust, 1 Webb Close Dalgarno Way, London, W10 5QB. If you wish to do a direct bank transfer please ask Fr Jonathan (im@smaw8.org) for the bank details.