

In Our Prayers This Week

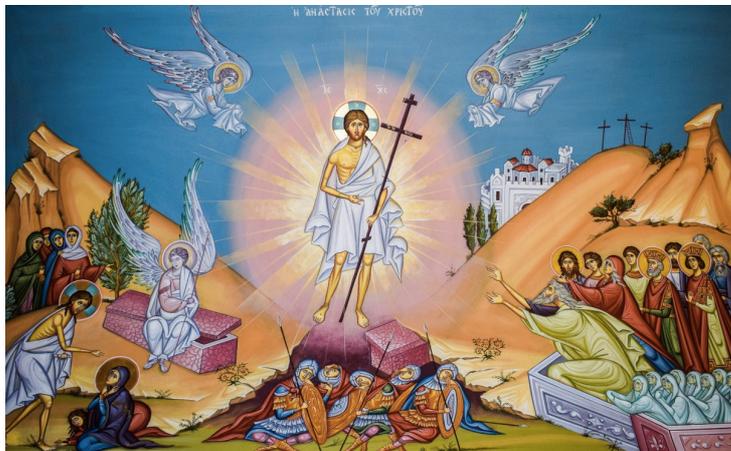
The Collect for the 7th Sunday after Easter

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Prayer for Ascension Day

Father in heaven, our minds were prepared for the coming of your kingdom when you took Christ beyond our sight so that we might seek him in glory. May we follow where he has led and find our hope in his glory, for he is Lord forever. **Amen**

From *New Saint Joseph Sunday Missal*



We pray for those who were due to be confirmed on the 21st May

Jody Ashmore, Cicibel Lucas, Mona Puttanarakul, Gawain Smart, Bipin Tandon, Isabelle Whitby and Sophera Whiu

And those who were to be married on the 24th May
Hamid Abboudi and Emma Luke

Please remember before God those who have asked for our prayers

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

and for all who have died recently

Kevin FitzGerald Christine Wattlesworth

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

Enid Stubbs, 26th May Tony Rudd, 29th May
Michael Scott, 30th May Julie Harris, 30th May

St MARY ABBOTS CHURCH CONTACTS

Church Website: www.smaw8.org

Vicar	Mthr Emma Dinwiddy Smith	vicar@smaw8.org	020 7937 6032
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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	dcjb@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 Sadvoska	m.sadvoska@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
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ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

24th 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](#): From the 1st June the morning prayer will come to you live on Zoom at 9am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The link will be sent out next week.

SERVICES

The link for services are emailed weekly and updated on the front page of our website. The link to the website can be found [HERE](#).

Sunday 24th May

10.30am **Holy Eucharist** and Ascensontide Service

Virtual Donation Plate

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

I do hope that everyone remains safe and well, and able to enjoy this amazing weather to some extent, even if just through open windows!



Yesterday was the Feast of the Ascension, as we remembered the risen Christ ascending into heaven, having spent forty days here on earth after his Resurrection, teaching and encouraging his disciples. It seems very hard to believe that it has already been forty days since Easter, which came so early on in the lockdown. Yesterday should also have been the Confirmation Service for a number of candidates from both St Mary Abbots and our neighbouring parish, St Philip's, Earl's Court Road. Instead, we met last night with the Bishop and the candidates via Zoom, to chat and to pray for them on their continuing Christian journey. Please do keep them in your prayers at this time. We look forward very much to being able to hold the Confirmation Service before too, too long!

As I shall be saying in my sermon this Sunday, in other years there has been a service from the Tower for Ascension Day, as we prayed for and blessed the parish. Due to the new rule that a single clergy person can now enter and film in church, Fr Jonathan ventured alone up the tower and you will see the result, and the parts of the service which he also filmed in church in our "Holy Eucharist for Ascensontide" this Sunday. It is good to be reminded that St Mary Abbots continues as a House of God, and awaits our return!

Before his Ascension, Jesus promised his disciples that God would send them the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, just ten days later. These days are traditionally days when Christians pray for the coming of the Spirit, and you will see in our newsletter on the website, ideas for prayer for the coming days. Your clergy will be holding you especially in our hearts at this time,

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!"

With love and prayers

Mother Emma

Thy Kingdom Come' **21st – 31st May**

During the 10 days leading up to Pentecost (21-31 May), Christians across the world will be praying for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. This is a huge prayer movement and the Diocese of London are asking Christians across the diocese to sign up for an hour slot in our virtual prayer room, so that we can continuously pray 24 hours a day, for 10 days.

Our new Diocesan vision is *'for every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ'*. As people contemplate life's big questions over this pandemic, process heartache and search for hope, we pray that they may encounter the love of Christ. More information can be found of the Diocese of London's website [here](#) and the link to join in can be found [here](#). There is no limit to the number of people who can take part.

New Curate

We are very excited to report that our new Curate in Training, Alice Ormondroyd, will be moving in this week to the flat previously used by Fr Stephen. She has just finished her theological studies, and will 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. 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 when she starts.



OTHER NEWS

The Diocese of London have put together a handy prayer tool that will help you in those moments when it can be hard to think of things to pray for. **The 5 finger prayer** will help give you some direction and, as you have your hands with you all the time, you could do this with your family over dinner, before bed or at any point that takes your fancy. For this you simply need your hand. For each finger there is a different category of person that you can pray for together. You could have your children draw around their hand and then write on each finger who they want to pray for.

Thumb: Those closest to your heart – family and friends

Pointer finger: Those giving direction – teachers, doctors...etc

Index finger: Those in leadership – Government, business, church

Ring finger: Those who are weak – sick, poor

Pinky finger: Yourself

Discovering Psalms as Prayer

Revd Andy Roland, who many of you know from our Sunday or Monday services, quiet days and other services has a second edition of his book "Discovering Psalms as Prayer" which is being offered free as an e-book on Kindle on Pentecost weekend, 30th-31st May. David Runcorn said in his foreword: *"Andy Roland weaves together the wisdom of a faithful, personal pilgrimage with practical guidance for reading the Psalms. It will be a gift to those wanting to make that discovery for themselves."* People can preview the book [HERE](#) or on his website bibleinbrief.org with a request from the author to ask if readers would leave a review on Amazon. He has also started a new blog on "The Bible is not the word of God – it is more interesting than that".

Archbishops Dial-in worship phone line

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

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

As lockdown is easing a few more shops are starting to reopen. Kensington Business Forum, a group that promotes local business's on Kensington High Street, have updated the list of local shops that are open. 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 (jm@smaw8.org) for the bank details.