

## WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

- 2 Memory Cafe, SPSP, 1.30-3.00pm  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting, SMwSA, 7.30-9.30pm
- 4 Fullerton Court Holy Communion, 11.30am  
Healing Service, SMwSA, 8.00pm
- 7 **5th Sunday in Lent**  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting, SPSP, 11.30am  
Handel's Messiah Concert, Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Kingston Road, 7.00pm
- 9 Plain & Pearl Knitting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
- 11 Parish Lunch, Tide End Cottage, 12.30pm
- 14-21 **Holy Week**  
*See separate leaflet for services*
- 16 Plain & Pearl, Easter Flower Arranging, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
- 21 **Easter Day**
- 23 Plain & Pearl, Beeswax Handcream Making, Parish Hall, 7.30pm
- 28 **2nd after Easter**

## The Parish Hall in Lego



Dance is good for our bodies and enables us to meet new people. Every Thursday for more than fifteen years I have been teaching dance in the Parish Hall. I first discovered Lego with my grandson, and quickly became interested in creating my own designs. The model depicts one of our monthly tango

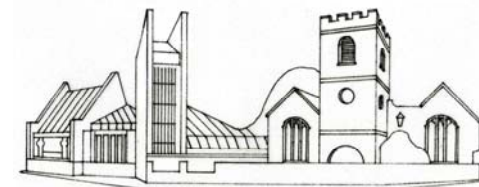
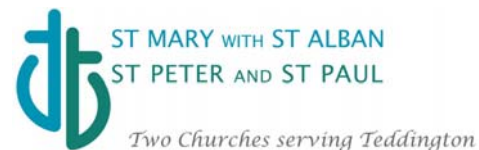
evenings – the people who come to dance, the musicians and helpers. At the start I had no clear plan, except to make it as true to life as possible, and each week I would try to memorise particular features, to translate into plastic bricks. But it is the people who bring it to life and I hope that the small Lego dancers convey something of the fellowship of our tango, and the enabling community of the Church. Everyone is welcome: for further information contact Margaret at Freedom Tango on 07785 918376.

*Margaret Lochrie*

## Parish Contacts

SMwSA Office Administration & Hall Bookings:	Suzanne Parker St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington TW11 9HF	parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org 020 8943 2262
SPSP Office Administration & Hall Bookings:	Emma Castellani Bychurch End, Teddington TW11 8PS	admin@stpeterstpaulteddington.co.uk 020 8977 3330
Vicar:	The Rev Joe Moffatt	vicar@stmarywithstalban.org 020 8977 2767
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Social Media:	Teddington Parish or @smwsachurch	@TW11Parish
Church School:	Headteacher: John Logan St Mary's & St Peter's, Somerset Road, Teddington TW11 8RX	www.smsponline.org 020 8943 0476

[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)



As a clergy woman's daughter I would find it baffling that mum would often invite the lonely, the isolated and those who smelt a bit of drink to share meal-times with us. These meals caused me to reflect on what was really important in life and I was transformed by these encounters.

In antiquity, the great and the good would issue dinner invitations which would perpetuate the power and status enjoyed by a few. Jesus challenged this way of behaving by showing that in God's kingdom all were welcome, and made Himself unpopular because He chose to eat with people whom others excluded.

*'When he wanted fully to explain what his forthcoming death was all about, he didn't give them a theory. He didn't give them a set of scriptural texts. He gave them a meal.'*

*Tom Wright, Simply Jesus*

In the quote above, Bishop Tom Wright is referring to the last meal Jesus had with his friends. At this meal, Jesus broke bread and wine to symbolise the way in which His own body would be broken and his blood spilt. But because of Easter, the story of this meal does not end in His forthcoming death.

As I write this we are in the middle of the season of Lent which is traditionally a time of choosing to give things up. In Lent we do this as a way of liberating ourselves from all that stops us recognising and responding to our deeper spiritual needs. It is a period of emptying, but not just for the sake of going without, but so that we are ready to join in the Easter feast when it arrives.

We would love to invite you to attend a church near you over the Easter season, and if you come forward to receive the bread and wine, remember that this meal is a reminder that love and life have the final say, and you are included.

*Caroline Halmshaw*

[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

## April 2019

### REGULAR SERVICES

#### St Mary with St Alban (SMwSA)

##### SUNDAYS

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.00am Morning Worship
- 10.00am Parish Communion

##### WEDNESDAYS

- 9.00am Morning Prayer
- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Church Mice

#### St Peter and St Paul (SPSP)

##### SUNDAYS

- 9.45am Family Communion
- ##### THURSDAYS
- 9.00am Morning Prayer

*Tickets £7.50 and £5.00 concessions available from [mirthinmay.eventbrite.co.uk](http://mirthinmay.eventbrite.co.uk) or at the door. In aid of Christian Aid.*

## Hampton Wick United Charity

Many residents of SMwSA, St. Mark, Teddington and St. John, Hampton Wick parishes may not be aware of this 300 year old charity. It gives grants for the relief of need, and can assist in the education of Parish residents.

It has, for example, provided wheelchairs for the disabled, washing machines, cookers and white goods for people in receipt of benefits. Schools have been able to ensure that local children can go on school trips, and scouts and guides have been helped to attend jamborees. Funding for the purchase of sports and musical equipment has been provided, and grants given to people who have found it difficult to go on training courses.

If you know of anyone in the area who is in need of help, then the Charity may be able to assist. All applications are considered confidentially and compassionately. Anyone who wishes to seek help should contact the Clerk to the Trustees, 258, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, TW3 3TY, tel: 020 8737 0371, email: info@hwuc.org.uk. Further information on: www.hwuc.org.uk

*John Demont*

## Pilgrimage to Salisbury



*Present and past Teddington worshippers in the Cathedral*

Each year our two churches organise a pilgrimage to a place of religious significance: this year it was Salisbury Cathedral. The main purpose is probably social; it gives us a chance to meet, talk and share a meal with people we only nod to on a Sunday. We also had a chance to attend a service and enjoy the Cathedral music.

Due to the high winds the rail service was disrupted, so half our party arrived late, missing lunch in the refectory.

The Cathedral was built, on marsh land, in a remarkably short time, 38 years (1220 to 1258) and has a uniform Early English style. There is a hole in the Cathedral floor through which we peered, and saw the water level a few feet below. The 1320 addition of the tower and spire imposed

an extra 6,500ton load on the structure, requiring buttresses, bracing arches and anchor irons to be added over following centuries to stabilise the structure.



*The newly installed Cathedral font with continually recycled water*

After a comprehensive Cathedral tour, we had tea at Sarum College, in the Cathedral Close. When the Cathedral was started, several colleges were established, as well as a medieval school of theology on the site of the present college. The college principal told us about its history and its current range of courses.

Half of our party then headed for home on the depleted train service, while the rest stayed for evensong. It was a very enjoyable day out with the opportunity to share stories, in the best pilgrimage tradition.

*Malcolm Eady*

## Caring and Christianity

A year ago I arrived in Teddington and met Cyril and Jennifer. As a live-in carer I pride myself in making sure all of my clients needs are met, but I had no idea that my role in their lives would be to support their spirituality in a way that I would rediscover my own!

I read their care plan with some trepidation, and learned that I was expected to ensure they attended Sunday church services as often as possible. I'd not attended church for years, except for the odd family wedding. I was uncertain I would know what to do, where to sit or when to stand. Despite being christened I no longer considered myself to be a Christian, and viewed this part of my care role as an obligation, and a bit of a chore. Getting Cyril and Jennifer up, washed, dressed and fed in time to leave for 2 different church services made an early start earlier and a long day longer.

As I pushed the wheelchair up the path through the churchyard I was already anxious and frazzled. Jennifer was sleepy and not responding much. We went into

the church and were greeted with smiles. It was evident immediately that Jennifer was much loved. We were directed to a space reserved for us at the front, (oh no! How will I know when to stand up and sit down?) where I sat nervously waiting for the service to begin and distracted myself by attending to how Jennifer was doing. She was smiling: a sense of calm had come over her, her eyes were bright, open and alert. The service began, and when the choir joined in a palpable sense of peace came over her.

While supporting Jennifer and Cyril to remain as active as possible in the church, I came to appreciate the sense of community and belonging that comes with active participation in worship. What began as an obligation has evolved into a joy. Being a part of the enrichment and pleasure that Jennifer and Cyril get from attending communion services, seeing old friends, and going to Memory Cafe would be reward enough, but the duty to support someone else's spirituality gave me pause to reflect upon my own.

I reflected on this sense of peace with increasing frequency as I spent more time with the church family of which I inadvertently found myself a member. Each service would see us sitting in the same place, but as time passed I felt more and more comfortable with my own place as a member of the congregation. I learned when to stand up and sit, sang and joined in with the prayers, began receiving blessings when Jennifer received communion, and slowly but surely the peace that I sensed in Jennifer crept into my own heart.

I am leaving Teddington now, but while St Wilfred's in Standish has a new congregation member, I will take the friendship and peace I have found here with me. I will always be especially grateful to Jennifer and Cyril for inspiring me to take a step in faith, and to all the other members of SMwSA who have been so friendly and encouraging to me.

*Serenity Underhill*

## Holy Week Talks

*"For God so loved the world..." A journey to the cross in Holy Week*

Over the course of Holy Week these reflections on Luke's Gospel take us from Gethsemane to the cross. Drawing on



scripture, poetry and contemporary life, Canon Sandra Millar, will help us think about the enormity of God's love for us and our own response to the events of Holy Week. Sandra is Head of Life Events for the Church of England, supporting churches as

they meet people through weddings, baptisms and funerals. Her work around death and funerals has informed these reflections, which draw us closer to the cross each day.

**Monday:** "Avoiding" – the story of the disciples sleeping in the garden as Jesus faces the reality of his impending trial and about questions of life and death [Luke 22: 39-54]

**Tuesday:** "Asking" – we move to the courtyard, scene of questions and answers between Peter and a serving girl, and think about how the choice to respond can impact our lives [Luke 22: 54 – 23:3]

**Wednesday:** "Watching" – we join the crowds in the street watching as Jesus carries his cross, consider those who wept and those who had to take part, and think about how we might become participant not just observers [Luke 23: 26-31]

**Maundy Thursday:** 'The last rites' – we think about how the broken bread and wine and foot washing prepare us for Jesus' death.

*Sandra Millar*

## Parish Registers

**BAPTISMS** – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*

3<sup>rd</sup> March: Cordelia Alice Vernon, daughter of Claire & Marc Vowell; Leo Robert, son of Jennifer & Charles Britten

10<sup>th</sup> March: Lily-Rose Hope, daughter of Victoria Mahon & Robert Leigh

17<sup>th</sup> March: Phoebe Liégeois, daughter of Thomas & Sally Bennett

24<sup>th</sup> March: Finlay Kenneth, son of Clare Stones & John Kelsey

**WEDDINGS** – *We wish every blessing on the marriage of:*

15<sup>th</sup> March: James Kavanagh & Sara Ellison