




 CHRISTMAS TO YOUR DOOR!
**TRADITIONAL
 CHRISTMAS DAY
 LUNCH**

Covid-19 means we can't invite the elderly or those alone on Christmas Day to join us at Elleray Hall so ... Churches Together in Teddington would like to bring Christmas Day to YOU!

If you would like to receive Christmas Lunch please email hello@stjohnshamptonwick.org or call Penny Miller on 07757 733315.

RSVP by 14th December
 Sponsored by The Hampton Fund



Parish Registers

FUNERALS – We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:

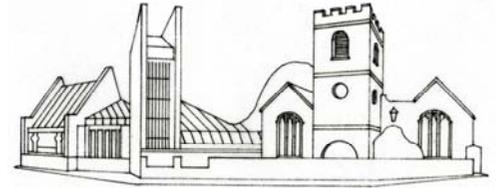
7th September: Michael O'Hagan (90)
 14th September: Peggy Jones (87)

17th September: Ivor Maciejowski (30)
 22nd September: Elizabeth Bacon (90)
 27th October: Mark O'Donnell (46)
 29th October: Jenifer Mott (70)
 4th November: Penny Munkenbeck (85)

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
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Social Media:	 Teddington Parish or @smwsachurch	 @TW11Parish

www.teddingtonparish.org



Vicar's Viewpoint

'More not less' is my Christmas message this year. The need for Christmas is certainly 'more not less' – for something to lift our spirits and bring us comfort and joy at the end of this difficult year. And our efforts to celebrate Christmas will have to be 'more not less', including imaginative ways to connect with loved ones despite the restrictions.

'More not less' is also our strategy for Christmas services. Needless to say, we can't have our normal Crib Services on Christmas Eve when 1300 people cram into our small church in the space of just three services. So we hope to have **One Thousand Crib Services** instead. 'How can you possibly do that?', I hear you say. The answer is by having those services in a thousand homes. Yes, we will be recording a version of the Crib Service for you to play online and to sing along to at home. We hope you might find or make a crib set – and, if restrictions allow, invite neighbours and friends to join you. Nearly all the churches in Teddington are participating in this initiative, and we hope that you'll post a photo of your crib or celebration on our social media.

Other services will be offered in both SMwSA and SPSP, including two at Midnight and four on Christmas Day. The need for social distancing means that numbers will have to be restricted and so **booking in advance is essential**. Please see page 2 for a full list of Christmas services and details of how to book. Many of these services will be livestreamed and made available online.

Finally, 'more not less' is fundamental to the Christmas message. God, who gives us Creation, gives yet more of himself in Jesus, demonstrating that his love for us is always 'more not less' of what we can possibly imagine. Let's make our celebrations 'more not less' in response.

Wishing you comfort and joy,

Joe Moffatt

December 2020 REGULAR SERVICES

St Mary with St Alban (SMwSA)

SUNDAYS
 8.00am Holy Communion
 10.00am Parish Communion
WEDNESDAYS
 9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter and St Paul (SPSP)

SUNDAYS
 9.00am Morning Worship

Online Worship

Livestreamed Sunday Service on our YouTube Channel

Morning Prayer (Mon-Fri, 8.30am, Sat 9.00am) via Zoom
 Evening Prayer (Mon-Thurs, 6.00pm, Fri-Sat 5.00pm) via Zoom

All details and links are on our parish website www.teddingtonparish.org



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections.

0800 804 8044

 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
 Faith in Later Life
 CONNECTIONS

www.teddingtonparish.org



Christmas Services

Online booking is essential for all these services. Please go to www.teddingtonparish.org, or ring the Parish Office if you don't have internet access. Tickets are available from Monday December 14th. We ask that you only book for one service so that as many people as possible have a chance of coming to church over the festive period.

***Services will be livestreamed via our YouTube channel (see our website for details)**

Sunday December 20th

- 9.00am Morning Worship with Scratch Nativity at SPSP
- 10.00am Parish Communion with Scratch Nativity at SMwSA *
- 4.00pm Christingle Service at SPSP
- 6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at the Landmark Arts Centre *

Monday December 21st

- 8.00pm Longest Night Service at SMwSA* (quiet, reflective service, particularly suited to those who find Christmas difficult because of loss or sadness)

Christmas Eve

- Crib Service Pre-recorded on our YouTube channel, available for household celebrations
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass at SMwSA
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass at SPSP

Christmas Day

- 8.00am Christmas Communion at SMwSA
- 9.00am Christmas Worship at SPSP
- 10.00am Christmas Communion at SMwSA*
- 11.00am Christmas Communion at SPSP

Comfort and Joy



Comfort and Joy is the Church of England's 2020 Christmas campaign.

Christmas will feel different this year, and we very much hope that despite the ongoing restrictions, it will be a time to care for one another and a time to come together.

Comfort and Joy is a series of reflections that will help us reconnect with the rich and joyous traditions of the past and to know God's consoling love in the present.

Taking inspiration from the traditional nine lessons and carols service, it will explore both biblical texts and the words of much-loved Christmas carols.

You can take part by:

- ◆ Downloading the free app for Apple and Android devices
- ◆ Purchasing the official booklet from Church House Publishing
- ◆ Receiving daily emails from the Church of England

Find out more about the campaign at: www.churchofengland.org/ComfortAndJoy

Caroline Halmshaw

News From Our Link Church In Mozambique

I am writing this with very mixed emotions about the news from our link parish at Pemba in Mozambique. It was so wonderful to see the elation of the people as the bore hole was drilled near Chimoio and as it struck water. The excitement and real joy at this will make such a difference to the lives of the people living in this area and it will save them having to walk miles



each day to collect water.

Then came the pictures of the laying of the foundation stone for the new school at Chimoio attended by Government Officials and all the local representatives. Thanks so much to so many at St Mary's for their wonderful generosity, enabling these two projects to get underway.



We still need a little more money but we have raised the bulk of what's needed for this school for 750 children, who at present are having their classes under the trees as their previous school was destroyed in the cyclone in 2019.



And then we received terrible news and videos of more than 10,000 displaced people arriving in Pemba from insurgent affected areas. The fighting in Cabo Delgado to the North of Pemba has killed 2,283 people since it started three years ago and 500,000 people have been forced to leave their homes. Rights groups say that the fighters have carried out summary executions, beheadings, raids on villages, looting and destruction of infrastructure, including schools and medical facilities. Government forces have also been implicated in human rights abuses during operations in the province including arbitrary arrests, torture and wrongful use

of force against civilians.

All these people have been arriving in overloaded dhows and sadly there have been at least 47 people drowned including children, pregnant women and sick people all in need of care and, of course, food and water. This comes on top of trying to cope with the effects of Corona virus and all that is associated with it. So with mixed emotions, we pray for these people and all they are having to cope with. We also pray for Bishop Manuel and his fellow bishops who are desperately trying to set up a peace and reconciliation initiative.

Suzie Gordon

GlassDoor

GlassDoor's usual model of rotating church-based shelters where a different venue in each borough is used each night is not allowed under current Covid-19 government guidance. The model has changed so that up to 88 homeless people will be sheltered in two hostel sites in Paddington and Victoria and a dinner service open seven-nights a week will operate in Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham, Wandsworth and Richmond.

We in Teddington are cooking dinner each Sunday night for guests at The Vineyard in Richmond. We have always prided ourselves on the welcome and quality of our food-exactly the sort of food you would like to share with a friend after an exhausting day. We know that our bakers have gone above and beyond, and that our guests always appreciated the effort.

So far, the take up this season at The Vineyard has been slow but we anticipate it picking up as homeless people become more aware of its existence.

A major plus in the project has been how much volunteers have taken out of it themselves. It is hugely rewarding to be able to offer a hand of friendship to those in need, especially as they are overwhelmingly grateful and ordinary people like you and me who have got into a tight spot.

To help financially please go to: www.glassdoor.org.uk

John Mulcahy, Nightshelter Co-ordinator