

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- Tuesday 2nd Candlemas Candlelit Compline (Night Prayer). Via Zoom. 8.00pm. Zoom details: Meeting ID: 992902759 and Passcode: 014549
- Wednesday 3rd First Wednesday Open Discussion Group. Via Zoom. 12.45-2.15pm. Topic: *How can we re-build resilience for ourselves and especially for our children post- pandemic?* Zoom details: Meeting ID: 830 2123 5894 and Passcode: 901775
- Thursday 4th Parish Pub Coffee/Lunch Group. Via Zoom. 10.30am. We continue to meet every two weeks (every other Thursday). Subject to current Covid restrictions this can only be on Zoom this month. Everyone is welcome. For further information please contact the parish office
- Sunday 7th **2nd Sunday before Lent**
- Tuesday 9th Plain & Pearl. Via Zoom. 7.30pm. A social knitting and crafting group. For details on how to attend please contact Josie on: mailplainandpearl@gmail.com
- Sunday 14th **Sunday next before Lent**
- Wednesday 17th Ash Wednesday. Online Services – to be confirmed, please check our website
- Thursday 18th Parish Pub Coffee/Lunch Group. Via Zoom. 10.30am (see 4th)
- Sunday 21st **1st Sunday of Lent**
Lent Groups: *Rooted in Love – reflections on life with Christ* 5 weekly sessions via Zoom, beginning the last week of this month. Details to be confirmed – please see our website
- Tuesday 23rd Plain & Pearl. Via Zoom. 7.30pm (see 9th)
- Sunday 28th **2nd Sunday of Lent**

Further details can be found on our website: www.teddingtonparish.org

Parish Contacts

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www.teddingtonparish.org



February 2021 REGULAR SERVICES

ONLINE CHURCH

SUNDAYS

9.00am Family Worship on Zoom
10.00am Main Sunday Service Online
11.30am Zoom Coffee

WEDNESDAYS

10.30am Clergy Podcast

THURSDAYS

e-Bulletin: current news via email

DAILY

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

Details, joining instructions and links for all Online Church activities are on our website:

www.teddingtonparish.org

Our church buildings remain closed during this lockdown.



Vicar's Viewpoint

Joe Biden's stirring inaugural address talked about meeting the challenges of the 3 C's: Conflict, Covid and Climate Change. On the same day, I was on a Zoom call with Bishop Manuel Ernesto from our link diocese in Northern Mozambique. He listed the exact same challenges. He faces a terrible local conflict which has made 500,000 people flee their homes, a frightening spread of covid to rural areas where there is no healthcare, and yet more cyclones causing floods and mayhem.

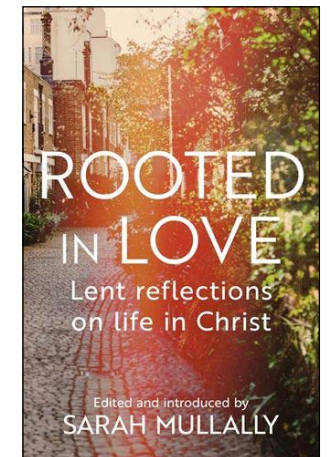
These 3 C's are universal. They confront us all and at times feel overwhelming. But Biden and the Bishop were both upbeat and inspiring as they talked about dialogue and co-operation being the best way to meet these challenges. They are both courageous leaders willing to break down barriers, talk to anyone and build alliances for the common good.

We will all need to play our part in overcoming the 3 C's with our own 3 C's: courage, co-operation and commitment. Where do we find the strength and faith to do this? The answer, I suggest, is 'to be rooted in love'. Only love can sustain us when facing such huge challenges. Only love can give us the energy, the hope and the support we need. Only love.

So I'm pleased that the seven bishops in the Diocese of London have collectively written a book called 'Rooted in Love' which gives short daily reflections for each day of Lent. It is edited and introduced by Bishop Sarah Mullally. I encourage you to buy this book and make it something you take up for Lent. We will also use it as the basis for our Lent Groups that will be meeting from the last week of February.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt



www.teddingtonparish.org

Save Park Lane Stables



Park Lane Stables, one of the oldest stables in London, and a key part of the Teddington community is threatened with closure. They have been told they cannot renew the lease, which expires in May, and the charity faces being shut down, the horses rehomed and the land sold for development.

The site has a long history in Teddington, it was a fire-station with horse drawn engines from the 1800s and also a dairy. Currently it is under the leadership of the inspirational Natalie O'Rourke and provides much-needed therapy and happiness to hundreds of local children and adults with (and without) disabilities and mental health challenges every year.

The horses are a familiar sight at many events in Teddington. From Trigger's role as the donkey at the Palm Sunday service, to the ponies at each Remembrance Day, to the local fetes and processions. It would be a great sadness to see them leave.



With the help of the Teddington Society, the stables have been granted Asset of Community Status by Richmond Council, which provides them with extra legal protection from development. A huge step forward. In addition, Natalie and some of her fantastic participants have featured on BBC

London News and Sara Cox's Radio 2 show. In order to save the stables they need to raise £1 million so they can then be owned by the registered charity Park Lane Stables RDA and be part of the wider RDA family. As I write, they are nearing the £200,000 mark on their Crowdfunder appeal. You can help by sharing the campaign with your friends and family. Shares on social media have a huge impact on donations but word of mouth is important too. If many people pledge a small amount they will get there.

Please follow this link – www.crowdfunder.co.uk/save-our-stables – and send the message far and wide, to keep Park Lane Stables in Teddington.

Penny Jones

Churches Together in Teddington and the Memorial Hospital



Delivery day on Pamela Bryant Ward

Before Christmas, Churches Together in Teddington felt one way to support staff at Teddington Memorial Hospital was to send each one a card and a small present. This was put into effect by Emma Hughes, Chaplain to the Hospital, supported by the three members of the Chaplaincy Visiting Team.

The staff much appreciated the support, and Emma has subsequently had several expressions of grateful thanks.

It is sad that, at present, the team can only provide remote support, but hopefully the vaccine will start to change that situation.

Sue Stevens

Parish Registers

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

19th December: Victoria Mahon and Adam Leigh

Crisis in Mozambique

There is a humanitarian crisis in Northern Mozambique as growing numbers of people have lost their homes amid escalating conflict. Unfortunately, the horrendous violations which are occurring are not really being reported by the British press, however, this is a real emergency, and we can help our link parish of Pemba, and the people displaced.

Several of us attended a meeting last month on Zoom with Bishop Manuel, who visited Teddington a few years ago. He told us of the struggles that they are all facing. Climate change has brought cyclones, tremendous storms and flooding but also terrible droughts which make the seasons very difficult for the farmers to predict.

Like everywhere in the world, they are suffering from Covid where the virus is being taken into the villages by family members, who normally live in the towns and cities but due to restrictions have returned home.

Thirdly, and the most acute, is the situation in Northern Mozambique which has deteriorated over the last year due to a violent insurgency; half a million people have fled their homes in Cabo Delgado and many have been killed. Families, as well as orphaned children, need support – the bare essentials, food and hygiene goods. The camps are overcrowded and there is a lack of access to clean water and sanitation.

The Diocese of Nampula is working with the displaced in host communities and in camps to support their needs. Muassite Miguel, who also visited Teddington in 2019, heads the community development work for the diocese.

WE NEED YOUR HELP – the Emergency Appeal for Mozambique will this year be our Parish Lent Appeal. Please make online donations via the Lent Appeal section of our website or send cheques (payable to PCC of St Mary with St Alban) to the parish office.

Bishop Manuel told us the value of the donations made already – the well is up and running and the foundations for the new school have been laid, so we pray that we can now help to give humanitarian and spiritual support to these communities.

Suzie Gordon

Happenings in the Churchyard

In 2019 box tree caterpillars savagely attacked the hedge along the Ferry Road side of the churchyard. After discussion with the Council we decided not to use box bushes again. Instead the local manager for Continental Landscapes, who have the cutting and tidying contract, offered to help, both with removing dead bushes, and replacing with new hedge whips (the term for the young hedge plants). So in December, a mixed team of CL staff and our volunteer Holy Gardeners



lined up to clear the fence strip and prepare it for new planting. Then in early January another gathering planted five varieties of whips, followed by mulching and watering. On both occasions Covid regulations were properly observed under the watchful eye of a churchwarden. Soon we will see a new hedge rising phoenix-like along the line of the fence. Thank you Continental Landscapes and Holy Gardeners.

This is the first outcome of our new Churchyard Plan, agreed with the Council and approved by the PCC. Soon we will be looking to increase our beehives, and our wildlife refuge areas, develop the wildflower growth, further refine the planting in the south side beds, and trim back shrubs and trees which are obstructing light or access. We will also be relaunching an "Adopt a Grave" scheme whereby we invite members of the community to look after one or two graves, keeping weeds and undergrowth under control, and helping maintain the link with the past.

Robin Field-Smith