

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

- Thursday 1st **Maundy Thursday** – see front page for all Easter Services information
- Friday 2nd **Good Friday**
- Sunday 4th **Easter Day**
- Wednesday 7th Weekly Chair-based Standing Exercise Class. Via Zoom. 12.30pm. Same login details each week: Meeting ID: 98203293523. No Passcode needed. *Also on 14th, 21st & 28th*
- Please note, there will be no First Wednesday Open Discussion Group this month
- Sunday 11th **2nd Sunday of Easter**
- Monday 12th Community Café. SPSP. 1.30-4.30pm (see article). *Also on 19th & 26th*
- Tuesday 13th 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. Also on 27th*
- Thursday 15th Parish Pub Group. Via Zoom (until the pubs re-open). 10.30am. Everyone welcome. For further information please contact us: *fellowship@stmarywithstalban.org*
- Sunday 18th **3rd Sunday of Easter**
- Sunday 25th **4th Sunday of Easter**
- Tuesday 27th Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Via Zoom. 7.30pm. Meeting ID: 826 0131 2997. Passcode: 480945

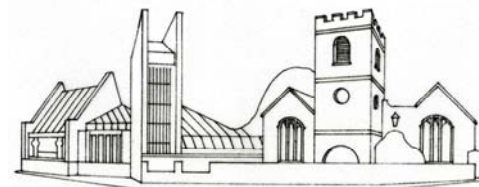
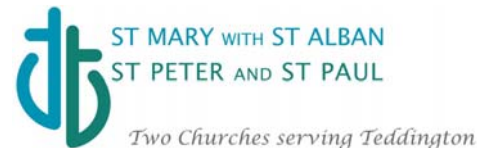
Also, St Mary with St Alban Church is now open daily for Private Prayer: Monday – Saturday, 9.00am-5.00pm. For those who are able, please come and spend some quiet time back in church.

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

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:	Rev Joe Moffatt	vicar@stmarywithstalban.org 020 8977 2767
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Social Media:	 Teddington Parish or @smwsachurch	 @TW11Parish

www.teddingtonparish.org



Vicar's Viewpoint

Finally, we're back to in-person services again. What a relief! I think people will enjoy coming back to church again with a renewed appreciation for both the building and for communal worship. I'll certainly be grateful to be looking at real people rather than just a camera.

That said, the need to get up to speed with online church has brought about some lasting benefits. Firstly, there is a much bigger group of people praying for, and on behalf of, the parish. Instead of one or two people occasionally joining the clergy in church for daily prayer, we now have ten to fifteen people joining us every morning and evening on Zoom. This provides a wonderful bedrock for everything that we do.

Secondly, we now have the equipment and know-how to continue livestreaming our services. This means that people can continue to worship with us even when illness, location or other commitments prevent them from coming to church. We've had some wonderful stories of people reconnecting with us, even though they've moved out of the area some time ago.

Thirdly, this livestreaming capability is already proving to be a huge blessing for funerals and will be popular for baptisms and weddings as well, enabling family and friends from all over the world to participate in these momentous life events. Last month I conducted a funeral for a remarkable ex-parishioner who reached the age of 100. Only 5 people were able to attend the service in church, but we had 150 viewers from around the world. A nephew in Brazil heard me talk about this parishioner helping us set up our parish link in Mozambique. He has since put me in touch with a Brazilian RC priest he knows working in Pemba, the exact same parish we're linked to. I sense the Holy Spirit at work in all of this!

Perhaps these are just little examples of the great mystery we celebrate at Easter – of new life emerging out of loss. I certainly feel that Easter will have an extra significance this year and I wish you every blessing.

Joe Moffatt

www.teddingtonparish.org

April 2021 SERVICES

at SMwSA unless stated

† Booking needed (through the Parish website); *Services both in-person and live-streamed

SUNDAYS: in-person services resume from April 4th

8am Holy Communion
9am Morning Worship at SPSP†
10am Parish Communion †*

WEEKDAYS: in-person services resume from April 1st

8.30am Morning Prayer, also on Zoom (Monday-Friday and at 9am on Saturday)

6pm Evening Prayer, also on Zoom (Monday-Thursday and 5pm on Friday-Saturday)

9.30am Holy Communion on Wednesday

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

March 28th Palm Sunday Service
10am in Churchyard†* (or church if raining) Including Blessing of Palms, Donkey Procession and Communion

April 1st Maundy Thursday 8pm Holy Communion followed by Vigil†*

April 2nd Good Friday
Stations of the Cross – available all day in Churchyard for individuals or household groups

12noon Family Service at SPSP*
1pm Reflections at the foot of the cross*

2pm Good Friday Liturgy*

April 4th Easter Day
6.30pm Dawn Service in Churchyard†* (or church if raining)

8.00am Holy Communion†
9.00am Morning Worship at SPSP†
10.00am Parish Communion†*

Park Lane Stables – Saved by the People, for the People!

A few weeks ago, the future of the 200-year-old Stables was, at best, uncertain. But thanks to 'People Power', our future is secure. Thousands of local people will be able to experience the joy that horses bring. 350 participants with disabilities can return to their 'second home', our team (many of whom have disabilities) will keep their jobs and 23 horses will keep their home.



Dom and Prodneey

We used many media channels to reach the seemingly un-reachable £1m target. We wrote, we posted, we distributed posters and post-cards. Our Manager, Natalie O'Rourke was interviewed on many different radio and TV stations. By February 17th, we had raised £500k, but it wasn't enough. We were starting to consider Plan B: applying for grants and bank loans. Then the miracle on February 18th, we were featured on BBC Breakfast and within 2 hours we had exceeded £1m!

Since then, we have been on BBC and ITV again, in the national press, and Hello magazine. The Queen has invited us to the Royal Mews. On a serious note, there is a lot of work to do before the stables will be owned by our charity. The priority is to purchase the property, then, when we have no rent to pay, we will be able to offer more subsidised activities for those in need, making riding more inclusive and accessible. Additional donations will be used to buy specialist equipment, such as a ramp and a new horse lorry. We hope



Whizz licking Woody

to buy a field for grazing and build an arena, which will allow us to offer more RDA sessions and hippotherapy in a secure environment.

We are so excited about the future and we'll keep everyone up to date with our progress. But for now, we just want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts and hooves for your continued support.

Thank you, thank you all. *Nicola Sutcliffe*

The Sustainability Group – A Small Group with a Big Mission!

The effects of climate change are being felt globally, and we are seeing catastrophic effects, particularly for those living in poverty. There is a pressing need for urgent, realistic action, aimed at reducing our contribution to potentially irreversible change. In November 2021, world leaders meet for discussions. Each church that recognises the emergency, shines a spotlight on the crisis, underlining its seriousness and the need for leaders to agree on action.

Our Sustainability Action Group, formed at the end of 2020, have met to start creating a clear action plan, detailing how we, as a Church and wider community, intend to respond. Despite lockdown, and being small in number, our plan is taking shape. We intend to engage with the Tearfund Emergency Toolkit which provides guidance. It contains simple, but powerful actions, providing a framework which will mobilise us to take action and influence not only our homes but also our communities and workplaces. The steps outlined are to:

Prepare: start the conversation and begin planning our response.

Declare: recognise and acknowledge the emergency so that it engages the community and amplifies the need for leaders everywhere to act.

Impact: increase impact by partnering with our local community and speaking up for significant change.

So we will: 1. Document our declaration for the PCC; 2. Take personal responsibility by looking at our church buildings and churchyard; 3. Engage in community outreach and COP26 (Climate Change Conference).

There are many ways you can become involved, and if you can, please consider joining the working group. In addition:

1. Mark Climate Sunday on May 9th, and

the call to action and information provided via our Greenfeed. This is a space where will be sharing how you can become involved, and informed; 2. Sign www.theclimatecoalition.org/thetimeisnow petition; 3. Read around the topic, material to be found on Christian Aid, Tearfund, Operation Noah and Green Christian websites.

Carla Maroussas

Parish Registers

FUNERALS – We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:

4th March: Richard Eng (100)

9th March: June Buckley (60)

9th March: Amy Tuhey (87)

17th March: Jean Vatcher (92)

22nd March: Carol Dinham-Tracy (70)

Easter Offerings

As with previous lockdowns, the church has seen its hall hire and collection plate income drastically reduced. We would therefore be very grateful for your Easter Offering donations. Please consider making a donation online (teddingtonparish.org and click on the red button) or sending a cheque (payable to 'PCC of St Mary with St Alban') to the office. Many thanks, *Joe Moffatt*.



'For the Good of the Church', by Rev. Dr. Gabby Thomas, our former curate: now available through SCM or Amazon.

UPDATES and INFORMATION

Community Café

We will be reopening the Community Café as soon as government regulations and local authority advice permit. It will be a special day for the volunteer team, as we welcome back regulars and meet newcomers. The café offers a calm, positive atmosphere where those who feel isolated or anxious can find sanctuary, enjoy a chat and find out about local activities and services, including social prescribing.

Following the go-ahead, we will run the café weekly at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Church Road, Teddington, on Mondays from 1.30- 4.30pm. Covid-secure measures and a track and trace system will be in place. Why not come along when we reopen? We promise you a warm welcome, drinks and cakes. For further information please email us at: communitycafe@teddingtonparish.org

Call for bakers

Can you contribute home-made cakes or biscuits to our Café? Please email to Karin (karinmay@hotmail.com) if you are willing to join a rota. We need easy to handle cakes, tray bakes or biscuits of 12-15 portions each.

Clare Rider, Sarah Rae and Lisa Dobinson

'Ghost Ship' Follow Up Group

It is a while since we discussed Azariah's book, *Ghost Ship*, which focuses on racism in the Church of England. This is an

important and challenging area for the church today.

We'd like to set up a group, who will continue to explore this issue and come up with actions for our church to take on, diversity, inclusion and racism.

Bishop, Graham Tomlin has recently written about this issue, please find his article here: *Grace and Race/Diocese of London (anglican.org)*

Our first meeting will take place on Tuesday 30th March at 8pm. If you would like to join this group, please contact curate@stmarywithstalban.org

Caroline Halmshaw

Welfare Lunch

The Lent lunch on Sunday 14th was fully subscribed and excellently organised by Margaret Squire, and her team of 'deliverers', with catering by Suzie Gordon. The Welfare CEO, Anna Khan, gave an interesting and comprehensive review of the charity's work, needed more than ever these days especially for children with special needs, and with domestic abuse sufferers. £1,155 was raised, and 10 laptops donated by Richmond Rugby Club.

Sue Stevens