

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

- Wednesday 2nd First Wednesday Open Discussion Group. On Zoom. 12.45-2.15pm. Topic: *The new Normal – how shall we be adapting post Covid?* Meeting ID 830 2123 5894 and Password 901775
- Thursday 3rd Chair-based Exercise Class. On Zoom. 12.30pm. Same login details each week: Meeting ID: 98203293523. No Passcode needed. (Please note used to run on Wednesdays). Soon to move back to in-person sessions at SPSP, with a lunchtime bowl of soup and a chance to chat. Also on 10th, 17th & 24th. Contact Activate to find out more: office@activatechurch.org.uk
- Sunday 6th Beginning Love Your Burial Ground Week (see article)
- Monday 7th Teddington Community Café. SPSP. 1.30-4.30pm. A warm welcome awaits you, with a chance to meet others and chat, as well as us being a source for local information and social prescribing. For further information please email communitycafe@teddingtonparish.org. Also on 14th, 21st & 28th
- Tuesday 8th Plain & Pearl. On Zoom. 7.30pm. A social knitting and crafting group, with lots of ongoing projects. Contact Josie to join: mailplainandpearl@gmail.com. Also on 22nd
- Thursday 10th Coffee and/or Lunch. The Anglers. 11.00am. We are now back to meeting-up in the pub. Everyone welcome. For further information please contact us: info@stmarywithstalban.org. Also on 24th
- Sunday 13th Churchyard Teas. SMwSA. 2.30-5.30pm. Everyone welcome (see page 2).

Abide services to start on Thursday June 3rd at SPSP. A chance for people to come and worship and pray in the middle of the day for half an hour.

These will run every Monday and Thursday going forward.

A new Activate running club will be starting up on June 3rd. Please come and join us for a 5 km/3 mile run. Meet at 7.00 am Thursday mornings at Up & Running in Teddington.

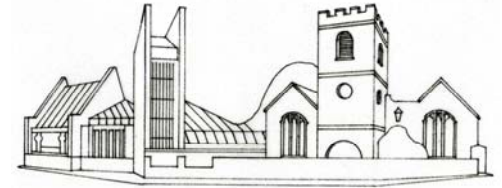
For more information on any of these activities, please contact Activate on: office@activatechurch.org.uk

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
Curate:	Rev Caroline Halmshaw	curate@stmarywithstalban.org 07483 310330
Newsletter Editors:	Julien Cozens, Penny Jones and Sue Stevens	newsletter@stmarywithstalban.org 020 8943 2262
Social Media:	 Teddington Parish or @smwsachurch	 @TW11Parish

www.teddingtonparish.org



Vicar's Viewpoint

*This unlocked place is quiet and near,
an Eden where God's gifts appear,
so lavish, wonderful and strange,
the very birds sing praises here.*

This is a verse from a poem by the late Frances White about our churchyard at St Mary with St Alban. It encapsulates what many have experienced when strolling through our gates.

My own appreciation of the churchyard has grown in time. During my first years as vicar I was preoccupied with what happened inside the church building and with the community beyond the gates. The churchyard was overgrown and largely overlooked. But more recently my eyes have been opened by the wonderful work that has been done by our holy gardeners, as well as by local historians and even local beekeepers. I now walk through it daily, noticing the emergence of another wild flower, the buzzing of another insect or the quirky detail of another gravestone.

Above all, I notice how the church and the churchyard together form an oasis of calm in the midst of our busy London suburb. I recognise the importance of continuing to offer this 'holy space' to everyone in our community. And by everyone, I mean not just the humans but the birds and the bees as well.

So I'm delighted to promote our very first 'Love your Burial Ground Week'. I hope you can join us for one or more of the events. And I hope you'll linger awhile when you next pass through the gates.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt

June 2021 SERVICES BACK IN CHURCH

at SMwSA unless stated

† Booking needed; ~ Online service only;
*Services both in-person and livestreamed

SUNDAYS:

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

MONDAYS – SATURDAYS:

8.30am Morning Prayer, on Zoom (Monday-Friday and at 9am on Saturday)~
9.00am-5.00pm Church open for Private Prayer
6pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom (Monday-Thursday and 5pm on Friday-Saturday)~

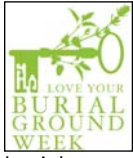
WEDNESDAYS:

9.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service

Further details, tickets, joining instructions and links for all church activities are on our website: www.teddingtonparish.org



www.teddingtonparish.org



Loving Your Burial Ground Week: 5-13 June

Our churchyard, in a busy London suburb, was the only burial ground in Teddington until the end of the 19th century. It is almost an acre of greenery, trees and flowers, attracting a range of wildlife, in a busy London suburb. It has been described as of "exceptional significance" for the setting it provides for our church, for the local history it embraces, and for the biodiversity it promotes. The parish shares its upkeep and development with Richmond Council.



The Beehive

This month we are joining with other churches and councils in England and Wales in a week of "Loving your Burial ground" encouraged by the charity Caring for God's Acre.

This is what is on offer:

Saturday 5 June

5pm: Talk in Church – history and significance of the churchyard **

Sunday 6 June

11am: Formal blessing in the churchyard of the week ahead

2pm: Talk in Church on Graves by Roland Bostock, WMFHS, followed by "Adopt a Grave" – information session **

Monday 7 June

3pm: Talk in Church on "Mary Gardens" by Felicity Surrudge, author of the book "A Garden for our Lady"***

Tuesday 8 June

3pm: Talk on "Bees" by Twickenham and Thames Valley Beekeepers Association

Wednesday 9 June

5pm: "Adopt a Grave" information and experience sharing by existing adopters

Thursday 10 June

3pm: Guided Walk/Talk on Trees in the Churchyard

Friday 11 June

3pm: Guided Walk/Talk on Flora & Fauna in Churchyard

Saturday 12 June

2pm: "Adopt a Grave" – information and experience sharing by existing adopters

6.30pm: Choir recital in the churchyard – wine available for a donation

Sunday 13 June

10am: service in the churchyard with special thanksgiving

2.30-5.30pm: Churchyard Teas (3 x one hour ticketed sessions, to be paid for in advance) **

5.30-6.30pm: Open-air Songs of Praise

** Please go to our website to book your tickets www.teddingtonparish.org/

Throughout the week there will be a quiz available for children as well as a nature trail, and most children from SMSP school will be visiting the churchyard class by



Photo: Sue Lindenberg

class. There will also be leaflets providing information, including how to help (cash or in kind!), a guided prayer walk, how to use reflective time outdoors (Plug In and Play), and how to "Adopt a Grave." Two Portaloos will be made available in the churchyard.

Please come along to learn, enjoy and share your love. *Robin Field-Smith*

Sustainability Group

The Sustainability Group was delighted to respond to a call for all local churches across Great Britain & Ireland to hold a climate-focused service. The collective action and commitment from all local churches will be presented to the UK Government at a Nations Climate Sunday

Service in Glasgow on Sunday 5th September 2021, before COP26 in the city in November 2021.

The readings, hymns and prayers for our service last month were all chosen carefully to celebrate and elevate creation, care and climate change. We are delighted to see Father Joe interview our local MP Munira Wilson who attended the service and shared her own personal views on climate change and action.

The intention of the service was also to share our Sustainability Declaration and initial six month plan of action on climate change and sustainability, to pray and to commit as a Church to action. As such the Sustainability Group has pledged to help educate and inform the congregation on our response as a Church and our own personal call to action, sharing how we can all actively and positively become involved in the group's mission. Our intention is to share a weekly tip and call

to action. To join the group please email carla.maroussas@gmail.com

To begin with, we encourage you to use your voice and sign The Time Is Now petition. thetimeisnow.uk By signing the petition we are uniting and telling politicians that **#TheTimeIsNow** to put a cleaner, greener, fairer future at the heart of plans to rebuild a strong economy.

Carla Maroussas

Parish Registers

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

23rd May: Grace Shelly, daughter of Marie Graffham and Jason England

FUNERAL – *We remember with thanksgiving the life of:*

11th May: Joe Earley (43)

20th May: Charles Beeson (63)

UPDATES and INFORMATION

We'd love you to join one of our groups, everyone is welcome

Diversity & Inclusion Group

This group is actively responding to the issue of racism in the Church and looking at ways to combat this. An initial focus has been on recommendations in the recent Church report, 'From Lament to Action', and its basis for action at the local level. We are also learning from the work of charities such as Tearfund and reviewing the wide coverage in the media to understand where we might make the most positive local impact.

If you would like to join this group, you'd be very welcome. Our next meeting is Tuesday 8th June at 8pm. Please contact Caroline Halmshaw, curate@stmarywithstalban.org

The Gospel of Mark

From June 9th we are starting our new summer groups which will run for six weeks. The Gospel of Mark is the shortest and most pacy of the Gospels, exploring the life and teaching of Jesus. There are many excellent books to support us, and as this year we are focusing on some of its main themes in our services, so this will also be an opportunity to ask questions about the Sunday sermons, which are also accessible on line. We will be holding groups on Wednesday mornings at

10.30am and Wednesday evenings at 8pm. Please contact Caroline Halmshaw, curate@stmarywithstalban.org

Beer & Theology

We have just started a new course which we are calling, 'Beer & Theology', as we will meet in a pub. Saint Anselm described theology as, 'Faith seeking understanding', and we hope to read and discuss some of the significant themes that Christian theology explores. You don't need to have read theology before to join in. To begin with we will use Alister McGrath's book, 'Theology : the Basics' and each month will focus on a particular theologian or series of questions. Please contact Duncan Grantham, duncan.grantham1@gmail.com

The Roots of Christian Mysticism

This is an online course, which is run by the School of Meditation. Derek Saunders facilitates a group discussion on a Wednesday every other week at 5.45-6.45pm. This course started in May, and you're welcome to join. Please find out more about this course here: www.theschoolofmeditation.org/all-courses/the-roots-of-christian-mysticism-1/ or contact Derek on, dereksaunders701@gmail.com