

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

- Monday 2 Teddington Community Café. SPSP. 1.30-4.30pm. A warm welcome and a chance to meet others. For further info, please email communitycafe@teddingtonparish.org. Also on 9, 16, 23 & 30.
- Tuesday 3 Memory Café. SPSP. 1.30-3.00pm. For those living with memory problems, and their carers. An informal, friendly space, to make new friends and share experiences. Sarah has all the details: baptisms@stmarywithstalban.org.
- Thursday 5 Activate Running Club. Meet at *Up & Running*, Broad St. 7.30am. Also on 12, 19 & 26.
Parish Coffee. On Zoom. 10.30am. For further information about our four Parish Coffee/Lunch dates each month contact the parish office: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org or 8943 2262.
Activate Soup & Stretch: a chair-based exercise class followed by soup and a chat. SPSP + on Zoom. 12.30pm. Zoom Meeting ID: 98203293523. No Passcode needed. Also on 12, 19 & 26.
- Tuesday 10 Parish Coffee and/or Lunch. The King's Head. 11.30am.
- Thursday 19 Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. We meet two days a month for two hours of gardening. Your enthusiasm and energy would be much appreciated, to help keep this beautiful space tidy. Robin can tell you more: robin.fieldsmith@me.com. Also on Saturday 21.
Parish Coffee. On Zoom. 10.30am.
- Tuesday 24 Parish Coffee and/or Lunch. The Anglers. 11.30am.
NB First Wednesday and Plain & Pearl will take a break over August, returning in September.
To find out more about Activate, get in touch with Chris or Sarah: office@activatechurch.org.uk.
Further details and contact information for all of these events can be found on our website: www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/

Diversity & Inclusion Group

The Group is linking with Chris Kennedy and his Activate work, to exchange ideas and discuss practical steps on Diversity and Inclusion. We are also planning a Film Night, followed by a discussion, with relevance to Diversity and Inclusion for the end of September 2021. More details and dates to follow.

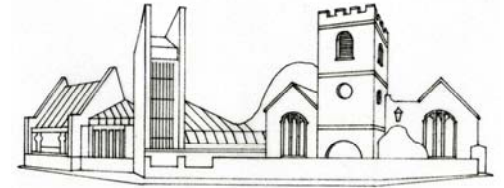
Confirmation classes

We will be starting youth and adult Confirmation classes in September. You are all warmly welcome and if you are interested in finding out more or would like to join a group please email Caroline: curate@stmarywithstalban.org

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 <i>Currently on Sabbatical</i>	vicar@stmarywithstalban.org 020 8977 2767
Associate Vicar:	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



Clergy Comment



There's a lovely image in the Gospel of Mark, where Jesus encourages his friends to get away to a quieter place so that they can rest. To do this, they get in a boat and go to the other side of Lake Galilee. This image brings together rest and boats, a combination that is also relevant to what's

been happening in the life of our church and local community over the last month. We were delighted that we went ahead with the River Thames Blessing in the middle of July – please see the article inside this newsletter. It was wonderful that so many of the river organisations came out to support this service. Thanks to all of them for taking part. If you missed it, it can be viewed on our YouTube channel at Teddington Parish.

As we begin the month of August, I want to focus on the rest and recuperation side of this Gospel image. It's been a tough and, for some people, a very busy year. We all need periods of rest, whether they happen at home or by going on holiday. I think the blurred lines between work and home have made it harder to have proper breaks, and without these we all lose energy and motivation. I know getting away isn't going to be possible for everyone this month, but whatever your circumstances, I hope that you can find periods of rest and regeneration. If you're staying in Teddington, come and visit the delights of our churchyard. It's a tranquil setting where you can sit, relax and simply take time out.

Jesus offers to his tired friends a time of rest, a period without pressure, where they can sleep and chat without having expectations put upon them. It's an invitation that continues to all of us today. 'Come to me all who are weary and heavy-burdened, and I will give you rest for your souls.' Whether you're around Teddington, on a boat or visiting a garden, I hope that August is a time of regeneration for you.

Revd Caroline Halmshaw

August 2021 SERVICES

at SMwSA unless stated

- ~ Online service only;
- * In-person + livestreamed service

SUNDAYS:

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.00am Morning Worship (now back at SMwSA, not 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 NO Church Mice Toddler Service (returns in September)

THURSDAYS:

- 12 noon Abide Service at SPSP (half-hour of worship and prayer)

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 – 13th June

Wonderful weather all week, so no changes to the programme! All the talks attracted at least twenty people, and we have been asked to repeat the ones on churchyard history, the graves, and the bees, and to offer another guided walk around the trees and flowers. The choir concert on 12th June attracted an audience of over sixty, including Munira Wilson MP, and the churchyard teas and Songs of Praise on 13th June saw well over one hundred and fifty people, including the Mayor and Mayoress. The concert and teas raised about £750 mainly by electronic donation.

During the week children from St Mary and St Peter's School visited class by class. We are now looking at further activity for the pupils such as building a bee hotel, or a wildlife refuge area, and writing a churchyard worksheet for children. The



Adopt a Grave scheme has attracted over fifty people to care for some ninety graves and more interest is registered every week, but it is never too late to volunteer!

To add focus to the week we had made a drone-based video of the church and churchyard showing their exceptional significance to the area. We are now working on a five-year action plan, to complement the policy which we agreed with the Council in 2019. Details on the plan and the drone video can be found at www.teddingtonparish.org/news/new-aerial-view-of-churchyard/

There has been support for continuing to hold church services outside regularly, as conditions allow, and to have a further Songs of Praise in the autumn. All in all it

was a week to remember, which allowed many to enjoy the beauties of our own God's Acre, and give thanks in many different ways for it.

Robin Field-Smith

The Beauty of Teddington Churchyard

The dead lie silent 'neath our feet,
In their eternal rest,
But one fine day we all will meet,
Our souls renewed, refreshed.

Some ancient grave-stones tell a story
Their carvings smooth and clear,
Others, mellowed, hide their glory,
Weathered year on year.

From crocus through to autumn fruits,
The season's flora flourish,
Not just for dogs, nor men in suits,
But ALL within the parish.

Some recent guests to share this ground
Are bees within their hive.
The busy humming, buzzing sound
Turns evening air alive.

Sunday worship spills from pews,
As church and unchurched sing,
This garden gladly shares its news:
"God's Acre's triumphing".

A splendid week of talks and walks
In glorious summer weather,
Crowned Robin Field-Smith's plans and thoughts,
And brought us all together.

Thank You Robin.

Susan Jacobs, June 2021

Parish Registers

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

20th June: Wilfred Ignatius, son of Sidonie and Robert Kennan

27th June: Harry Thomas Fraser, son of Alison and Graham Keene

4th July: Imogen Peggy Mary, daughter of Alice and Tom Jemmett

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

24th June: Celia Richardson (66)

River Blessing Service

Due to Covid restrictions, arrangements had to be a little different this year, for our fifth River Blessing Service. The service started as normal, but then a small group consisting of the Rev. Caroline Halmshaw and representatives of several local organisations with Thames connections, went down to the river, while the rest of us remained in church to follow proceedings live on the big screen. Organisations involved were the RNLI, Royal British Legion, Tamesis Yacht & Canoe Club, Sea Cadets and the Thames Boat Project. The Rev. Chris Kennedy, preached about the important role the river plays in local life. He emphasised the river's healing role, especially in lockdown. The choir sang two appropriate spirituals, a real pleasure to listen to. With a backdrop of a myriad variety of boats we all heard the river being blessed. A cross adorned with orange and yellow flowers was tossed into the river, followed by flowers from the other organisations.

The weather was kind, and the pictures reminded us what a busy place the river is. Most people use it sensibly, but we remain grateful for the services of the RNLI who rescue both people and animals - do you remember Sammy the seal and the stranded minke whale?

We would like to thank Katherine Matthews for all the time and energy she put into organising this service, and also the technical team concerned. It was a heart-warming experience.

Peter and Sue Stevens

Update from Mozambique

I will start with the good news that the building of the new school at Chimoio is going really well and is now above the first level of windows. It is a miracle that this project continues to move forward apace. Also, that Bishop Manuel, pictured here with Rev. Albertina, and other helpers planted 104 trees near the school on World Environment Day. This tree a gift to the bishop from Addis Ababa.

However, other news is not so good, with the insurgency, the huge number of displaced people arriving in Pemba (our linked Parish), lack of food security, and poor access to health resources and education. Even Coronavirus, currently in its third wave, cannot be given greater priority. The situation remains desperate.

We sent all £8,310 of the money you raised for our Lent Appeal 2021 to MANNA, (the church network in Mozambique and Angola), to help in Pemba where many refugees are being hosted by local families; made possible by MANNA (along with other aid agencies) supplying emergency food parcels to these host families, containing rice, oil, soap and water purifying tablets. These combined communities are also working together to clear land for a new farm, as part of the recovery plan for displaced people.

We pray for Bishop Manuel and all his team. *Suzie Gordon (more photos and an extended report are on our website)*



Hong Kong Immigration 2021

Since Hong Kong was handed back to mainland China in 1997, on a 'one country two systems' arrangement, life has become increasingly difficult for many.

Democratic freedoms have vanished, and those who have protested have found themselves in trouble. Consequently, the UK has offered to welcome those who have the right to live here, and who can show they can support themselves for six months. Many thousands wish to come.

UKHK.org is a church organisation created to welcome and help settle all Hong Kongers arriving in the UK. Over 500 churches have registered to be part of this, including us, St Mary with St Alban. We have been asked to find out if there are any Chinese groups or individuals locally, who either need help for friends or relatives or who can offer help. Cantonese speakers will be particularly welcome.

There is also a request for offers of short-term emergency accommodation, being organised in conjunction with Upbeat Communities who will make all the arrangements and offer training.

Please contact Margaret Squire on fellowship@teddingtonparish.org if you can help in any way, or know of people interested in getting involved.

Margaret Squire