

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

Everything here comes with an open invitation, and you are very welcome to bring a friend with you too. Go to our website to find all the details and we look forward to seeing you there: www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/

Tuesday 1	Memory Café. SPSP. 1.30-3.00pm. Also on 15
Wednesday 2	First Wednesday open discussion group. Mina Hogan Room, St Mary's Parish Hall and on Zoom. 12.45-2.15pm. Topic: <i>Are faith and secularism in opposition? Or is secularism a necessity for an equitable, plural society?</i> Bring a packed lunch
Thursday 3	Parish Coffee. On Zoom. 10.30am. Also on 17 Traherne Reading Group. Mina Hogan Room, St Mary's Parish Hall. 13.30-3.00pm. Also on 10
Monday 7	Teddington Community Café. SPSP. 1.30-4.30pm. Also on 14, 21 & 28
Tuesday 8	Parish Lunch. The King's Head. 12noon Plain & Pearl social crafting group. Mina Hogan Room. St Mary's Parish Hall. 7.30pm. Also on 22
Saturday 12	Parish Plod. Next section of the Capital Ring Walk. 10.00am-4.30pm
Thursday 17	Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. Also on Saturday 19
Tuesday 22	Parish Coffee. tba. 11.00am The Bereavement Journey course, SPSP. 12-1.00pm

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

Ash Wednesday 2 Holy Communion at 9.30am, and Sung Eucharist at 8.00pm, both at SMwSA



Join us on **Wed 23rd February** 10am-4pm for

Moments, Mindfulness & Meditation for Health & Wellbeing

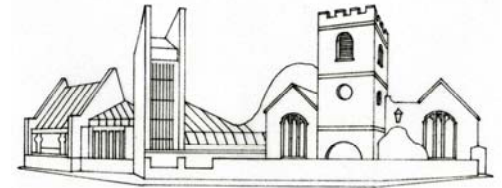
A Quiet Day for body, mind and spirit inspired by different Christian traditions.

Moment – be a human being not a human doing
Mindful – rather than a mind full
Meditation – learn to be, just to be, as you are

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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www.teddingtonparish.org



Vicar's Viewpoint

I've just been doing our annual report to the diocese which includes the number of funerals we've taken. And the figures tell their own story:

2018: 23	2020: 31
2019: 21	2021: 27

Some of these in the last two years have been Covid-related in the cause of death. Many have not, and we've just had a very sad number of deaths from other causes. But all of them have been Covid-affected in the sense that Covid has made matters far worse for grieving families and friends.

I'm therefore very mindful of all those who have been recently bereaved. Many have found that they were unable to have the funeral or memorial service that they wanted because of restrictions. And many have found themselves isolated when they most needed companionship. So I've been especially keen to see support services offered. I've worked with our local GP Social Prescribing team to offer bereavement courses. And it's been good to do various events (including parkrun and carol singing) with our local funeral directors and celebrants to raise awareness of *The Good Grief Trust*. This provides a 'one-stop-shop' website with all the details of bereavement services in your local area: www.thegoodgrieftrust.org

This month we're also offering our first parish bereavement course. *The Bereavement Journey* is a 6 week course for anyone who has lost a loved one at any time and in any way. The sessions gently guide bereaved people through the most common aspects of grief, allowing them both the time and a safe space to talk about and process their loss. The course will start on 22nd February 12-1pm at St. Peter and St. Paul Church. It will be led by Sarah Williams (our Ordinand), Rev Chris Kennedy (Activate Wellbeing Minister) and myself. If you would like to participate or receive further information, please contact Sarah on sarahw@teddingtonparish.org or 8943 2262.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt

www.teddingtonparish.org

February 2022 REGULAR SERVICES

at SMwSA unless stated

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

SUNDAYS:

8.00am Holy Communion
9.00am Morning Worship
10.00am Parish Communion*

MONDAYS – SATURDAYS:

8.30am Morning Prayer, on Zoom (Mon-Fri and 9am Sat)~
9.00am-5.00pm Church open for Private Prayer
6.00pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom (Mon-Thur and 5pm Fri-Sat)~

WEDNESDAYS:

9.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service

THURSDAYS:

12 noon Abide Service at SPSP

Go to our website for further details:
www.teddingtonparish.org



Christmas Celebrations Despite Omicron

Carols Sing Along

On 22nd December the church was once again able to hold its annual Carols Sing Along for Welcare at the Anglers Pub.

In 2020 the event was cancelled at the last minute due to Covid. This time the event was held outside in the new substantial wooden gazebo, and despite the cold was very well attended. Around £200 was raised.



In addition, for those who were unable to join us at the Anglers, members of the church choir recorded several carols along with the words, so people could enjoy singing along at home.

Anna Khan the CEO of Welcare gave an introduction to Welcare. This can still be found on the Teddington Parish YouTube channel, and also on the Welcare website.

The next event for Welcare will be the Lent lunch, details available soon

Margaret Squire

Nativity Al Fresco

Due to Covid 19, and restriction of numbers inside the church, outside the box thinking led to some highly skilled volunteers recreating the nativity scene al fresco. Multiple gazebos were erected; haybale seating was arranged and lights and action soon followed. The scene was set. Over the course of three services, over one hundred and fifty people were accommodated in the stables. The inside service was piped outdoors, and the wonder of the nativity was experienced by all. Then came the rain of biblical proportions as we were packing up which left everyone a little soggy but satisfied. Many thanks to all the volunteers; also to the Teddington Society; Teddington Tennis

Club; Harlequins Amateurs; and Geoff Howard for the provision of the gazebos. Lastly, huge thanks to Park Lane Stables for providing the haybales which added to the authenticity, atmosphere and wonder of the service.

Benjamin and Gareth Williams

Church Mice: Knitvity and Beyond

We are delighted to remind everyone that Church Mice, our weekly baby and toddler service, has resumed after a short Christmas break. Every Wednesday at 10.30am we gather in St Mary with St Alban for an interactive 20-minute service featuring action songs, a Bible story with props, marching with instruments, and some simple prayers. The service is followed by play and refreshments when we bring out our two huge boxes of toys, and put the kettle on (oh, and not forgetting the biscuits!)

It's a lovely way for mums, dads, grandparents and carers to experience church with their very young children, and have a chance to chat to others afterwards while the children play in a safe, relaxed environment.



Joe tells the Christmas story at Church Mice, helped by Zoe.

No need to book, just come along at 10.30am on Wednesdays. We run all year, including school holidays, apart from August.

For more information, contact Cathy Randall on crr1@btinternet.com

Cathy Randall

Christmas Day Lunch

Every year Churches Together in Teddington organise a Christmas Lunch at Ellera Hall Teddington for the elderly and those alone on Christmas Day. This year, because of the very high prevalence of Covid 19 in Teddington and reacting to the advice that we should not meet in large numbers, it was decided on 18th December that the lunch could not go ahead in the normal way, but that we would deliver a Christmas lunch to the guests' homes.

John Mulcahy and some of his family and friends volunteered to do the cooking and



together we cooked one hundred and ten meals. Because this was the second year running when

an event in the hall could not be held, we decided to prepare as "top quality" a meal as possible, using fresh turkeys and organic vegetables.

Children from St Mary with St Alban's Children's Church produced a design for a Christmas Card. St Mary's with St Peter's school, local Church congregations and the Church's Guide company generously collected gifts to be delivered along with the food.

As well as our main funder, the Hampton Fund, whose £900 generous donation covered the cost of the food, drinks and sundry items, we also had a number of local companies who provided us with goods.

On Christmas day our team of twenty five volunteer drivers delivered to each guest a food bag, which contained two microwaveable plastic boxes. In the boxes were a full Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings and a dessert. There was also a drink, fruit, and cheese. They were also given a bag containing Christmas presents

and a selection of chocolates, mince pies, jams, calendars and biscuits.



The limiting factor for the number guests we can serve is usually the seating capacity of the hall. As that did not apply this year, we were able to offer Christmas dinners to a wider clientele. We took families referred from Welcare, a charity supporting families and Ruils, a local charity supporting disabled children and adults and people with long term health and mental health conditions.

The feedback we received from all those involved in delivering, and from the recipients, was extremely positive and grateful.

Malcolm Eady

Parish Registers

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

12th December: Rosie Abina, daughter of Victoria and Paul Redman; Wilfred Henry, daughter of Georgina Gately and Charles Rayner

9th January: Charlotte Lydia and William Lawrence, daughter and son of Hannah and Christopher Dech

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

18th December: Emma Trickett and Martin McGinty

FUNERALS – *We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:*

16th December: Sam Mayne (44); Rosalie Meyerowitz (90)