

## WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

Everything comes with an open invitation, and please bring a friend. Our website has all the details, and we look forward to seeing you there: [www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/](http://www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/)

Monday 1	Teddington Community Café. SPSP. 1.30-4.30pm. <b>Also on 8 15 22 &amp; 29</b>
Tuesday 2	Memory Café. SPSP. 1.30-3.00pm. <b>Also on 16</b>
Thursday 4	Coffee. On Zoom. 10.30am
Saturday 6	Parish Plod: Jubilee Greenway. Leaving Teddington Station @ 9.30am
Tuesday 9	Pub Lunch. The King's Head. 12noon
Thursday 18	Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. <b>Also on Sat 20</b>
Tuesday 23	Pub Coffee. The Kings Head. 11.00am

NB – Taking a break over August:

First Wednesday, Plain & Pearl, Bereavement Cafe and Church Mice

### Farewell to our Vicar and friend

Sunday 17th July was when the Parish bade farewell to our Vicar of thirteen years. Joe officiated at all three services, in order to say goodbye to all sections of his large and varied congregation. At 10 o'clock he spoke affectionately about his happy and successful time with us, thanking all for the support he had been given. The choir, under the direction of Derek Saunders, excelled themselves singing a wonderful anthem and a version of Psalm 101, with words specialty written by Susan Jacobs. Then it was over to the Parish Hall for Prosecco and sparkling elderflower followed by lunch. The more senior among us sheltered from the sun in the Mina Hogan Room. Robin Field-Smith along with his wife, Mary, and fellow Churchwarden Carla, dashed about like a turbo-powered Maitre d' ensuring everything went smoothly. An army of kitchen volunteers,

led by Suzie Gordon and Jo O'Hagan, served what Jane Austen would call "an excellent cold collation" of ham, quiches and salad, followed by a chocolate roulade with strawberries.

It is traditional to present an outgoing incumbent with a gift of silver, so Carla then presented Joe with a set of 'Stocks', small silver containers for holy oil together, with a pair of beautiful, atmospheric photographs of Bushy Park by Sue Lindenberg. Joe and his family were also given a cheque which they will spend on furniture for their new home.

Peter Stevens, Caroline Halmshaw and Carla Maroussas delivered affectionate tributes, full of happy reminiscences, sentiments echoed by everyone in the packed hall, and so that we didn't become over-emotional, we finished with an irreverent poem about Joe's time with us.

Joe and his family leave with our love and respect. He will be a hard act to follow! May God bless his new mission. *Terry Brown*

## Parish Information

**CHURCH:** St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, Teddington. TW11 9NN

**Clergy Team:**  
Rev Caroline Halmshaw: [caroline@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:caroline@teddingtonparish.org)  
07483 310330  
Rev Mary Hawes: [mary@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:mary@teddingtonparish.org)  
07967 701891

**Church Wardens:**  
Carla Maroussas: [carla@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:carla@teddingtonparish.org) 020 8943 2262  
Robin Field-Smith: [robin@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:robin@teddingtonparish.org) 07768 697178

**HALL + PARISH OFFICE:** St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington TW11 9HF

**Hall Bookings Admin:** Nadia Prince: [nadia@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:nadia@teddingtonparish.org) 020 8943 2262  
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## NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2022



St MARY with St ALBAN  
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



### Vicar's Viewpoint

A pause as we journey forward.

The build up to the summer holiday and Joe's final farewell services has seen a flurry of activity. Farewells are often demanding physically and emotionally, and this has been no exception. There is so much to be grateful for, we have had

a wonderful time of flourishing under Joe's leadership. It's good that summer has arrived as it gives us an opportunity to rest and take stock of our recent experiences.

In last months' newsletter, Carla talked about a pause as we journey forward. This phase enables us to capture where we are as a church. The period we are now in, is deliberately intended to give us time to reflect, to learn from what has been and be open to God's leading as we move forward.

I hope that this summer is a time for you to rest and reflect too. It feels such a healthy and critical thing to do. This of course is not always easy, particularly if we are faced with uncertainty or choices that take us out of our comfort zone.

Jesus's message, that he'll never leave us, comes to mind. Whether we are incredibly busy or in quieter periods, we are reassured that he is our companion every step of the way. For St Mary with St Alban, I hope this is a time in which we can distinguish God's gentle and clear voice. He is a God of surprises, and I'm confident he will lead us as we move through this new chapter of our church community.

I hope that summer is a time of flourishing for all of us, and that as we all pause, we are refreshed and ready for the next chapter.

*Caroline Halmshaw*

### REGULAR SERVICES

~ 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 NO Church Mice Toddler Service (*returns in September*)

Go to our website for further details:  
[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)



*A thank you card for Joe*

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## Churchyard Sunday

### Dedication of the Sensory Area

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed Councillor Rhi Lee, Deputy Mayor and Cathy Maker, Director of RUILS, the local independent living charity, to our 10am service followed by the dedication of the Sensory Area.

Rev Joe Moffatt spoke about the important role the churchyard plays in the life of the church and the local community. While being a former place of burial it is very much for the living, where the bereaved can feel closer to their loved ones and to God. Recently the Holy Gardeners have helped nurture the biodiversity of the churchyard and foxes, birds, insects and bees now abound. It is



also a place for meeting people with two 'chatty' benches, part of a RUILS initiative. The churchyard is truly an oasis in a busy suburb; a place for contemplating life, death and the promise of resurrection.

Following the service all made their way to the bottom end of the churchyard for the dedication of the new area and the unveiling of the information plaque by the Deputy Mayor. Thanks to the enthusiasm and drive of churchwarden Robin Field-Smith, the Holy Gardeners and a local council grant, a beautiful sensory area has been created, with a new path and bench, a raised bed planted with brightly coloured and strongly scented flowers, a braille sign and an audio post. A garden accessible to all!

*Kay Cassidy*

### Flower Festival

This year we had a very different theme – 'Grown, not Flown' and asked parishioners to harvest flowers and foliage from their gardens. We did not know what to expect

and indeed it gave us a big surprise on the day.

Our plan was to achieve sustainable displays with no carbon footprint. So we reused dried poppy heads, wheat ears, dried hydrangeas from Christmas wreaths, all without oasis, the very eco-unfriendly green foam. Our older arrangers advised how to use wire and moss with wide round containers. A very different experience needing much longer stemmed flowers. The result was beautiful natural, free flowing displays.



Tea and cakes were enjoyed all afternoon in the Churchyard, raising the magnificent sum of £609 for the Building Anew project, while the Handbell Group gave two special recitals in the church. We were also joined on our eco journey by local Craft Group *Plain & Pearl* who were recycling craft materials for charity (raising £101 for the church). Those wishing to contact *Plain & Pearl* please go to: [www.plainandpearl.co.uk](http://www.plainandpearl.co.uk)

*Josie Shanatos*

### A Parishioner's View

My husband, Ian, and I have been worshipping at St Mary with St Alban for about 14 years and would not be anywhere else. It is a lovely, busy and thriving church. The church's mission statement is "Growing Faith and Friendship for all" and it is achieving this in so many ways.

There are three very different services every Sunday morning and Children's Church; the Daily Office worship every morning and evening on Zoom; the Wednesday morning Eucharist; the Sustainability Group; the Diversity & Inclusion Group; the Community, Memory & Bereavement Cafés, and Church Mice Service; the First Wednesday Group; Plain and Pearl; the Parish Plod... the list goes

on. There is something for everyone.

However, a busy, flourishing church like this doesn't just happen. We have our vicar Joe to thank. He has guided and shaped us these past 13 years, and now we are reluctantly having to say goodbye this month as he leaves to take on the position of Team Rector just over the bridge.

Joe has a knack of spotting talents in people they did not know they had. He has encouraged and supported so many of us to try new things. I am sure I am not alone in saying I am a different person for having met Joe.

It is a testament to Joe's leadership skills that he is leaving a church with such a wealth of talent in place to lead us through the interregnum: be it the clergy team with Mary, Caroline, Rosamond, Chris and Bishop Martin; the brilliant church wardens and parish office team and a full and very talented PCC to name but a few.

Joe, it is sad to see you go. We have been blessed to have had you. We will continue to develop, but it won't be the same – Kingston are lucky to have you. *Sarah Rae*

### Diversity & Inclusion Group

## Slavery and the City Walk

Sunday 2nd October

2-4pm

The Diversity & Inclusion Group invites you to join us on this walk in the City of London on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, led, as a private tour, by a qualified guide from Six in the City ([sixinthecity.co.uk](http://sixinthecity.co.uk)). Tickets cost £12 per person, £10 for under 18s, excluding travel to and from the City. There are 20 tickets available and a suggested minimum age of 12 years.

The walk lasts two hours, from 2-4pm, starting at Paternoster Square and finishing at Fen Court, a distance of just under a mile. The walk is all on a level, apart from one small set of stairs at the Bank of England. The walk explores sites

and institutions in the City with direct links to slavery. We will learn about the people who made money from this trade in human beings, as well as those who fought for its abolition. We will also hear about how some of the most powerful and influential institutions in the City have issued apologies for their role in the slave trade, and how they now wish to bring about changes.

To sign up, please email [info@stmarywithstalban.org](mailto:info@stmarywithstalban.org) or call the Parish Office. *Cathy Randall*



### River Blessing Service

The now annual River Blessing Service took place on July 10<sup>th</sup> with all local groups concerned with the river involved. Here the local lifeboat crew can be seen.

## Parish Registers

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

12<sup>th</sup> June: Jasper Smith, son of April and Sebastian Abigail

19<sup>th</sup> June: Jack Anthony and Luisa Samail son and daughter of Kirin and Neville Taylor

26<sup>th</sup> June: Millie Madison Healy, daughter of Samantha and Peter Marshall

26<sup>th</sup> June: Alfie James Yutaka, son of Elizabeth Dewick and Toby Mott

3<sup>rd</sup> July: Lyla Annabelle May, daughter of Sharon and James Metcalf

3<sup>rd</sup> July: Hattie Vivica and Max Flynn, daughter and son of Emma and David Cauldwell

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

22<sup>nd</sup> June: Phyllis Howlett (91)

27<sup>th</sup> June: Evelyn McKendrick (101)

7<sup>th</sup> July: Christine Willington (76)