

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Everything comes with an open invitation, and please bring a friend. You can expect a warm welcome too. Our website has all the details: www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on

Wednesday 1	Parish Quiet Day. House of Prayer, East Molesey. 10.30am-4.00pm (First Wednesday take a break) <i>Book via website</i>
Thursday 2	Parish Coffee. On Zoom. 10.30am
Friday 3	<i>A Warm Space</i> to read or chat. PPC. 10.00am-12noon. Also: 10, 17, 24 & 31
Saturday 4	Parish Plod: continuing from Teddington Lock to Kew Bridge
Sunday 5	Lent Lunch in aid of Welcare. St Mary's Parish Hall. 11.45am-2.00pm. <i>Book via website</i>
Monday 6	Teddington Community Café. PPC. 1.30-4.30pm. Also: 13, 20 & 27
Tuesday 7	Memory Café. PPC. 1.30-3.00pm. Also: 21 Eco-concerns Group. Mina Hogan Room. St Mary's Parish Hall. 7.30pm
Wednesday 8	Lent Reflection Group. St Mary's Parish Hall. 10.30am-12noon. Also: 15, 22 & 29
Tuesday 14	Parish Lunch. tba. 12noon Bereavement Café. PPC. 1.30-3.00pm. Also: 21 Plain & Pearl Candle Making. St Mary's Parish Hall. 7.30pm. <i>Book via website</i>
Thursday 16	Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. Also: Sat 18
Sunday 19	ALMA Sunday. Bishop Rob Wickham and John Tasker join us for Sunday services and lunch, following their recent visit to our linked Parish of Pemba, Mozambique. <i>Book via website</i>
Tuesday 28	Parish Coffee. Shambles. 10.30am Plain & Pearl Craft Material Swap (<i>see page 3</i>). St Mary's Parish Hall. 7.30pm

LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL – HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Sunday 2	Palm Sunday Services: 8am, 9am and 10am – with a donkey led Palm Procession at 10am. Our thanks to Natalie and Park Lane Stables, as always, for their support with this.
Monday 3, Tuesday 4 & Wednesday 5	– Compline with Reflections. 7.30pm
Thursday 6	Maundy Thursday: Sung Eucharist with Washing of Feet and Vigil. 7.30pm
Friday 7	Good Friday: 9am Family Service. 2pm Sung Liturgy. All day Churchyard Stations of the Cross.
Sunday 9	Easter Sunday. 6am Dawn Churchyard Service (followed by cooked breakfast). 9am Easter Morning Worship. 10am Festival Parish Communion

Parish Information

CHURCH:	St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, Teddington. TW11 9NN
<u>Clergy Team:</u>	Rev Caroline Halmshaw: caroline@teddingtonparish.org 07483 310330 Rev Mary Hawes: mary@teddingtonparish.org 07967 701891
<u>Church Wardens:</u>	Carla Maroussas: carla@teddingtonparish.org 020 8943 2262 Robin Field-Smith: robin@teddingtonparish.org 07768 697178
HALL + PARISH OFFICE:	St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington TW11 9HF
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NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023



St MARY with St ALBAN
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

This time last month, people in Turkey and Syria were going about their daily business – work, chores, school, preparing meals, meeting friends. Then on the 6th February, a devastating earthquake struck. 44,000 people (over four times the population of Teddington)

lost their lives. Many more lost homes, family, friends, possessions. Hospitals, schools, businesses – all destroyed, It's hard to take it all in, to grasp the enormity of it or consider how the survivors are making sense of it. It's even harder to think what we can do to help.

Tearfund (www.Tearfund.org) is a Christian charity based in Teddington. It works in the poorest and most vulnerable parts of the world. As part of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) it is working now with others to get aid and relief to Turkey and Syria, to be part of the very long process of helping people restore their lives and homes.

In this season of Lent, please consider:

- ◆ giving financially (through Tearfund or the DEC) to help bring relief and assistance to those who are desperately in need in Turkey and Syria
- ◆ giving time to pray for those affected and those who are responding to their needs.

The Christian hope is that even in the darkest of situations, the light of God is never extinguished. May our sisters and brothers in Turkey and Syria see signs of hope in this darkest of times through the help and compassion being given from around the world.

Mary Hawes

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 Church Mice Toddler Service
- Go to our website for further details:
www.teddingtonparish.org

WEEKLY LENT CHALLENGE



Go Green(er) with A Rocha UK:

- ◆ Bring nature into your home
- ◆ Connect with creation
- ◆ Discover more outdoors
- ◆ Plan a Wild Time!

Try our churchyard gardening, or join the Parish Plod. Grow a new plant, go camping or spend more time outside. For more ideas visit www.arocha.org.uk.

Diversity and Inclusion Group

The Church Diversity and Inclusion (D & I) Group had its first meeting of the year in January – a look back to what we had achieved in 2022, and a look forward to our plans for 2023.

After the success of the Slavery and the City Walk in October 2022, and our Film Night in October 2021, we are planning another big event for Autumn 2023, so watch this space.

Having now set up a D & I noticeboard in the church, we are keen to make full use of it, so please have a look at it next time you are in church. It is located at the back near the font. We currently have a small display for Racial Justice Sunday (12 February) but we'll be changing the display regularly, as well as developing a more permanent display (physical and virtual) to reflect issues which are important to us as a church. We are also ensuring that all the main D & I events in the year are publicised on the church calendar and linked as appropriate to our church website.

We will be also be highlighting specific events and days during 2023. For example, the London Diocesan link with the Anglican Church in Angola and Mozambique (ALMA) with Bishop Rob on 19th March; Stephen Lawrence Day on 22nd April (the 30th anniversary of his murder); Carers' Week in June; and Disability Awareness Sunday later in the year.

We are a small group which very much welcomes new members and new ideas. We meet every other month, usually on a Thursday. The next meeting is at Cathy Randall's house on Thursday 23rd March. Please email Cathy on crr1@btinternet.com if you would like to come.

Cathy Randall

Adopt a Grave



Our graveyard is such a beautiful and peaceful place to just be, to reflect on, or to pray in. There has not been a burial here for more than 100 years, which has left many of the graves untended and in need of some love and attention. Can you help?

It is also a special place for wildlife. Some

areas need to be left undisturbed, but it is still rewarding to free a grave from overgrowth. Perhaps as you walk through the churchyard, one of the graves calls to you as there might be something about its shape, history or a family connection which makes it a good choice for you to adopt and look after.

Please let me help you to find the right grave: alex@teddingtonparish.org

Alexandra Ruffer

Lent 2023

For Lent 2023, the Bishops of London Diocese are hosting five online sessions exploring ancient ways of Christian prayer that are still relevant today and can help us spend time in the presence of God.

Sessions take place on Tuesday evenings during Lent, from 7.30-8.30pm on the following dates:

- 28th February, The Examen
- 7th March, Lectio Divina
- 14th March, Centring Prayer
- 21st March, Imaginative Contemplation
- 28th March, Visio Divina (Praying with Pictures)

For more information and to register, see: www.london.anglican.org/articles/prayer-practices-for-lent

Caroline Halmshaw



Music for the Lenten Season

Following on from last year's successful Passiontide concert, Teddington Churches' Singers are putting on a similar event this April entitled *Music for the Lenten Season*. It will be an eclectic mix of beautiful choral music for the season with pieces by Bach, Tallis, Byrd, Fauré, Tchaikovsky and other composers. The concert will also include two large scale orchestral items by Haydn

and Handel.

The performance is taking place at St Mark's Church, St. Mark's Road, Teddington, TW11 9DE. Money raised will go towards the new build at St. Mary with St. Alban's church. It promises to be a wonderful and moving evening.

Information about ticket sales will be on our website: www.teddingtonparish.org

Kay Cassidy

Plain & Pearl Craft Supply Swap

**Tuesday 28 March 7.30pm
St Mary's Parish Hall**

Spring clean your cupboards, bring your 'craft stash' along to the Craft Supply Swap and then choose some more craft goodies to take home with you. Donation to charity can be made instead of swap items.

Wool – Fabric – Haberdashery – Craft books & patterns – Craft Materials – Beads – Craft Tools

Cost £2.00 payable on the night includes tea & cakes. Bring along your own craft or knitting to make and have a restful and productive evening crafting with like-minded people.

IMPORTANT:

- ◆ Goods MUST be clean & fresh smelling
- ◆ Bag up individual items so they are easy to see in clear bags
- ◆ Registration essential to secure a place
- ◆ <https://plainandpearlswap.eventbrite.co.uk>

Children's Church off to a flying start

It's been a fun-filled start to 2023 for our children at St Mary with St Alban.

Our 10am-ers were raring to go on 8th January so journeyed straight into Epiphany, exploring how far we would be willing to travel to meet someone so very special. We also chatted about why God chose humble shepherds to be some of the first to meet Jesus and crafted glorious crowns and feasted like Kings!

In our next sessions we dived into baptism and explored what Jesus meant when he



talked about salt and light in the bible. The children particularly enjoyed tasting the different flavoured crisps and noting the difference salt and light make to us!

January also gave us the joy of Christingles – such a brilliant way

to help us visualise God in our world – and tasty too! Many thanks to our tireless team who crafted 100 plus Christingles for our popular 4pm service. What fun it was!

Through January all 10am-ers have collected their faith wristbands and each week they have chosen a new bead to thread on. The wristbands are already brimming with colours and we can't wait to celebrate their final glorious creations at Easter.

We welcome any school-aged children to come and join our fun-filled journey into faith. For more information contact our Children's Church lead Ruth Chaperlin at childrenschurch@teddingtonparish.org

Sophie Edginton

Lent Appeal 2023: Heal the Memories

We are following the Diocese's Lent Appeal for Mozambique this year, and will be having Bishop Rob, the Bishop of Edmonton, and John Tasker, the Chairman of MANNA (also part of ALMA) come to lead our 9 am and 10 am services on Sunday 19 March, followed by a delicious homemade lunch in the Parish Hall to hear more about their recent trip to Mozambique where they met people traumatised by conflict. Since 2017, over a million local people have been displaced by a violent insurgency and 4,000 have been killed. Their stories are heart-breaking, and this appeal is to raise money to train leaders in Mozambique to provide pastoral care and support for those with trauma. To find out more, or to donate to the appeal, please visit: london.anglican.org/lentappeal2023 or scan the QR code:



Suzie Gordon