

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

Everything comes with an open invitation, and please bring a friend. A few groups are taking a break this month – all return in January. Our website has all the details and links. We look forward to seeing you there: www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/, or scan this QR code:



Saturday 2	Parish Plod: Central London's Christmas Lights. Late afternoon.
Sunday 3	Carbon Literacy Introduction Course. Mina Hogan Rm. 3.00pm (see Pg2) Advent Carol Service. SMwSA. 6.30pm (see Pg1)
Monday 4	Carbon Literacy Introduction Course. Mina Hogan Rm. 11.00am and Online at 8.00pm (see Pg2) Teddington Community Café. Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-4.30pm. Also 11 & 18 (not 25)
Tuesday 5	Memory Café with Carol Singing. Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm. Also 19
Wednesday 6	Advent Course: <i>Towards a Rule of Life</i> . Mina Hogan Rm. 11.00am-12.15pm. Also 13 & 20. Tea & coffee provided.
Thursday 7	Parish Coffee on Zoom. 10.30am
Monday 11	2 nd Teddington Cub Pack Carol Concert at the Community Café. Peter & Paul Centre. 3.45pm
Thursday 14	Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. Also on Sat 16
Tuesday 19	Memory Café with Christmas Quiz and mince pies. Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm

For all Christmas services and events please see page 3

JANUARY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

New Year's Day Community Café: Monday 1. Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm (NB. slightly shorter hours)

Knitting Month with Plain & Pearl: Tuesdays 9, 16, 23 & 30. For Beginners & Improvers

Parish Registers

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

15th October: Bobby, Sophie and James
22nd October: Martha
5th November: Joseph

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

13th October: Cyril Shaw (93)

Teddington Parish Information

CHURCH:

Vicar:

Associate Vicar:

Churchwardens:

St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, TW11 9NN

Revd David Cloake: vicar@teddingtonparish.org

Revd Mary Hawes: mary@teddingtonparish.org

Carla Maroussas: carla@teddingtonparish.org

Adam Woods: adam@teddingtonparish.org

**HALL + PARISH OFFICE: St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, TW11 9HF
020 8943 2262**

Hall Bookings Admin:

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Church Services Admin:

Emma Castellani: emma@teddingtonparish.org

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t @TW11Parish

Advent and Christmas Greetings 2023

from St Mary with St Alban Teddington

DECEMBER 2023



Vicar's Viewpoint

When I was the Vicar of Whitton, it was a matter of no small annoyance that Card Factory would stock 'Christmas Calendars' [*sic*] in late August. This isn't a whinge about Christmas retail starting too soon (though late August does seem a little premature), but more about the merciless culling of a beautiful and meaningful season – Advent. Advent (from 'adventus': coming) is a solemn season of preparation when Christians ready themselves for the incarnation (God made human), the central theme of Christmas.

Some people prepare by erecting their Nordmann Pine in early November, Christians by gathering and reflecting on spiritual matters (and some Christians by erecting their Nordmann Pines in November too, I don't doubt). Advent is a season steeped in expectation (as well as Strictly and 'Sleb), which, in Christian terms, refers to the approaching birth of Jesus Christ in the context of the refugee journey of his unmarried mother and her partner; Jesus, our Prince of Peace, the hope of the world in this tiny child.

At St Mary with St Alban's this year, we are holding Advent courses, Advent Carol Services, and additional times of prayer and we wait with eager anticipation for the arrival of the wonderful (and not inconsiderable) array of Christmas Services. All these seasonal events are open to all, you will be very welcome, and I look forward to meeting you. It's all on the website!

I wish you all (and the lovely staff at Card Factory) a holy Advent, a glorious Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Fr David

Advent Carol Service
Advent Sunday - 3rd December
6.30pm St Mary with St Alban

Advent Course: *Towards a Rule of Life*
Wednesday mornings: 6th, 13th & 20th
11.00am Mina Hogan Room

Compline in Advent
Wednesday evenings: 6th, 13th & 20th
8pm Online - Zoom

For more information, please use this QR code, refer to the Parish Website, the ChurchSuite Calendar, or contact the Parish Office 020 8943 2262



f @smwsachurch

www.teddingtonparish.org

t @TW11Parish

Carbon Literacy Action Day 2023 **Carbon Literacy Action Day**

Join with us to be one of thousands globally completing carbon literacy training simultaneously. Be part of the world's largest climate education-and-action training event, coinciding with COP28. We will deliver three identical introduction courses to allow you to learn more about climate literacy, including greenhouse gases, climate change locally and globally, benefits/disadvantages of taking action and looking at available help. £5 to attend. Sign-up via the QR code or go to our website. Sun 3 Dec: 3.30-5.00pm and Mon 4 Dec: 11.00am-12.30pm, both at St Mary's Parish Hall, TW11 9HF. Or Mon 4 Dec: 8.00-9.30pm, online.



James Morris
sustainability@teddingtonparish.org

Ruils

Local charity, Ruils, are again delivering Christmas parcels to disabled people and their families, as part of their ongoing commitment to enable independent living. Everything will be boxed and delivered on Thursday 21 December, and the need this year is greater than last with Ruils expecting to give out around 90 parcels. Please bring your donations to St Mary



with St Alban by Sunday 17 December after Sunday services, or 9am-4pm, Mon-Sat. There is a box at the back of church. or drop at Ruils, 4 Waldegrave Road. Essentials please: tinned veg/meat/fish, pasta/rice, toiletries and treats: biscuits, chocolate, Christmas crackers, mince pies. If you prefer to make a donation for Ruils

to purchase the items needed, go to: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24813>. Thank you for your support.

Cathy Maker

A beekeeper's job is never done

The St Mary with St Alban's bees have been in the burial grounds for over three years now and are settling in well. They are provided with a beautiful array of flowers from spring to autumn thanks to the Churchyard Gardeners, and the 'No Mow May' council policy.

As winter approaches, and the nights turn cold, the bees start to cluster, venturing out only on sunny days above 12°C and need less attention from us beekeepers. Therefore we can devote our time to other aspects of beekeeping such as cleaning and ordering beekeeping equipment ready for the next season. Additionally, we have undertakings such as jarring honey and making beeswax candles ready for sale at the Parish Hall.



In late summer, honey which was extracted from the combs, was filtered and stored. This is now being bottled and labelled by us into 4.5 oz (130 gm) and 8 oz (227 gm) jars. Equally the extracted wax from the combs was filtered several times, ready to make candles.

All candles are 100% pure beeswax, which originates from our bees and is processed by us, the beekeepers.

Peter & Claudie Godet

Call for Guests: Christmas Day Lunch at Elleray Hall Teddington – Would you like to come?

The Churches in Teddington are again inviting the elderly and those who are alone on Christmas Day to join them for a traditional Christmas meal. We are grateful for financial support for this initiative from

the Hampton Fund. If you would like to attend or volunteer to help then please register by contacting **Colin and Elizabeth Hicks on 020 8977 8000 or by email: CTTChristmas23@gmail.com**

Christmas Day Traditional Christmas Lunch
Would you like to come?
at Elleray Hall
11am to 3.30pm
The Churches in Teddington are again inviting the elderly and those who are alone to join them for a Christmas Day meal. There will also be entertainment, mince pies and other refreshments plus a chance to join in carols and other activities. Transport can be provided if required. If you would like to attend or volunteer to help then please contact Colin on 020 8977 8000 or email CTTChristmas23@gmail.com

carol singing
at the Anglers
Thursday 14th December 2023
7:30PM
Come and join a traditional pub sing-a-long
All proceeds to Welcare. Scan QR code to donate



Christmas at St Mary with St Alban

All are welcome to our Christmas services and events.

Sunday 17 December
6.30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols*

Thursday 21 December
8.00pm Longest Night Service* (a quiet, reflective service)

Christmas Eve
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist*
2.00pm Crib Service
3.30pm Crib Service*
5.00pm Crib Service
11.30pm Midnight Mass*

Christmas Day
8.00am Holy Communion of the Nativity
10.00am Family Eucharist of Christmas*

Booking tickets for our most popular Christmas Services is recommended, but where space allows we look forward to welcoming you at the door. **Scan this QR code to book**, and please request tickets for everyone needing their own seat.



***livestreamed service: watch live, or catch up later on our YouTube channel (see website)**