

## WHAT'S ON IN JULY

Everything comes with an open invitation, and please bring a friend.

**Things in green need pre-booking, please.** The website has all the details and links: [www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/](http://www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/), or scan this QR code:



- Monday 1 **Teddington Community Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-4.30pm.  
*Also 8, 15, 22 & 29*
- Tuesday 2 **Memory Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm. *Also 16*
- Wednesday 3 **First Wednesday Discussion.** Mina Hogan Rm. 12.45-2.15pm. Topic: *Has universal suffrage resulted in true democracy?* Bring a packed lunch.  
**Pints of View:** unscripted, agenda-free and committee-free fellowship. Tide End Pub. From 8.00pm.
- Thursday 4 **General Election Polling Day**  
**Parish Social: coffee.** On Zoom. 10.30am
- Saturday 6 **Parish Plod.** Hampstead Heath to Woodside Park. 9.30am.  
Walking the next stretch of St Alban's Way.
- Tuesday 9 **Parish Social: lunch.** Piazza Firenze Restaurant. 12noon  
**Plain & Pearl Workshops.** Mina Hogan Rm. 7.30pm.  
**Tickets via QR Code:**
- Sunday 14 **River Sunday Celebrations.** A community event with the RNLI and many other local river clubs and organisations. *(See page 1)*
- Thursday 18 Churchyard Gardening. SMwSA. 10.00am. *Also Sat 20*
- Tuesday 23 **Parish Social: coffee.** Shambles Restaurant. 10.30am  
**Plain & Pearl Summer Social. Ticketed. Book via QR Code:**



## The Pastoral Group

This newly invigorated group has made another leap forward, to agree this ministry is to work within the Community and Memory cafés, baptism and marriage support, home and hospital visits, and administration of Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

To illustrate what good care looks like, the group reflected on *pastor* being the Latin word for 'shepherd', a term deeply rooted in

the Bible, and familiar biblical references, including the Good Samaritan and the instruction "to go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37), to form the basis of how this group will work, aligned with robust safeguarding. There are also plans to introduce bereavement support together with a bereavement café later this year. If you would like to be involved in any way with our pastoral ministry, please get in contact: [sarah@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:sarah@teddingtonparish.org).

*Sarah Rae*

## Teddington Parish Information

<b>CHURCH:</b>	<b>St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, TW11 9NN</b>
Vicar:	Revd David Cloake: <a href="mailto:vicar@teddingtonparish.org">vicar@teddingtonparish.org</a>
Associate Vicar:	Revd Mary Hawes: <a href="mailto:mary@teddingtonparish.org">mary@teddingtonparish.org</a>
Churchwardens:	Carla Maroussas: <a href="mailto:carla@teddingtonparish.org">carla@teddingtonparish.org</a> Adam Woods: <a href="mailto:adam@teddingtonparish.org">adam@teddingtonparish.org</a>
<b>HALL and OFFICE:</b>	<b>St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Rd, TW11 9HF 020 8943 2262</b>
Hall Bookings:	Nadia Prince: <a href="mailto:nadia@teddingtonparish.org">nadia@teddingtonparish.org</a>
Church Services:	Emma Castellani: <a href="mailto:emma@teddingtonparish.org">emma@teddingtonparish.org</a>
Operations & Comms:	Suzanne Parker: <a href="mailto:suzanne@teddingtonparish.org">suzanne@teddingtonparish.org</a>
Newsletter Editors:	Penny Jones and Sue Stevens: <a href="mailto:newsletter@teddingtonparish.org">newsletter@teddingtonparish.org</a>

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## NEWSLETTER JULY 2024



St MARY *with* St ALBAN  
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



### Vicar's Viewpoint

As you read this, the soon-to-be General Election may well be somewhere towards the front of your mind. As I write, there has only been one televised debate so far which was its own peculiar spectacle, but by the time these words are before you, much more will certainly have been said.

This Newsletter will land on your mat at around the mid-point of the year. The days will be largely at their longest, the weather (I pray) kind, and in church-terms, we are now in the second 'phase' of our thinking and worshipping lives. The time between Christmas and Easter is devoted to telling the story of the 'historical Jesus' – biblical accounts of the works and deeds of the man we Christians follow. Once we move away from Easter we are left with the injunction to learn from the teachings and examples of the man. First phase – narrative accounts; second phase – what those narrative accounts mean for us.

This leads me to wonder what Jesus would have done in the face of a British General Election. Certainly, he would have had a voice, a view. I think he would have publicly condemned the rise of semi-truths and semantic prestidigitation within the noise of rhetoric, but he would have listened intently all the same. He would have been attentive to all points of view, including those with which he profoundly disagreed. He would have voted – Jesus was a man of action. As to whom Jesus would have voted for, I will not speculate – but as a King himself, given in service to the least in this world of ours, I suspect that candidates exhibiting that same characteristic would be attractive as a proposition.

Of course, all of this is just vicary speculation, but I am sure of one thing – he would have prayed for those involved, for those who will take on the increasingly poisoned chalice of public office (as one who paid the highest price for those he came to serve). Doing nothing at all, remaining uninterested or uninformed wouldn't have featured in his Election preparations and I urge you along a similar path – if following in the example of Jesus is your thing. Cast an informed vote and be part of the difference you hope for.

Best wishes

### REGULAR SERVICES

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

#### SUNDAYS:

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.00am Morning Worship
- 10.00am Parish Eucharist\*

#### MONDAYS – SATURDAYS:

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

#### WEDNESDAYS:

- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service

#### THURSDAYS:

- 8.30pm Compline, on Zoom~



### River Sunday Service

SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY

10.00am ~ Church Service

10.30am ~ River Blessing at Manor Road Recreation Ground TW11 8BF

~ with support from the RNLI, who are opening their Lifeboat Station, and many other local river clubs and organisations.

[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

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## Teddington RNLI Lifeboats



As the RNLI celebrate 200 years of service this year, we asked Teddington RNLI Lifeboat Station for a potted history from their beginnings over 30 years ago, through to today.

The story started on 20 August 1989 when The Marchioness, a class 5 passenger vessel travelling along the River Thames, collided with the dredger *Bowbelle* and sank, resulting in the loss of 51 lives. The government of the day realised there was no meaningful emergency service on this highly populated, busy tidal water, and asked the RNLI to establish four lifeboat stations: Teddington, Chiswick, Tower Bridge and Gravesend. All opened on 2 January 2002 and today are the busiest in the country.

Teddington covers the stretch from Richmond Lock to Molesey Lock and responds to over 100 shouts a year on average. Thames RNLI lifeboats are the only ones in the RNLI fleet to have blue lights and sirens, as they operate on the narrow and busy Thames and need to be seen and heard. All shouts are carefully coordinated with the London Coastguard, but it is the Volunteer Launch Authorities at the station who decide whether or not to launch the lifeboats.

The Station currently has two D Class Inshore lifeboats, made by the RNLI with 50 bhp Mariner engines and a maximum speed of 25 knots per hour (30mph). They stop and turn in their own length, making them highly manoeuvrable for the difficult local conditions of locks, a weir, shallow and fast flowing water, and riverside beaches.

Teddington RNLI Lifeboat Station has thirty-plus fully trained volunteer shore and boat crew who live or work within three minutes travel time to the station and respond to a pager 24/7 365 days a year. At present, six of the crew are women, one of them a helm/captain. They are supported by around 25 land-based

volunteers, including teams for education, fundraising and water safety.

This Lifeboat Station is very much a part of the local community, and last year attended nearly 50 local events where donations, as well as retail, directly and through legacies, raised over £34,000, helping keep Teddington RNLI afloat.

Matt Allchurch, Lifeboat Operations Manager said 'Teddington RNLI Lifeboat volunteer crew are active members of the local community and the support that this community gives us is vital. Over 500 local people came to meet us at our Open Day this year. We are proud to be part of such a vibrant town.'

Come and meet your local RNLI team on River Sunday (*see page 1*).

*Our thanks to Teddington Lifeboat's Press Officers: Gianna Saccomani and Grace Palmieri*

## Saint of the Month



Welcome to the vicar's new whimsy – Saint of the Month. The first such worthy is Saint Benedict (*of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Casino, father of western Monasticism*). Benedict was born near Rome in the early sixth century but didn't much care for the hedonistic lifestyle of his friends, so he left them to it and lived as a hermit. The local clergy didn't much like Benedict because many of their flock joined him in his monastic lifestyle (about twelve communities-worth of followers), so he left Subiaco and moved to Monte Cassino where he founded his first monastery.

Sometime later, Benedict wrote his 'Rule' which is still used today by modern Benedictine monks and nuns. The Rule of Benedict was a manual describing how to live a monastic life, including behaviour and spirituality – with all actions called to be motivated by love. Benedict was a great believer in humility expressed before others, and he also believed that a person's spiritual life cannot be divorced from any other aspect of their life.

Benedict died, standing up, in around 550AD, and among his many patronages, is patron saint of schoolchildren and students, servants who broke their master's property, and cavers (as opposed to cavies, which are otherwise known as guinea pigs).

*Father David*

## Christian Aid week: 12-18 May

Thank you for your recent support. This year, £2023.47 was raised in the Teddington area.

## St Mary with St Alban Church Building Project



## Buy A Brick

Buy one of 100 limited edition fundraising bricks for £100 to be part of the legacy of this historic community project. You will be invited to the opening ceremony and offered a place on the 'Bricklayer Wall of Fame' in the Project's Commemorative Book of Donors and on the website. Scan the QR code above for more details and to buy your brick/s. Thank you.

## Parish Registers

### BAPTISMS

*We welcome into Christ's Church:*

19<sup>th</sup> May: Christopher

2<sup>nd</sup> June: Cillian

### FUNERALS

*We remember with thanksgiving:*

17<sup>th</sup> May: Derek Early (74)

## Your Local Cafés: a Summer Invitation

Looking for home-made cakes, excellent tea & coffee, a warm welcome and good company?

Then enter the Community Café, open to all every Monday, 1.30-4.30pm, including Bank Holidays. For all ages out for a chat with friends; children stopping by for a drink & cake from school; those in need of a friendly ear and some company; and people dropping in as they pass by and hear the laughter.

And try the Memory Café, a supportive, safe-space, 1.30-3.00pm, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month, if you are caring for someone with memory loss or struggling with your own. Many find the variety of sing-a-longs, bingo, quizzes and chat relaxing and fun.

Or what about volunteering, to enjoy friendships made over set-up, serving, and filling the dishwasher at the end of a session? There is a baking rota too for the delicious home-made cakes. Any support you can give to either of these worthwhile community activities would be wonderful.

Come along when the Cafés are open to see what it is all about: Peter & Paul Centre, on the corner of Church Road/Broad Street, in the centre of Teddington.

*Angela Kipling*

Spaces for Hire

**PARTIES CLASSES MEETINGS**

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