

TEDDINGTON PARISH

ST MARY WITH ST ALBAN

THE HEART OF CHRIST IN THE HEART OF TEDDINGTON

VICAR'S VIEWPOINT



As I write, I conclude a week which has seen the church readied to be closed for a couple of months. Spaces that have remained undisturbed seemingly since the time of Jesus have been cleared out. Relics have been discovered, including a

fragment of Joe Moffat's cricket bat, evidence of John Cleaver's record collection, plenty of dead spiders and some non-legal tender. All of this reminds us how much life has been lived in our church, even since its re-opening in the 1970s, and how well used the church building is.

I write overleaf on the notion of 'exile', but here I ponder the future with a significantly improved church building. To close the church for its expansion in an age when churches are more likely to close for good is a rare treat, but to do so blindly is a lost opportunity. Why did we do this at all? I suppose this is where you come in, dear reader.

I have always been clear that this is your church not mine. My task is keeping it open and walking beside you, but it is your church. What do you want from it, from me, from us? For my part, I want St Mary with St Alban to be the beating heart of Christ in Teddington and for it to welcome all-comers, regardless of label or identity. What I want most of all is to meet your needs in the name of Jesus Christ - so please share your thoughts and hopes with me. I will listen to all suggestions.

SEPTEMBER 2026

WHILST ST MARY'S IS CLOSED
AND BUILDING WORKS CONTINUE

SUNDAY SERVICES
SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH
THE PETER & PAUL CENTRE, BYCHURCH END, TEDDINGTON TW11 8PS

8am BCP Holy Communion
9am Morning Worship
10am Parish Eucharist (also livestreamed)

Third Sunday of each month:
10am All-Age Eucharist (also livestreamed)

WEDNESDAY SERVICES
MINA HOGAN ROOM
ST MARY'S PARISH HALL, LANGHAM ROAD, TEDDINGTON TW11 9HF

9.30am Said Eucharist
10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service
(re-starting September 2)

harvest FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

8AM, 9AM & 10AM SERVICES

SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH
PETER & PAUL CENTRE BYCHURCH END TW11 8PS

PLEASE BRING YOUR HARVEST BOXES TO ANY SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF SPEAR

www.teddingtonparish.org

WHAT'S ON - SEPTEMBER

requires pre-booking
church service

THURSDAY 3
FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL COFFEE
10.30am
On Zoom

TUESDAYS 1,15
MEMORY CAFE
1.30-3pm
Peter & Paul Centre

WEDNESDAY 2
FIRST WEDNESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP
12.45-2.15pm
Mina Hogan Room
Topic: Should the British Prime Minister "do religion"?

WEDNESDAY 2
PINTS OF VIEW
from 8pm
unscripted fellowship in the Tide End Pub

22 TUESDAY 8,22
PLAIN & PEARL SOCIAL CRAFTING
7.30pm
Mina Hogan Room

THURSDAYS 10,17,24
TRAHERNE READING GROUP
1.30-3pm
Mina Hogan Room

MONDAYS 7,14,21,28
COMMUNITY CAFE
1.30-4.30pm
Peter & Paul Centre

TUESDAY 8
FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL LUNCH
12noon
Piazza Firenze

22 SUNDAY 20
ALL-AGE HARVEST FESTIVAL
10am
Ss Peter & Paul Church

MONDAY 21
BEREAVEMENT CAFE
10-11.30am
Peter & Paul Centre

THU & SAT 17,19
CHURCHYARD GARDENING
10am-12noon
SMAWSA Churchyard

THURSDAY 24
NEWSLETTER BUNDLING
2.30pm
St. Mary's Parish Hall

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER
QUIZ NIGHT
7pm
St. Mary's Parish Hall

visit www.teddingtonparish.org for more details

Vicar: Revd. David Cloake: vicar@teddingtonparish.org
email us: enquiries@teddingtonparish.org
call us: 020 8943 2262
and find us on social media: @teddingtonparish

Church (SMAWSA): St. Mary with St. Alban, Ferry Road, TW11 9NN
Parish Hall, Mina Hogan Room, Balcony Room and Parish Office:
St. Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, TW11 9HF
Peter & Paul Centre / Ss Peter & Paul Church: Church Road, TW11 8PS

EXILE OF THE PARISH

'Exile' may seem like an excessive term for a parish community which has 'moved down the road for a while', but I have been very deliberate in my use of it. Definitions will include words like 'banishment', 'removal' or 'wandering'. We cannot use our building - so we have wandered to another place in our banishment.

In a recent sermon I eluded to the common view that a church isn't a building but a group of people, and this is true. It is, however, a group of people who see that building as a kind of home, a safe space, a repository of memory and spiritual experience. Parish communities very much identify themselves through their physical building. It is the same for any home - it is the place we go to when all else is done.

Our exile is a tiny glimpse into the exile of countless others these days. Those whose homes are taken, destroyed, rendered unsafe - they are on the move. Our own welcome to them is often questionable, we note their difference before we note our common humanity. I hope in our own little exile we will learn something of the life-experience of millions - that while 'home' is in the heart, 'place' is also where we take root and thrive.

Fr. David

Children's Church

Explore faith
• Know God
• Have fun
Through drama, art, prayer, stories and reflection

STARTING SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

SUNDAYS AT 10AM
IN TERM TIME
AT PETER AND PAUL CENTRE TW11 8PS
FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

THE HARVEST HOP BARN DANCE

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
7.30-10PM
ST MARY'S PARISH HALL
LANGHAM ROAD, TEDDINGTON. TW11 9HF

CALLER: REV MARY
3 SETS OF DANCING

SCAN TO BOOK

£15/TICKET - INC BUFFET - BAR AVAILABLE

WWW.TEDDINGTONPARISH.ORG

HARVEST DONATIONS 2026



This Harvest, St Mary with St Alban will be supporting London homelessness charity, SPEAR.

SPEAR use food for a variety of client groups so anything would be welcome, however a key need is emergency food packs for those who are rough sleeping. For these packs, tinned foods like meat, fish and fruit (with ring pulls), and items that can be eaten cold like cereal bars and juice boxes are best, as well as Pot Noodles which rough sleepers can often make using hot water from cafés.

For those SPEAR support in hostels and accommodation, tea, coffee, sugar, tinned vegetables, soups, cook in sauces, along with the items above would be put straight to use.

Many thanks for the support.

Bruce Warman, Senior Fundraiser

WORKING FOR WORLD PEACE?

'What are you hoping to achieve?' I asked my three great-nieces and younger son as they hurried to finish a lagoon they'd been building on the beach at Bude. Their reply came instantly: 'World peace!' We all laughed, but their answer stayed with me.

Many of our young people long for the same things: peace, purpose, stability, and somewhere safe to explore life's big questions. The opportunity to encounter God's love and to come to know Jesus is one of the greatest gifts we can offer. And a Christ-centred, love-centred way of life remains one of the most powerful contributions we can make to a more peaceful world.

As we look towards the new academic year, we are excited about the next chapter of our children's and youth ministry. A new PCC group for children, young people and families will meet in September to develop practical next steps, beginning with new youth provision.

If you would like to be involved, whether practically, behind the scenes, or through prayer, we would love to hear from you. No experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a desire to help our young people flourish.

Rev. Joy

PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS: we welcome into Christ's Church:

14 June: Rupert
28 June: Archie
12 July: Penelope
19 July: Henrietta and Esme
2 August: Alfred

FUNERALS: we remember with thanksgiving:

9 June: Ann Farenden (84)
11 June: Peter Barnes (84)
17 June: Malcolm Warner (74)
7 July: Meryl Morpurgo (81)
8 July: Pamela Kemp (96)
16 July: Ray Barton (90)
24 July: Bryan Whalley (95)
5 August: Basil Hoare (99)
5 August: Martin Simons (79)



SUE STEVENS

Sue Stevens was a faithful servant of Teddington Parish for many years until her death in April. She was a long-time member of the church and PCC who shared

her faith in many ways. Her sustained commitment to editing and proof-reading this newsletter is just one aspect of her huge contribution to the church and wider community. Sue, alongside her husband Peter, formed part of the marriage preparation team, and hosted various study groups.

Sue's enquiring and analytical mind, as well as her deep faith, meant that her contribution to all she did, from the First Wednesday Group to masterminding the Church Reader's Rota, was deeply valued by those around her. One of the biggest tasks she undertook was much of the research for the Church Recording Group and compilation of the Church History. This is a lasting legacy of her work with the team. She will be greatly missed.

Jo O'Hagan

£50 CASH PRIZE!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION

TO DESIGN A PICTURE FOR THE FRONT COVER OF THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE TEDDINGTON PARISH NEWSLETTER

USING COLOUR AND CREATIVITY TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
AGES 4-11 (KS1 & 2)

LAST ENTRIES: 2 NOVEMBER '26
SCAN QR FOR INFO