

Halfway through the concert Jonathan Minah, our new organist, gave a short recital maintaining the flavour of the evening by playing an Italian operatic aria, an English trumpet voluntary and some American rag time.

The handbell group meet every Monday evening during term in the Parish Hall and are always happy to see new faces.

Susan Jacobs

The Teddington Fair – June 19th

As it was almost midsummer's day and we'd had a wonderful spell of good weather, we prepared for the best of days and set up our stall! Olivia and Lauren helped out with 'bobbing ducks' and 'feed the lion' and there was an assortment of home produce for sale. Then the heavens opened! Fortunately, a most gallant gentleman let us borrow his spare gazebo. That, and the good old English spirit of everyone pulling together in a crisis, rather saved the day as our stall was then inundated with visitors and parishioners alike.

Julia Mighall

Parish Registers

Holy Baptisms – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*

19th June: Alec Ruben, son of Natalie and Fernando De Oliveira; Phoebe Olivia Vye, daughter of Katherine and Stephen Smith.

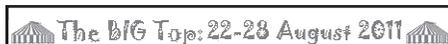
10th July: Ethan & Eve, son and daughter of Jade Hartland and Damon Peppiatt; Grace Bryon, daughter of Felicity and Andrew Smith.
17th July: Briony, daughter of Sarah and Dominic Chudleigh; Olivia, daughter of Clare and Carlos Leon; Nathan Alexander and Iris Elizabeth, son and daughter of Gill and Colin Annette.

Holy Matrimony – *We wish every blessing on the marriages of:*

July 3rd: Elaine Mayson & Johnny Edmonds
July 23rd: Alexandra Ife & Julian Homes

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

July 13th: Elijah Wright (8 months)
July 14th: Lesley Costa (91)
July 21st: Athena Ahern (83)

 **The BIG Top: 22-28 August 2011** 

Holiday Club for children run by Teddington Baptist Church.
The theme will be "**Xpedition Force – Bible studies about Jesus**".

Using material from Scripture Union involving songs, games, drama, Bible Stories, quizzes and craft.

10.30 am to 12.15 pm.

Cost of the week is £20.00 per child.

For more details contact The Big Top Office tel: (020) 8977 8000 or go to www.teddingtonbigtop.org.uk

Vicar:

The Rev Joe Moffatt, Parish Office, St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington. TW11 9HF (8977 2767), e-mail: vicar@stmarywithstalban.org

Assistant Priest:

The Rev Mary Hawes (7898 1504) mary.hawes@churchofengland.org

Parish Administrator & Hall Bookings:

Debbie Taylor-Osborne, Parish Office (8943 2262)
e-mail: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org

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Julia Hornsby, Parish Office, 07425 137 988
julia@stmarywithstalban.org

Church Wardens:

Jeremy Bryan, 71 Clarence Road, Teddington TW11 0BN (8977 3055)
Terry Brown, 11 Grove Terrace, Teddington TW11 8AU (07905 495 130)

Sunday School:

sundayschool@stmarywithstalban.org

Organist:

Jonathan Minah (07538 885105) frankminah@yahoo.com

Choir Director:

Laura Luck (07779 297980) laura.luck@yahoo.co.uk

Church School:

St Mary's and St Peter's, Somerset Road, Teddington
Headteacher John Logan (8943 0476)

Newsletter Editors:

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Parish Website:

www.stmarywithstalban.org

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2011



StMARYwithStALBAN

PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON

Vicar's Viewpoint

Many of you will know the joy of discovering a church where the creaky door opens when the handle is turned and a musty sense of stillness and calm greets you as you tentatively step across the threshold. The English parish church is sometimes at its best when it is empty. And although we rejoice in a full church on Sundays, our quintessential parish church is perfectly suited to a time of quiet prayer and reflection for those who seek a moment of sanctuary during the week.

For this reason, the Parish Church Council took the bold decision last year to keep the church open every weekday between Morning Prayer at 9am and Evening Prayer at 5pm, taking care to lock away the valuable candlesticks and other easily removable items. Judging from the number of votive candles lit each day and the comments made to the vergers and myself, as well as those left in the visitor's book, this has been greatly appreciated.

Sadly, in May this year, someone let off a fire extinguisher in the church which contained a toxic powder. This necessitated a professional clean-up operation of the church building from top to bottom and the historic pipe organ. Thankfully, our insurers agreed to pay the considerable costs of all this.

The PCC, which have a duty of care for the church building, have therefore had to deliberate long and hard about whether to continue with an open-church policy. After careful consideration, and with the backing of our insurers, they have decided to persist with this policy, while taking as many sensible precautions as possible. Three reasons stand out:

- ◆ The conviction that the original decision was right and widely appreciated
- ◆ The belief that this was a one-off incident

by a mentally disturbed individual who hasn't been seen since

- ◆ The imperative for our words and deeds to be consistent with each other. We talk about the importance of gospel values such as openness, trust, hospitality, refuge, risk-taking and prayer. So we must ensure that our church building reflects these values.

However, we do need the help and vigilance of all local residents to guard against further disturbing incidents. We urge you simply to pop your head round the door each time you're passing, take a moment to enjoy the



Parish Visit to the British Museum

to see the much-heralded exhibition
Treasures of Heaven: saints, relics and devotion in medieval Europe

Monday September 5th

- ◆ 11am Coffee on arrival in Clore Education Centre Foyer
- ◆ 11.30am Lecture by the Curator
- ◆ 12.30pm Lunch (make own arrangements)
- ◆ 1.50pm Admission to exhibition
- ◆ 3.30pm Depart

Cost £19 per person (excluding lunch)

Please make own travel arrangements

To book a place, send £19 (cheques made payable to 'Church of St Mary with St Alban') to Parish Office by August 19th.

Places limited so book early!

stillness, and jot a note in the log-book to show that the church is regularly visited.

Many thanks *Joe*

PS: You may have noticed that the churchyard fence is in a state of disrepair. Since the churchyard has long been closed to new burials, the local council have a statutory responsibility to maintain the grounds. But we are conscious that a cared-for churchyard reflects a caring church. So we've been working hard with the council to clear the overgrown parts and they have already replaced the back fence. They are now ordering a replacement for the fence around the pavement. This will remain low, with open gates, since it is in no way intended to keep people out, but rather to demarcate a consecrated area that all may enjoy in peace.

Mary Hawes Licensing service



The Venerable Stephan Welch with Mary and Joe

The sun shone for the Reverend Mary Hawes on 3rd July for her induction to the benefice of St Mary with St Alban. A large congregation assembled and the augmented choir was led by our new director of music Laura Luck, and organist Jonathan Minah. The Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Venerable Stephan Welch, assisted by our vicar Joe, led us through the formal legal elements of the Licensing of Mary as our new Assistant Priest.

Mary responded enthusiastically with the Declaration of Assent, Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Canonical Obedience which committed her to both obeying the rules of the Church of England and to allegiance to the Crown and her promise to perform her solemn duties in this parish "aright". After the Archdeacon's sermon on commitment, and

doubt, Mary was welcomed to the parish. Meanwhile in the Church Hall the Sunday School were creating a 'Welcome' banner. A coffee and cup-cakes party ensued. We greatly look forward to Mary's ministry amongst us.

Christabel and Colin Davies

Adam Woods joins the PCC

"When I was asked by Joe if I'd like to join I was surprised and honoured. At the first PCC meeting I was really impressed at the wealth of knowledge and amount of work volunteered so freely. Joe has asked me to support St Mary's youth group which meets monthly. The more I look into 'youth ministry' the more I realise how important an area it is. Fortunately I have the support of some amazingly wise and experienced people, so hopefully won't go too far wrong.

I did some film-making exercises with the group (I work freelance as a film/TV director) and really enjoyed their enthusiasm and innate creativity, so I think that's something we'd like to draw upon as we develop. I help out the local cub scout pack and am amazed at the amount of work and energy the leaders put in. But, I also think there is a value to the 'quiet time' and unpressured space we can offer young people, and that's something we'd like to extend. I've got two boys of my own, Oscar (12) and Gabriel (6) so I'm also hoping any work I do can help improve my parenting skills!"

Adam Woods

Strawberry teas

A big thank you to Margaret Squire for hosting his annual event and raising £180 for Welcare. Despite the rain showers over 20 people turned up who knew how Margaret can cope with large numbers, inside or out. We all enjoyed a delicious tea of sandwiches, cakes and strawberries and cream. The sun finally came out and we were able to sit out in her elegant garden.

Mary Green

Choral Evensong

As a fitting way to mark the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, Choral Evensong was the perfect choice. Over one hundred



people were in church to hear some of the much loved words of Isaiah and St Paul beautifully read, to sing the evening canticles and Psalm 27, to listen to the choir sing an anthem by Tallis, composed about fifty years even before the King James Bible was compiled, to pray the traditional Book of Common Prayer prayers and to be informed by a learned sermon from Dr Jonathan Williams, parishioner, British Museum curator, and Trustee of the King James Bible Trust.

Dr Williams recalled how the KJB project began in 1604, right here at Hampton Court, when King James I chose his scholars and set out his ambition to produce a new English translation of the Bible – one that would unite all Protestants, whatever their churchmanship, be free from sectarian bias and which would reflect more accurately the true meaning of the original ancient Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic languages in which the Bible was written. Even if one of the King's underlying motives was at least partly political, the resulting publication, in 1611, had, and continues to have, a profound and worldwide influence on

all English-speaking Christians. As a congregation we gave thanks for that, recognising also that it is a jewel worth cherishing even though, these days, there are numerous other "modern" translations available

The service was followed, in a sunlit churchyard, by a glass of wine and much friendly fellowship.

Susan Jacobs

Patronal Festival Barbeque

On June 26th we celebrated the Feast of St Alban our patron saint, with a special guest appearance by our previous vicar John Cleaver who preached an inspiring sermon.

After the service, we were blessed with beautiful weather and a feast of delicious food was prepared for us by David Bryan ably assisted by his parents Jerry and Anthea. It was a pleasure to have John Cleaver and his wife Diane with us as we sat outside in the shade of our newly paved area behind the parish hall. The children played in the sandpit whilst the grown-ups were eating, chatting and going back for seconds.

Christine Miller

St Mary Teddington Bells Concert

For our Patronal Festival weekend our handbell ringers gave a recital of delightfully varied music by international composers, and the mysteriously named "Trad". Sheila Inley directed and with a friendly, light touch gave an introduction to each work.

Diary for August

*SERVICES – Sundays: Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am
Family Communion and Sunday School at 9.45am
Wednesdays: Holy Communion at 9.30am
Weekdays (except Mondays): Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5pm
Please note: Mon 8th – Fri 19th No midweek services*

Sunday 7 th	Transfiguration
Tuesday 9 th	Plain & Pearl knitting circle, in the hall, 7.30 pm
Thursday 11 th	Parish pub lunch at The Kings Head, 12.30 pm
Sunday 14 th	Eighth after Trinity Baptisms at 12 noon Youth Group in Parish Hall, 6.30 – 8pm
Sunday 21 st	Ninth after Trinity
Thursday 25 th	Visit for Friends of Hereford Cathedral – 10am-12 noon with Holy Communion at 11am
Sunday 28 th	Tenth after Trinity