

their commitment to our Church by being included on the Roll.

Enrolment forms are on the table at the back of the Church where I will be available to deal with any queries. Alternatively, please contact me – the Electoral Roll Officer – on 8977 3990.

June Hill

Parish Registers

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

30 Jan – Madeleine, daughter of Louisa Burlumi

13 Feb – Luke Benjamin, son of Lisa and Neil Lowe

20 Feb – George William, son of Sally and Richard Porter; Poppy Lina, daughter of James and Heidi Briscoe

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

22 Jan – Erin Amanda Loudon and Gareth Thomas Butler

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

20 Jan – Joan Hughes, aged 91

26 Jan – Sidney Noddings, aged 83

28 Jan – Victor Porter, aged 73

31 Jan – Alexis Sims, aged 45

15 Feb – Robert Guthrie, aged 94

Thomas Traherne Concert

Saturday 12th March 2011 at 6pm

at St Mary with St Alban Church

Tickets £10

GERALD FINZI *Dies Natalis*

EDWARD ELGAR *Serenade for Strings*

GUSTAV HOLST *St Paul's Suite*

Andrew Dickinson (tenor)

Mark Austin (conductor)

St Mary's String Ensemble

(led by Alexandra Reid)

For more information and to book, see website

Churchyard clearance

Over twenty five volunteers turned out on a damp January day, to continue the assault, begun last November, on the overgrown churchyard. Under the guidance of Simon Hawkins from the BTCV, a huge amount of clearing, lopping, rubbish collecting and digging out of ivy and bramble roots was achieved. Several "new" Victorian graves were revealed and memorial stones to Teddington residents, the Bensons, the Thrupps and the Cuff family were uncovered and brushed clean. Many thanks to everyone, and especially Cyril Shaw for his help, loan of tools and provision of refreshments. Next session, Saturday, April 9th, 10am-4pm.

Full text on website

Stella Smith

Vicar:

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

Parish Administrator & Hall Bookings:

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e-mail: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org

Parish Development Co-ordinator

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

Director of Music:

Harold Lester (8878 0021)

Church School:

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

Newsletter Editors:

Susan Jacobs (8943 0503), Melanie Woodcock (07810 800 561) and Julia Hornsby (07904 966 777)

Parish Website:

www.stmarywithstalban.org

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2011



StMARYwithStALBAN
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

Life in Teddington only seems to be getting busier. New groups are forming, new events are being planned, and new businesses are springing up. The church itself is as busy as anyone, this month launching a new parent and toddler group on Friday afternoons and hosting a high-profile conference and concert on March 12th (on Thomas Traherne). So I can't complain and I love the buzz of a lively community.

But I'm increasingly aware of the need for rest and space. Without it, I find myself losing a proper perspective on what really matters and not being as attentive as I should to those around me. Relationships, work and my own wellbeing all begin to suffer.

It used to be that we were made to rest when Sundays were still observed as a sabbath. But this has been lost. Sunday is now much the same as other days with shops and all manner of entertainments vying for our attention. Society no longer gives us the rest and space we need. This means we need to be much more disciplined in creating a kind of sabbath for ourselves.

As we approach Lent, you might like to think about how you carve out the time you need to refresh your soul, whether that's through rest or through play, on your own or with those you love. I'm interested to hear of some parishioners, up with the times, who are now talking about a kind of 'techno-sabbath', a day when they keep their mobile phones and computers switched off so as not to be distracted by twitter, facebook and an endless stream of e-mails. Maybe this could be extended to television as well (although I have to confess that watching sport on tv is very much part of my rest-time) For others it may be about avoiding the convenience of shopping on a Sunday. Or maybe, like me, you work on a Sunday and your sabbath time needs to be created on a different day of the week.

All that I'm suggesting is that we need to take

responsibility for our own rest, now that we live in a culture that never stops. The biblical account of creation may be couched in terms of a myth, but it nonetheless conveys a deep wisdom: that we were made to rest on the seventh day and to spend time simply enjoying our existence. The church has always taught that worship is an important Sabbath-day activity because it is about who we are. It attends to the essential relationship we have with God and ourselves. It is not done because it is productive or useful, but simply for its own sake, just like play or friendship.

A rabbi once described the Sabbath as a 'palace in time'. This Lent, why not think about how you construct your own palace?

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt



Fairtrade Fortnight

What is Fairtrade? – It is more than just a different way of doing business. It's a unique international movement with a bold and breathtaking mission:

to change the way world trade works. It's about a better deal for the people in developing countries on whom we rely for our everyday needs. It harnesses the power of shoppers, producers, businesses and campaigners, and it's growing all the time. Fairtrade fortnight (28th February to 13th



meantime many products – food, clothing, crafts, stationery and wine – are available from Traidcraft by mail order (orderline 0845 330 8900 or www.traidcraftshop.co.uk). There will also be a Traidcraft food stall in the Hall after 9.45 service on **Sunday March 6th** to

coincide with Fairtrade Fortnight.

Susan Jacobs (Fairtrader) 8943 0503

Lent Courses

*The Bishop of Kensington's series of 3 talks on Prayer take place on **Sunday evenings**, March 20th, 27th & April 3rd at St Stephen's Church, Twickenham at 6pm.

*Our regular Lent group meets on **Wednesday mornings**, March 16th, 23rd, 30th & 13th April in the Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12noon, for learning, discussion, sharing and meditation on the Parables of Jesus, led by Joe Moffatt.

*The parish Lenten Quiet Day is on **Wednesday**, April 6th from 10-4 at the Convent on Ham Common. Everyone is welcome to attend any or all of these events. Details of the above and a possible **Friday evening** course from parish office.

Children's Party

On a very cold Saturday afternoon last month about 50 very young children and their parents came to the Parish Hall following an invitation to all those baptised during the past year as well as members of our Mini Sunday school. The hall looked most inviting with large toys, slides, farm sets etc enticingly spread out on large play mats. Members of the visiting team were on hand to 'meet and greet' and soon everyone was happily chatting and consuming cups of tea and cake for adults and a splendid children's tea of little cup cakes, fruit salad and savouries. The kitchen staff headed by Josie Shantonas did a wonderful job and the afternoon went well. Joe welcomed everyone and said how greatly encouraged he was by

the response to the invitation which he saw as a way of building friendships among parents and encouraging them to bring their children to church and Sunday school whenever they could. During his 18 months at St Mary's there had been over sixty baptisms, Teddington being a very popular area for young families and the church was seeking to welcome new families with occasions such as this.

Sheila Cooper

Electoral Roll Revision

The Roll is being updated during March.

Those who have recently changed their address and/or name on marriage should, please, check that these details are recorded on the old Roll, a copy of which is on the Church notice board. New members of the congregation and those who have reached the age of 16 since the Roll was prepared last March/April will, we hope, wish to express

Diary for March

*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*

Feb 28-Mar 13	Fairtrade Fortnight
Wednesday 2 nd	First Wednesday Club, Mina Hogan Room 12.30-2pm Topic: <i>Fairtrade</i>
Friday 4 th	Church Mice, Parish Hall, 1-3pm
Sunday 6 th	Sunday next before Lent Traidcraft stall in Hall after 9.45 service Baptism at 12 noon
Wednesday 9 th	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes at 9.30am AND at 7pm
Friday 11 th	Church Mice, Parish Hall, 1-3pm
Saturday 12 th	Traherne Conference 10am-5pm Traherne concert in church at 6pm
Sunday 13 th	1 st Sunday in Lent Baptism at 12 noon Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6.30-8pm
Tuesday 15 th	Tea Club, Mina Hogan Room, note new time 3-5pm
Wednesday 16 th	Lent course, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12 noon
Thursday 17 th	St Patrick's Day Parish Pub Lunch. King's Head, 123 High Street, at 12.30pm PCC Meeting, Mina Hogan Room at 7.45pm
Friday 18 th	Church Mice, Parish Hall, 1-3pm
Sunday 20 th	2 nd Sunday in Lent Preacher at Family Communion: Rev Martin Breadmore on <i>Vocations</i> , 9.45am Baptism at 12 noon
Wednesday 23 rd	Lent Course, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12 noon
Friday 25 th	Church Mice, Parish Hall, 1-3pm
Wednesday 30 th	Lent Course, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12noon

And looking ahead

Sunday April 3 rd	Mothering Sunday, Parade Service with family Comuunion 9.45am
Tuesday April 5 th	Parish Supper and AGM in Hall at 7.30pm
Wednesday April 6 th	Lenten Quiet Day at Ham Convent, 10am-4pm

March) is upon us again, during which we are being encouraged to renew our commitment to buying Fairtrade goods and to show off the Fairtrade label.

At St Mary's we have Fairtrade certification, which means we have undertaken to use only Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits, and (most recently) communion wine. We are not alone – almost all the churches in Hampton deanery are affiliated, as is our church school, Richmond Borough, 500 towns/cities in the UK and 900 cities worldwide. The Fairtrade logo is recognised by 75% of the UK public.

BUT, how many of us assertively ask for Fairtrade drinks in cafes, or request Harry's nuts in Tesco, or Fairtrade cotton T shirts in M & S? Every purchase counts, every request adds to the pressure on supermarket buyers to go down the Fairtrade route and every single purchase we make means a slightly better life for someone less well off than we are. The Fairtrade mark means that producers have been paid a fair, stable price; that they have longer-term trading relationships, with less fluctuation; that they have access to training and skills to develop their businesses and finally, with the Fairtrade premium, they receive a little extra to spend on education, health care or sustainable development projects.

It isn't difficult to choose Fairtrade products – there are 4,500 products certified to carry the Fairtrade Mark – the bananas are perfect, Divine chocolate is, well, divine, the teas, coffees, sugars, pastas, rice, mueslis, dried fruits etc etc, are all excellent. If you can't find what you want in the supermarket, ask the manager to start supplying it, and in the