

collection and have been donated an Ethiopian Axum cross. If you are able to help us then please contact Amanda Rymel on arymel@smp.richmond.sch.uk. Many thanks in advance for thinking of us and holding us in your prayers. When the building is complete we will find an evening to invite members of our two parish churches to come and have a look around. It is going to be a stunning resource for the community.

John Logan, Headteacher 8943 0476

Holy Dusters Plea for Help

To give our church an added lustre
Could you become a Holy Duster?
We meet on Thursdays for an hour
And really need more (wo)man power.

It's not all work, we have a break
For coffee and, sometimes, a cake!
If you can help call Mary Green
And help us keep St Mary's clean.

If you would like to join our enthusiastic team of Holy Dusters, please contact Mary Green on 8977 5615.

Poem by June Demont

Plain and Pearl Knit for Welfare

Can you knit? Would you like to learn to knit? Plain & Pearl our social knitting and craft group is launching its new project *Knit for Welfare*: a charity which supports parents who might otherwise be isolated or find it difficult to cope. We are starting with jumpers for the under 5s. We also plan to knit baby clothes and some stylish things for the mums for next

winter.

Become a member of Plain & Pearl by coming along on a Tuesday evening to our get-togethers in the Parish Hall in Langham Road or you can support us by knitting in the comfort of your own home - through knitting items for Welfare, squares for blankets for Africa and lots more. If you have any surplus balls of wool (whole balls) we would welcome any donations. Contact me on 07787 523197 or josie.shantonas@stmarywithstalban.org

Josie Shantonas

Parish Registers

Holy Baptisms – We welcome into Christ's Church:

February 26: James Melville McNeil, son of Alistair Scobie and Claire Mitchell-Scobie; Eva Eleanor Rainbird and Emily Moira Rainbird, twin daughters of Robert and Laura Marsh
March 4: Tegan Elisa, daughter of Robert Daggie and Jennifer Shearman-Jones

Funerals – We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:

Feb 25: Bruce Beckett, aged 87
March 2: Stanley Ross, aged 88
March 7: Emrys Embling, aged 86

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday April 24th at 7.30pm

Parish Hall

Wine and nibbles provided

All welcome

Parish Office: St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington TW11 9HF. Tel: 020 8943 2262

Vicar: The Rev Joe Moffatt (8977 2767), e-mail: vicar@stmarywithstalban.org

Assistant Priest: The Rev Mary Hawes (7898 1504), e-mail: mary.hawes@churchofengland.org

Administration & Hall Bookings: Debbie Taylor-Osborne (8943 2262)

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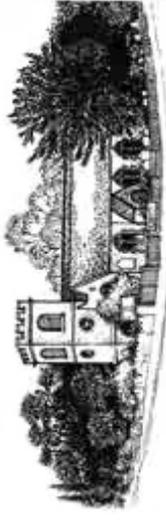
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Caretaker: Norman Hindley (8977 1267)

For all other contacts: www.stmarywithstalban.org



StMARYwithStALBAN

PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2012

Vicar's Viewpoint

Let me start by reminding you that the church is kept open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. Our visitors' book reveals how much this is appreciated. Here are just two of the many comments:

A warm, welcoming atmosphere for a moment of quiet contemplation. Thank you.

Thank you for being open. You were open when I needed a time to pray and think.

Do come and enjoy a moment of peace and quiet yourselves. The more local people popping in, the better for keeping it safe and open.

Thinking about the Queen's Jubilee

I've never been an ardent royalist. But recent documentaries have shown us just what a remarkable Queen we have. She has been rightly praised for embodying virtues such as service, commitment, discretion, loyalty, resilience, modesty and a sense of duty. These are virtues which are undervalued in our prevailing culture. They are needed now more than ever.

So I'm very enthusiastic about celebrating the Diamond Jubilee. I know that lots of streets and organisations are planning parties. So I thought it best to share our plans as a parish church, in the hope that there can be some coming together.

Firstly, we plan to have a Big Jubilee Lunch after the morning service on Sunday June 3rd (all churches around the country are being encouraged to do this). This will be a family affair, based in the parish hall but perhaps spilling out onto the adjacent park for games.

Secondly, we will have a special service of Choral Evensong on Monday June 4th at 6.30pm. This will be followed by a Vicarage

Garden Party, open to all.

Finally, we would like to leave a permanent legacy of our gratitude for the Queen's 60 years of service. It seems most fitting to do this in our church which is the most historic building in Teddington. And we think we have the perfect suggestion. The internal green baize doors at the west end of the church are badly warped and in need of replacing. Above these doors is a very fine royal coat of arms dating back to the time when Queen Adelaide used to worship in the church. Our proposal is to commission some new glass doors with an engraving to our present Queen. Glass doors in one sense, diamond doors in another.

I would be most interested to hear your views, both on the party plans and on whether we should have a parish appeal to raise money for the doors.

New Sunday Morning Service

You'll notice on the back of the Holy Week insert that we are introducing a new Sunday morning service, starting in May. This will be at 9am. It will be a simple all-age service with three hymns, a Bible reading, short sermon and prayers. It will last just 30 minutes and is intended for anyone who wishes to come to a shorter/earlier service, both old and young.

There will be no change to the 8am Holy Communion and the only change to the 9.45am Family Communion is a slightly later start time of 10.00am and a subtle change of name to Parish Communion. Otherwise, it will continue in exactly the same style with Sunday School groups for children of all ages.

The additional service is simply being introduced to allow for increased numbers and to provide more choice. It is hoped that the

congregations will remain mixed and that people will go to different services according to whichever suits them best at any given time. We certainly want to retain the sense of being one church, and to remain true to our vision of *fostering faith and friendship and bringing people of all ages together for the glory of God.*

With best wishes for Holy Week and Easter,
Joe Moffatt

The Bells in Winter

St Mary Teddington Bells have enjoyed a busy and exciting winter. There was the usual round of Christmas carols, ringing this year at St Hilda's Mothers' Union in Ashford, the Playwam Christmas Market in Teddington, Thompson's Garden Centre in Halliford, Staines Lansborough Club, and Care Homes in Hampton and Laleham. We also joined in the annual Christmas concert at The Salvation Army's centre in Sunbury which raised funds for Mary Preston Holidays for Carers. Amongst all this, we serenaded guests at a 50th birthday party with traditional tunes from a cold windy veranda.

Into the New Year, we hosted the annual SE Region Handbell Birthday Rally at the spectacular new Teddington School. As a venue for 120 handbell ringers it proved very successful and it is likely that massed rallies will be held there again. In February, five of our team went to a rally in Tolworth for a fun day trying out new music from scratch.

The year looks set to continue with a busy round of concerts at care homes and local societies. It is not easy to fix dates that all of our team members can make and this can limit our repertoire. We always welcome new ringers, and anyone can come and try us out on a Monday evening in the Parish Hall. No previous musical experience is necessary. We would also benefit musically by having a conductor, even on an occasional basis. For more information, please contact Anne Johnson (8943 0405) or send an email via the church website.

Sheila Insley

Photos from the Pancake Supper Talk on Shrove Tuesday



Emily D'Silva with Pilar Gomez - our wonderful pancake chef



Canon Julian Reindorp (Guest speaker), Joe Moffatt and Malcolm Eady in the midst of a lively discussion

Teddington is an extremely good place to collect on behalf of Christian Aid. Awareness of the charity is very high and most people are prepared to help. The challenge is to be slick with our organisation to make sure that we can visit each home on several occasions in order to maximise the chance of catching someone at home.

If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact me on christianaid@stmarywithstalban.org

Simon Lamb

WANTED: Rainbow Leaders

If you have been to one of our Parade Services, you will have seen a little band of girls dressed in red, sitting tidily (hopefully) in the front pew. These are the *Rainbows* – girls aged 5 to 7, who belong to the youngest section of Girlguiding UK.

2nd A Teddington Rainbows, the unit attached to this church, meet every Friday in term time from 5 to 6pm in the church hall. The girls spend a lively hour playing games, baking, doing crafts and singing songs and they also enjoy regular outings and sometimes welcome special guests.

Of course the survival of the unit depends on volunteers to run it and we are currently looking for two leaders and a treasurer to ensure the fun for our girls can continue. If you would like your daughter to benefit from all that girl-guiding has to offer and are able to commit to one of the roles above, the team would love to hear from you. To find out more, please email me at: meleyden@o2.co.uk

Elizabeth Leyden

Crosses for St Mary's and St Peter's Primary School

As our building work is nearing completion, we have had the opportunity to think about many different aspects of our school. We are hoping to put a cross in each classroom (approx. 30cm long) as you will often find in Church Schools. But we want to do it a little differently. We would like to put a different type of cross reflecting the diversity of Christianity in the world. That way we can use it as a learning tool for children. We wondered if you may have something of interest or may be travelling to somewhere in the world and may be able to donate a cross to the school. We have already begun the

Diary for April

SERVICES – Sundays: Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am
 Family Communion and Sunday School at 9.45am
 Wednesdays: Holy Communion at 9.30am
 Monday-Friday: Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5pm

For details of services during Easter, please refer to the Holy Week leaflet

Tuesday 10th	Plain & Pearl Knitting, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9.30pm
Thursday 12th	Parish Pub Lunch at The Anglers, 12.30pm
Sunday 15th	2nd Sunday of Easter Baptism 12 noon Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6.30pm
Tuesday 17th	Tea Club, Mina Hogan Room, 3-5pm
Friday 20th	Wedding 11.30am
Sunday 22nd	3rd Sunday of Easter Baptism 12 noon
Tuesday 24th	Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parish Hall, 7.30pm Plain & Pearl Craft (Beading), Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9.30pm
Sunday 29th	4th Sunday of Easter Baptism 12 noon