

## Parish Registers

**Baptisms** – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*  
24th January: Ella Paisley, daughter of James & Julie Nelson; Matthew Fox-Henry son of Richard & Alice Perry; Rose, daughter of Richard & Frances Vale

7th February: Isabel Kathleen Rose, daughter of Ross & Nicola Baker

14th February: Oscar William James, son of Peter & Lara Norgrove; Joseph William Alan, son of Jackson Evely-Hunt & Claire Gilbody; Sophie Amaia, daughter of Jackson Evely-Hunt & Claire Gilbody

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

5th February: Karl Guard, aged 36

8th February: Christopher Verwey, aged 56


18th February: Professor Jim Green, aged 87

### The Women's World Day of Prayer Service "Receive Children, Receive Me"

At St John's, Hampton Wick,  
on Friday 4 March 2016 at 6pm  
(with refreshments from 5:30pm)

Ecumenical service, written by women of Cuba, and taking place across the globe. An opportunity to worship with Christians from other churches, celebrate women and join together in prayer.

Everyone is welcome!

<b>Parish Office:</b>	St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington TW11 9HF. Tel: 020 8943 2262
<b>Vicar:</b>	The Rev Joe Moffatt (8977 2767), email: vicar@stmarywithstalban.org
<b>Assistant Priest:</b>	The Rev Mary Hawes (7898 1504), email: mary.hawes@churchofengland.org
<b>Curate:</b>	The Rev Gabrielle Thomas (8943 2262), email: curate@stmarywithstalban.org
<b>Administration &amp; Hall Bookings:</b>	Suzanne Parker (8943 2262) email: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org
<b>Newsletter Editors:</b>	Sally Rideout, Sue Stevens, Juliette Jowit email: newsletter@stmarywithstalban.org, (8943 2262)
<b>Church School:</b>	St Mary's and St Peter's, Somerset Road, Teddington Headteacher John Logan (8943 0476), www.smsponline.com
<b>Church Wardens:</b>	Anne McTear (07973 911 820), email: anne@stmarywithstalban.org Peter Stevens (8977 4803)
<b>For all other contacts:</b>	www.stmarywithstalban.org  Follow us on Twitter @SMWSAChurch

## Bell Ringing at Silvermere Care Home

A few years ago, St Mary Teddington Bells purchased a second hand set of diatonic Belleplates to use in care homes or schools. They remained unused until a chance remark led us to sell them to Silvermere Care Home in Cobham, provided we run weekly sessions with residents.

In groups of three, we have been doing this every week since mid-January 2015.

We began tentatively with photocopies of Sandra Winter's *Ten Capital Tunes* which are easy melodies printed in large capital letters.

Numbers each week range from 8-12, among them a small core of residents who come every week.

With time we have extended the repertoire: it has been a challenge to think of suitable tunes to put into the key of C, which do not have too many quavers, are short enough to be printed onto one side of A4 and still be legible for those with limited eyesight.

Some residents have early dementia and need more help to make any sound or coordinate sight and action. Among the regulars, we have noticed the difference it has made as they enjoy fun, friendship and mental stimulation.

I don't think any of us anticipated we would get so much from this venture. We enjoy the staff welcome, the challenges each visit throws up, and we always leave feeling fulfilled. This new aspect of being a handbell ringer makes it even more enjoyable and worthwhile.

Sheila Insley

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016



### StMARYwithStALBAN

#### PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON

### Vicar's Viewpoint



You might remember that back in January the Church was front-page news because the Archbishop of Canterbury had gathered together his fellow archbishops from

all the provinces of the worldwide Anglican Communion for a summit on the subject of homosexuality. The Church in the USA was sanctioned for having unilaterally decided to conduct gay weddings. Once again, the overriding message was that the Church denounces gay relationships. And it would seem that unity for the Anglican Communion can only be preserved by excluding the LGBT community – which makes it a very second-rate kind of unity.

All this grieves me, fundamentally because I believe it is wrong. I believe that we should be affirming and blessing all loving relationships, including same-sex ones. There are plenty of people in the church who may disagree with me. But I sense that the time has come for me to be honest and declare my strongly held conviction. I think the potential goodness of same-sex relationships has been revealed to us through experience – the experience of either knowing for ourselves or seeing in others the human flourishing in same-sex relationships – and of being blessed through those relationships.

The anti-gay message also grieves me because it seems to be going so much against the tide at a time when we are increasingly losing touch with the majority of our population. Only about 5% of the population regularly attend church. How do we tell the

story of God's love for all people, when we are perceived to be so anti something which the majority of people in our society now think of as a good thing?

With frustration and sadness, I look to Scripture for signs of hope. Time and again, Jesus turns around a troubling situation by taking something that is ordinary or unpromising and transforming it into something special and abundant (eg water into wine, or five loaves and two fishes into a meal that feeds 5,000). Change happens not by expert crisis management and diplomatic skill, but by sheer grace, extravagant grace. This gives me hope that transformation isn't dependent on synods, archbishops or church meetings, but on God's Spirit moving in our world – and on the subject of gay marriage I believe the Spirit is already transforming hearts and minds such that we will as a church eventually catch up and embrace it.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt

PS If you would like an opportunity to discuss this issue, we are holding an open meeting on Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in the church.

### Messiah! A Passiontide Service

Sunday March 13th at 6.30pm

St Mary with St Alban Church, Teddington

Music and readings on the Passion with choral and solo movements from Handel's Messiah.

**Soloist: Laura Luck**

St Mary's Chamber Orchestra and Festival Choir

## Bob Chilcott Workshop



Bob Chilcott's second workshop with us was very eagerly awaited by the many who were returning after a fantastic day's singing two years ago. And the 135 who had signed up were certainly not disappointed this year. Bob has a lovely manner when leading a group of singers through his material, remaining relaxed and humorous throughout, and interspersing his gentle guidance through the music with entertaining anecdotes and enlightening reflections on the sources of the words and music we were singing.

It is a real privilege to learn the music from the composer himself. Somehow, what seems quite difficult on the page comes to life very quickly and remarkably easily under his direction, helped enormously by the fact that all his works are so totally 'singable'. We enjoyed a range of beautiful music, some from his "Dances of Time" series, hymns from his St John Passion setting, and the moving "Jesus Springing".

The day flew by, aided delightfully by Josie's amazing cakes at break-time, and we were pleased to be joined by a small but supportive audience in church at the end of the day, to test out the fruits of our learning. It was a very happy day, and we all went away singing Bob's tunes and eagerly looking forward to the next workshop. Very many thanks to Anne



McTear for her seamless organisation both before and during the event, and for securing the busy Bob for a day.

Alice Jacobs

## Mozambique Link Church Volunteer

Would you be interested in becoming involved with our link parish church in Mozambique? We are looking for someone to be our rep on the diocese's Angola-London-Mozambique Association (AMLA).

This exciting and interesting role involves:

- Primary contact for the ALMA office in London
- Liaising via email with the church warden of our linked church to share church news, updates and prayer requests;
- Attend ALMA church rep meetings (four times a year, on Tuesday evenings, in central London) – always great speakers and feedback on various projects going on in Mozambique and Angola. Great opportunity to meet other reps and share experiences;
- Attend ALMA events where possible (e.g. ALMA Sunday annual service at St Paul's Cathedral).

This role would also work well as a shared or group role (with a key contact).

For further information please contact Joe at [vicar@stmarywithstalban.org](mailto:vicar@stmarywithstalban.org) or on 020 8977 2767, or speak to the church wardens.

## Music Review Group

The music review group met in January to consider responses to a survey about our church music. Over 75% were content with the music, but there were welcome suggestions for improvement.

Following the group's recommendations, the PCC has agreed there should be a part-time salaried director of music, assisted by fee-paid accompanists on organ or piano, and voluntary choir(s) and band. The person would plan music to suit the church season, the liturgy, and themes, aiming to be more inclusive of the age range of the congregations, and balancing familiar with new tunes and settings. There would also be consultation with the Worship

and Nurture Group.

The PCC also agreed that the church buy new hymn books, hopefully paid for by donations and purchases. The favoured version is the New Ancient and Modern, if costs, print size, and numbers can be agreed.

The review group will meet once more to help the vicar prepare for recruiting a music director, and finalise arrangements for new hymn books.

Robin Field-Smith

## Diary for March

<i>SERVICES –</i>	<i>Sundays:</i>	<i>Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am Morning Worship (30 minutes) at 9.00am Parish Communion at 10.00am Holy Baptism (most Sundays) at 12noon Youth, Parish Hall, 6.30-8.00pm (NB: 1st, 3rd &amp; 5th Sunday of the month)</i>
	<i>Wednesdays:</i>	<i>Holy Communion at 9.30am Church Mice Toddler Service, 10.30am (weekly during term)</i>
	<i>Monday-Friday:</i>	<i>Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5pm</i>
Tuesday 1st		Baptism preparation, Parish Hall, 8-10pm
Wednesday 2nd		Pilgrim Lent Course: The Creeds, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12am (also 9th, 16th & 23rd, same times) Pilgrim Lent Course: The Creeds, home-hosted, 8-9.30pm (also 9th, 16th & 23rd, same times)
Thursday 3rd		SingUp with Chris Stokes, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9pm Prayer in the contemplative tradition, followed by Compline, SMwSA, 8pm
Friday 4th		Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St John's Hampton Wick, 6pm
Sunday 6th		Mothering Sunday Morning Worship with Communion at 9am Family Parade Service at 10am Traidcraft sale – including Real Easter Eggs, Parish Hall, after 9am & 10am services Youth Meeting, Parish Hall, 6.30-8pm
Monday 7th		Pilgrim Lent Course: The Beatitudes, home-hosted, 8-9.30pm (also 14th & 21st, same times)
Tuesday 8th		Plain & Pearl Knit, 7.30-9.30pm
Thursday 10th		Parish lunch, the Anglers, 12.30-2pm Question time with Richmond & Twickenham council leader, Teddington Baptist Church, 6.30-8.30pm SingUp with Chris Stokes, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9pm Prayer with contemporary music, Ss Peter & Paul, 8-9pm
Friday 11th		Fullerton Court Holy Communion Service, 11.30am-12.30pm
Saturday 12th		Wedding at 12.30pm
Sunday 13th		5th of Lent (Passiontide) Passiontide service with music from Handel's Messiah, 6.30pm
Tuesday 15th		Marriage preparation evening, Parish Hall, 7.30-9.30pm Lent Lunch for Welcare, 51 St Winifreds Road (Margaret Squire), 12.30pm
Thursday 17th		SingUp with Chris Stokes, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9pm Service of Wholeness & Healing, SMwSA church, 8-9pm
<b>Sunday 20th - Sunday 27th – see separate sheet for Holy Week and Easter services</b>		
Sunday 20th		Youth meeting, Parish Hall, 6.30-8pm
Tuesday 22nd		Plain & Pearl Craft, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9.30pm