

Children's Christmas Card Competition

In recent years the December Newsletter has been printed as a colour Christmas card. This year we would like children to draw or paint a picture for the newsletter's front page.

It should be A4 portrait with name, age, address, telephone number and email on the reverse, with entries to the Parish Office by 24th October. Cost for each entry is 50p.

All entries will be displayed at our Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 29th November.

The winner will see their design used on the newsletter, and will receive their entry framed.

Amanda Rymel

Parish Registers

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

24th August: Darcey Elisabeth Kathleen, daughter of Robert & Louise Allen; Freddie Joseph, son of Adrian & Linda McAsey; Jackson James, son of Trevor & Kimberley McGrath

31st August: Aoife Frances Catherine and Isobel Georgia Jane, daughters of Simon & Elizabeth Case
14th September: Thomas Michael William, son of Sam & Frances Neild

21st September: Alexander George Barnaby, son of William & Eleanor Rudge; Henry Adam James Griffith, son of Matthew Griffith & Heather Tomlinson

Weddings – *We wish every blessing on the marriages of:*

22nd August: Joanna Lynn King and James Peter Downton Croft

6th September: Sophie Marie Waine and Jonathan Malcolm Eady



PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON
www.stmarywithstalban.org



Harvest Festival

SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER

9am ~ MORNING WORSHIP
with Holy Communion

10am ~ FAMILY PARADE SERVICE
Bring harvest gifts ~ collections for SPEAR
Refreshments and Traidcraft stall after both services

6pm ~ HARVEST SUPPER
in the Parish Hall, £8 adult, £4 for under-12's

Tickets available from the parish office
call 020 8943 2262 or email parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org

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:	Suzanne Parker (8943 2262) e-mail: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org
Youth Pastor:	Emily D'Silva (8943 2262), e-mail: emily@stmarywithstalban.org
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NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

Vicar's Viewpoint

At the heart of the Christian faith is a mystery. It is a mystery about the fathomless love of God, and why this is seen in the person of Jesus and in his death on the cross. It is a mystery about how an instrument of painful death can be for us the means of life and peace.

This mystery is often best expressed through poetry. At St Mary with St Alban we claim a special connection to one of the finest poets of the 17th century, Thomas Traherne, who is buried in our vaults. Traherne wrote this remarkable verse that takes us deep into the mystery of the cross:

The Cross is the abyss of wonders, the centre of desires, the school of virtues, the house of wisdom, the throne of love, the theatre of joys, and the place of sorrows; it is the root of happiness, and the gate of Heaven.

Music is also a wonderful medium for expressing mystery. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that many composers are setting the poetry of Traherne to music. So it is a great delight that a 'collective' of young jazz musicians are building up an extensive Traherne repertoire, and are keen to play for a special evening service in our church on October 12th. This group last played for us back in March 2012 and left us spellbound with their sensitive and inspiring musicianship.

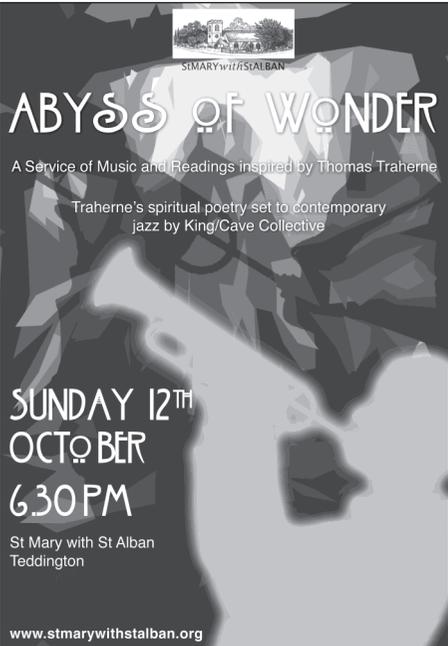
One of their pieces uses the text above. It seemed appropriate therefore to call the service 'Abyss of Wonder'. I hope you will join us to catch a glimpse of mystery, and maybe even to become lost in an 'abyss of wonder'.

Many blessings,

Joe Moffatt



StMARYwithStALBAN
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



StMARYwithStALBAN

ABYSS OF WONDER

A Service of Music and Readings inspired by Thomas Traherne
Traherne's spiritual poetry set to contemporary jazz by King/Cave Collective

SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER
6.30 PM

St Mary with St Alban
Teddington

www.stmarywithstalban.org

Patronal Festival Day

It was a beautifully sunny day for the Patronal Festival, the Feast Day for St Mary. The children left the Parish Communion service to attend Sunday School as usual, but the activities took a different theme. The Scuttlers learnt about Mary and how we recognise images of her. They then decorated and cut out their own 3D figures of Mary. The older group were much more on trend with their church year loom bands, one of our Mary's creations.

Our Mary (Hawes) was presented with some beautiful flowers to show our appreciation for her dedicated and inspirational work here at St Mary with St Alban.

The fun continued in the church hall with a fabulous children's entertainer, 'Jolly Dolly's



Magic', who kept the children spell bound. An eventful hour of comedy, magic, balloon modelling, mini disco, games and prizes were enjoyed, giving the adults an opportunity to enjoy a glass of Pimms (which was extremely good!).

Then we strolled across to Udney Park Gardens for the Teddington Dog Olympics 2014. Over 100 dogs, of all shapes and sizes, took part in events ranging from Marathon Sit to Doggy Limbo. It was great to see so many children taking part with their dogs, but then the inevitable question, "Why can't we have a dog?" was asked for the rest of the day from my own three children! *Caroline Jones*

Interview with Emily D'Silva, Youth Pastor

What are your main aims in your new role as Youth Pastor? To develop Youth Ministry through such activities as the Upper Room and the Youth Group, and to encourage young people not to drift away from the church. There is plenty going on for younger children, but less for those aged 11 and over.

What works well at present and where are the gaps in provision? The Upper Room is much enjoyed and usually well attended. Historically The Youth Group has met monthly, so little continuity was possible. Our plan to meet weekly should help enormously. "The Selfish Giant" Musical Theatre Holiday Club was a great success, and I hope to do something similar next February – watch this space.

How do you intend to achieve your aims? There are plenty of resources available out there, so there is no need to reinvent the wheel. For example, Mary (Hawes) has an excellent web-site called "Going for Growth". Often young people's Bible knowledge is good, but it is a question of fitting it into a modern context, meaningful for them. It is important to use modern technology and

media they understand and connect to.

What help do you need? The greatest need is for more volunteers with the Youth Group; it does not have to be only parents who are involved, many other parishioners will have wonderful skills with young people. Youth Group isn't about teaching young people, but rather, getting to know them. For the Upper Room we need people who are prepared to teach – we have a fantastic team who would warmly welcome another helper or two to join their ranks. For those who feel unable to help, we would really appreciate your prayers, as we work to foster faith and friendship with the young people of our parish.

What will you bring from your previous role at SMWSA to this one? A good working knowledge of the church and parish, and useful links with the Scouts, Guides and Youth Pastors in some neighbouring churches.

What problems do you envisage? Not enough time, as I have to combine this role with my other commitments, and a lack of volunteers to support the ventures mentioned. It will also be a challenge to raise the visibility of this age group within the church community.

I am very excited about the potential this new role holds. I have no doubt it will be a challenge, and probably frustrating at times, but the reward of working with the wonderful young people of the parish and helping them to feel more welcomed and at home, will be a great motivator.

As told to Sue Stevens

Choir Matters

Our church enjoys a choir which provides a strong lead in main services, offers some enjoyable anthems and service settings, and attracts a happy band of choristers! In recent years we have been privileged with Laura Luck as Director of Music, but this summer she was blessed with the birth of her second daughter, Hebe, and had a few months off all work.

The reins were picked up very ably by Chris Stokes, who brought his own style and expertise, as well as a nice sense of humour. Under his direction the choir has been able to maintain its repertoire, and its practice schedule. The main event in recent months was the concert for the flower festival, but Chris

also introduced us to some new anthems and hymns, used the piano more for accompaniment, and jollied us along very ably.

We thank him warmly for his work, and are heartened to know he will be staying to support Laura, as an accompanist and singer. Well done, Chris, and welcome back Laura!

Robin Field-Smith

Christmas Bazaar – how to get involved

We are looking forward to the Bazaar on Saturday 29 November: the annual event which marks the start of the festive season.

Santa will make an appearance in his grotto, and there will be lots to entertain children and grown-ups alike. Delicious food, homemade crafts, Christmas decorations, bric-a-brac, books and nearly new children's toys will be on sale. The Bazaar relies on donations and the volunteers to make it a success; so if you are interested in playing a part – big or small – **please come along to the Mina Hogan room after the 9am or 10am service on Sunday 12 October.** Lucy Fink and Genevieve Harper, on behalf of the bazaar volunteers, look forward to meeting you then. Contact lucy.fink@hotmail.com 07703337500

Diary for October

<i>SERVICES – Sundays:</i>	<i>Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am Morning Worship (30 minutes) at 9.00am Parish Communion (with Sunday School) at 10.00am Holy Baptism (most Sundays) at 12 noon</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>
Wednesday 1 st	First Wednesday Group, topic "Different Denominations: are they still relevant?" Mina Hogan Room, 1.00-2.30pm
Thursday 2 nd	Contemplative Prayer in church 8pm, followed by Compline, 8.30pm
Friday 3 rd	Newland House Harvest Service, 2.30pm
Sunday 5 th	16th after Trinity Harvest Parade Service, 10.00am Harvest Supper, Parish Hall, 6.00pm
Thursday 9 th	Parish Lunch, Anglers, 12.30pm
Saturday 11 th	Time to Talk, St. Peter & St. Paul, 10.30-12noon
Sunday 12 th	17th after Trinity Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6.30pm Service of Music and Readings inspired by Thomas Traherne with poetry set to jazz by King/Cave Collective, 6.30pm
Tuesday 14 th	Plain and Pearl Knitting, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30pm
Sunday 19 th	18th after Trinity One World Week Ecumenical Service, St. Peter & St. Pauls, 4.00pm Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6.30pm
Sunday 26 th	Last Sunday after Trinity
Tuesday 28 th	Plain & Pearl Craft, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30pm
<u>Looking ahead</u>	
Thursday Nov 6 th	All Souls Choral Service 7.30pm
Saturday Nov 15 th	Handbells concert, 7.00-8.00 pm
Saturday Nov 29 th	Christmas Bazaar, Parish Hall, 11.00am -2.30pm