

Your Views on our Children's Groups

So that we can find out more about how to engage your child/children within the church, I would like to ask you to take 10 minutes to complete a special survey. The link to access the survey is www.surveymonkey.com/r/VD9KC6K. The deadline is October 23rd.

We are also recruiting young people between six and 16 years old to sit on the Youth Council, which meets four times a year to give children and teenagers a say in how the church is run. To enter please create a poster or presentation about why you would like to be on the council, and hand it to Joe, Mary or Gabrielle, again by October 23rd.

If you have any questions please chat to me.

Anna Harrison, children's ministry leader

Planned Giving Appeal

We will be launching a **Planned Giving Appeal** with talks in church on October 18th. This replaces the talks which were originally scheduled for September 20th

Information will also be available on our website, and leaflets are usually available at the back of the church

Parish Registers

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

6th September: Jessica Louise, daughter of Simon & Arabella Green

13th September: Lola Florence, daughter of Adrian & Catherine Goatley; Ruben Arthur, son of Adrian & Catherine Goatley; Frank, son of Stephen & Julie Robinson

20th September: Emilia Rose, daughter of Robert & Nicola Green; Saskia Victoria, daughter of Anthony Pollak & Stephanie Newman



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<u>Vicar:</u>	The Rev Joe Moffatt (8977 2767), email: vicar@stmarywithstalban.org
<u>Assistant Priest:</u>	The Rev Mary Hawes (7898 1504), email: mary.hawes@churchofengland.org
<u>Curate:</u>	The Rev Gabrielle Thomas (8943 2262), email: curate@stmarywithstalban.org
<u>Administration & Hall Bookings:</u>	Suzanne Parker (8943 2262) email: parishhall@stmarywithstalban.org
<u>Youth Pastor:</u>	Emily D'Silva (8943 2262), email: emily@stmarywithstalban.org
<u>Newsletter Editors:</u>	Sally Rideout, Sue Stevens, Juliette Jowit email: newsletter@stmarywithstalban.org , (8943 2262)
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NEWSLETTER **OCTOBER 2015**



StMARYwithStALBAN

PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Curate's Viewpoint

Back in the summer, I began a curacy (which means that I am a trainee vicar for three years) at St Mary with St Alban in Teddington. Since then, I have been asked the following questions many times, "Do you like Teddington?" and "Are you happy here?" I am glad to say that the answer is a resounding, "Yes", both my husband and I really like Teddington and are extremely happy here; but being asked so often meant that I began to reflect upon why that might be.

Over the past few years a "World Happiness Report" has been produced which measures six areas in order to assess the happiness of a country: national income per head of population, life expectancy, whether you have someone to turn to in times of trouble, having the freedom to make life choices, how likely you are to donate to charity, and whether your country is free from corruption. The UK came quite low down on the list at number 21, with Switzerland coming in at number 1. As part of the report, ten simple steps were developed that can be taken which are said to "consistently tend to make peoples' lives happier and more fulfilling". These are:

- 1 Do things for others
- 2 Connect with people
- 3 Take care of your body
- 4 Notice the world around
- 5 Keep learning new things
- 6 Have goals to look forward to
- 7 Find ways to bounce back
- 8 Take a positive approach

9 Be comfortable with who you are

10 Be part of something bigger, which has meaning and purpose

Interestingly, when you read through the list, you can see that a lot of the suggestions exist around the area of community, highlighting that we are generally more content when we are involved with other people. For those of us at St Mary with St Alban, suggestion number 10 is key, since, in belonging to the church, we are part of something much bigger than ourselves, looking up to God and out to others. This is why community plays a significant part in our values and why we hold events like the Rugby World Cup Fete on 27 September: to bring the community together in a shared time of fun. Although I have only been living in Teddington for a few months, it is clear that it's a place where people value community; I think that this is one of the reasons why it feels like a happy place to live.

Gabby Thomas

United Nations Civic Service

The UN Charter was signed on 26th June 1945 by the representatives of 50 countries, and the United Nations Organisation came into existence on 24th October 1945 when the Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and a majority of the other signatories. The United Nations Association of the UK (a voluntary body) was formed soon after, in an endeavour to promote the work of the UN at a national and local level through publicity and constructive criticism.

Since the Twickenham Branch of the United Nations Association (UNA) was formed in 1954 there has been a United Nations Civic

Service each year in the borough, usually on the Sunday nearest to UN Day. Just over 20 years ago the Twickenham and the Richmond UNA branches amalgamated, since when the Service has alternated between the Twickenham and Richmond sides of the river, with the relevant MP invited to join the mayoral party. The last time that the Mayor was supported by all Councillors at one of these services was at the Chapel Royal, Hampton Court on 22nd October, 1978.

Over the past 60 years churches of almost all denominations have hosted such a service at some time. However, the United Nations itself embraces not only people of all denominations but those of all religions, so it is appropriate that occasionally the Service should be of an Inter-Faith nature. One of the most memorable services was the one held at Richmond Unitarian Church, including representatives of many faiths, when the sermon was preached by the former Dean of Westminster Abbey, Dr Edward Carpenter, whose wife was a prominent member of the local Bahais.

This year the service is on Sunday October 25th at St. Mary with St. Alban, at 10.00am.

Derek Smith and Brian Jackson.

Farewell to Emily D'Silva



On September 20th we said farewell to Emily D'Silva, our Youth Pastor, who is moving to Dorset for a year before she goes to theological college to train for ordained ministry (pending one final interview). We will miss her greatly since she has been a wonderful friend to so many of us and an integral part of almost everything we've done over the past four years.

Emily joined us in 2010 and quickly became involved in the choir, the scouts and the bell ringing group. Then at the beginning of 2012 she was appointed as our first full-time Pastoral Assistant. Since then she has taken a

leading role in: organising the Parish Olympic Fete; coordinating our Parish Visiting Team; working with all our baptism families; running our musical theatre holiday clubs; liaising with our uniformed groups (including her role as a senior leader for the Scouts); running our junior confirmation courses; organising our annual parish pilgrimages; and helping to organise lots of services/activities around Easter and Christmas. She has also regularly led weekday services and occasionally preached on Sundays. Then in September 2014 she was appointed as our Youth Pastor, developing the work she had already been doing with our young people. Over the past year she has established a weekly Sunday evening Youth Group, as well as our Upper Room Sunday morning group for young people. She has made a huge difference to how young people are welcomed and involved in our church.

There's a lot more that I could add, because Emily has been brilliant at just lending a hand with whatever needs doing. Everyone in our congregation can probably tell an Emily story, a way in which she helped them or simply showed them friendship and kindness. To me she has been a daily companion, a constant support and a loyal friend. I will miss her greatly. But we hope she will visit us regularly and we will eagerly follow her progress as she follows God's call, wherever that may lead.

Joe Moffatt

Chilcott Choral Concert: October 18th

On Sunday October 18th at 6.30pm St Mary with St Alban will come alive to the sound of some very beautiful music. The regular choir and other local singers will be performing Bob Chilcott's stunning Requiem, with tenor Simon Bell and Choir Director and professional singer Laura Luck as the soloists. There will also be further vocal offerings from Simon and Laura, and music from talented Teddington string players. The evening promises music that is joyous and reflective. With tickets at £5 per adult and £3 per child it is unmissable.

Micky North RIP

Sadly Micky died, aged 84, on 29th August, and although she had moved away from Teddington about 6 years ago she loved being in regular contact with her friends from church. She was a person of many talents, although extremely modest about them, and contributed greatly to parish life. She was an accomplished musician (in her younger days singing in the Bach choir, playing violin and piano), a wonderful photographer (producing

handmounted cards for sale in church and "passport" photos of all PCC members) a knitter (and happy to teach others), a needlewoman (tapestry, embroidery, smocking), she pressed flowers, and she was a true and loyal friend who, despite a long battle with depression, always made you chuckle. Most memorably, Micky was a valiant, regular and uncomplaining Holy Duster and washer-upper at all parish events.

Susan Jacobs

Diary for October

<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 Group, Parish Hall, 6.30-8.00pm</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>
Thursday 1 st		Traherne Reading Group, Mina Hogan Room, 3.30-5.00pm (NB. New time)
Saturday 3 rd		Harvest Barn Dance, Parish Hall, 6.00-9.00pm
Sunday 4 th		Harvest Festival Morning Worship with Holy Communion, 9.00am Harvest Festival Parade Service, 10.00am
Tuesday 6 th		Welcome Service for new Bishop of Kensington, St Paul's Cathedral, 5.00pm
Wednesday 7 th		First Wednesday Club, topic Gabrielle Thomas on "Gregory Nazianzen (AD 329-385).her Ph.D. topic, Mina Hogan, 12.45-2.15pm (NB. New time)
Thursday 8 th		Parish Lunch at The Anglers, 12.30pm Traherne Reading Group, Mina Hogan Room, 3.30-5.00pm
Friday 9 th		Holy Communion, Fullerton Court, 10.30am
Sunday 11 th		Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
Tuesday 13 th		Plain and Pearl Knit, Mina Hogan, 7.30pm
Thursday 15 th		Traherne Reading Group, Mina Hogan Room, 3.30-5.00pm Service of Wholeness and Healing, 8.00pm
Sunday 18 th		Luke the Evangelist 'Chilcott Requiem' Choir Concert, Church, 6.30pm
Tuesday 20 th		PCC Meeting, 7.45pm
Thursday 22 nd		Traherne Reading Group, Mina Hogan Room, 3.30-5.00pm
Sunday 25 th		Last Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion UN Civic Service, 10.00am
Tuesday 27 th		Plain and Pearl Craft, Mina Hogan, 7.30pm
		<u>Looking ahead to November</u>
Sunday 8 th		All Souls Service 6.30pm
Saturday 28 th		Parish Christmas Bazaar, Church Hall, 11.30am-2.30pm