

60-second interview with the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Venerable Stephan Welch

What inspired you most to go into the church?

The rector of my home village when I was young.

What is your favourite book of the Old Testament?

Book of Psalms.

What is your favourite book of the New Testament?

Gospel of St Mark, followed closely by Colossians.

What is the best advice you've ever been given?

Never refuse a resignation.

What is the best advice you've given?

You can't fight every battle.

Who is your favourite Saint?

St Anselm.

What is your favourite hymn?

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies.

What is your favourite carol?

Of the Father's Heart Begotten.

What is your favourite service in the Christian calendar?

Trinity Sunday.

If you could have met Jesus, what would you have said to him?

Thank you.

What is your favourite book?

The Essays of Michel de Montaigne.

What is your favourite film?

Blade Runner.

What is your favourite piece of music?

Sonatas for Unaccompanied Violin, J S Bach.

What do you like to do when you are not an Archdeacon?

Sail my boat, play golf, read.

What's the worst job you've ever had?

I've enjoyed every job – they all have good days and bad days.

What do you believe is the church's main challenge for the next 5 years?

The re-evangelisation of England.

Advance Notice

WANTED..... *What?* Garden Gang. *When?* Saturday 4th April at 9.30am. *Where?*

Churchyard near South Porch. *Why?* To clear up the Churchyard and Gardens in readiness for Easter and the Bishop's visit.

What to bring? Hand gardening tools.

Rewards! Free coffee and biscuits.

NB: We hope this will be a serious working session of about 2 hours, so it is not really suitable for young children.

Cyril Shaw

SERVICES:

SUNDAYS: Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am
Family Communion (Common Worship) and Sunday School (most Sundays during term time) at 9.45am

VICAR:

CHURCH WARDENS: Sheila Cooper, 3 Thelma Grove, Teddington TW11 9AQ (8977 7206)
Jeremy Bryan, 71 Clarence Road, Teddington TW11 0BN (8977 3055)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Harold Lester (8878 0021)

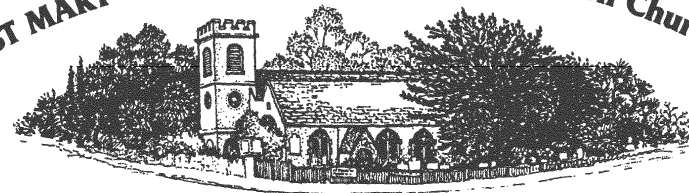
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & HALL BOOKINGS: Gillian Burgess (8943 2262)

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

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Susan Jacobs (8943 0503), Veronica Baker (8255 7178) and Minnie Harris (8943 2025)

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stmarywithstalban.org

ST MARY with ST ALBAN Teddington Parish Church



NEWSLETTER MARCH 2009

From the Wardens

Do you remember Wordsworth's poem *Daffodils*? With its lovely image of the poet seeing "A host of golden daffodils, Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze". The month of March brings us to that time of spring flowering. St David, Patron Saint of Wales, is symbolised by a daffodil and is remembered on March 1st. Daffodils symbolise Mothering Sunday for us in church which this year falls on March 22nd.

March is also the season of Lent when we try to pause, reflect and learn more about our faith. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find more about our Lent Discussion group to which all are welcome.

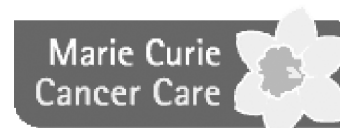
Mothering Sunday (or Mother's Day as it is sometimes incorrectly called) has become rather commercialised but originally was the Sunday when young people living away from home and working as servants were allowed time off to visit their own mothers and also their local church – their 'mother' church. On that day special cakes, Simnel cakes, were baked and given as gifts. Today we have Simnel cakes a bit later, at Easter time.

At St Mary's we gather to celebrate and give thanks for our own mothers, whatever age they might be, and to give thanks for our own 'mother' church that is here to welcome and give comfort and love to all. Small posies of daffodils will be given to everyone in church on 22nd as a token of remembrance and thanks for our mothers and our church, and we will be continuing

the theme of daffodils by having a special retiring collection at both services in aid of the Marie Curie Cancer Appeal, whose well known logo is a yellow daffodil. All are welcome – you will find details of times and dates of all services in the Diary overleaf.

May God bless you all.

Sheila Cooper & Jeremy Bryan



Electoral Roll Revision

The Roll is being updated during the next six weeks. Those who have recently changed their address and/or name on marriage should, please, check that these details are recorded on the current 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 their commitment to our Church by being included on the Roll.

Enrolment forms are on the table at the back of the Church and I will be available to deal with any queries on Sunday mornings. Alternatively, please contact me on 8977 3990.

June Hill, Electoral Roll Officer

Lenten Appeal – WaterAid – Jars of Change for Jars of Water

Lent is traditionally a time for



reflection and fasting. Many of us will give up something which matters to us during this time. Every day, in the world's poorest countries, millions of children are forced to give up things the rest of us take for granted: their time, their education and their health; simply because they do not have access to safe water.

Safe water and sanitation are basic human rights. Yet one in eight people worldwide has no safe water to drink, 2.5 billion live without safe and clean sanitation and around 5,000 children die every day from diarrhoeal diseases.

With our help WaterAid can transform lives with their practical work providing for example, hygiene education, rainwater collection jars, maintenance toolkits, boreholes, pumps and school sanitation blocks in countries such as Mali, Uganda, Nigeria, Madagascar, Nepal and Zambia. There are labels to stick on collection jars and gift aid forms at the back of church. Any money you collect during the 40 days of Lent can be brought to church on Sunday mornings and poured into our collecting bucket. Let us help WaterAid turn jars of change into jars of water. Further information from churches@wateraid.org 0845 6000 433.

Susan Jacobs

Welcare

At the end of last year Welcare held their Christmas party. Thirty one families (59 guests) attended and were treated to an array of gifts, entertainment and refreshments (prepared by the staff). The entertainer arrived as Dominic the Elf dressed in a wonderful outfit and blue wig and delighted the children with face painting, balloon modelling and lots of games. Everyone had a wonderful time and adults and children all

left with a present each. In fact over 140 clients benefited from the generously donated gifts over the Christmas period.

Welcare as an organisation has seen a lot of changes during the last few months.

On the plus side, Welcare is to become a Children's Centre, and a lot of renovation work has been done on the building in preparation for this. However, sadly, Karen Carberry, the Centre Manager, had to resign for health reasons which left the Centre without a manager for 3 months. Fortunately Karen is now much better and was able to join staff and friends for a farewell lunch.

Finally a new Centre Manager, Nicky Younge, has been appointed, who will take Welcare forward to meet the challenges ahead. The scope of work will widen to encompass older children, and an extended range of activities will be available.

Although much of the work of the Children's Centre will be funded by the borough, Welcare still relies on donations for its core social work. Anyone who would like to hold a coffee morning, etc to raise funds for us would be more than welcome.

Margaret Squire (8977 3362)

Hampton Wick United Charity

This charity has helped local residents for more than 300 years and continues to provide financial assistance for people living within the parishes of St John the Baptist Hampton Wick, St Mark in Teddington and St Mary with St Alban in Teddington. Two types of grant are considered: an 'In Need' Benefit might give help, for example, with the purchase of a wheelchair, repairs to heating, travelling expenses to visit relatives in hospital or costs of student accommodation. The Educational Benefit, subject to eligibility, might be awarded for school uniforms, fares, academic books or field trips.

Applications are normally considered by the trustees three times a year, but emergency arrangements can be made and all affairs are dealt with confidentially and

in a sympathetic and compassionate way. Should you know of anyone, or should you feel you might benefit from the Charity's work, please contact the Clerk to the Trustees, 241 Kingston Road, Teddington TW11 9JJ. Tel: 8977 1322, Fax: 8943 4363, email: info@hwuc.org.uk

Lent Discussion Group

will meet for 5 weeks in the Mina Hogan room from 10.30am until 12.00 noon on Wednesday mornings, starting on March 4th. Details of the course book are available at the back of church or from Susan Jacobs (8943 0503). Everyone is welcome. Tea/coffee will be available from 10.15am.

Diary for March

Sunday 1st	1st Sunday of Lent Holy Communion at 8.00am Family Communion at 9.45am Holy Baptism at 2.30pm
Wednesday 4th	Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) at 9.30am Lent Discussion Group, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12.00noon
Sunday 8th	2nd Sunday of Lent Holy Communion at 8.00am Family Communion at 9.45am Holy Baptism at 2.30pm
Wednesday 11th	Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) at 9.30am Lent Discussion Group, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12.00noon
Sunday 15th	3rd Sunday of Lent Holy Communion at 8.00am Family Communion at 9.45am
Wednesday 18th	Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) at 9.30am Lent Discussion Group, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12.00noon
Sunday 22nd	Mothering Sunday. 4th Sunday of Lent Holy Communion at 8.00am Parade Service and distribution of flowers at 9.45am followed by Traidcraft sale in the Hall. No Sunday School
Wednesday 25th	The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) at 9.30am Lent Discussion Group, Mina Hogan Room, 10.30-12.00noon
Saturday 28th	CLOCKS GO FORWARD ONE HOUR
Sunday 29th	Passion Sunday. British Summer Time starts Holy Communion at 8.00am Family Communion at 9.45am

And looking ahead

9th April Maundy Thursday. 10th April Good Friday. 12th April Easter Day – all services to be taken by the new Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Rev. Paul Williams