

de Sales RC Church, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill for a special ecumenical service at 5.00pm on Sunday January 24th. This is the first time the two Churches Together groups have united for a service, and you are warmly invited to attend.

Parish Registers

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

31 October: Nicholas Rutherford and Tajal Bhatt

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

25 October: Frederick Michael Thwaite, son of Michael Thwaite and Joanna Gerloch

15 November: Oscar Charles Leon, son of Carlos Leon and Clare Eves; Hugh,

son of Kenneth and Sari Daly; Jem George, son of David and Rachel Prasher

22 November: Willa Louise Wiggins, daughter of Johann and Helena Wiggins; Frederick James Richard and Clara Frances Rose, son and daughter of James and Anna Harrison

29 November: James Alexander, son of Chris and Susan McIntyre; Jenna Louise, daughter of Alistair and Claire Scobie

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

28 October: Gerald Lee

10 November: Peter Jacobs

Memorial Service – *We remember with thanksgiving the life of:*

14 November: Betty O'Hara

www.stmarywithstalban.org



StMARYwithStALBAN

PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY 2010



Vicar's Viewpoint

I gave up making personal new year resolutions a long time ago. It only led to a sense of guilt and failure a couple of weeks in! But as a church we have made some exciting resolutions for 2010 which we are serious about and fully intend to keep:

- **More singing:** our first initiative for the New Year is to begin a Junior Choir. This will rehearse after the Sunday Service from 11-11.30am and will perform for the first time on Mothering Sunday. Encouraging children to sing is one of the best things a church can do. (See inside for details if your child is interested)
- **More visiting:** after Easter we are running a two-day training course for up to 12 members of our church who feel able to help with pastoral work in the parish. The training will focus on listening skills. The aim is to establish a team of people who can help me increase our visiting to the elderly, the sick, the recently baptised/married/bereaved and to newcomers.
- **More learning:** in the summer we begin Confirmation Classes for both teenagers and adults. The Bishop of Kensington will come to confirm on September 29th. As a prelude to the confirmation course we will be running a short Christian Basics course. This will be open to the anyone who wants to discover a bit more about the Christian faith or refresh their understanding. The style of this course will be relaxed, social

and of a different theological persuasion to the well-known Alpha Course.

- **More performing:** in May we plan to put on a musical show involving as many individuals and groups from our community as possible. A calling notice for all musicians and thespians (however inexperienced) will follow in next month's newsletter. The idea is simply to have some fun together.
- **More babbling:** later this year we plan to start a new parent and toddler group which will meet in church for a short time of toddler-friendly worship followed by refreshments and toy-time. This will build on the recent success of our new Mini Sunday School for 0-3s.

All of these resolutions have come from groups within our congregation. I feel very encouraged that it's not just me coming up with new ideas. And if anything strikes a chord with your resolutions for the new year, please get in touch or watch for more details in future newsletters.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt

Useful Information

VICAR: The Rev Joe Moffatt, Parish Office, St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Road, Teddington. TW11 9HF (8943 2262), e-mail: vicar@stmarywithstalban.org

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & HALL BOOKINGS: Gillian Burgess, Parish Office, (8943 2262) e-mail: ParishHall@stmarywithstalban.org

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL: sundayschool@stmarywithstalban.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Harold Lester (8878 0021)

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)

www.stmarywithstalban.org

The Incredible Bazaar

The *Incredible Bazaar* took place on Saturday, 28 November and saw a good turn out by all age groups. There was a great deal of activity in the parish hall on the Friday as stalls were erected and Santa's grotto was decorated ready for his arrival.

As normal, people started gathering outside the hall well before the official opening time. Shortly after eleven o'clock, the atmosphere was buzzing with festive music and lively chatter as people moved around the various stalls including books, bric-a-brac, crafts, gifts and tombola. Santa's grotto was a popular attraction and was visited by 74 children. The Mina Hogan room was used for selling cakes and preserves, and the lure of homemade cooking in the main hall meant that lunches were enjoyed by all.

By the end of the weekend the bazaar had raised £2,906 which is an all-time record and clear indication that it was a successful event. Thank you to all those who came along and supported the *Incredible Bazaar*.

David Power, Bazaar Co-ordinator

Young Singers Wanted

This year we want to do something different in church for Mothering Sunday. We are looking for young singers to join us to rehearse some special music to be performed during the service. We will be meeting every week after Sunday School, at 11.00-11.30am in the Mina Hogan Room. Parents, please encourage your children to come and join us while you have coffee after church! All members of the Sunday School, the uniformed

organisations and any other young people who would like to join us are very welcome. Our first rehearsal will be on 10 January. For further information please contact Alice Jacobs on 020 8274 0128.

Advent Course

About twenty people attended the Advent course held on the first three Wednesdays in December. Week 1, led by Susan Jacobs, focused on Elizabeth and Zachariah, week 2, led by Barbara Carthew, focused on Joseph and finally the Vicar talked about Mary. There was time each week, after the presentation, for discussion, some music and a period of silent meditation and prayer, providing some welcome spiritual refreshment at a busy time of year.

Susan Jacobs

The Little Drummer Boy

The Christingle service and Sunday School play, *The Little Drummer Boy*, marked the start of the Christmas season. The story followed the Little Drummer Boy's journey through the Holy Land until his arrival in Bethlehem, where in the stable he rediscovers the important things in life.

It was a heart-warming performance, led by clear, confident and sometimes comic narrators Philippa, Louisa, Joe and Rosie. The story was acted out by shepherds, animals, kings, Mary and Joseph and hordes of sparkling angels and stars. James Porter was marvellous as the drummer boy and the grown up Adam Woods slipped effortlessly between equally nasty roles. Unusually, this year no one fell off the stage.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the carols, which the children sang beautifully, the last one by the light of glow sticks from the Christingle oranges and to the sound of munching sweets.

A big team effort went into the production. Iain Bowman adapted the play and directed it with Sam Tasker, supported by an impressive and committed group of helpers. There are too many people to mention here, but particular thanks are due to Faith Morgan and Sean Roddie for the music and Lesley Alexander for the stage design. Thanks too, to the Teddington Bells for entertaining the audience before the service.

A record amount of £312.05 was raised for the Children's Society.

Charlotte Studholme

London Fairtrade Diocese Campaign: Transforming Lives through Fairtrade

A Conference to support London Churches will be held on Saturday 16 January, from 10.00am – 4.00pm at St Stephen's Church, Westbourne Park Road, London W2. Speakers will include John Bell of the Iona Community, Barbara Crowther and Sophi Tranchell, MBE. Tickets are £5. Please book early, as places are limited. For more information, go to <http://fairtrade.london.anglican.org>

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Churches Together in Teddington and Hampton will be gathering at St Francis

Diary

*SERVICES – Sundays: Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am
Family Communion and Sunday School at 9.45am
Wednesdays: Holy Communion at 9.30am
Weekdays (except Mondays): Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5.00pm*

Wednesday 6th	12.30-2.00pm	First Wednesday Club in Mina Hogan Room Topic: Roman Catholic/Anglican relations
Thursday 7th	8.00pm	Baptism Preparation
Sunday 10th	11.00am 12.00 noon	Epiphany Junior Choir begins Holy Baptism
Sunday 24th	5.00pm	Conversion of St Paul Ecumenical Service at St Francis de Sales
Tuesday 26th	7.30pm	Deanery Synod at St Mary with St Alban
Sunday 31st		Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)

January