

Parish Registers

Baptisms – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*
17 February: Ophelia Lilac, daughter of Simon and Phoebe Bell

3 March: Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher and Susan McIntyre

Funeral – *We remember with thanksgiving the life of:*

26 February: Marie Upton, aged 93

Parish Pilgrimage to Hereford

May 17-19

It's not too late to book!

We will be hiring a coach and a minibus for the whole weekend. The coach will be leaving on Friday at 9.30am. Joe is driving the SMSP school minibus which is primarily intended for the children but of course some parents will wish to travel with them! The minibus would depart at 1.30pm from SMSP and could pick up from other local schools. The cost per adult is £45.00 whether travelling by coach or minibus. There will be no charge for children.

We'll be staying in the Premier Inn. The room rate is £58.00 per room, for Friday night and £54.00 per room for Saturday night; total £112 for the two nights; this is the same for single, double or family occupancy. This doesn't include breakfast which can be bought for

£8.25 (children eat for free) at their Beefeater Restaurant.

The itinerary includes a guided tour of the Cathedral, tea with the friends of the Cathedral, drinks in the Dean's garden, a visit to the nearby parish of Credenhill (where Thomas Traherne was vicar), and plenty of social time together.

Booking forms available from church, office and website. Deadline for booking form and £20 deposit is April 12th.

Traherne Poetry Group

Introducing the writings of
Thomas Traherne

Run by Dr Gerry Gregory

6 week course on Thursdays, 2 -3.30pm
from
April 11th – May 16th
in the Mina Hogan Room

Open to all:

No previous knowledge required
A perfect way of preparing for our
Parish Pilgrimage to Hereford
(in the footsteps of Traherne) in May

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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2013



StMARYwithStALBAN

PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

I'm delighted to say that our **Jubilee Doors Appeal** has been hugely successful. We were a bit anxious when the contractor informed us that the costings were going to be significantly more than the original estimate if the quality we wanted wasn't to be compromised. So the Appeal target rose from £12,500 to £16,500. But over 200 people have donated thus far, raising well over £13,000, and we have assurances from other donors that will see us home.

The doors have therefore been ordered and are currently in production. **If all goes to plan, they should be installed later this month.** I believe they will make a very positive difference to the church and provide a lasting tribute to the Queen. They will also enable us once more to keep the church open every weekday from 9am to 5pm. So keep an eye out for when the doors are open.

There will be a **special service of dedication on Sunday June 2nd at 6.30pm**, at which the Bishop of Kensington will bless the doors. We'll be sending out invitations to all those who have donated as a way of saying thank you for their generosity. The service has been timed to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the Queen's coronation.

I've been very grateful to receive many donations from parishioners who may not be regular attenders but who clearly wish to support the church, especially when looking after the fabric of the church building. This is most appreciated, since the burden of meeting our running costs falls entirely on congregational giving. Every few years it is right for us to focus on this giving and ask those who see themselves as belonging to the church to review their contribution.

We will therefore be promoting a **Planned Giving Campaign, running for four Sundays from April 21st to May 12th**. The Archdeacon of Middlesex will be joining us for

the start of this campaign, preaching about the importance of giving and the way in which the Diocese of London operates with a Common Fund. This asks for more affluent parishes like ours to contribute above and beyond the cost of their parish priest, so that poorer parishes can be supported.

To appreciate the way in which this works out, I've invited Rev Craig Holmes to preach on the following Sunday. Craig is Vicar of St Richard's Hanworth, the one parish in our deanery with significant social deprivation. It will be good to hear about the challenges and mission opportunities in his patch.

Finally, a reminder to those on our church electoral roll that the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Tuesday April 30th**.

This is our opportunity to present all the exciting work that has been done over the past year and is being planned for the future. So I do encourage all interested parishioners to come along. In recent years we have offered a supper to those attend. But we've found that mixing the two is not conducive to either a good meal or a good meeting. So this year we'll just be offering drinks and nibbles.

We've had to revise the electoral roll from scratch this year. So if you want to register that you belong, please ensure that you **return a form by April 7th**. Forms are available from church, parish office and website.

Best wishes

Joe

Thursday morning Lent Course

The theme notes this year were provided by the Church Urban Fund which for 25 years has been tackling poverty in England's poorest communities. Each session we had a discussion on the meaning of the week's chosen word: money, home, childhood, family and welcome and watched a short film focussing on the work carried out in depressed and poverty stricken areas of the country. When a group, seeing a local need, forms, the CUF is able to contribute financial support and help those who no longer have a pivot to their lives. We learned about teenagers who had no care in childhood and whose education was constantly interrupted by behavioural problems and prison. They were given on-going support by the impressive dedication of volunteers. One of the centres provides instruction in computer skills, cooking and further education. This gives confidence to seek work. The most moving film came from Newcastle in the North East, an area of high unemployment and deprivation. The centre provides the love, security, respect and care the young people had never received during childhood. Their faces changed as they found a new way to live, and discovered dignity and self-respect. It was a very moving moment for us all. There is still much to do and we give thanks for the work of the Church Urban Fund.

Joyce Skerrett



Fairtrade

During Fairtrade Fortnight last month St Paul's Cathedral displayed a magnificent model of the famous Cathedral using fairtrade wrappers. A parishioner from Finchley must have spent hours eating and drinking her way through innumerable bars of Divine chocolate (whose wrappers covered the Dome), geobars, rice, pasta, muesli, bananas, coffee, tea, etc. etc. I suspect there was at least one wrapper from almost the whole range of FT products available. The whole building was surrounded by wooden railings where the names of every Fairtrade certificated parish in the Diocese of London was carefully written – St Mary with St

Alban was there of course. It was not only a labour of love and of rather ephemeral existence, but it also made an eloquent point – fairtrade matters and it is something all of us have an opportunity, I would venture to say a duty, to support. It was also an amusing way to remind us to continue to look out for the Fairtrade logo and to choose the fairtrade option whenever possible.

Susan Jacobs, *Traidcraft Fairtrader*

Planned Giving Campaign

April 21st – May 12th:

Why give to St. Mary with St Alban?

Our numbers are growing.

We are growing, and we're being joined by more and more worshippers all the time.

Our ministry is growing.

We want this growth to continue and to offer our community even more. We have exciting future plans to foster faith and friendship all around us, as you can see in our 'Mission Action Plan'.

Our costs are also growing.

To deliver our ministry and our mission we also need to fund the basics – the essential costs of keeping our roof on, our doors open and our premises staffed.

Our income needs to grow too.

It takes £78,000 for us to meet our Common Fund obligation which provides for clergy here and across the Diocese. A further £132,000 is needed to maintain our buildings, activities and people. To cover costs and follow our mission we need an income of around £210,000.

Congregational giving is vital.

We do not receive money from the Diocese, we rely on your generosity and your giving. Every penny we receive from you will be spent on the mission of St Mary with St Alban.

As a church we are flourishing. Generous giving is needed to support our increasingly active church life. Please think about what you can give and how you can do so in a planned, tax-efficient way. It will make a huge difference.

With heartfelt thanks,

Joe Moffatt (Vicar) and Terry Brown & Anne McTear (Churchwardens)

Thank you to FM Conway

We'd like express our tremendous gratitude to the workers and management of local road maintenance contractor FM Conway for very generously and incredibly quickly re-developing our hall car parking area and garden path for us at no cost. Many thanks to all who worked on it, it is most appreciated.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

with special presentation on our key theme:

'Fostering Faith and Friendship'

Tuesday April 30th
7.30pm

St Mary's Parish Hall

Diary for April

SERVICES –	Sundays:	Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am Morning Worship (30 minutes) at 9.00am Parish Communion (with Sunday School) at 10.00am
	Wednesdays:	Holy Communion at 9.30am
	Monday-Friday:	Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5pm
Weds 3 rd		First Wednesday Club (<i>Topic: Is it possible to teach character?</i>), Mina Hogan Room, 12.30-2pm
Thurs 4 th		Silent Prayer in Church, 8.30pm, followed by Compline at 9pm
Sun 7 th		Easter 2 Baptism, 12 noon
Tues 9 th		Plain and Pearl Knitting, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9.30pm
Thurs 11 th		Parish Lunch at The Anglers, 12.30pm Traherne Group, Mina Hogan Room, 2-3.30pm
Sun 14 th		Easter 3 Baptisms in 10am service and at 12 noon Youth Group, Parish Hall, 6.30pm
Tues 16 th		Tea Club, Mina Hogan Room, 3pm
Thurs 18 th		Traherne Group, Mina Hogan Room, 2-3.30pm
Sun 21 st		Easter 4 The Ven Stephan Welch, Archdeacon of Middlesex preaching during the 9am and 10am services Baptisms, 12 noon
Tues 23 rd		Plain and Pearl Craft, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30-9.30pm
Thurs 25 th		Traherne Group, Mina Hogan Room, 2-3.30pm
Sat 27 th		Wedding, 1pm
Sun 28 th		Easter 5 Rev Craig Holmes, Vicar of St Richard's Hanworth preaching during the 10am service Baptisms, 12 noon Evensong, 6.30pm
Tues 30 th		APCM in Parish Hall, 7.30-10pm

Looking ahead

Weds 1st May First Wednesday Group, Mina Hogan Room, 12.30-2pm – *Topic: Charities*