

THE CLARION

The Magazine of the Parish of St Mary The Boltons
rooted in faith • open in thought • reaching out in service

May 2023

From the Vicar Pour down... your Spirit

Will you be watching the Coronation on 6 May, I wonder? I will be: after all, it will be history in the making such as most of us are unlikely to see again. No matter what we think of the principle of the Monarchy, or of individual members of the Royal Family, or indeed of the relationship between Church and State, we can be sure of a grand spectacle on the day. I cannot be alone in looking forward to a ceremony of beautiful music, gorgeous robes and regalia, liturgical movement and high drama, in the magnificence of the Abbey.

Three important things will happen at the Coronation. The King will be asked to take some very weighty oaths or promises: that he will govern the people of the United Kingdom along with his other realms and territories; that he will cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all his judgements; and that he will maintain the laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law.

Next he will be given the Regalia – the sceptre,

orb, spurs and so on – and he will receive the very heavy Crown on his head, placed there by the Archbishop of Canterbury: all signs and symbols of royal power and authority.

As grand as these two things will look, they are not as important as what comes before them: the moment when the Archbishop will take holy oil, called Chrism, and pour it on the King's head, hands and breast, praying for the Holy Spirit to bless him as he begins his reign. It is a moment of commissioning, as it were, to be Monarch and to serve his subjects and his country in the strength and grace of God.

This anointing is what the Church calls a sacrament: the oil is an outward sign of the spiritual grace that God bestows on the King as he begins this new vocation. It is such a holy moment that it will happen behind a screen away from the cameras and the microphones, and so it is unseen by the rest of us.

Lest we think this rite of anointing and prayer is just for a monarch, it is worth noting that clergy are also anointed with Chrism at their ordination, and similar prayers said for the Holy Spirit to bless them for the work of ministry in the church.

It is not just the clergy either: in June the Bishop of Kensington will anoint our own Confirmation candidates when she prays that they will be blessed by the Holy Spirit, and commission them for their new life of Christian life and witness.

As extraordinary as the Coronation is with all its extravagance and ceremony, I hope we will all be reminded that the blessing by God's Holy Spirit is not just for Kings, but for all of us.

Jenny Welsh, Vicar

Image: Anointing Screen, www.royal.uk



A Special Invitation to York

The invitation from the Royal Alms office at Buckingham Palace read: *We are delighted to inform you that your name has been submitted to be one of the Maundy recipients, 74 men and 74 women, to represent the King's years. We very much hope that you will feel able to accept this honour, and you are invited to bring a companion, should you need help. So that the tickets can be issued by the Lord Chamberlain's Office to you, you are also requested to arrive at the Minster by 9.15am, on Maundy Thursday, April 6th.*

For me, it was very simple: I took my Goddaughter, whose husband is the Director of Music at the Minster, as they were married there years ago.

After three police checks we were finally seated at about 10.15am. All the recipients were seated around the side aisles and the edges of the centre aisles, so as to make it easy for the King and his procession to distribute the gifts. The music throughout the three hours of the service and

The service began with a number of processions: The Minster's Procession, The Ecumenical Procession, The Royal Procession, The Royal Almonry Procession. Then the service started with an opening passage from John 13. 13-14, read by the Lord Almoner, The Right Revered Dr John Inge, Bishop of Worcester: *You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.*

'The distribution of alms and the washing of the feet on the Thursday of Holy Week are of great antiquity. The Royal Maundy can be traced back in England with certainty to the thirteenth century, and there are continuous records of the Distribution having been made on Maundy Thursday from the reign of King Edward I. The first recorded Royal Distribution was at Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, by King John in 1210.' (From the Order of Service for Maundy Thursday).

When it came to the Maundy Distribution, the King, accompanied by the Royal Procession, went around the Minster side aisles, and handed each recipient two purses, and shook each person by both hands, thanking each of them for the service given to Church and community. The service concluded with both verses of the National Anthem.

The red and white purses, with the Maundy Thursday Order of Service and the Prayer Book for the King's Coronation will be left in the church treasury, for the future.

Margarete Geier

Photo: Margarete with her Goddaughter Natasha at York Minster . Natasha Rice



beforehand was tremendous, with music provided by the Choirs of York Minster, and of His Majesty's Chapel Royal (St James' Palace).



The word *Maundy* derives from the command or *mandatum* by Christ at the Last Supper, to love one another. St John tells us that Jesus washed the disciples' feet and gave them the command 'If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done unto you'. The word 'mandatum' gives us the English word Maundy, which has also given rise to the Royal Maundy Ceremony, involving the monarch or a representative for more than 1000 years. Initially, kings would have copied Jesus in washing the feet of a dozen or so poor men; this in turn was replaced by the giving of money for their welfare, as well as clothing and food to a number (adding up to the age of the monarch) of both men

who have given exemplary Christian service within the community, ideally people who have not already received an honour. Other denominations and communities were included as well, so in the end, eight people were chosen from the Anglican parishes in London.

It was a great surprise to find that our nominee, Margarete, was to be considered again this year, and an even greater one to hear that she was to be invited to York Minster to receive the Maundy Money from our new King, along with 127 others from up and down the land.

Jenny Welsh, Vicar

Image: The Maundy Money and Order of Service



Lent Appeal: A Reminder

Many thanks to everyone who generously donated towards the Lent Appeal for our nominated 'Charitable Pot' charities this year.

A reminder that it is not too late if you have been saving money for the appeal over Lent.

Please collect the money you are saving, and then make a donation to:

Account name: PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude

Account No.: 80692190, Sort

Code: 20-80-14, Reference: LENT

Via the CAF Charitable Pot page:

[https://](https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/15148)

cafdonate.cafonline.org/15148



Or, if you prefer to make a

donation by cash or cheque

(payable to The PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude),

please ask for an envelope, and clearly mark it 'Lent Offering.'

Anthony Williams, on behalf of the Charity Committee

and women. In time these very practical gifts were replaced by further money, when it became clear that the recipients were selling the food and clothes on (a kind of old-school eBay, one might say). The amount given never really kept up with inflation, even when the original 30 shillings was increased in the 1970s to £5.50 where it has remained ever since.

In 2021, when plans for the 2022 Maundy Service began, the Bishop of London invited nominations of people to be considered: we were told they were looking for men and women over the age of seventy

An Evening at the Royal College of Music

Fiona and I were very excited to see forthcoming performances by our wonderful Choral Scholar, Charlotte Kennedy, advertised in the weekly email. St Mary's is rightly known for the quality of its musical offering and so we thought it would be a good experience to see one of our singers in another guise, starring in an opera double bill at the Royal College of Music.

We had an early supper in South Kensington and then walked up towards the College, a magnificent building which I have walked past many times, but never before had the opportunity to enter.



© Facebook

We were surprised to learn that the Royal College has its own, full size theatre within the bowels of the building. This Britten Theatre is a much loved opera venue, designed by Sir Hugh Casson in the Italian style and has been the earliest performance space for many of the College's famous alumni.

On 18 March we were fortunate to see Respighi's *La Bella Dormiente Nel Bosco* and Ravel's *L'enfant et les Sortilèges*. The cast list informed us that Charlotte was featuring as La Bergère and La Chouette in the Ravel, and following much checking of phones (thank goodness for Google Translate) we understood we were looking out for an Armchair and an Owl... Our interest was piqued!

Respighi's opera, directed by Liam Steel, was a delightfully eccentric retelling of the Sleeping Beauty story, with a lot of puppetry and LED lit costumes. The Princess was condemned to sleep

for three hundred years, only waking in the mid-20th century and not looking particularly enamoured of her 1950s surroundings, or indeed her Prince. Respighi's score was not familiar to us and lacked the magic of Tchaikovsky's so familiar version, but nevertheless suited the production perfectly and it was a joy to hear a lesser known opera.

If the Respighi had been eccentric, the evening then took an even stranger turn with a truly wacky mini opera by Ravel. A lively score carried the audience through the story of the obnoxious child who will not do his lessons and is a torment to his pet animals, through to his humbling punishment when those animals and even the very furniture come to life and seek revenge on him. Our own Charlotte Kennedy performed deftly in her not uncomplicated Armchair and Owl costumes and the audience was swept along in amazement by the hidden disguises of the performers (the Grandfather Clock was an absolute favourite) and wonderful voices, particularly from the chorus.

It was an absolute pleasure to see something so new and so joyful; we are so blessed to have world class arts teaching establishments in London. We look forward to hearing more from all our Choral Scholars over the coming months, and especially Charlotte Kennedy, who will no doubt go far.

Joanna Hackett and Fiona Parsons



Charity Concert for the DEC Ukraine Appeal

Sunday 4 June, 3pm

A year or more on, the war in Ukraine continues. Recently we were asked if we would allow the church to be used as a performance space for a concert of pop, jazz and folk music, performed by a young Ukrainian music student, to raise funds for the ongoing Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. This seemed like an excellent opportunity not only to use our church building for a community event quite unlike other charity concerts we have hosted, but also to support this worthy cause.

Sofiia Voennaia is a student of Popular Music Performance at the BIMM Institute in Fulham. She is from Beriansk in Ukraine, where she had been a music student specialising in piano and singing until the invasion by Russian forces in 2022. She and her mother fled the country soon after her city was occupied and they came to the UK. Since then she has performed several charity concerts raising funds to support the Ukrainian people still there.

She says, 'I have been singing since childhood and I know that music can change people's lives and influence their future. I hope that at my concert we will feel a different palette of emotions from joy to a little sadness.

'I am grateful to Great Britain for helping my country and the Ukrainian people.

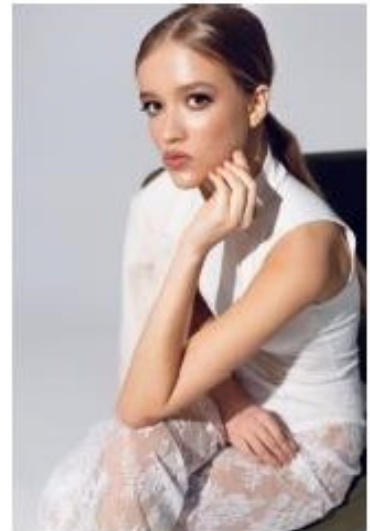
Unfortunately, the war in my country continues and I would like to once again draw public attention and raise funds for humanitarian assistance to

Ukraine at my concert. I still believe that Ukraine will win very soon and all Ukrainians will be able to return home'.

Entrance to the concert is free but it would be helpful (though not essential) if you would register via the Eventbrite link, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/629264235267> for catering purposes. Donations will be received for the DEC Ukraine Appeal. You can also give directly here. <https://donation.dec.org.uk/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>
Jenny Welsh, Vicar

Music for a Summer Afternoon

**Sunday 4 June
3pm**



Sofiia Voennaia

**A programme including Ukrainian Folk
Songs, Jazz and Pop Music**

**Entrance is free, with donations towards
the Disasters Emergency Committee's
Appeal for Ukraine**

**Please stay for tea and refreshments
afterwards**

St Mary with St Peter and St Jude is a Registered Charity, number 1133073
www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Report of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

On Sunday 24 April, St Mary's held our Annual Meeting in the Church Hall, following on from the 10.30am Eucharist service. This was an opportunity to look back at the events of 2022 in the Parish, as well as holding our annual elections.

Candice Lee and Leo Fraser-Mackenzie were elected Church Wardens. Lee Speakman and Alex Burtt were elected to the PCC, and Margarete Geier and Joanna Hackett were re-elected as representatives for St Mary's at Deanery Synod.

We also thanked Ann Mulcare and Mimi Waterbury for their service on the PCC, as they came to the end of their term, and Edward Quinton as he stood down as Church Warden.

Jane Ellard



Gentian, St Mary's Garden—Edwina Sassoon

Choral Evensong, 3pm Sunday 28 May, the Feast of Pentecost. The Installation of Prebendaries at St Paul's Cathedral, including the Vicar, as Prebendary of Mora. All are welcome to attend the service.



Image: <https://vpcathedral.chass.ncsu.edu/>, Canons of the Chapel Royal, vested as the Canons of St Paul's would also have been. Image courtesy British Library.

Confirmation, Baptism and Reception Sunday 11 June 10.30am

The Feast of St Barnabas

The Holy Eucharist with Baptism and Confirmation,
with our Come and Sing Choir.

Presiding and Preaching: The Rt Revd Emma Ineson,
Bishop of Kensington.

It is with great joy that we will welcome our new Bishop, the Rt Revd Emma Ineson to St Mary's on Sunday 11 June, at the 10.30am service. We will be presenting a large group of people from our congregation to the Bishop: one infant and three adults for baptism; 4 adults and 4 young people for confirmation and one adult who will be received into the Church of England. Please pray for all the candidates and for Bishop Emma on this her first visit to St Mary's.

During Easter at the 10.30 Eucharist we read through sections of the Acts of the Apostles, where frequently the writer describes how the early church was growing, as the Lord added to their number. It is a great thought that God is adding to our number, here at St Mary's.

Jenny Welsh, Vicar

All Age Eucharist for The Feast of Pentecost

Sunday 28 May, at 10.30am.

Families and children welcome. Please join us for this service as we mark the Feast of Pentecost at St Mary's.



Image: J. Welsh



Image: <https://www.london.anglican.org/articles/bishop-emma-welcomed-as-the-new-bishop-of-kensington/>

Events at Westminster Abbey: Coronation Exhibition

Westminster Abbey has put together an exhibition on the Coronation, in the Chapter House, which will run until the end of September.

Westminster Abbey is the nation's Coronation Church and this new exhibition in the Chapter House will reveal the key elements of the royal ceremony which has taken place at the Abbey for nearly a thousand years.



Featuring historic illustrations and archive photography, this exhibition is for anyone who would like to find out what a coronation is and to understand its ceremonial, regalia and objects.

The Abbey are also running a number of Coronation events, including activities for children around the Coronation. You can find more details about these here: <https://www.westminster-abbey.org/events>.

A reminder that St Mary's has two 'Parish Passes' for Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral, which can be borrowed by Parishioners to visit.

Picture: Royal Collection Trust/His Majesty The King

Silent Prayer in Church

The Silent Prayer meetings continue in church on the second Wednesday of each month, 11am to 12 noon.

The next dates are:

10 May

14 June

12 July

A group of people gather to sit together in silence for some 40 minutes. No spoken prayers are said, just the tinkle of a bell at the beginning, end, and half-way through. Being silent for a little while is an invitation to listen to what is happening inside. In our liturgies we are used to address God in praise and song, but listening to the inner 'still small voice' may take some more attention. Doing it with other people forms a creative power that can be felt and can be powerful. Letting go of the need to be busy even for a little time is not only relaxing, but will eventually lead us to the truth of our selves that seems to be the big task of all our lives. There is no need to join anything, book or apologise; just come if and when you can.

A friend tells me that when she prays for someone she does not so much pray *to* God for them as *for* God for them. This seems to me a vital clue about prayer. It is God that the troubled person needs, not our advice and instructions. As we learn more about worship we learn to listen more deeply so that we can be channels through which God's love reaches the other person. It is God at work, not we ourselves; we are simply used.

Diana Lampen, 1979

Services and Events

Monday 1 May Bank Holiday

Church closed

Friday 5 May

10am Second Half Club
6pm Prayers on the eve of the
Coronation of King Charles III

Sunday 7 May Fifth Sunday in Eastertide

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
to mark the Coronation
Readings Isaiah 40.12-17,25-end
Luke 22.24-30
Preacher The Revd Philip Welsh
Followed by Parish Coronation Picnic

Monday 8 May – Coronation Holiday

Church closed

Wednesday 10 May

11am Silent Prayer
3.45pm Midweek Sunday School
7pm PCC in church hall

Friday 12 May

8am Adult Confirmation preparation
10am Second Half Club

Sunday 14 May Easter 6 and Rogation Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
with Baptism of Oskar Flesvik
Readings Acts 17. 22 - 31
John 14. 15 - 21
12.30pm Baptism of Sebastian Rose

Friday 19 May

10am Second Half Club

Saturday 20 May

3pm Wedding of Gregor Grant-Suttie
and Oriel Octave

Sunday 21 May Ascension Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
Readings Acts 1. 6 - 14
John 17. 1 - 11

Thursday 25 May

11.30am Communion service at St Teresa's
Care Home Roland Gardens (NB
change of day this month)

Friday 26 May

10am Second Half Club
(NB – due to the Half Term break,
the next session will be on 9 June)

Sunday 28 May Pentecost

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Family Eucharist
with Come and Sing Choir
Readings Acts 2. 1 - 21
John 20.19-23
3pm St Paul's Cathedral, Evensong,
with installation of Prebendaries

Monday 29 May Bank Holiday

Church closed

Sunday 4 June Trinity Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am Holy Eucharist
Readings Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31
Matthew 28. 16 - end

Year's Mind May

Victor Smith
George Godbolt
Helene Stockton
Frances Vernon
Grenville Lake
Ronald Palin
Charles Tait
Noël Santanna
Jean Garraway
Patricia Behr
Richard Dowbiggin
Norman Griggs
Richard Branston
Jane Hoyer Millar
Patricia Simpson Coe
Frieda Bilger
Bisera Tweed
Rosemary Hulse
Martin Hulse
Diana Thornhill
Paul Newall
Ivor Porter
Edward Hamilton
Richard Hopkins



Tulip and Pasque flowers—Edwina Sassoon

Parish Office

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(Day off Thursday)

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Verger/Caretaker

David Ireton
020 7244 8998
07881 865 386
(Day off Wednesday)

Churchwardens

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Leo Fraser-Mackenzie 020 7384 3246

Director of Music

John Ward
boltonsmusic@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Bank Details

Account name:
PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude
Account number: 80692190
Sort code: 20-80-14

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children@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Safeguarding at St Mary's

The St Mary The Boltons' Safeguarding Officer is Clair Gordon. Her role is to help us to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. She is the first point of contact for children, adults at risk and other members of the congregation regarding suspicions of abuse and other safeguarding concerns. If you have any concerns, please contact Clair on 07850 944 834. In the event of Clair not being available, Rosie Meckiff Mengel may be contacted at 07905 245652. Alternatively, speak to Sheryl Kent, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 020 7932 1224 Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) helpline: 0845 120 4550 Family Lives: 0808 800 222 (Previously Parentline) Childline: 0800 1111.

Children's Champion

The St Mary The Boltons' Children's Champions are Chris and Katie Fowkes. Their role is to ensure that the voices and needs of the children and young people are heard and reflected in parish life. They can be contacted via: children@stmarytheboltons.org.uk.



There is a Hearing Loop in operation at St Mary The Boltons

Contributions for the June Clarion should be sent to the Parish Office by 22 May please.

The PCC of St Mary with St Peter & St Jude, West Brompton is a Registered Charity, No 1133073



Wisteria, St Mary's Church Garden