

# THE CLARION

The Magazine of The Parish of St Mary The Boltons

rooted in faith • open in thought • reaching out in service

February 2019

## Rooted in faith

At the beginning of February we leave the season of Epiphany behind, and enter that period called Ordinary Time, when in church we take stock, and hopefully grow a little more in the basics of our faith before the next proper season begins, on Ash Wednesday.

The colour in church is green: for growth, I always say to youngsters. Quite rightly, as it is the season when we set our roots a bit deeper and begin to show shoots of growth after what for some people has been a long and arduous winter. This month's *Clarion* reflects that: rooted in faith.

It is the ordinary work of being a Christian that I want us to think about and in particular, this coming month, the work of being part of the community of faith and members of the church. Our faith is a matter for our own personal life, but it is also a matter for how we live together in our community or the household of the church, and how we sustain that life together, spiritually, practically and financially.

Here are some new things we are doing this term which we hope will enable and encourage us in this work:

Third Sunday Forum: a facilitated conversation led by members of the group, rather than the Vicar, and a chance to look hard at the gospel of the day together. Fifteen people came along to the first session, and talked about the idea of generosity. The next session is on Sunday 17 February.

As part of our ongoing commitment to our children, the Little Lambs group is being regenerated by the Sunday School coordinators. We are inviting new baptism families to join in, as the group meets about once a month. Preschool children accompanied by a parent are welcome.

Monthly visits to St Theresa's nursing home are restarting after a couple of years' hiatus. It will involve a short service involving singing familiar hymns, reading a bible story, and sharing

communion with anyone who wishes it. Perhaps you might like to join in?

This month at St Mary's we will be engaging in a stewardship campaign, which we hope will encourage us to think hard about our financial contribution to the life of the church, and whether we are able to give either more regularly, or more generously.

Please see the article on Stewardship on page 11. We hope

you will read it and consider your own giving for the coming year. As you will be aware from your own household bills, costs are going up and so must our income, if we are to sustain what we do at St Mary's, and certainly if we are to grow our ministry together.

There is more to say and you will find other articles in this issue that we hope will challenge us to further conversation and work together.

*Jenny Welsh*



Ely Cathedral, *The Path of Life* by Jonathan Clarke  
[www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk)

## Rooted in Faith, Sharing and Supporting

On 30 December 2018, the Revd Philip Welsh (husband of our Vicar Jenny) began the intercession prayer by reminding us 'to support one another in our journey of faith'. This short sentence made me reflect on the meaning of supporting and sharing faith and how I came to faith myself through my parents and grandparents who were committed Christians. Looking back, I count myself lucky that my father especially, was a strong role model. He taught me how to swim in the river Lahn, a fast flowing tributary of the Rhine. My father asked me to cling to his back and he promised me that we would reach the other side of the river together. I was just six years old and I knew I could trust my father.



For me, the best synonym for faith is trust. The word 'trust' usually implies another person. That person, of course, is God, who is our guide and who is steering us safely through life's journey.

I also had a strong sense that God was present during my confirmation. I still remember the special bible verse that was given to me at my confirmation and which was different for every confirmation candidate: 'Yet I am always with thee, thou holdest my right hand; thou dost guide me by thy counsel and afterwards wilt receive me with glory' (Psalm 73.23-24)

When I was 16-years old, I won a one-year scholarship to attend Senior High School in Springfield, Missouri, USA. My host family, Mr and Mrs Herbert Turner and their three children, were devout Southern Baptists: no alcohol, adult baptism, and happy-clappy services. This came as a huge spiritual shock to the devout Lutheran, German teenager who had enjoyed sampling beer on an official tour with her classmates in Bremen, – the home of Beck's brewery – whose parents had her baptised when she was a baby and who was used to restrained, traditional church services.

I learned that Jesus can change prejudices and attitudes and I recognised that my host family were also children of God.

With more maturity, I now follow

Bonnie Evans-Hill's counsel: 'When people ask me about my approach with people of other faiths, and whether I ought to be converting them, I try to instill a sense of humility. When speaking to others about their faith we need to remember that we are speaking to them about their great love, about what it is that sustains them in their darkest moments. We are treading on holy ground when we do this and we need to take off our shoes and tread softly'.

*Anne Swift*



## News from Family Friends

Family Friends is the North Kensington-based charity for which we raised funds during 2017 and 2018. Here is Mona's story, one of the parents they helped:

'I was a struggling single mum of two children aged 3 and 18. I had no support from my family as I was brought up in care and my foster parents and birth mother died years ago. I struggled to make friends due to abandonment issues from childhood, and I fell into a deep depression. I have been in recovery for addiction for ten years but I was struggling to manage my feelings, especially after the Grenfell fire. My GP connected me to Family Friends, who found a suitable friend for me and my girls.

'I got a really good feeling as soon as I met Diane. We would meet once a week and go for a healthy breakfast together on Portobello Road. Diane is a good listener, with warmth and wisdom. I have gained confidence and learned to trust again. Diane and I have been on walks through Holland Park, which has really helped my depression. We have taken my youngest daughter to see *The Tiger that Comes to Tea* in the West End, something I could never have done, as well as to Kew Gardens. Diane helped me with my eldest daughter's move to university. She also came along to support me in court, a very vulnerable time.

'Diane has enriched our lives and I will always be grateful for the wonderful friendship we have. It has made a massive difference in my life and has also benefited my children.'

*Anthony Williams*



## Further News About our 2019 Charities

At its first meeting in 2019, the PCC approved further recommendations from the Charity Committee for the charities for whom St Mary's will raise money during this year. The **Rahab** project, which was announced in the last issue of the *Clarion*, has been made a principal charity alongside Teach a Man to Fish. This means that we shall be fund-raising for Rahab in both 2019 and 2020.

For fund-raising during 2019 only, **Solidarity Sports** will join **Hope Gardens India** as a charity to which we plan to donate £1,000, subject of course to our raising sufficient money. **Solidarity Sports** is a small charity that provides a range of sports and healthy eating projects to local children and young people aged 7-16 in the boroughs of RBKC, Westminster and Brent, mainly from black and minority ethnic and often migrant communities. There is a focus on education, team-work and health and the charity aims to enhance the well-being of disadvantaged children who have slipped through the gaps of society. The children they work with are either referred to them by social services or are refugees. Our money will pay for the recruitment and training of a person who will provide intensive monitoring of a troubled child in Kensington & Chelsea during a period of at least six months. This gives the children in their care good opportunities to escape a

chaotic environment and find inner calm with a skilled and committed mentor who will support and care for them.

[www.solidaritysports.org](http://www.solidaritysports.org)

*Anthony Williams on behalf of the Charity Committee*



## **The CW+MediCinema: A Story**

*The parish supported The CW+MediCinema as one of our charities in 2017. Their Newsletter for Winter 2018 tells a story:*

‘Sienna has spent most of her four years in Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London, having been born with a severe congenital diaphragmatic hernia, a potentially fatal birth defect, as well as complex heart defects. Her mum, Mandy, spoke to us about Sienna’s difficult start to life and how the CW+MediCinema has helped:

‘It’s so hard to describe what our lives are like as they’re just our lives – we both lived for nearly her first two years 100% in the hospital, and still practically live there now. Sienna knows it better than home, and it is so hard to be or do anything other people would call as ‘normal’.

It is difficult to describe what spending 24 hours in one room for 4-6 weeks does to a toddler and means as a parent, on top of the worry and stress. Everything you know and can do is shrunk into that space and four walls, you forget there’s life outside, boredom takes over, what there is to talk about dries up, and Sienna’s behaviour changes. It is so hard to start conversations, and to make friends – you

run out of things to talk about – but relationships are what keeps you sane.

The CW+MediCinema has been such an important part of that for me and Sienna, giving us something to talk about together and with other families that is neutral, normal and fun. For me, the walk back after the film has always been one of the highlights. I would never have got through the last four years without those friendships – and discussing the film afterwards has been so important in helping me and Sienna build them.

Sienna’s made some very close friends, one in particular, through the cinema – and we see him and his family regularly, even outside of hospital. Where she can’t play with other children, Sienna can go to the cinema with them, and escape into the brightly coloured chairs and the film.

The CW+MediCinema has been a lifeline for us throughout: coming out of that situation to go to the cinema always gives Sienna the break she, and I, need to cope.”

[www.familyfriends.uk.com](http://www.familyfriends.uk.com)



## **Jargon-buster:**

### **Words you only hear in church**

#### **9. Intercessions**

Intercessions (a word that literally means going or coming between) are basically prayers of asking, as opposed to the prayer of adoration, or confession, or thanksgiving.

There has always been an element of intercession in the liturgy, but it is only from the 1960s that our contemporary forms of service have provided a framework for bringing into our prayers the community’s particular

concerns of the time, generally led by a church member. Forms of words within which to insert specific biddings are provided for optional use, but always we are asked to follow the balanced sequence of prayer for the church, the wider world, the local community, people who suffer, and those who have died.

The key point about the Intercessions is that they are not generalised devotional reflections, but specific objects for prayer, and as such they present a revealing snapshot of the range – or the narrowness – of the church’s concern.

Led imaginatively and concisely, they are a great opportunity to earth the church’s eternal values in the particular and the topical. Yet, as one rather acerbic commentator writes, ‘those who attempt to smuggle in a sermon or a soapbox have to be given one last chance and one only’.

Next month: Year’s Mind  
*Philip Welsh*



Prayer for the Church militant: The intercessions in the BCP communion service. churchonthecorner.org.uk



## The WWI Memorial Window

The stained glass window in the nave, next to the pulpit, is dedicated to the memory of Francis Methuen Noel. Originally it was in the middle window on the south side, but having

survived the bomb damage of World War Two, it was moved to its present position as part of the restoration work in the 1950s.

The inscription at the foot of the window reads ‘Erected in dear memory of Francis Methuen Noel 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Devonshire Regt who was killed in action at Gheluvelt on Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 1917. He was the eldest son of Admiral Francis Charles Methuen Noel and Wilmot Juliana Noel his wife. He went forth with other brave comrades to defend England in her peril, the homes they loved and the honour of their race’. His family lived at 33 Redcliffe Square.



<https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205386482>

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records show that Francis Noel was born in 1888 in Southsea, Hampshire, and was just 28 years old when killed in action. He had been educated at Cheltenham College and worked for some years in the Bank of England. He joined the Inns of Court Officers’ Training Corp soon after the start of the war and was commissioned into the Devonshire Regiment. He served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 13 January 1916, showing conspicuous gallantry in several engagements. He was killed in action while leading his company as Acting Captain at the attack at Gheluvelt on 26 October 1917.

The regimental history records that in 1917 in early October the 9<sup>th</sup> battalion, in which Noel served, was to be found near Passchendaele enduring the worst of the Third Battle of Ypres. On 26 October, in an unsuccessful attack on Gheluvelt, their losses were heavy, especially among their officers, only three of whom from the two Battalions remained unscathed.

From the war diaries (official daily reports from the front), preserved in the National Archives, it is possible to track the movements of troops almost on a daily basis. It is not so much the actual movements from place to place that reveal the human cost of war, but the incidental information. Reports from the battalion in which Lieutenant Noel served indicate that direction finding was a regular problem 'in an area entirely destitute of landmarks', 'while on dark nights the difficulty of negotiating bad places on the track for animals is increased 100 per cent and also the difficulty of finding the way'. Though they tried to bring rations up by night by pack train 'the most efficient method was a combination of pack train and then by carrying party as the carrying party is far more mobile and able to cope with shelling and bad tracks of the last part of the journey'.

If direction finding was hard, communications with HQ and others in the field were equally difficult. One report from the Devonshires reads 'Communication [with brigade HQ]: The only means of communication which proved entirely reliable was pigeon. The Power buzzer and lamp were unsatisfactory and Relay runners were continually becoming casualties owing to the enemy's barrage fire'. Despite this enemy fire, they also reported that 'the policy of sending forward intelligence men with the leading waves to bring independent information was completely justified. These men brought back early, reliable and most valuable information'. As they prepared for

operations on 26 October 1917 it was already known that 'the enemy was expected to be holding his forward position strongly with a number of machine guns'. It was no surprise to read also that on the eve of the operation the 9<sup>th</sup> Devonshires were out of position, having advanced too far and so had to retreat. Zero hour on 26<sup>th</sup> was 05.40. They advanced under a creeping barrage that moved forward 50 yards every four or five minutes, but they were 'soon in the air and exposed to very heavy rifle and machine gunfire from various enemy positions and also frontal machine gun fire from the vilage of Gheluvelt'. The 9<sup>th</sup> Deveonshires 'suffered very heavy casualties indeed' and when they reached their objective 'they had by this time lost practically all their Officers'.

As well as the memorial window at St Mary's, Francis Methuen Noel is remembered at the Tyne Cot Cemetery in Belgian Flanders. Tyne Cot is the largest Commonwealth War Cemetery on the Western Front, with 11,953 named burials. It is also where the Memorial to the Missing is located. When the number of names on the memorial is added to the number of burials there, the total is nearly 50,000 men. It stands as a permanent reminder of the scale of the losses and the suffering engendered by the First World War. Among all these names Francis Methuen Noel is listed on the Memorial to the Missing.

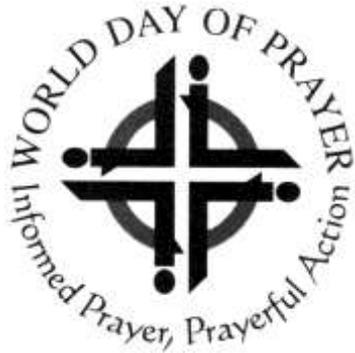
Frances Methuen Noel had a younger brother, who followed his father into the Navy, coming out of retirement and serving again during the Second World War. In 1941 he too was reported Missing Presumed Killed when the ship he commanded was lost.

Remember before God all those whose final resting place is known only to Him whose loving mercy endures for ever.

*Leo Fraser-Mackenzie*

## World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer (WDP) service takes place on Friday, 1st March 2019, at St Augustine's HTB Church, 117 Queens Gate, SW7 5LP  
11 am - Noon



Every year a different country prepares the music and text for this women-led, global, ecumenical, which is always celebrated on the first Friday in March.

The World Day of Prayer enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York, there are national and regional committees and our local committee consists of representatives of 12 different Christian churches in the Borough.

The 2019 WDP service was put together by the women of Slovenia. My first reaction on learning that Slovenia was the host country, was: 'Where on earth is Slovenia'?

Slovenia is one of the smallest and youngest countries in Europe, the size of Wales, in the heart of Europe, bordered by Italy, Austria, Croatia and Hungary. It only became independent in 1991. Its capital is Ljubljana; it has a population of just under two million people, of which 60% are Roman Catholic, 2.5% Muslim and 1% Lutheran.

Slovenia has had a chequered history of war and unrest. At the end of the Second World War the country was a part of Yugoslavia, a Marxist socialist republic. It is now one of the wealthiest and most politically open of the former Yugoslav republics.

Like me, not a single member of our RBK&C WDP committee, which has five rehearsals before presenting the service, knew much about Slovenia. I am convinced that God saw into our hearts and had his own divine plan for us. His gift to us came in the form of Verena Tschudin who has strong links with nurses in Slovenia and who has visited this small country many times. She gave an informal talk to our WDP group and now we are better equipped and feel stronger in supporting the people in Slovenia through our prayers.

Everyone is invited to come to this unique service, which is followed by refreshments.  
*Anne Swift*



## The Devil's Beatitudes

*The following was sent by Philip Welsh, but is also available on many websites and did the rounds on email some years ago:*

If the devil were to write his beatitudes, they would probably go something like this:  
Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour once a week with their fellow Christians – they are my best workers.

Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked – I can use them.

Blessed are the touchy who stop going to

church – they are my missionaries.  
 Blessed are the trouble makers – they shall be called my children.  
 Blessed are the complainers – I'm all ears to them.  
 Blessed are those who are bored with the minister's mannerisms and mistakes – for they get nothing out of his sermons.  
 Blessed is the church member who expects to be invited to his own church – for he is a part of the problem instead of the solution.  
 Blessed are those who gossip – for they shall cause strife and divisions that please me.  
 Blessed are those who are easily offended – for they will soon get angry and quit.  
 Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God's work – for they are my helpers.  
 Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister – for he shall be with me forever.  
 Blessed are you who, when you read this think it is about other people and not yourself – I've got you too!

<http://www.tullylish.com/reflective-thoughts/1209-the-devils-beatitudes>



## The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries at Westminster Abbey

Recently, Jenny and I paid a visit to this wonderful addition to the Abbey, opened last year. The roof-level gallery at the Abbey's east end was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and reroofed by Christopher Wren, and has now been imaginatively transformed into a first-class exhibition of the Abbey's historic treasures within a unique space.

You enter from Poets' Corner into the newly-built and ingeniously hidden Weston Tower,

and scarcely notice the 108 steps as you take in newly-revealed views across to the Palace of Westminster, windows filled with fragments of rediscovered mediaeval stained glass, and a lift shaft (lift available on request for the mobility-impaired) clad with bands of the 17 types of stone used in the Abbey.



[westminster-abbey.co.uk](http://westminster-abbey.co.uk)

As you step around Wren's diagonal roof-beams in the gallery, over 300 items are beautifully displayed around the themes of building the Abbey, its worship and daily life, its relation to the monarchy, and its role in national memory. The (silent) supporting videos are particularly well done, and there are great views of the flying buttresses and lively stone beasts just outside the windows.

Best of all, though, is the stupendous panorama down of the length of the Abbey interior and indeed out of the west door, as well as fine views of the Cosmati Pavement below in the sanctuary and of David Hockney's luminous new window.

Two oddities I enjoyed among the exhibits were the graffiti carved by Westminster schoolboys into the spare throne that had to be provided for the double Coronation of William and Mary; and the couplet on Rysbrack's sumptuous memorial to the poet and playwright John Gay (of *Beggars' Opera* fame, and so stepfather of Mack the Knife): Life is a jest; and all things show it, I thought so once; but now I know it.

Now for the really useful bit. Church members are entitled to use the free pass that the Abbey kindly provides for churches in the diocese.

Not only will this save you the steep entry charge to the Abbey, but it should allow you to bypass the endless queues to get in. You just have to pay £5 at the entrance to the Gallery. The pass can only be used so many times a year, so check with the Parish Office in good time to make sure it's available.

*Philip Welsh*



## **Peter Pan: A Sunday School Adventure**

With other children/teens from the Sunday School my family and I went to the Pantomime in Richmond. This is part of a new initiative, suggested by my father and Jenny at the Away Day of the PCC, to do new things with the Sunday School.

At first I did not know what to expect as I have not gone to the Pantomime before. I thought it would be quite serious and acting without anything more. I was wrong! It was amazing! The actors, the jokes, the enjoyment of the whole play... I loved it all.

What I found to be truly entertaining was how the audience could join in. I am used to being told to be quiet at the theatre so it was amazing to be encouraged to shout, hiss and boo. My brother Rafferty was truly liberated; he likes to make booing and hissing noises. There were also young children in the audience with flashing head bands and wands, which was lovely.

The play was Peter Pan (my mother told me it was Cinderella... but she also thought it was in Wimbledon so not the most reliable source!).

All the cast were amazing, but the most wonderful was the villain Captain Hook. My mother told me it was Robert Lindsay, an actor who was very well known. He was truly hysterical at times and it was clear he was not following the script at times, which made it really enjoyable. He made things up at times and really got involved with the audience. I was also relieved that there was not tons of dancing and singing, but when there was. It was so well executed: cartwheels, rolls and lots of brilliant moves.



[www.atgtickets.com/shows/peter-pan/richmond-theatre/](http://www.atgtickets.com/shows/peter-pan/richmond-theatre/)

It was for all ages, which again was lovely – too many of these theatre events are more adult based – and the audience was full of families together, where the children could be involved in it all.

There was one part which may have been scary for the younger children when a giant crocodile came on stage. It was really well done and absolutely huge and the younger children seemed to love it all. The crocodile burst onto the stage and was roaring and showing all its teeth.

I would rate the whole show a PG. Aside from the price of the ice creams, which were X-rated at £4.50 a pot. Luckily all the parents were so happy that we all got ice creams. Rupert's mum gave them some advice about how to run the ice cream situation, which my mother agreed with, but that's mums for you, constantly organising everyone!

I personally thought the whole show was brilliant and I would hugely encourage more outings for the Sunday School. I also hope more families come along next time. It was a screen-free fun time for us all.

Until next time, Cheerio!

*Findlay Coulter (11 years)*



## **Lent Group 2019**

This Lent we will be using a course coming out of the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland, called Crossing Borders: Exploring Brexit through the lens of Ruth.



The Corrymeela Community logo

It is not a discussion about how we voted, or how we wish things might turn out, but instead it will help us to think theologically about the issues the Brexit debates have thrown up about stereotyping outsiders, what it means to be a compassionate community and what it means to belong to a community. It is also a Bible study course, so we hope we will learn something about this shared story from the Old Testament. There will be four sessions on Wednesday evenings at the Vicarage. More information will be available later this month; the first session will be on Wednesday 13 March. Look for leaflets and posters.



## **In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ...**

Intercession training, Wednesday 6 February, 7.30pm at the Vicarage.

There will be a training session for people who help lead the intercessions (see this month's Jargon Buster) each week at the main service. This will be a chance to talk about what intercessions are for, particularly in the context of the Eucharist, and how to do it well. We currently have a small team of people who week by week help to gather up our prayers, but we would welcome others to join in. Perhaps you would like to offer this important ministry in church. If so, speak to the vicar, and come along to the training session on Wednesday 6 February, at 7.30pm.



## **Report from the PCC held on 22 January 2019**

The PCC welcomed Alex Burt as a newly co-opted member and congratulated the vicar on the birth of her first grandchild who also made a fleeting appearance with his parents.

Early indications from the Treasurer about the financial results for 2018 were concerning. While the accounts will show a surplus, this is only as a result of donations for the garden project and one-off legacies. Income from the hall lettings has held up, but parishioner donations are well down on previous years, to such an extent that they do not now cover the contribution to the Common Fund that pays for our vicar and vicarage and other central church costs from which we benefit. However, plans for a Stewardship Programme are well advanced and it will be launched in early February.

The renewal of the church lighting has progressed well, on time, on budget and so far without damage to the fabric. Favourable comments were made about the particular care the contractors have taken to minimise damage. The Fabric Committee will meet to assess with the contractor if any fine tuning of individual lights and their direction are needed.

All the funding for the garden renewal project has now been raised, including enough to allow some extra work to be done to prune and re-fix the wisteria on the south porch, and to replace entirely the lavender hedge at the west end. The PCC has given the go ahead for the project to proceed and work will start on 8 February. The initial phase will see a very substantial clearing out of the border but some plants will be saved and will be available to parishioners to take away. The planting scheme has been modified slightly to reflect the actual availability of plants. The PCC expressed appreciation to Edwina Sassoon for her indispensable contribution and to Non Morris, the designer, and her colleague who have travelled far and wide to source the right plants. Access to the south garden will be restricted for about 8 weeks while restoration proceeds.

The blockage in the vestry drain has been frustrating and expensive. It appears to be caused by a tree root, but a new survey is to be undertaken by Metrorod to assess the best options for repair.

Two other written papers were approved. The first was from the Charity Committee about the new principal charity to be supported in 2019, and the other was about the huge bills we receive from BT. The PCC agreed to remove the existing PBX system and to replace the existing 3-line telephone and broadband set up with a single phone line and broadband from a new supplier. There is a cost to cancelling the existing BT contract but

considerable savings will arise after the first year.

The Vicar reported that the numbers attending the Christmas services had held up well and the numbers of teenagers at the Christmas Eve Crib Service was particularly noticeable. She also reported that she has been invited to take a monthly service at St Theresa's Nursing Home and hopes that other people from St Mary's might join that service and possibly assist in leading it.

The next Meeting will be on Tuesday 5 March.  
*Leo Fraser Mackenzie*



## **Stewardship Campaign**

The last Stewardship Campaign was three years ago and the PCC has decided that the time is right for another. As the PCC report says elsewhere in this issue, although there have been generous one-off donations to be used for specific projects like the garden, or the lighting, or sponsoring the music from time to time, the regular giving in the congregation has dropped significantly in the past two years. We have become more and more dependent on the income generated from the Hall and hiring of the church premises, simply to pay for essentials.

It is time now to invite members to look again at our giving to the church so that we can plan not just how we maintain the current level of activity here at St Mary's but how we can extend and expand what we do, as the congregation grows. Like any household, we need to budget for things like our monthly bills, paying our staff, heat and light, and all the other items we need to keep things going, including increased maintenance costs of our

aging building. It is important too, that we plan and budget for new things that will help us to grow our ministry here in the parish and beyond. Just as your costs have gone up in your household, so have ours. If your level of giving at church has remained the same since 2016 (or before that), then it is actually worth less in real terms because of inflation.

This is not just an exercise in balance the books, as important as that is. Our giving is an important part of our Christian discipleship, of our belonging to the community of faith, and it is an essential response to the generosity of God towards us and the way we most effectively support the work of God's church here in the parish. We hope that when the campaign begins you will think and pray about what your level of giving to St Mary's is and that you will consider increasing it if you can, or whether your current circumstances mean that you cannot.

On 10 February the 10.30 Eucharist, including the sermon and prayers will take the theme of Stewardship, and that same week letters will go out to all our members explaining how our funds are used, and inviting you to consider your contribution to the work of St Mary's, along with a response slip, and the necessary forms for setting up gift aid and a standing order. (If you are not on our membership list, there will be copies of these items in church for you to pick up.) We are asking that the response slips be returned by Sunday 24 February, so that we can give the results of the campaign on Sunday 3 March, the Sunday before Lent begins.

*Jenny Welsh*



## **Electoral Roll**

In 2019 the St Mary's Electoral Roll will be fully revised and a new Roll will be created. Every Church must revise fully its Roll every six years. Everybody who wants to be included on the new Roll is required to complete a new Electoral Roll Application form. It is not possible to simply move a name from the current Roll to the new one.

To join the Electoral Roll a person must be over 16 years of age and baptised. They should also either live in the parish or have worshipped at the church regularly for at least six months. They should also be a member of the Church of England, or any church 'in communion' with the Church of England. 'In communion' means either belonging to a church which is part of the Anglican Communion or any church which believes in the Holy Trinity. In addition you must be prepared to declare that you are the member of the Church of England as well as belonging to that church.

Applications for the new roll open on Sunday 3 February. Blue Application forms are available at the back of the church. Once completed please place them in the specially marked "Electoral Roll" box. Completed application forms must be received by Sunday 10 March. If you do not return a completed form then your name will not be included on the new Electoral Roll.



## February Services and Events

### Sunday 3 February

The Feast of Candlemas  
10.30am All Age Service Blessing of  
Lights  
Parish Lunch

### Wednesday 6 February

7.30pm Intercessors' training  
The Vicarage

### Wednesday 13 February

11am Silent Prayer

### Sunday 17 February

Third Sunday Forum  
11.45am - 12.30pm

### Tuesday 19 February

7pm Standing Committee at  
the Vicarage

### Sunday 24 February

11.45am Organ Recital in church.

### Friday 1 March

11am World Day of Prayer Service,  
St Augustine's Church, Queens Gate

### Sunday 3 March

Last Sunday before Lent  
Baptism 12.15pm  
Parish Lunch

### Tuesday 5 March

7pm PCC in church

### Wednesday 6 March

7pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy

### Sunday 17 March

11.45am - 12.30pm Third Sunday  
Forum

### Tuesdays from February 5

1pm Holy Eucharist (with prayers for  
healing on the first Tuesday)

### Fridays (except 22 February)

10am - 2.15pm Second Half Club, in  
church

## Silent Prayer in Church

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

The next dates are:

13 February

13 March

10 April

These meetings are designed to give an opportunity to join with others for silent prayer and meditation. The space behind the altar is a perfect setting, having a quiet air of spirituality, silence and serenity. We begin with a short reading, then two sessions of twenty minutes in which we sit quietly in prayer or meditation with a short break between. If you are practised in meditation or simply wish to join others for the first time, you are welcome



## Year's Mind February

Edward Lidderdale

Christopher Morse

Mary Pilkington

Peter Hamilton-Davies

Robert Hannay

June Brudenell

Thomas Spicer

Anthony Clives

Storm Larkins

Gwyneth George

Thomas Barclay

Anjoli Fernando-Kleinsorge

Bella Callan

David Hancock

Roderick Owen

Simon Perkins

Lily Dwight

Lynette Hopper

Gary Marshfield

Derek Pilkington

Iris Warwick

Madeline Habgood

Kimbarra Morse



## Sunday Readings for February

### 27 January, Epiphany 3

Nehemiah 8.1-3,5-6,8-10

I Corinthians 12.12-31a

Luke 4.14-21

### 3 February, Candlemas, All Age

Malachi 3.1-5

Luke 2.22-40

### 10 February, 4 before Lent

Isaiah 6.1-8

I Corinthians 15.1-11

Luke 5.1-11

### 17 February, 3 before Lent

Jeremiah 17.5-10

I Corinthians 15.12-20

Luke 6.17-26

### 24 February, 2 before Lent

Genesis 2.4b-9,15-25

Revelation 4

Luke 8.22-25

### 3 March, Sunday before Lent

Exodus 34.29-35

2 Corinthians 3.12 - 4.2

Luke 9.28-36



## SUNDAY SERVICES

**8.00am Eucharist, BCP**

**10.30am Sung Eucharist**

The meeting room at the back of the church is available for people with pre-school children.

There is a baby changing facility in the wheelchair accessible toilet in the hall.

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

**Morning Prayer is said daily at 8.30am**

**Evening Prayer at 5.30pm**

except Public Holidays. The weekday Eucharist is on Tuesdays at 1pm in the chancel.



### Parish Office

St. Mary's Church House 020 7835 1440

The Boltons, SW10 9TB

[www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk](http://www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk)

### Vicar

Revd Jenny Welsh 020 7835 1440

07864 807959

[vicar@stmarytheboltons.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarytheboltons.org.uk)

(Day off Thursday)

### Parish Administrator

Max Noak 020 7835 1440

Tuesday, Friday: 9am-4.30pm

Wednesday, Thursday: 9am-2pm

[office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk)

### Verger/Caretaker

David Ireton

020 7244 8998

(Day Off Thursday)

07881 865386

### Churchwardens

Antony Bryceson, 020 7937 1055

Edward Quinton, 020 7373 6094

### 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

### Director of Music

John Ward 07853 406050

[boltonsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:boltonsmusic@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Carolyn Stubbs 020 7835 0074

**Assistant Treasurer**

Bill Gallagher 020 7384 3246.

**Electoral Roll Officer**

Fiona Parsons (call Parish Office)

**Gift Aid Secretary**

Philip Bedford Smith  
giftaid@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

**Clarion Editor**

Verena Tschudin 020 7351 1263  
v.tschudin@btinternet.com

**Reading at St Cuthbert's and St Matthias' School**

Sheila Gibbs 020 8788 9744

**Social Secretary**

Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

**Sunday School**

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, Kelly Webb may be contacted at 07971 552 014.

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.



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

**Contributions for the March Clarion should be sent to the Parish Office by 25 February 2019.**

The theme is 'Open in Thought'  
*The PCC of St. Mary with St Peter & St. Jude, West Brompton is a Registered Charity, No 1133073*



