

St Mary's Weekly News

22nd November 2020



Announcing A Christmas Fayre
18th – 20th December 2020
St Mary's Churchyard



**We are moving forward with an exciting – and daunting – plan to put on a Christmas Fayre in the Churchyard just before Christmas. There is a lot to do – and it does depend on the Covid-19 situation improving – but we are excited about giving people a chance to safely gather and enjoy a community event.
Look out for ways to get involved**



Welcome to St Mary's Weekly Newsletter. While we remain locked down and await the Government's decision to reopen churches, we continue not just to worship, but to plan for an exciting year ahead. This time of the year – the so-called 'Kingdom Season' invites us to remember that God's kingdom is the goal of all we do, and that 'being church' is about building the kingdom not just 'going to church'. Our clergy are available to offer support, one-to-one prayer and the sacraments in the days ahead.

What's On This 22nd November The Feast of Christ the King

8.30am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)

Live-streamed on [Facebook Live](#)

11am A Service of the Word led by Reverend Aaron Kennedy

Readings from the Book of Nehemiah

This Service will be on [Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 819 2951 8947; Passcode: 965502

Sunday Coffee Times

Feel free gather on Zoom using these links after our services this weekend:

9.30am: [Click Here](#) (Password: 7XNPO4)

12.15pm: [Click Here](#) (Password: 6JLUEP)

Next Sunday The First Sunday of Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (Traditional Language)

11.00am Parish Eucharist with St Mary's Choir

Preacher: Canon Simon Butler

Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-end

Both Services Live-streamed on [Facebook Live](#)

Advent Sunday marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, focusing on the Gospel of Mark



Weekday Worship & Events

St Mary's continues to be open for private prayer Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Monday *Simon attends General Synod until Wednesday*

Morning Prayer at 8.30am 

Tuesday Holy Communion at 8.30am 

Wednesday Lectio Divina at 8.30am*

Thursday Midday Prayer at Noon 

Action Learning Community

Training 7.30pm to 9pm

(Zoom)

***Lectio divina** is a way of prayerfully listening to scripture. [Click Here for our Wednesday morning Zoom call](#). The passcode is 259290.

A small group continue to say Morning Prayer together at 7.30am welcome others to join them.

[Click Here.](#)

For Your Prayers

The sick and those in need: Mary Paton, Lloyd & Hubert Maxwell, Lester Hillman, Charlotte Elliott, Rohini, Robert Law (Covid-19), Jilly Warom and Simon Letcher

The recently departed and their families: Sheila Eden, Richard Lewis, Rachael Floyd and Claudia Hanson

Website Redesign: The parish website is currently being redesigned and improved. If you have any photographs of the church or any activities within or around it that might be an attractive addition to the website, please email them to Simon in the coming week. We hope the new website will be ready for Christmas.

Our Lockdown Prayer Project

Prayer is at the heart of faith and many of us may well have a particularly important or significant prayer that is close to our hearts. We would like to invite you to share those with the rest of the congregation through our Facebook page. All you need to do is to email Simon our Vicar your favourite prayer, together with a few sentences of why your chosen is important to you, and day by day we will post them on the Facebook site, to give us each access to a daily prayer we can say. Alternatively, you might wish to write a prayer to share with us. It would be lovely if we could encourage one another in this way, and we warmly invite you to start sending Simon favourite prayers to vicar@stmarysbattersea.org.uk (ideally with a photograph if you are happy) and we continue to post them.

Glass Door Winter Night Shelter Update:

After some Covid-related back and forth, we have now been asked and agreed to host the night shelter on **Friday evenings at St Barnabas Church, Clapham Common**, for the second half of the winter season, i.e. from January to Easter. You can still volunteer at <https://bit.ly/3cHsoC5>. Further details soon.

Glass Door Sleep Out: Well done to the team who slept out (or in) last month in miserable weather. They raised – thanks to your generosity – £2,403.

2-Bedroom Flat in Winfield House to Let: If you might be interested in renting it, contact Chesterton's Estate agent (020 7924 4400)



Diversity and Inclusion at St Mary's: we want to make improvements to welcome more people, looking at disability, age, gender, ethnicity, economic and family status. Share your thoughts with Jenny (jenny.scott.thompson@gmail.com), Libby Bradshaw, Charlotte Kirwan or Lizzie Wilson-Gray.

From Issabella, Mackenzie, Amelia and Kaeden Patel:

Hi there, we are young members of the congregation work together to raise awareness and fundraise for children in need of healthy, nutritious lunches around the world. We organize community-based activities and fundraisers to support our mission. Please support our **3rd Annual Advent Calendar Fundraiser**. We are raising funds for our 2021 project in partnership with a girls and women's empowerment project and charity in Togo, Africa. Food is a large struggle for families in Togo, Africa with 365,000 people suffering from acute malnutrition and more than 60% of the population in extreme poverty. In our research we have identified that ending hunger can begin with empowering girls and women in regions suffering from poverty.

LAST ORDER BY 5PM FRIDAY 27TH
NOVEMBER

Advent Calendars are £5.00 each
Delivered to St Mary's Battersea Church on
Sunday 29th November
Ready for pick up on Monday 1st
December

ORDER ON OUR WEBSITE
www.giveafreelunch.com

Helping Dwain: Dwain is a young man who is helping us with practical jobs around the church and churchyard. Sadly he had his bike stolen last week. If you have a bike you no longer need, please could you let David know in the office: Duane doesn't have the funds to buy a new one for himself.

New PCC Secretary: we are looking for someone to serve in this administrative role, which comes with PCC membership. Speak to Simon to find out more.

BATTERSEA ZOOMERS!

**New 60+ beginners online socials
From the comfort of your home!**

**Simple to learn
We will teach you!**



**You will need at home:
Wifi
Access to a smartphone, tablet or
computer**



Age Well Battersea

**Training from
November 2020**

To find out more

**Contact Kerry:
0207 223 2845
07960 108103
kerry@kissettlement.org.uk**

Regenerate, the Charity which works with disadvantaged young people, has returned to St Mary's Churchyard with their new orange Coffee Cart. It will be open 8.30am to 6pm during lockdown.



The Idea of A Christmas Fayre

A group of 18 people gathered on Zoom earlier in the week to talk about the idea of having a Christmas Fayre over the weekend before Christmas.

The idea came from our new Treasurer, Richard Cross, who has a big vision for how St Mary's can use its building and churchyard more effectively in mission, community outreach and fundraising. More of that in 2021.

Richard was asked by the Funding & Finance Working Group to suggest a 'quick win' for this year, something which would enable us to explore the sort of things that might be feasible, even when faced with the reality of lockdown. Richard did a fantastic bit of scoping out, and it soon became clear to him, and then when he presented it to the Church Council, that the idea of a Christmas Fayre was worth exploring.

Everyone who has heard about it so far has naturally got some questions in the light of the short timescale and the uncertainties around Covid-19. But the key thing was that there appear to be enough local traders and small businesses that are interested in setting up stalls from Friday to Sunday 18th – 20th September. On top of that, many people who have heard about the idea are aware what a good piece of community festivity could bring to people in our locality,

despite the very real challenges of putting this event together in this time and at this moment. It could give a real boost to our community and build on the goodwill and recognition St Mary's has gained during the pandemic as a creative, energetic and serving church.

The next steps are being put together by a small group led by Richard, both members of St Mary's and some interested people from beyond the church. They hope to have a clear picture of exactly what is needed in the next two weeks or so and to be ready to ask for volunteers to help as well. It is worth saying that the Fayre itself will be an outside event, with the church building being reserved for a small number of local charities to display their work and to do some modest fundraising. We don't intend to be using the Crypt and we will need a robust Covid-secure plan in place to ensure that we are not seen to be encouraging ill-discipline around social distancing.

If you want to find out more or you are interested in taking a stall, please contact Richard Cross on 07912 841910, email Richardkennethcross@gmail.com

We hope to have an update for you very soon.



Contacts

St. Mary's Church

The Parish Office, St. Mary's Crypt Battersea
Church Road London, SW11 3NA

Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Tel 020 7228 9648

office@stmarysbattersea.org.uk

Canon Simon Butler

Vicar (Day Off: Thursday Evening/Friday)

vicar@stmarysbattersea.org.uk

07941 552407

Reverend Aaron Kennedy

Associate Vicar for Community Development &
Mission (Day Off: Friday)

aaron@stmarysbattersea.org.uk

07815 180273

The clergy are always ready to visit, or to offer confidential pastoral care. Please contact them directly. If you hear that a member of the parish is unwell or needs a visit or a call from one of the clergy, please let the clergy know. They may not have heard and are grateful to be kept informed.

Giving To St Mary's

We invite and encourage everyone who considers St Mary's their spiritual home to make a financial contribution to our work.

The best way of doing this is through setting up a Standing Order, so that your giving doesn't depend upon how often you are able to get to church.

To do this, just use these details

Account Name: Battersea Parish Church PCC

Sort Code: 502101

Account Number: 82127468

If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, please contact Chris & Erica Sage via the Parish Office