

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

Everything comes with an open invitation, and please bring a friend. **Things in green need pre-booking, please.** Our website has all the details and links. We look forward to seeing you there: www.teddingtonparish.org/whats-on/, or scan this QR code:



- Saturday 1 **Parish Plod.** Continuing along The Green Walk. 9.30am
- Sunday 2 **Dementia in the Spotlight:** lunchtime talk & discussion with the Alzheimer's Society. St Mary's Parish Hall. 12.00-2.15pm
- Christingle Candlelit Service.** SMwSA Church. 4.00pm. Open to all.
- Monday 3 **Teddington Community Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-4.30pm. **Also 10, 17 & 24**
- Tuesday 4 **Memory Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm. **Also 18**
- Wednesday 5 **First Wednesday.** Mina Hogan Room. 12.45-2.15pm. Open discussion group. Topic: *Parenthood these days: How is it changing?* Bring a packed lunch.
- Pints of View:** unscripted, agenda/committee-free fellowship. Tide End Pub. From 8.00pm
- Thursday 6 **Parish Social: coffee.** On Zoom. 10.30am
- Traherne Reading Group.** Mina Hogan Room. 1.30-3.00pm. **Also 13**
- Saturday 8 **Quiz Night *SOLD OUT***
- Sunday 9 **Building Anew Update.** St Mary's Parish Hall. 11.30am. **See page 3**
- Tuesday 11 **Parish Social: lunch.** Piazza Firenze Restaurant. 12noon
- Plain & Pearl: Tunisian Crochet.** Mina Hogan Room. 7.30pm
- Thursday 13 **Churchyard Gardening.** SMwSA. 10.00am. **Also Sat 15**
- Sunday 16 **Evensong.** SMwSA Church. 6.30pm. Open to all.
- Tuesday 25 **Parish Social: coffee.** Shambles Restaurant. 10.30am

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

- Sunday 23 Lent Lunch for Welfare. St Mary's Parish Hall. 11.45am. *(More details next month)*

Teddington Parish Information

CHURCH:	St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, TW11 9NN
Vicar:	Revd David Cloake: vicar@teddingtonparish.org
Associate Vicar:	Revd Mary Hawes: mary@teddingtonparish.org
Churchwardens:	Carla Maroussas: carla@teddingtonparish.org Jonathan Williams: jonathan@teddingtonparish.org
HALL and OFFICE:	St Mary's Parish Hall, Langham Rd, TW11 9HF 020 8943 2262
Hall Bookings:	Nadia Prince: nadia@teddingtonparish.org
Church Services:	Emma Castellani: emma@teddingtonparish.org
Operations & Comms:	Suzanne Parker: suzanne@teddingtonparish.org
Newsletter Editors:	Penny Jones and Sue Stevens: newsletter@teddingtonparish.org

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NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025



St MARY *with* St ALBAN PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

I hope that your year is unfolding as you had hoped, and that your resolutions are still intact. One of my resolutions as your parish priest was to assure myself that I and this parish are a blessing to you wherever you are, whoever you are.

Part of the life of the church happens on Sundays; part in specific and planned events during

the week; but part also of often entirely unseen events because the church is tailored to moments in all of our lives that are – in some ways – unforeseen. Indeed, as I write this, I reflect on attendance numbers at Christmas, and all those fun things, but a large proportion of those who graced our pews in 2024 came because of a significant one-off life event, and maybe you were one of them.

The Church of England is a national newsworthy organisation, but locally it is a sum of parts who, during the year are ministering to your families. Through baptisms, marriages and funerals, churches meet you where you are and walk with you in those days of joy or great sadness. We do it without fanfare and we do it – I hope – jolly well. Did you know that if you live in the parish – and you are likely to if you are reading this – you can marry in your church by right? We are ready to baptise you, or your children, and you need only ask. If you have a sense of 'the Other' and only want the Lord's Prayer, we will conduct your loved-ones' funeral without further demand on your spiritual expression or church habit.

We are here for you the other six days of the week. We don't keep a register, we don't set a test in the hope that you pass before we will walk alongside you – we will just do it because you asked. For us to do that is our blessing to you – to remove hurdles, and to welcome you here if you have need of us. Whatever this year brings, please know that we are ready to walk with you.

REGULAR SERVICES

- ~ Online service only;
- * In-person + livestreamed service

SUNDAYS:

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.00am Morning Worship
- 10.00am Parish Eucharist*

MONDAYS – SATURDAYS:

- 8.30am Morning Prayer, on Zoom (Mon-Fri and 9.00am Sat)~
- 9.00am-5.00pm Church open for Private Prayer
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom (Mon-Thur and 5.00pm Fri-Sat)~

WEDNESDAYS:

- 9.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service

Go to our website for further details:
www.teddingtonparish.org

Ash
Wednesday

WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH

9.30AM
Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

7.30PM
Sung Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

www.teddingtonparish.org

ruils

Thank you from RUILS

independent living Thank you so much for your donation of

goodies for our Christmas food parcels. This year we delivered parcels to seventy households across the Borough benefiting approximately one hundred and eighty local residents.



Due to your incredible generosity, and the support of our local community, in addition to providing families with staple products and treats, we were able to purchase fresh fruit, veggies, cheese and eggs. This made such a big difference to local people who are struggling this year.



"It meant the world to me to receive your Christmas care package, on many levels. I have an illness that leaves me very isolated & home bound, it made me cry when I received it, just knowing that people care for me, and I am not alone."

We couldn't do this without your support. Wishing you all the very best for 2025.

Cathy Maker

Cafés in the Community

The cafés, held at the Peter and Paul Centre, offer a place for people to feel included, over good quality coffee, tea and homemade cakes. We host several cafés:

The *Community Café*, is open **every Monday afternoon** 1.30pm to 4.30pm, for anyone who fancies a chat, but particularly those who feel excluded, socially isolated or anxious. It has been lovely to see people come, meet others, and over the months, develop lasting friendships.

The *Memory Café* is open on the **1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons** of the month from 1.30pm to 3pm, for those living with memory problems and their carers. At every café, there will be a quiz, bingo or sing-a-long. Our oldest café, it celebrates its 8th birthday this year.

The *Bereavement Café* will open in March. It will be hosted in partnership with Princess Alice Hospice, a 1 ½ hour café, open to all who have been bereaved. There will be an opportunity to talk to someone trained to listen, and share experiences with others who have been bereaved. Look out for more details in the March edition.

Please come along!

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help host or bake cakes please contact sarah@teddingtonparish.org. *Sarah Rae*

Children at SMwSA

Every Wednesday at 10.30am, St Mary with St Alban's bell chimes out across Teddington. It's being rung by one of the children at Church Mice, our pre-school Toddler Service. Children and their parents/carers gather to hear a Bible story, sing songs, pray and play. It's a small group, led by church members, and it's a delight to see the children grow and respond to hearing stories of Jesus. Parents and carers have the chance to have a coffee and chat as their children explore the toys and musical instruments. It can be a life-line for those feeling isolated or overwhelmed.

Sunday sees another gathering of children and families at our 9am Morning Worship. Although everyone is welcome, we usually attract between 10–20 family groups and have 20-25 minutes of singing, praying, hearing a Bible story. We learn about how we can live out our faith during the week,

and once a month we share Holy Communion. It's noisy, active, fun and faith-filled. A faithful band of volunteers busy themselves in the hall, making coffee and putting out crafts so that we can head there after the service to chat and chill.

Sowing the seeds of faith starts with children being able to gather regularly at Church Mice and Morning Worship. They hear the stories of Jesus and God's love for the world, and they see the difference it makes to us. They might not be able to articulate what's going on, but they know they are loved and welcomed.

Why don't you come along and enjoy worshipping in a different way? And if you can't join us, please pray for us and these communities that gather every week.

Mary Hawes

Tango Building Anew Fundraiser



What a joyful, entertaining night of dancing was had by all at the recent Tango Building Anew Fundraiser in the Parish Hall; raising nearly £1600 in ticket sales alone. Our huge thanks to Margaret Lochrie and her Freedom Tango students who put on a fantastic show, then encouraged us onto the floor for the Tango Taster Lesson, before a wonderfully sociable time enjoying those newly learned skills and chatting to new friends. Margaret runs Tango lessons in the hall every Thursday evening, and hosts a bi-

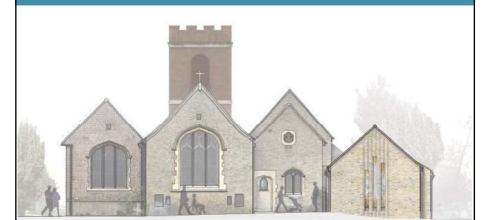


monthly Milonga on a Saturday night too: www.freedomtango.co.uk

Steven Randall

St Mary with St Alban Church Building Project - UPDATE EVENT

Building vital facilities for the community



11.30am Sunday 9th February

at St Mary's Parish Hall, Teddington TW11 9NN

Join Father David for a progress update with tea coffee and cakes and hear answers to your burning questions:

- What has happened so far?
- What is happening next?
- How much money has been raised?
- What is still needed?
- When will we start building?
- And when will we be able to use the toilets?!



To find out more visit the Building Project page on www.teddingtonparish.org

Registered Charity No. 1133919

Parish Registers

FUNERALS

We remember with thanksgiving:
 19th December: Tom Crowther (90)
 23rd December: Norman Toms (101)
 15th January: Adrian Clough (61)