

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

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.** Beginning the Middlesex Greenway. 9.30am
Monday 3 **Teddington Community Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-4.30pm.
Also 10, 17, 24 & 31
- Tuesday 4 **Memory Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 1.30-3.00pm. **Also 18**
- Wednesday 5 **Ash Wednesday Services** with Imposition of Ashes. SMwSA Church: 9.30am Holy Communion and 7.30pm Sung Eucharist.
First Wednesday Open Discussion. Mina Hogan Rm. 12.45-2.15pm.
Topic: *Safeguarding.*
Pints of View: unscripted, agenda/committee-free fellowship. Tide End Pub. From 8.00pm
- Thursday 6 **Parish Social: coffee.** On Zoom. 10.30am
- Tuesday 11 **Parish Social: lunch.** Piazza Firenze Restaurant. 12noon
Plain & Pearl Social Crafting. Mina Hogan Rm. 7.30pm. **Also 25**
- Wednesday 12 **Lent Course.** Mina Hogan Room. 11.00am **Also 12, 19 & 26.** See page 2
- Sunday 16 **Lent Evensong.** SMwSA Church. 6.30pm. Open to all.
- Monday 17 **Bereavement Café.** Peter & Paul Centre. 10.00-11.30am. See page 3
- Thursday 20 **Churchyard Gardening.** SMwSA. 10.00am. **Also Sat 22**
- Sunday 23 **Lent Lunch for Welcare.** St Mary's Parish Hall. 12noon. See page 3
- Tuesday 25 **Parish Social: coffee.** Shambles Restaurant. 10.30am
- Sunday 30 **Mothering Sunday Service.** SMwSA Church. 10.00am

LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL

- Wednesday 2 **Lent Course.** Mina Hogan Room. 11.00am **Also 9.** See page 2
- Sunday 6 **Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** St Mary's Parish Hall. 12.15pm
- Tuesday 8 **Plain & Pearl Craft Swap.** St Mary's Parish Hall. 7.30pm
- Sunday 20 **Easter Day**

Teddington Parish Information

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|-------------------------|--|
| 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 |
| Churchwarden: | Carla Maroussas: carla@teddingtonparish.org |
| Associate Warden: | 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 MARCH 2025



St MARY with St ALBAN PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

The Christians among us are about to start Lent, and if this is your practice, I hope and pray that these weeks in early spring are a blessing. For my part, I have considered abstaining from Lent but given that I only work an hour per week on a Sunday, it seems churlish! Instead, I am delighted to be offering a Lent Course on the subject of the Beatitudes (the 'blessed are the ...' bits of the bible) and for 2025 to do this in our usual way on a Wednesday morning in the Parish Hall, but also in smaller home groups. If you wish to join this, there is almost certainly going to be an inky QR splodge on this Newsletter for you to aim your gadget at.

One of the truths for many (if not most) of us is that we are, indeed, truly blessed. If you woke in your own bed(!), ate you own food, walked your beloved hound into the new pink dog salon (which coyness won't let me name here) – you are blessed. In a previous edition of this missive, I spoke of our partner parish in Mozambique and between that edition and this, they have suffered some appalling events. Not one, but two cyclones have hit them (Chido the most devastating), and together with political and religious unrest, have seen the destruction of a good dozen of their churches (including the one that we helped build), and many people scattered into the neighbouring countryside.

It is our custom to have a special Lent Appeal as a focus for specific sacrificial giving – and in 2025, our partner parish in Pemba will be the recipient. I ask that, be you a person of faith or no, you make a donation to this appeal if you can. It will make a very significant difference to people who simply want to be left alone to live their lives. Again, a QR code to your right has been made available for this vital act of kindness.

I close this by wishing you a blessed and holy Lent, and as we look forward to the events that form Easter – but more on that next month.

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

Donate to Pemba today and make a difference



Scan to Donate



Lent Appeal 2025

Two cyclones and the insurgency have led to many losing everything. Please support them.

St Mary with St Alban Church
www.teddingtonparish.org

www.teddingtonparish.org

St Mary with St Alban Parish Church Teddington

THE BLESSED OF THE LORD

A Lenten Retreat in Daily Life



Use this code to book your place in the Mina Hogan Room



Use this code if you would be interested in Home Groups

Session One
Living Well

Session Three
Living Purposefully

Session Two
Living Openly

Session Four
Living Lovingly

Session Five
Living Differently

You are invited to the 2025 Lent Course. Offered in two ways: newly formed Home Groups or on the Wednesdays in Lent in the Mina Hogan Room, 11am. Use the QR codes to book or call 020 8943 2262.
(please note that the Home Groups and the Wednesday Group will use the same material)

Return to Me

Ash Wednesday stops us in our tracks. No excuses, no distractions – just the blunt truth: *Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.* It is not a threat. It is a calling. A call to step away from all that numbs us and return to the One who made us, the One who loves us.

Lent is often framed as a season of giving things up. But before all that, it is a season of return. A season of turning our faces back toward God, of walking home like the prodigal son, unsure of what awaits – only to be met with arms flung wide in welcome.

The ashes are not a mark of shame. They are a sign of mercy. A reminder that even in our frailty, even in the dust and struggle of being human, we are not abandoned. The same God who formed us from the earth bends low to lift us up.

So come. Come as you are – tired, unsure, burdened. Come and be marked, not as a failure, but as one whom God refuses to give up on.

Lent begins with ashes. But it does not end there.

*Sister Margaret Thomas,
Teddington Parish Intern*



Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday 5 March. With Imposition of Ashes at both: 9.30am Holy Communion and 7.30pm Sung Eucharist.

Maggie Alderson. RIP

The funeral recently took place of Maggie Alderson, known to many Teddington families as a former Guide Leader of 2nd A Teddington Guides, the pack that still meets here in the Parish Hall. She was a teacher ending her career as the Head of Maths at Kingston College. Amongst her other interests Maggie volunteered for the Girlguiding movement for over 40 years, undertaking further roles including District Commissioner for Teddington and the County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Advisor. Maggie continued to offer her support to many units, particularly with their accounts, and as a member of the Twickenham Division Trefoil Guild. She will be greatly missed by friends and family.

Jo O'Hagan



CHORAL EVENSONG

SUNDAY 16 MARCH

6.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

Fairtrade Matters: a Lent Challenge

Almost fifty years ago I signed up to buy Campaign Coffee, not a great drink, but a forerunner in the Fairtrade Movement which used coffee as their flagship product. Subsequently Traidcraft entered the field and I became one of their earliest "reps", holding regular sales of an ever-growing catalogue of products – food, homeware, clothes – all sporting the Fairtrade logo which is now recognised by over 90% of the UK population. Buying fairly traded licensed products (and there are over 4,800 of them in the UK) makes a difference to the income, living standards and independence of formerly exploited families and workers world-wide. With the sad demise of Traidcraft, and as Lent begins, perhaps now might be a good time to add a new shopping tactic? The Co-op supermarket is a good start and wearefairtrade.com and store-transform-trade.org are both useful online suppliers.

Meanwhile, after successful sales of Real Advent Calendars over Christmas, I am offering Meaningful Chocolate Company's Real Easter Eggs (£5.50 each), available during March after the 9 & 10am Sunday services: including a 24-page Easter story activity book and a £200 prize competition. The price of cocoa has quadrupled in recent years, from £2,500 to £10,000/tonne, leaving this the only remaining fairtrade Easter egg producer. So, reserve yours now with me.

*Susan Jacobs
enquiries@teddingtonparish.org*



Lunch Invitation



Lent Lunch for Welcare
SUNDAY 23 MARCH
12noon

St Mary's Parish Hall Langham Rd TW11 9HF

Use this code to book your place:
(or call the Parish Office 020 8943 2262)



Come along for a simple homemade meal. Bring a friend. You will be asked to donate what you can for your lunch, with a range of preserves on sale too. Welcare is a local charity helping disadvantaged families. Use the QR code to book. Look forward to seeing you.
Margaret Squire

Bereavement Café Open

Bereavement Café

Third Monday each month
10.00-11.30am

Peter and Paul Centre
Bychurch End Teddington TW11 8PS
Contact: pastoral@teddingtonparish.org



In partnership with Princess Alice Hospice, please drop in on Monday 17 March from 10.00am to talk with trained people who understand.
Sarah Rae

