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

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

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

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025



St MARYwithStALBAN

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

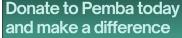
6.00pm Evening Prayer, on Zoom (Mon-Thur and 5.00pm Fri-Sat)~

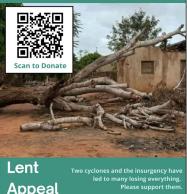
WEDNESDAYS:

2025

9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Church Mice Toddler Service

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

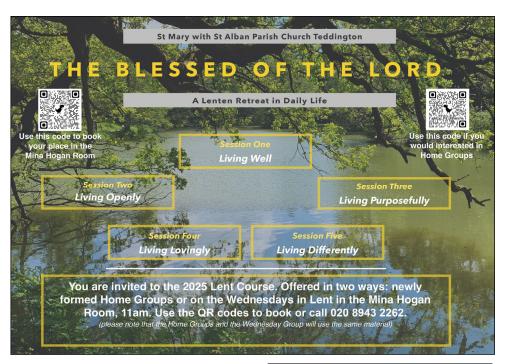




St Mary with St Alban Church www.teddingtonparish.org

f @smwsachurch





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 Léader 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 Girlquiding 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



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 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



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



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