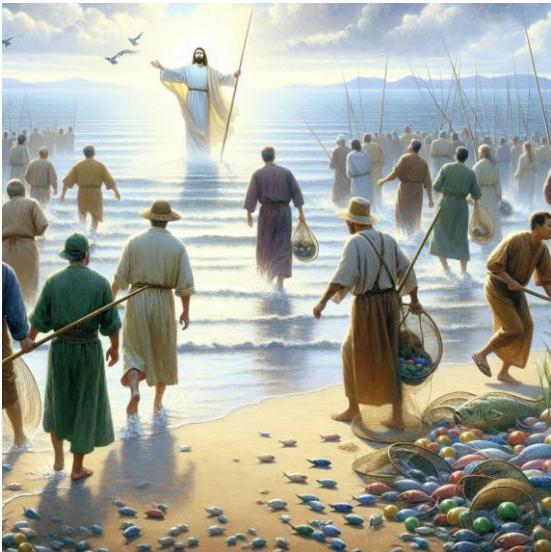




CHURCH NEWS

St. Augustine's Church, Whitton, Hospital Bridge Road, Twickenham, TW2 6DE

3rd Sunday after Epiphany



Matthew 4.12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake-for they were fishermen. And he said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fish for people. Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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Thought for the Week

This week's Gospel is packed with information and inspiration. First we learn that Jesus withdrew to have time for himself before he moved base camp, from Nazareth to Capernaum, in order to kick off his ministry of teaching and healing. Then he called the first apostles, who didn't flinch before letting go of their past to embark a whole new path and way of life.

In many ways we may recognise the intensity, which is evident in Jesus' life, from one thing to another in what seem to be a speedy pace. We may not go on a retreat, move house and fish for a new social network in one breath, but our lives are certainly filled with all kinds of activities, reflections, directions and socialising with both old and new friends. And for some life might be exactly the opposite, where the reality of a busy and intense and social lifestyle is missing. Where the longing is to turn that table.

Either way, take time to journey with this Gospel over the week. You may be retreating at this time. You may maybe not physically moving house or town, but shifting focus or moving in a different direction. You may be discerning your calling. And you may identify yourself with one of the fishermen, Jesus very first disciples.

Whatever you feel and wherever you find yourself, remember that you are called and known by God. As it is written in Isaiah: Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name and you are mine.

Prayer tree until Candlemas 1st February

This tree is dedicated to our prayers, dreams and hopes for this season and beyond. Next to the tree there is a basket with cards and pens. Take time to sit down, write your prayer and hang it in the tree. Let this season be a season of prayer and reflection. Let God hold all your thoughts, dreams and worries in love and give you God's peace.

Extension to January's Retiring Collection

At its last meeting the PCC agreed to extend January's retiring collection to Sunday 15th February. This is to enable the Parish to designate the whole of the Lent period to Bishops Lent Appeal.

January's Retiring Collection – The Motor Neurone Disease Association sponsored by Graham Dale

There shouldn't really be any need for anything to be said about this devastating disease which has received much recent publicity due to the bravery of now departed sufferers, Doddie Weir and Rob Burrows and the fund raising efforts of such as Kevin Sinfield.

Motor Neurone Disease (MND) is when messages from the nerves known as motor neurones gradually stop reaching the muscles and it leads the muscles to weaken, stiffen and waste effecting how the patient walks, talks, eats, drinks and breathes. Some people also suffer cognitive and behavioural changes. The disease affects everyone differently and not all symptoms affect everyone in the same way or the same speed. MND is life shortening and there is no cure, but the symptoms can be managed to help achieve the best quality of life.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association is the only national charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland focussed on MND care, research and campaigning. The MND Association with nearly 8000 members provides powerful national and local network that provides information and support alongside fighting for improved services. I'm not expecting you to run seven ultra marathons in a week, as Kevin Sinfield, Rob Burrows great friend, has done; but please give generously. More information about the charity you can [Click this link](#) or go to <https://www.mndassociation.org/> Thank you.

Retiring Collection from April 2026 onwards

The retiring collection to which you so generously donate to is selected based on your nominations to the PCC. The PCC aims to make its selection from a pool of Local, National and International organisations.

If you would like to nominate a charity that you support, please write to Pauline Churchman at staugustine.whitton@hotmail.com giving a brief description of the charity no later than 31st January 2026 for discussion at March PCC meeting.

Palm Crosses

As we prepare for the solemn season of Lent, we invite you to bring in your blessed palm crosses from last year. These will be gathered and burned to create the ashes for our Ash Wednesday service on February 18. Please place them in the designated basket at the back of the Church.

Sunday School and Messy Church

After the 25th January, the next Sunday School is on 1st February. The next Messy Church is on 22nd February.

Quiz Night – Saturday 31 January Doors Open at 6:00pm

St Augustine's Quiz Night with Supper is back on Saturday 31 January. Doors Open at 6:00pm to start promptly at 6:30. Tickets are £15.00 each for teams up to eight people and are available from Helen or Sue Thornton mobile 07939 129293.

For catering purposes the deadline for tickets is the 27th January. If you want to come, sign the sheet at the back of the church or call Sue.

Strollers Walk Saturday 31st January

Weather permitting, (showers are currently forecast for the day), strollers next outing is scheduled for Saturday 31st January, they will be walking the **Parkland Walk** in north London, from Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace. It is about 5 miles and largely on the track bed of 2 disused railway lines so is flat on those sections, but a bit undulating in Queens Wood, the area between them. There are some great views of London near Alexandra Palace. Stout footwear is advised.

Strollers will catch the 0950 train from Whitton then change on to the tube at Vauxhall to catch the Victoria Line to Finsbury Park and have lunch at the Queen's wood Café. All are welcome and if you are interested, please speak or call Peter de Winton on 07799 000 597

Foundation Governor Vacancy at Bishop Perrin

A vacancy has arisen for a Foundation Governors, nominated by the PCC at Bishop Parrin. The PCC would like to invite interested parties wishing to serve as Foundation Governor to submit their written application providing a precis of their reason for wishing to serve in this role to Mrs Pauline Churchman, PCC Secretary, no later than 31 January. The PCC will consider the applications received and will put forward their nominee.

For further information or to find out more about the Key role of a Foundation Governor and the Eligibility Conditions please speak to Mrs Alwyn Williams, Chair of Governors or Reverend Helen.

Our Prayer



Lord, thank you for calling us, not based on works but on your love and grace. Help us hear your voice, see your Son and feel the breath of your Holy Spirit in all we do. Give us courage to follow where you lead, even when it's difficult. This week we especially pray your blessing upon Ellie who we will welcome to our church community by baptism at Candlemas. Amen.

Those who are sick and struggling:

Jo Dale, Willem Cheng, Anne Newman, Lucy Brooks, Emily Adams, Ann Cadogan, Lyn Watts, Boyce & Millicent, Emma Piper, Joan Greening, Wyn Morris, Cheryl, Heather Woodworth, Connie Chingwaru & Mavis Walter

Recently Departed:

This week we remember the anniversary of the death of

(25) Walter Chapman, Patricia Emery (54), Georgina Hickling (08)

(26) Ann Barnikel

(27) Esther Mitchell (82), Harry Lywood (83), Julia Caulfield (06), Peggy Smith (08)

(28) Harold Brown, Fred Chandler (69), Pat West, Richard Trimble (05), Gladys Voss (05), Eric Dade (14), George Simmons (16), Daphne Sharp (18)

(29) Carolyn Hedworth (04) Marisha Wenderlish (10)

(30) Edwin Johnson, Nell Brunskill (00) Joseph Jacobs (05) Victoria Hayward (12) Carol Elliman (13)
Iris Osborne (23)

(31) May Ponder, Mary Thorpe (01)

Diary Dates – At a Glance

Sun 25 th Jan	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – 3 rd Sunday of Epiphany
Sun 25 th Jan	10:00am	Sunday School in the church hall
Sun 25 th Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Wed 28 th Jan	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Whitton Woollies – in Church
Fri 30 th Jan	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 31 st Jan	9:30am	Morning Eucharist Our Lady of Walsingham @ St Mary's Sunbury
Sat 31 st Jan	9:40am	Strollers Walk – Meet at Whitton Station to catch the 9:50 train
Sat 31 st Jan	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Quiz & Supper
Sun 1 st Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – Candlemas
Sun 1 st Feb	10:00am	Sunday School –in the church
Sun 1 st Feb	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 3 rd Feb	11:00am to 12:00pm	Quiet Space - I have called you by name – living in the light of God
Fri 6 th Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am