

# ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, WHITTON

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## CHURCH NEWS

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

### Epiphany



#### Mathew 2.1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.'

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**



**St Augustine's Church,  
Whitton, in Vacancy**

**Churchwardens**

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Hiring of Church Hall contact  
Sue Thornton  
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1134957

## **A Message from the Churchwardens**

St Augustine was extremely busy during the season of Advent and Christmas. Pupils, teachers and parents from Bishop Perrin, Heathfield Infant and Junior and Waldegrave Schools and the Tic Toc Nursery came to us for their school assemblies and Christmas celebrations. Nearly 1,900 people attended the various schools' services as well as the Carols, the Crib and our normal services. We are pleased to have been able to welcome so many people to our church.

## **A Message from the PCC and the Churchwardens**

As announced during Sunday notices, we have now submitted our Parish Profile to the Diocese and are awaiting their comments after which it will be finalised **by mid-January** to meet the dates set out below;

<b>Advert in Church Times:</b>	31 January 7 February 14 February 21 February
<b>Deadline for Applications:</b>	Monday 24 February 2025, Midday
<b>Shortlisting Meeting:</b>	Wednesday 26 February, 3pm
<b>Interviews:</b>	Wednesday 12 March 2025

## **Prayer and Reflection – Tuesday 7th January @ 11.00am – 12.00pm**

This monthly meeting takes place in the church on the first Tuesday of every month at 11.00am, for an hour. People take turns to lead in quiet reflections to deepen our spiritual life and Christian journey. Everyone is welcome. **For more information, please one of the Churchwardens**

## **December Retiring Collection – Crisis**

Your generous donations to crisis totalled £320 (Donations in 2023 was £242). Thank you!

## **January Retiring Collection – UNICEF**

On 6th January we celebrate 12th Night, with the coming of the three wise men who brought gifts for the baby child Jesus.



This month our retiring charity is UNICEF, an international charity that provides support for children in all parts of the world. Working in over 190 countries they respond to emergencies, such as that seen in Gaza, Haiti, the Sudan and Ukraine; to poverty and hunger as seen in Yemen and Syria.

UNICEF report that 2024 has been very difficult and there are now around 1 billion children living in poverty, which means they lack basic necessities such as food, water, shelter and education – all things that we take for granted.

Of these children, 333 million live in extreme poverty surviving on less than £1.75 per day. We know that most of these children live in parts of Africa, but please don't let this hide the fact that we also have children in wealthy countries, such as England, who live in extreme poverty.

This month I hope that you will follow the Christmas story and help the children in greatest need by donating as generously as you are able to UNICEF.

## **Walsingham Mass**

The next Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham is on 25<sup>th</sup> January followed by breakfast at the Winning post, all are welcome. Future dates of the monthly Mass of Our Lady are as follows: 22 February at St Augustine's, 29th March at St Mary's Sunbury, 26<sup>th</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> May at St Augustine's, 28<sup>th</sup> June at St Mary's Sunbury, 26<sup>th</sup> July at St Augustine's. Mass of our Lady will not be held in August and resume on 27<sup>th</sup> September at St Augustine's, 25<sup>th</sup> October at St Mary's, 29<sup>th</sup> November at St Augustine's. Walsingham Mass will not be held in December.

## **Update on Sunday School**

With the Sunday School leaders, from the New Year, we are looking at different ways to help the youngsters enjoy their Sunday worship. We are exploring the possibility of Messy Church taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, instead of Saturday.

## **Home Groups**

Home Groups provide an opportunity and a safe space to; explore the Bible and other issues together, explore those questions of faith we wanted to ask, grow in our faith journey and understanding of God's purpose for the world, get to know other people, and invite friends and anyone who may be seeking to know more about Christian faith.

If you are interested in joining, please speak to Fiona or one of the Churchwardens. *If you are interested in hosting a Home Group, please inform the Churchwardens.*

## **Raising Funds for our Church**

If you take out new home insurance with **Ecclesiastical Insurance**, they will donate £130 to an Anglican church or cathedral of your choice (T&Cs apply).

£130 may not seem like a lot of money, but a little help can go a long way. To find out more click on the link [Trust130 donations](https://www.ecclesiastical.com/home-insurance/trust130) or go to <https://www.ecclesiastical.com/home-insurance/trust130>

## **For our Prayers**

Please pray that the Holy spirit will open the heart of the right person, and guide them to serve us and St Augustine's as our new vicar.

In Jesus Name.



Peace and end of war in Syria, Israel-Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen, Ukraine, Sudan, and other places of conflict around the world.

For the safety and wellbeing of people affected by natural disasters; particularly the recent floods, hurricanes and typhoons affecting various countries around the world.

**Those who are sick and struggling:** Jo Dale, Willem Cheng, Richard and Theresa Scriven, Anne Newman, Emily Adams, Lucy Brooks, John Burbidge, Mavis Walter, Ann Cadogan, John Jones, Lyn Watts, Boyce & Millicent, Emma Piper, Joan Greening, Kay Alldridge, Jenny Jones and Wyn Morris

## **Recently departed:**

### **This week we remember the anniversary of the death of**

- (5)** John Moy, Eva Stanley (09)
- (6)** Irene Channel, Ada Davies, Gladys Saytch (04), Zena Mayne (09), Malcolm McKay (14)
- (7)** Harold Collins, Wally Hawkins (06), Mabel Hammersley (14)
- (8)** Rose Hackett (05), Len Crop (08)
- (9)** Florence Jacob, Elsie Bailey, Norman Claxton, John Nuthall (10), Doris Green (15)
- (10)** Albert Kemp (38), George Mitchell (83), Peter Saunders (02), Nancy Scringeur (02), Margaret Dawson (13), Ronald Hawkins B.E.M.
- (11)** Freddie Frenchum, Dorothy Stone (15)

<b>Diary Dates – At a Glance</b>		
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	11am – 12pm	Prayer and Reflection
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Said Eucharist service
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Parish Eucharist
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	12 pm	Youth Get Together (YGT)
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2:30 pm	Cornerstone Cafe
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7 pm	Standing Committee Meeting
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Said Eucharist service
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Art Class
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Parish Eucharist
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	7 pm	PCC Meeting
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10 am	Said Eucharist service
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:30 am	Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
<b>February</b>		
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6pm	Quiz Night