

ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, WHITTON

Sunday 15th December 2024

CHURCH NEWS

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

3rd Sunday of Advent



Luke 3.7 -18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?'

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?'

He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation and be satisfied with your wages.

' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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
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A Message from The PCC and The churchwardens

The PCC and the churchwardens would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. They would like to thank everyone who gives their time so generously in order for St Augustine to be able to open its doors to everyone.

During December, we would have welcomed Heathfield infant and junior, Bishop Perrin and Waldegrave and Tic Toc Nursery.

Nine Lessons and Carols – Sunday 15th December at 6.30 pm

Join us for our traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols starting at 6:30pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine.



Crib Service for the Children on 21 December at 4pm

Family friendly service of carols and the Christmas story. All Children welcome To take part - Just come along!

Please arrive at 3:45 pm dressed in your favourite nativity costume, followed by Refreshments

Volunteers for Churches Together in Whitton Christmas Lunch - 25th December 2024

The preparations for this year's Christmas Day lunch are underway. Once again, we need to ask for your help.

The lunch will be held at St Phillip and St James Church Hall on Hounslow Road. Volunteers are needed on Christmas Eve to prepare the hall. We will meet at midday for about 1 hour (the more people that help the shorter the time required). On Christmas Day, we require people to help greet our guests and serve lunch. We also require drivers to transport the guests to and from the hall. If you think you can help, please sign up on the lists at the back of church or email ctiwchristmas@gmail.com or speak to Roubina de Winton

December Retiring Collection – Crisis



December's retiring collection is for Crisis, the nation's largest homeless charity dedicated to helping people experiencing homelessness.

Every year Crisis at Christmas opens its doors to people who are homeless. Right now, thousands of people at the sharp end of poverty are at risk of being pushed into homelessness. As a national charity, Crisis offer much-needed warmth, healthcare, food and company to people experiencing homelessness across the UK.

November Retiring Collection - Thank you message from Homelink

Dear Members of the congregation of St. Augustine's Church,

Thank you so much for donating the proceeds from your November retiring collection to Homelink. As many of you will already know, every penny raised goes towards providing vital care and support to local older people and their carers. Clients are invited to spend an enjoyable and stimulating day at Homelink whilst the person that they care for has a much needed break from their caring role. In turn, this enables our clients and carers to stay living at home for longer, retaining their independence and maintaining their wellbeing for as long as possible.

You raised a grand total of £117! What is more - the money was donated to us via our Big Give Christmas Match Funding Campaign, meaning that your efforts will be doubled, totalling £234! Your support is hugely appreciated, thank you. Without donations such as this, we would be unable to do the important work that we do. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful 2025.

Jacqui Parris
CEO - Homelink

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 3rd Sunday of the month, instead of Saturday.

Walsingham Mass

The Walsingham Cell at St Augustine's has been re-established and all are welcome to the Mass which is held monthly on the last Saturday of the month followed by breakfast. Future dates of the Mass of Our Lady are as follows: 25th January and 22 February at St Augustine's, 29th March at St Mary's Sunbury, 26th April and 31st May at St Augustine's, 28th June at St Mary's Sunbury, 26th July at St Augustine's. Mass of our Lady will not be held in August and resume on 27th September at St Augustine's, 25th October at St Mary's, 29th November at St Augustine's. Walsingham Mass will not be held in December.

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.

Home Group with Fiona & John will start again in October. 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



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: Isaac Coupe

This week we remember the anniversary of the death of

(15) Robert Jenkinson (05)

(16) Gwen Harper (84), Howard James, William Brough (01), Eileen Berryman (07), Alan Sinclair (08)

(17) Kathleen Winter.

(18) Jack Munday

(19) Alice Wheatley, Annie Robbins, George and Vera Stevens, Kevin King (13)

(20) Annie Hankey, Percy Tisdall (81), William Woodcock (10), Jacqueline McGirr (14)

(21) Frank Bailey, Rosa Forby

Next Addition of the Newsletter

Will be on Sunday 5th January 2025.

Diary Dates – At a Glance		
Sun 15 th Dec	6.30 pm	Christmas Carols by Candlelight Followed by mince pies and mulled wine
Fri 20 th Dec	10am	Morning Prayer
Sat 21 st Dec	4.00pm	Christmas Carols by Candlelight Followed refreshments
Sun 22 nd Dec	10am	Parish Eucharist
Tue 24 th Dec	11.00 pm	Midnight Mass (Christmas Eve)
Wed 25 th Dec	10.00 am	Christmas Day Service
Fri 27 th Dec	-	No Service will be held
Sun 29 th Dec	10.00 am	Service of the Word
2025		
Sat 15 th Feb	6pm	Quiz Night