



CHURCH NEWS

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

Baptism of Christ



Matthew 3.13-end

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?'

But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented.

And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

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

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Thought for the Week

“And a voice from heaven said: This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased”. This last sentence from the Gospel is incredibly powerful and I think we can all picture the scene.

And here's the thing, the same voice of God is calling each and every one of us, already before we make the decision to get baptised if we are adults, and having our children or young ones baptised. God has already called us by name, as God's beloved with whom God is well pleased. If I could, I would change these last words, because I believe God's love for us is far deeper and stronger than for God to be well pleased with us, God's beloved children. I believe that we are perfect in God's eyes and when we embrace this love and come forward to be baptised, God is absolutely overjoyed. We don't need the baptism per se, to deserve God's love. God loved us before we even knew of God. But it is a beautiful declaration to say yes to God's love and longing for us to be in relationship with God, when we are baptised. To say yes to explore a life together, and in relationship with God.

In the liturgy we are being anointed with the words: Receive the sign of the cross. Christ claims you for his own. It is incredibly intimate and powerful to be claimed by our Saviour, Godself. When you walk through this week, cross yourself on the forehead every now and then and remember that Christ claims you as God's very own beloved child.

And if you not yet are baptised, it is never too late!

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.

January's Retiring Collection is for 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.

Result of December Retiring Collection

Following December's Retiring Collection, the PCC will be donating £312.93 to Crisis. Once again thank you for your generosity.

Used Stamps

Don't forget, Joan collects and sells used stamps proceeds of which is donated to the church. Please bring your used stamps and deposit them in the box in the Narthex.

Sunday School and Messy Church

Messy Church will be on Sunday 18th January. The date for the next Sunday school is 25th January.

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.

St Augustine's Strollers Diary Dates for 2026

St Augustine Church Strollers Group welcomes anyone who may enjoy walking and meeting new people. Strolling dates for the first half of 2026 are: January Weds 14th & Sat 31st, February Weds 11th & Sat 28th March Thurs 12th & Sat 28th, April Weds 15th & Sat 25th, May Weds 13th & Sat 30th, June Thurs 11th & Sat 27th

The first outing of 2026 is on Wednesday 14th. The strollers shall start from Kew Green and walk back towards Richmond on the Thames Path, going via the section that was repaired recently, catching the usual 0950 train from Whitton to Richmond and meet at the station at 0940. Please bring a packed lunch

Walsingham Mass Diary Dates for 2026

The next Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham is on 31st January at 9:30 at St Mary's Sunbury followed by breakfast at the Flower Pot, all are welcome. The following month the Mass of Our Lady will be held at St Augustine's on 28th February at 9:30 followed by breakfast at Squires. Thereon, the dates are as follows: 28th March at St Mary's Sunbury, 25th April, 30th May and 27th June at St Augustine's, 25th July at St Mary's Sunbury. Mass of our Lady will not be held in August and resume on 26th September and 31st October at St Augustine's and 29th November at St Mary's. Walsingham Mass will not be held in December.

St Augustine's Art Group Diary Dates for 2026

St Augustine's Art Group is open to everyone, it meets in the Church Hall on the third Saturday of the month. Come and join us if you would like to dabble in painting or sketching with a tutor and you don't have to have any previous experience; you can be an absolute beginner. You don't need any materials as this can initially be supplied by the group. The dates for 2026 are 24th January, 21st February, 21st March, 18th April, 16th May, 20th June, 18th July, 19th September, 17th October, 21st November and December to be confirmed. Sessions are £10 each.

Years Mind

Please let Helen, Sue or Roubina know if you would like the name of your loved one read out at their anniversary.



Our Prayer

God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people. Pour upon us your healing and reconciling love and keep us faithful to your love. Fill us with the light of your presence, that we may hear your voice, see your Son and feel the breath of your Holy Spirit. 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

- (11) Freddie Frenchum, Dorothy Stone (15)
- (12) William Ashford (71), Sechaba Chingwaru jr (07)
- (13) Alfred Grant (07), Fred Seddon (07)
- (14) Henry Brown, Beatrice Taylor (63), Charles Godfrey (88), Vladislaf Tarnopolski, Jim Wild (95), Betty Wild (98)
- (15) Frederick Jenn (58), Doreen Davis (85)
- (17) Claire Pine (67), Bob Parker, Eric Farlie (92)

Diary Dates – At a Glance		
Sun 11 th Jan	10:00am	All Age Holy Eucharist – Baptism of Christ
Sun 11 th Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 13 th Jan	2:30 to 4:00pm	Cornerstone cafe
Tues 13 th Jan	7:00pm	Standing Committee Meeting
Fri 16 th Jan	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 14 th Jan	9:40am	Strollers Walk – Meet at Whitton station for Kew Green to Richmond
Sun 18 th Jan	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – 2 nd Sunday of Epiphany
Sun 18 th Jan	10:00am	Messy Church in the church hall
Sun 18 th Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 20 th Jan	7:00pm	PCC meeting in the church hall
Sat 24 th Jan	10:00 am to 12:00pm	Art Group in the church hall
Fri 23 rd Jan	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
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 – Walk to be confirmed
Sat 31 st Jan	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Quiz & Supper