



# CHURCH NEWS

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

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent



### Matthew 6.25-end

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

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

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## **Thought for the Week**

Whatever Jesus is saying , we all have worries and we do have a need to have some plans and structure and thinking ahead of our lives. In our wonderful vanity as humans, we do care about how we dress. We all know the vicar's passion for liturgically coloured shoes.

We do want to look nice and feel proper apart from maybe in our homes where we feel comfortable and happy trotting around in our pj's or onesies or whatever we enjoy wearing as super leisure. Somebody once said: "I would never go out without putting on a face". This person referred to having hair and make-up on before leaving the house.

Jesus is not prompting us to stop caring about how we take care of ourselves, neither in our appearance or diet. But he does encourage us to reflect on how this is dictating our lives. There is nothing wrong with a bit of vanity or putting some effort into our looks. But if this takes priority over a general and healthy wellbeing we might need to think again. Or if it becomes the measure of how we shape and nurture our relationships.

Jesus is inviting us to bring God, our creator, sustainer and provider, into our self-awareness and patterns of wellbeing. God might not bring us the shoes we dream of, or open the arena for Hollywood style living or with a wand transform our bodies into the way we wish they should be, but God gives us life itself. And maybe that's where we should start. To ponder the miracle that we are here and we are perfect as we are in the eyes of God.

## **Extension to January's Retiring Collection**

At its last meeting the PCC agreed to extend January's retiring collection to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 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**

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](mailto:staugustine.whitton@hotmail.com) giving a brief description of the charity no later than 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 for discussion at March PCC meeting.

## **Date for the Next Messy Church**

The next Messy Church is on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## **Mid-Month Strollers Walk – a message from Peter and John**

Weather permitting, our next outing on **Wednesday 11th February** will be in East London walking from Tower Bridge to Canary Wharf.

We'll catch a bus or tube to Tower Hill from Waterloo then proceed easterly to Wapping and Limehouse, taking in the traditional streets and sights that line the north bank of the River. We'll fetch up at Canary Wharf at about lunchtime then decide on further progress.

We'll take the usual 09:50 train from Whitton, please bring a packed lunch. Looking forward to seeing you. For more information you can call Peter on 07799 000597.

## **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 by Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

## **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.

## **Time to think about confirmation**



Confirmation is for all who are baptised and want to learn how this can be a positive resource in your life. Confirmation is to affirm your baptism and continue exploring a life in faith in relationship with God and each other.

### **Adults and children in school year 5 and up are invited to join this year's confirmation course.**

Please note, that if you are not baptised yet but curious about Christian faith and life, you are more than welcome to join.

**Day:** Thursday **Time:** 5-6 pm for children

7-8.30 pm for adults

**Dates:** 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May

**For children:** All sessions in person at St Augustine's church.

**For adults:** First and last session in person at St Augustine's church. The session in between will be on Zoom.

**For both children and adults: Rehearsal Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm.**

**Confirmation: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> of May at 10 am.**

Contact The Reverend Helen Calner for more information and to sign up [vicar@staugustinewhitton.com](mailto:vicar@staugustinewhitton.com)

## **Our Prayer**



Whatever our troubles, whatever our worries or problems o Lord, may we never be so wrapped up in ourselves that we have no time for you or for each other. 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 and Dennis Williams.

## **Recently Departed:**

Derek Clarke

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

**(8)** Alexander Mackie, Mary Pocock (01), Elfriede Sims (08)

**(9)** Lucy Griffen (79), George Neather (04), Eve Ledger (06), Phyllis Williams (13)

**(10)** Evan and Miriam Lloyd (63), Ida Jenner (71), Maud Hurley (04), Joan Philpott (11)

**(11)** Mollie Walter (85), Marjorie Challis, Joan Dale (19)

**(12)** Katie Goetz (10)

**(13)** Thomas Taylor

**(14)** Margaret Godfrey (85), Margaret Carter (05), John Benjamin Piike Norman (12), Chris Fraser (25)

### Diary Dates – At a Glance

Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	2:30 to 4:00pm	Cornerstone cafe
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:00pm	Standing Committee
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9:40am	Strollers Walk – meet at Whitton station for the 9:50 train
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – All Age Eucharist, Sunday next before Lent
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Evening Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10:00am	Messy Church – in Church Hall
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:00pm to 7:30pm	Evening Eucharist
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:30pm to 8:15pm	Lent Course – Women of Holy Week
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9:30am	Morning Eucharist Walsingham Mass
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9:40am	Strollers Walk – Route to be confirmed