



# ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, WHITTON

Sunday 4th January 2026

## CHURCH NEWS

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

### Epiphany



#### Matthew 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, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### Vicar

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#### PCC Secretary

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#### Sacristan

**Jane Derry**

#### Junior & Youth Ministry Leaders

**Pat S - Junior Church**  
**Laura & James - Messy Church**

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#### Church Hall Hire

**Sue Thornton**  
07939 129293

#### Charity Number

1134957

## **Thought for Week**

This week we continue our journey through Christmas with the wise men, the magi. We don't really know who they were, or how many they were, setting off on that journey to find the newborn king, our Saviour. We assume they were three because three were named and of the precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh they carried along. But maybe that is not the most important in this time of Epiphany.

Maybe it is more important to reflect on our own journeys through life and what we carry with us, both precious cargo and things we might not feel as precious. What is packed in your bags?

The wise men followed the star, a clear light in the sky pointing them in a direction without fully knowing where they would end up. But they trusted they would find the way. What is your compass and star? From whom and what to you take directions and set your course? And where and when do we settle and can say we have found what we are looking for?

Whatever your journey looks like God is journeying with you. God who always leads God's people and beloved precious children home. That is each and everyone of us. You and me. As a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire. As a bright star in the sky or the heartbeat in your chest. God is there with you. Journey in peace with God this week and look for God's signs along your way.

## **Prayer tree until Candlemas**

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. Thank you.

## **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.

## **Christmas Card**

You may have noticed the nice selection of handmade greeting cards for sale by the sound desk made by Mandy, proceeds of which is donated to the church. Mandy is able to utilise used cards to make these greeting cards and would like to receive your unwanted cards by next Sunday (please note no collection after that). Please leave them in the box by the sound desk.

## **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.

## **CTiW Christmas Lunch**

CTiW would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way in making this event a success. We served 36 three course Christmas lunches, including 3 home deliveries, to guests and volunteers. This event is not possible without the financial support of the 4 churches in Whitton and local businesses.

## **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 14<sup>th</sup> & Sat 31<sup>st</sup>, February Weds 11<sup>th</sup> & Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> & Sat 28<sup>th</sup>, April Weds 15<sup>th</sup> & Sat 25<sup>th</sup>, May Weds 13<sup>th</sup> & Sat 30<sup>th</sup>, June Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> & Sat 27<sup>th</sup>

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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30 followed by breakfast at Squires. Thereon, the dates are as follows: 28th March at St Mary's Sunbury, 25<sup>th</sup> April, 30<sup>th</sup> May and 27<sup>th</sup> June at St Augustine's, 25<sup>th</sup> July at St Mary's Sunbury. Mass of our Lady will not be held in August and resume on 26<sup>th</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> October at St Augustine's and 29<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> January, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> 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**

Lord Jesus Christ, you promised that those who seek will find, and in the pilgrimage of the magi we find proof of that promise. We bring you our prayers for all in our world, known and unknown to us, who, in different ways are searching. May your light shine upon them and may your light shine upon each and every one of us as we journey through life. 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 Mike & Mavis Walter

## **Recently Departed:**

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

- (4)** Alice Denham (01), Ivy Kent (01), Marjorie Holmes (02), Pam Roe (05), Jacqueline Rogers (05), Rosina Thompson (05), Peter Wright (11), Enid Long (22)
- (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 Scringeour (02), Margaret Dawson (13), Ronald Hawkins B.E.M.

Diary Dates – At a Glance		
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Parish Eucharist – Epiphany
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	11:00am to 12:00pm	Quiet Space – Gold, myrrh and frankincense – Epiphany with Godly Play
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Said Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	All Age Eucharist – Baptism of Christ
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2:30 to 4:00pm	Cornerstone cafe
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7:00pm	Standing Committee Meeting
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:40am	Strollers Walk – Meet at Whitton station
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Said Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Parish Eucharist – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7:00pm	PCC meeting in the church hall
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00 am to 12:00pm	Art Group in the church hall
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	10:00am	Said Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Parish Eucharist
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link <a href="#">Compline Zoom Link</a> or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10:00am	Said Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	9:40am	Strollers Walk – Walk to be confirmed
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	6:00pm to 9:30pm	Quiz Night with supper