



ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, WHITTON

Sunday 15th March 2026

CHURCH NEWS

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

Mothing Sunday



Luke 2. 33-35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary,

'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

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

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Thought for the Week

Whether you are a parent or not, we all meet people we care for, and about, throughout our lives. Whatever the relationship is, we are always proud of those we love. Especially when we see growth and accomplishments. It may be a great achievement: winning an award, being the fastest sprinter, best soloist in a choir, doing well in exams, being employee of the month etc. But it might also be the small steps and less visible and measurable achievements. Do we celebrate the gradual growth and maturity as much?

And do we celebrate the gifts of the stranger?

When Simeon meets baby Jesus in the temple he holds him high and praises God. Thanking for both his own and the baby's life, trusting that God is at work and will bless the world with great wonders. As God still does if we think about it.

Mothering Sunday has very little to do with mothers per se. To mother something or someone is to care, nurture and reverence life in togetherness. Together with each other and together with God. This week's Gospel reminds us that the greatest care comes from God, who took flesh, born as a vulnerable baby, so we could live. But it came with a cost. The cost of dying to new life.

Life is costly in many ways. And the sword Simeon mentions sometimes pierces us: worries about our lives and our world. Then it's important to remember our call to mother, to care. Care for our families and friends, and our church and communities.

Let God inspire you to challenge yourself to an act of care this week.

Time, Talent and Treasure

Lent is a season for reflection. To think about how we live and how we share our God-given gifts with each other. And how we give back to God. One way of doing so is to give of our time, talent and treasure. To enable our parish to grow and flourish. To grow God's kingdom where we are.

We all have gifts and resources to share with each other and our community and every contribution, big or small, is important. We are all important building blocks in our parish. This Lent is an opportunity for you to focus your prayer and reflection on how you share your time, talent and treasure in our community. Maybe you feel called to give of your time in our worship. Maybe you feel called to engage in activities and events. Maybe you feel called to make planned and regular donations. Maybe you feel called for something else or a combination of both time, talent and treasure.

Together we can do more.

Electoral Roll

Joining St Augustine's Electoral Roll is a meaningful way to say "this is my church" and to take an active part in its life. It allows you to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, stand for roles such as the PCC, and help shape the future of our parish. Enrolling doesn't create extra obligations, but it does recognise that being part of a church family involves offering what we can—our **time**, our **talents**, and our **treasure**—to support worship, community life, and the mission of the church. It's a simple step that strengthens both your connection to the parish and the parish's ability to serve its community.

For more information please speak to Helen, Jayne Firth (our Electoral Roll Office) or take a leaflet from back of the church.

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: 23rd and 30th April and 7th, 14th and 21st 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 30th May at 2pm.

Confirmation: Sunday 31st of May at 10 am.

Contact The Reverend Helen Calner for more information and to sign up vicar@staugustinewhitton.com

Retiring Collection during Lent

Due to the changes in the Diocese of London following the appointment of Bishop Sarah as the next Archbishop of Canterbury, there will not be a specific Bishop's Lent Appeal this year. However Support our Anglican partners in Mozambique as severe flooding displaces communities and damages homes, schools, and churches. Through ALMA, the Diocese of London is calling for prayer and donations to fund urgent relief and recovery, and to stand in practical solidarity with affected dioceses.

We have a long association with ALMA, our parish is twinned with St Augustine of Canterbury Mecanhelas which has also been severely affected by the recent floods. For more information please follow the link <https://www.london.anglican.org/articles/standing-with-our-brothers-and-sisters-in-mozambique/>

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 22nd March 2026 for discussion at March PCC meeting.

The nominated charities so far are: the Mulberry Centre, the London Air Ambulance, the London Asbestos Support Awareness Group and RSPCA.

Whitton Choral Concert

Whitton Choral will be holding their Spring concert on Sunday 22nd March. Music will include a Requiem composed by Maurice Duruflé plus Spirituals. Save the date and further details will follow.

Our Prayer



God, help us to hear your voice, especially when you speak on behalf of the voiceless, the overlooked, and the forgotten. Keep our ears attuned, and work through us in a way that loves, blesses, assures, supports, and strengthens 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 and Mavis Walter.

This week we remember the anniversary of the death of

(15) George Huffer, Albert Perry (05), Edith Davidson (03), Brenda Farmer (16), Arthur Spikins (20)

(16) Mary Kessack, Dorothy Coombs (01), Dorothy Kerlake (04), David Dunk (07)

(17) Fredrick Batlett, Lesley Killick (16)

(18) Alan Chapman (37), Samuel Taylor (04), Ena Horton (08), Paul Barrowclough (12)

(19) Elizabeth Stubbs (01), Ronald Harbard (05), Stella Blackwell (08), Grace Harris (10), Rosemary Styles (23)

(20) Catherine Farlie (91)

(21) Tom Salmons

Diary Dates – At a Glance

Sun 15 th March	10:00am	Holy Eucharist All Age Eucharist - Mothering Sunday
Sun 15 th March	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Tues 17 th March	7:00pm to 7:30pm	Evening Eucharist
Tues 17 th March	7:30pm to 8:15pm	Lent Course – Women of Holy Week
Fri 20 th March	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 21 st March	10:00am to 12:00pm	Art Group – in the Church Hall
Sun 22 nd March	10:00am	Holy Eucharist 5 th Sunday of Lent
Sun 22 nd March	10:00am	Messy Church – in the Church Hall
Sun 22 nd March	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Sun 22 nd March	8:00pm	Whitton Choral Concert
Tues 24 th March	7:00pm to 7:30pm	Evening Eucharist
Tues 24 th March	7:30pm to 8:15pm	Lent Course – Women of Holy Week
Wed 25 th March	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Whitton Woollies
Wed 25 th March	7:00pm	Combined Standing Committee & PCC Meeting
Fri 27 th March	10:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by Friday Fellowship at 11:00am
Sat 28 th March	9:30am	Holy Eucharist - Walsingham Mass at St Mary's Sunbury
Sun 29 th March	10:00am	Holy Eucharist Palm Sunday
Sun 29 th March	6:00pm	Evening Prayers online follow the link Compline Zoom Link or Church website Worship then Evening Prayer
Mon 30 th March	7:00pm	Evening Eucharist
Tues 31 st March	7:00pm	Evening Eucharist