

# ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, WHITTON

Monthly Edition – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024

# CHURCH NEWS

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

## January 2024: Monthly Edition



### The Visit of the Wise Men

“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.” – Matthew 2.11

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany (Baptism of Jesus)

The Feast of the Epiphany marks the end of the Christmas season and is celebrated on 6<sup>th</sup> January. Epiphany is a celebration of God manifesting as the baby Jesus and revealing Himself to the world. It is the time when we remember one element in the story of Christ’s birth, the visit of the magi (also called the Three Kings or Wise Men). This is an important day signifying that Jesus’ birth would be important for all people, not just the Jews; He is both ‘a light to lighten the Gentiles’ and ‘the glory of God’s people Israel’.

The season of joyful celebration now continues through the successive Sundays of Epiphany and ends with the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas).



St Augustine’s Church,  
Whitton

Vicar

The Revd Canon John Kafwanka

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Hiring of Church Hall – contact  
Sue Thornton

Charity number:  
1134957

## January 2024 Readings

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Gospel Reading
07/01/24	Isaiah 60.1-6	Ephesians 3.1-12	Matthew 2.1-12
14/01/24	1 Samuel 3.1-10, 11-20	Revelation 5.1-10	John 1.43-51
21/01/24	Genesis 14.17-20	Revelation 19.6-10	John 2.1-11
28/01/24	Deuteronomy 18.15-20	Revelation 12.1-5a	Mark 1.21-28

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### **A Word from the Vicar**

It is exactly three (3) years now since I was licensed by the Bishop as Vicar of St Augustine's Parish, Whitton. All happened online as COVID-19 pandemic prevented meeting in person. So, much has changed since.

I give thanks to God for the blessings of the past three years and the privilege of beginning a New Year.

I am grateful to everyone who is part of our church community for the commitment and every single contribution to the life and ministry in our parish (and beyond) in the past three years. May God increase our passion for Jesus and give us urge to use our gifts and talents to serve and honour God to the best of our abilities.

May Christmas and its implications in our lives and in the world be an ongoing reality in our daily life, so that when we speak of Jesus and the wonders of His birth at Christmas, our words will simply complement the actions of our daily life. Amen

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### **Prayer and Reflection – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January @ 11.00am – 12.00pm**

This date is only for this January, all other monthly meetings take place on the first Tuesday of every month at 11.00am, in church. People take turns to lead in quiet reflections to deepen our spiritual life and Christian journey. Everyone is welcome.

*For more information, please contact the vicar by email or phone.*

### **Cornerstone – Next meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January @ 2.30pm**

Cornerstone is an informal opportunity to meet together in our beautiful church over a cup of tea or coffee, to share experiences and to support each other. We meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2:30pm, and everyone is welcome to join.

### **Youth Get Together (YGT) – Next meeting on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January @ 12.00pm**

Youth and young people (students from Year 5 to 13) are invited to meet in the Church Hall for a time of fun, games, food (pizza!) and Prayer & Reflection. *For more information, please contact the vicar by email or phone.*

## **Strollers – Next Walk on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

St Augustine Church Strollers Group welcomes anyone who may enjoy walking and meeting new people. We walk between 4 and 6 miles, aiming to include stops for coffee and lunch. We have members of differing ages and abilities, all of whom are welcome. *For further information, please contact [pdewinton@aol.com](mailto:pdewinton@aol.com).*

## **Messy Church – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January @ 10.00am – 12.00pm**

Messy Church brings together children (age 0-8) and their parents every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month for a time of fun, art, games, bible stories, sing-along, and food. It affords opportunity for both children and adults to interact with other families.

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## **Retiring Collection During 2023**

The PCC would like to thank St Augustine's congregation who have given so generously to the following causes during 2023 through the Retiring Collection at Sunday services.

<b>Retiring Collection During 2023</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>	
One off	DEC - Earthquake Turkey & Syria	202.60	
January & February	Homelink	250.00	
March & April	Bishop's Lent Appeal - MANNA	115.64	
March & April	Alma	615.63	
May & June	Otakar Kraus Music Trust	180.00	
July & August	SANDS charity	188.09	
September	Fabric Fund	226.32	
October	Homelink	217.00	
December	Crisis	243.00	
November	Poppy Appeal	TBC	<i>Awaiting advise from Poppy Appeal</i>
		<b>2,238.28</b>	

## **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.

- Wednesday Home Group with Fiona & John Wolsoncroft (@7pm) will meet on the following dates:
  - January – 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>
  - February – 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>
  - March – 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>
- Friday Home Group with Alwyn Williams (@ 11am) will meet on the following dates:
  - January – 19<sup>th</sup>
  - February – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

*For further details and to sign up, contact Fr John on: WhatsApp Number +44 7407 246686 or email: [vicarofstaugustinewhitton@aol.com](mailto:vicarofstaugustinewhitton@aol.com)*

## Vicar on Leave

The vicar is on leave from 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024. *For any pastoral needs please contact the Church Wardens (contact details on Page 1).*

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## January Retiring Collection – Richmond Young Carers



Young carers are children and young people under the age of 18 who act as carers for a member of their family. These young people offer physical and emotional support to someone in their family who cannot manage without their help. This means that often they are not able to join in activities with their peers, they have less time to focus on homework, and they may have disturbed sleep. Their own emotional wellbeing may be affected.

The Richmond Young Carers Centre is a charity which supports young supporters by offering advice, information and emotional support. They also offer mentoring programmes, holiday activities, after school groups, peer support etc. This support gives the young people more confidence, they feel more positive, safe and listened to, and they have fun.

Richmond Young Carers Centre is delighted and grateful that St Augustine's Whitton is raising funds for them this January, saying "we cannot thank you enough for thinking of our service supporting young carers and their families".

*For more information visit [richmondcarers.org/services/services-for-young-carers](http://richmondcarers.org/services/services-for-young-carers).*

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## Worship Services

- Sunday @ 10am – Holy Communion Service, includes Junior and Youth Church
- Sunday @ 6pm – Evening Prayers (Compline via Zoom)  
*Meeting ID: 837 7674 9724 Passcode: 186213 ([Click here for the Zoom link](#))*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month @ 10am – Family and All Age Holy Communion Service
- Friday @10am – Holy Communion Service

## For our Prayers



Peace and end of war in Israel-Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and other places of conflict around the world.

Those who are sick and struggling: Jo Dale, Jeremy Short, Anne Hickmott, Willem Cheng, Richard and Theresa Scriven, Anne Newman, Joan Greening, Emily Adams, Lucy Brooks, Chris Frazer, John Burbidge and Mavis Walter.

This week we remember the anniversary of the death of: Harold Collins, Wally Hawkins, Mabel Hammersley, Rose Hackett, Len Crisp, Florence Jacob, Elsie Bailey, Norman Claxton, John Nuthall, Doris Green, Albert Kemp, George Mitchell, Peter Saunders, Nancy Scringeour, Margaret Dawson, Ronald Hawkins B.E.M., Freddie Frenchchum, Dorothy Stone, William Ashford, Sechaba Chingwaru jr, Alfred Grant and Fred Seddon.

<b>Diary Dates – January 2024</b>		
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am – 12pm 2.30 pm 7.00 pm	Prayer and Reflection Cornerstone (in Church) Standing Committee Meeting
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00 am 12.00 pm	Parish Eucharist – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany YGT – Youth Get Together (in Church Hall)
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	TBC 7.00 pm	Strollers Group Outing PCC Meeting
Thu 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan – Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	————	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am - 12pm	Messy Church
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Parish Eucharist – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (All Age/Family Service)
<b>Diary Dates – Lent &amp; Easter 2024</b>		
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7.00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10.00 am	Palm Sunday Service
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar – Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00 pm	Holy Week – Way of the Cross
Thu 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00 pm	Holy Week – Maundy Thursday Liturgy (includes washing of feet)
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	11.00 am 2.00 pm	CTiW Walk of Witness Good Friday Liturgy (includes Veneration of the cross)
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	6.00 am 10.00 am	Easter Vigil – Service of Light @ Dawn w/ breakfast Parish Eucharist – Easter Sunday

<b>10.00 am Service Duties for January 2024</b>				
	<u><b>07/01/24</b></u>	<u><b>14/01/24</b></u>	<u><b>21/01/24</b></u>	<u><b>28/01/24</b></u>
<b>Sidespersons</b>	Gill & Beryl	Vicki, Hilda & Gerald	Jayne, Pauline & Graham	Rob, Connie & Frances
<b>First Reading</b>	Kathy	Alwyn	Family Service – Junior & Youth Church	Ben
<b>Second Reading</b>	Jane	Gill		Jo
<b>Intercessions</b>	Roubina	Patricia		Limbani
<b>Screen &amp; sound</b>	Alwyn	Limbani	Gill	Pauline
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	Kathy, Frances & Sue	Denzil & Maria	Harriet, Hilda & Barbara	Rene, Marie & Pauline