

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28th March 4-5.15pm

Palm Sunday Reflection

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: www.ststephensnth.co.uk

St Stephen's Church, Warwick Road, Thornton Heath CR7 7NH

Vicar: Fr Geoffrey Riba-Thompson SCP

Assistant Priest: Canon Joyce Forbes SCP

Churchwardens:

Andrea Anderson msequinox@msn.com

Lana Ruddock lanaruddock@gmail.com

SPA: Aileen Ross aileenross37@btinternet.com

Church Hall bookings: Iona Nelson-Ashley - 020 8679 3401

Safeguarding: Hazel Pudney and Maxine Cooper

Please take this notice sheet away with you. There are copies available to give to a friend or neighbour who is not able to be in church. There is an electronic copy available just give Fr Geoffrey your email address.

Items for the newsletter should be notified to Fr Geoffrey by Thursday morning.

Tel. 020 8684 3820. Email: ststephens@fastmail.uk

St Stephen Norbury & Thornton Heath Newsletter

7th March

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings: Exodus 20.1-17, 15-16, Psalm 19.1-14,

1 Corinthians 1.18-25, John 2.13-22

THIS WEEK

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|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Today | 10am | Eucharist |
| Friday | 7.30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| Next Sunday | 10am | Eucharist |

The church is open from Tuesdays to Saturdays between 9am and 11am. A priest is always present.

Names of individuals to be prayed for should be sent to Fr Geoffrey.

OUR TWIN PARISHES IN ZIMBABWE AND THE USA We are twinned with St Mark's, Patchway and St Luke's, Chakari in the diocese of Central Zimbabwe. We will pray regularly for Fr Taurayi Kaerezi and his people. Please pray, too, for the Episcopal parish of Grace in Chicago. You can see more about Grace if you follow the link at the foot of the first page on the parish website www.ststephensnth.co.uk

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH This month we are praying for all who live in Colliers Water Lane and Carew Road. In view of continuing uncertainties we won't be resuming card deliveries yet.

THE CHURCH HALL Work on the creation of a lavatory with disabled access is nearly complete. After that the new kitchen can be installed. We need a final push with funding – more details in the covering letter.

THE BREAD AND WINE. Even in lockdown you can still donate in the name of a loved one or for a special event. Please contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements.

WALSINGHAM We have rebooked for the weekend of 10th – 12th September 2021. Please keep these dates in your diary and watch out for updates here..

FROM THE TREASURER As we continue to be unable to gather in church on-line giving is proving to be a vital way to help us raise funds and hopefully balance our books so:
I'm pleased to be able to update you on a new JustGiving page set up by the Fund Raising Committee who are putting their Best Foot Forward to raise funds to complete the church hall refurbishment at [St Stephen's Fundraising Committee is fundraising for St Stephen's Norbury & Thornton Heath \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/StStephenNTH) at the time of writing £297 + £50 Gift Aid has been raised in just two days. Then there is the page in memory of Mum (Pat) [Ian Pudney is fundraising for St Stephen's Norbury & Thornton Heath \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/IanPudney) standing at £790 + £122 Gift Aid. And finally, our "main" page at [Coronavirus Lockdown Fundraiser 2020/21 - JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CoronavirusLockdownFundraiser202021) set up nearly a year ago which totals £4,662 + £1,068 Gift Aid

All the money raised from any of these links comes to us under the umbrella of [St Stephen's Norbury & Thornton Heath - JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/StStephenNTH) Remember when donating you can remove any "voluntary admin fees" if you wish (we already pay a small monthly hosting fee) and add Gift Aid if you are able to. Please visit all or any of these pages and enjoy the photos and stories even if you have visited then before to see the updates.

THIS PRESENT TIME The 10am Mass on Sundays will be livestreamed as always and we urge all of you with smart 'phones/computers to access this worship. The church is open from 9am to 11am Tuesday to Saturday. A priest will always be available either in person or by 'phone. From **PALM SUNDAY** we will be resuming public worship. As before our number will be limited to about 30 and pre-booking is essential. We are working on making our Holy Week and Easter celebrations as full but as safe as possible.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH The icon of St Bernard Mitzeki has at last arrived. It's a beautiful piece of original art. We will try to share images of it as widely as possible now that it's in its proper place in the south aisle.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS The COVID restrictions are making the problems of those who struggle with food insecurity ever more difficult. Please continue to give tinned and dried goods and toiletries as often as you can. Items can be left at the back of church or in the vicarage porch. Since Nirojan's death the volume of good donated has fallen significantly. Let's plug the gap! If you have unwanted toiletries for men, women or both please bring them in – they are very welcome indeed. Please see Aileen Ross's message attached to this mailing.

CONFIRMATION The service planned for 6th February was, as expected, cancelled. The bishop is reluctant to fix a new date before the situation with the pandemic becomes clearer and more settled. Meanwhile if you or any child of ten or over would like to be Confirmed please get in touch with Fr Geoffrey.

LINK FOR LIVESTREAMED WORSHIP Click here to join the Sunday 10am Mass. <https://www.facebook.com/ststephensNTH/live/>

