

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### PARISH DIRECTORY

**Parish Website:** [www.ststephensnth.co.uk](http://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](mailto:msequinox@msn.com)

Lana Ruddock          [lanaruddock@gmail.com](mailto:lanaruddock@gmail.com)

**SPA:** Aileen Ross      [aileenross37@btinternet.com](mailto:aileenross37@btinternet.com)

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

**Safeguarding:** Lana Ruddock 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](mailto:ststephens@fastmail.uk)**

# St Stephen Norbury & Thornton Heath Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> August

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

**Readings: Genesis 15.1-6, Psalm 33**

**Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16, Luke 12.32-40**

### THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
	<b>8am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>

**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, and the Archdiocese of Jerusalem. Fr Geoffrey has a short update from Zimbabwe that he'd be happy to forward by email.

**PRAYING FOR THE PARISH** This month we are praying for all who live in St Stephen's Crescent and Winterbourne Road. Prayer card deliveries have resumed. Our thanks to Helen Doe who carries out this important ministry.

**THE BREAD AND WINE** We are accepting sponsorship for the bread and wine we use at the Eucharist. For £5 the elements can be dedicated to a loved one or to mark a special occasion. This week they are sponsored by the Brathwaite family in memory of Cecelia Brathwaite, their mother. Please contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements.

**TIME & SKILLS SURVEY** The single sheet survey has been sent to our entire mailing list. Hard copies are available in church. Please fill in your survey as soon as you can and place the sheet in the suggestions box at the back of church. Those in charge of the area of activity you are interested will be given your details and will contact you.

**MONEY MATTERS** From now on all correspondence regarding parish finances, donations and stewardship should be sent to our new Honorary Treasurer, Oscar Riba-Thompson: [treasurer@ststephensnth.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@ststephensnth.co.uk)

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** Please continue to give tinned and dried goods and toiletries as often as you can. Items can be left in the large plastic box at the back of church or in the vicarage porch at any time. We are also happy to receive cash or cheque donations to enable us to buy supplies.

**CONFIRMATIONS** There will be a deanery Confirmation service this autumn on 2<sup>nd</sup> October at St Luke's Woodside – the exact time is to yet to be fixed but it is likely to be in the afternoon or early evening. Anyone aged 10 or over can be Confirmed so please give your name to Fr Geoffrey and/or sign

up on the list at the back of church. If you have a child just under the age of 10 they can still be Confirmed but only with the Bishop's permission.

**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND BLESSINGS** St Stephen's is fully open for Baptisms, weddings and the blessing of civilly married/partnered unions. As always, bookings can be made in person between 10.30 and 11.30 on Saturday mornings in church. Other times can be arranged. To check on preliminaries (especially charges for weddings) go to our website [www.ststephensnth.co.uk](http://www.ststephensnth.co.uk) for all the relevant information.

**ROTAS** One of the blessings of the return to something like normality is the return of the rotas for assisting at worship as a sidesperson or welcomer, and in providing refreshments after the 10am Mass on Sundays. There is always room for more so if you'd like to help please speak to one of the Church Wardens or email [wardens@ststephensnth.co.uk](mailto:wardens@ststephensnth.co.uk).

**FR GEOFFREY** wishes to thank everybody who kept the show on the road during his six week sabbatical - especially clergy from other parishes who led worship when Mtr Joyce was unavailable, and also the wardens who have a statutory duty to maintain the life of the parish church in the absence of the parish priest

**THE JUBILEE PARTY** The delayed party will now take place after the 10am Mass on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August in the vicarage garden. As there will be a barbecue we would appreciate having a good idea of the numbers we are catering for. There is a sign-up list at the back of church.

**FOSTERING IN CROYDON** There is an urgent need for foster carers in the borough. Carers would be a vital life-line for children and young people. If you'd like to know more please speak to the wardens.

**SAVING MONEY** We are fortunate that our church gas and electricity bills are fixed for a few months longer but we will be looking at ways in which we can save energy over the coming months so, for example, do we need all the lights on in church on a bright Sunday morning?

