

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15<sup>th</sup> August 11am

PCC meeting in church

## 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

Hazel Pudney          hazelpudney69@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](mailto:ststephens@fastmail.uk)

# St Stephen Norbury & Thornton Heath

## Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

**Readings: 1 Kings 19.9-18. Psalm 85. 8-13**

**Romans 10.5-15. Matthew 14.22-33**

## NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

### THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>

**MASKS MUST NOW BE WORN IN CHURCH**

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 – part of our sister Church in the US led by Bishop Michael Curry. 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](http://www.ststephensnth.co.uk)

**PRAYING FOR THE PARISH** This month we are praying for all who live in St Stephen's Crescent and Winterbourne Road. We hope to start delivery of prayer cards in September

**VOTIVE CANDLES** We are now asking for a minimum donation of 50p. This is a necessary measure in the light of the drastic fall in our income and the absence of widespread extra giving to cover the shortfall.

**CHRISTIAN AID** After a gap of several years St Stephen's is resuming its support of Christian Aid through one-off donations and the use of our coin jar for small change at the back of church. In just under five years the jar raised £861 for the hall project. Thank you, everyone. Don't forget to bring any small change for the jar when you visit St Stephen's.

**THE BREAD AND WINE** Now that public worship has resumed contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements. This week they are sponsored by the Brathwaite family to mark the anniversary of the death of their mother, Cecelia Amanda Brathwaite.

**WALSINGHAM** As notified elsewhere the Walsingham Pilgrimage has been cancelled. We have rebooked for the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 but for now we are returning deposits and early payments. An email has gone out listing options for repayment.

#### **FROM THE TREASURER**

**PLANNED GIVING:** there are still 32 sets of envelopes awaiting collection in church so please do pick up your box – my offer to collect / deliver them remains if you

cannot get to church at this time. If you wish to set up a standing order, please contact me for a form.

**JUST GIVING:** Phoebe the Cat is still in charge of the plate – this is a great way to give a little extra to St Stephen's. Just go to <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/St-Stephen2020>

**WALSINGHAM** – I have already processed a number of refunds, some have kindly donated the money to St Stephen's – if you have not responded to my email with your option I will raise a cheque for you next week.

**CONFIRMATION** We will keep the names of those signed up already and reschedule Confirmation classes.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** Currently most of the goods we take to a local food bank are donated by one generous giver. Please bring non-perishable items and toiletries into church on Sundays or weekday mornings. Alternatively you can leave items safely in the vicarage porch.

**THIS PRESENT TIME** As the nation cautiously eases its way towards the end of lockdown the Church is moving too. We are offering the Mass in public for the first time since March. There are spaces for 30 people at present, masked, socially distanced and duly sanitised. We have the organ back and a pair of servers but there will be no congregational singing for the time being. The Peace will not be shared and Communion will be administered in one kind. Please follow instructions once you are in church to minimise confusion. Bookings should be made via Fr Geoffrey by 'phone, text, email or WhatsApp. It's a case of first come, first served. Until such time as all people can come into church at will we shall continue livestreaming the 10am Mass. The churchwardens and I are monitoring how things are going and will take a view as to when and how we start to increase the number of weekday Masses – hence the decision to restart the 10am Saturday Mass. Booking is NOT required for this. Baptisms, weddings and funerals can now take place in church but with limited numbers present as above. If you would like to book a Baptism or a wedding please get in touch with me. My love and prayers.

**FR GEOFFREY**

