

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

25th April

11.30 APCM

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

11th April

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings Acts 4.32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John.1-2.2,

John 20.19-31

THIS WEEK

Today	10am	Eucharist
Wednesday	10am	Eucharist
Saturday	10am	Eucharist
Next Sunday	10am	Eucharist

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.

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH This month we are praying for all who live in Braemar Avenue and Melrose Avenue.

THE CHURCH HALL The main work on the creation of the disabled lavatory and shower facilities has been completed. The entire space has been redecorated. The kitchen is now complete and other decorative work carried out. It's looking good!

THE BREAD AND WINE The elements are sponsored by Aileen and Thomas Ross to mark Aileen Estwick's 90th birthday. Please contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements.

WALSINGHAM We have rebooked for the weekend of 10th – 12th September. The Shrine hopes to be taking full pilgrim groups by September. This means that we might be reopening bookings in the coming weeks. Many of you kindly donated your deposits to St Stephen's last year so I will be taking bookings afresh once we get the go ahead from Walsingham.

FROM THE TREASURER Many thanks to those of you who have responded to our 2021 Planned Giving campaign if you have not yet got round to it please do so today – please return your forms to me via the vicarage even if it is just to let me know your giving is remaining unchanged.

Thanks also to those of you who have supported the Spring into March fundraising efforts to help complete the work on the church hall. There is still time to visit [St Stephen's Fundraising Committee is fundraising for St Stephen's Norbury & Thornton Heath \(justgiving.com\)](#) to contribute a few pounds.

A fuller update on both important activities will be provided at our APCM in just two weeks' time. As ever please contact me on any financial matters at E: pudney@blueyonder.co.uk M: 07856 747299

THIS PRESENT TIME The new pattern of public worship is now in place. On Sundays the 10am Mass is open for public attendance although booking remains necessary. The low masses at 10am on Wednesdays and Saturdays do not require booking. Once numbers justify it we will look into restoring the 8am Mass on Sundays. We are confident that St Stephen's is COVID secure – a fact due in no small part to the hard work of Hazel Pudney and our wardens, Andrea Anderson and Lana Ruddock. Please observe all the usual precautions when you come.

BERNARD MITZEKI The icon of St Bernard Mitzeki has at last arrived. It's a beautiful piece of original art. St Bernard was born in Portuguese East Africa but converted to the Faith by the Anglican "Cowley Fathers" in Cape Town. He was martyred in 1896 during a tribal uprising and is venerated throughout central Africa – especially so by the Mothers Union.

PERMANENT LIVESTREAMING St Stephen's has invested in a fixed wi-fi /camera link that enables us to livestream services permanently. Our thanks to Oscar Riba-Thompson and Simon Lewis for researching and helping to execute this important development.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS The COVID restrictions have made 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!

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.

LINK FOR LIVESTREAMED WORSHIP Click here to join the Sunday 10am Mass. You don't need to be on Facebook to establish the link. <https://www.facebook.com/ststephensNTH/live/>.

