

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Hall clearance day 18th May
Ascension Day 30th May 8pm Mass

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Website: www.ststephensnth.co.uk

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

Vicar: Fr Geoffrey Thompson SCP (Not available Mondays)

Assistant Priest: Canon Joyce Forbes SCP

Churchwardens:

Andrea Anderson msequinox@msn.com

Hazel Pudney hazelpudney69@gmail.com

SPAs:

Aileen Ross aileenross37@btinternet.com

Teresa Addison taddison01@hotmail.com

Yvonne Trotman

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 should you wish to save some trees!

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

12th May 2019

Gospel: John 10.22-30

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SERVICES THIS WEEK

TODAY	8am	EUCCHARIST
	10am	SUNG EUCCHARIST
TUESDAY	7.30am	EUCCHARIST
WEDNESDAY	10am	EUCCHARIST
SATURDAY	10am	EUCCHARIST
SUNDAY	8am	EUCCHARIST
	10am	SUNG EUCCHARIST
		No Evensong and Benediction

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.

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH This month we are praying for all who live in Malvern Road and Oaklands Avenue. Our thanks to Helen Doe who regularly delivers the cards to the streets being prayed for.

THE BREAD AND WINE This week the elements are sponsored by Richard and Pauline Webster to mark Richard's 90th birthday. It costs £5 per week to sponsor the elements to mark a special occasion or to remember a loved one. Please speak to Fr Geoffrey.

SIDESPEOPLE NEEDED Training will be offered to anyone who would like to be a part of our ministry of care and welcome by being a sidesperson. Please speak to Hazel Pudney or Andrea Anderson.

THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL This list has to be updated every few years which means that EVERYONE has to fill in a new form or otherwise not be counted any more. If you don't recall filling in a form check the list at the back of church. Blank forms are at the back of church, too.

WALSINGHAM 2019 It's never too early to book for the Walsingham Pilgrimage (13th – 15th September) so the booking list is now out. The cost for accommodation and full board is £142. Travel will be £40 – frozen for the third year. Please sign up and pay a deposit of £40. Final numbers have to be given to the Shrine in June.

MISSION IN 2019 We are sharing our revised Mission Action Plan (MAP) that every parish is encouraged to create. It's designed to highlight strengths and opportunities in our work to invite more people to experience the love of God at St Stephen's. This should also help us prepare for a national period of invitation in June (between the feasts of the

Ascension and Pentecost), **Thy Kingdom Come** when we are invited to identify one or more people to invite to St Stephen's. Cards and other materials for this are now at the back of church. Do take a look.

PILGRIM Our discipleship course has restarted. This is a great opportunity to sit for an hour to reflect on scripture and examine what our faith means. Sessions at 11am and 7.15pm. Future sessions on: 29th May, 26th June, 24th July, 4th September and 2nd October.

HALL CLEARANCE Come and join in preparation for the hall refurbishment on Saturday 18th May between 10am and 3pm. There is much accumulated junk in the hall itself and in the side rooms. Our effort on the day will make the transformation of the hall come that much sooner!

CONFIRMATION The precise dates will be announced in due course but Confirmation classes will begin in September. They are open to anyone from the age of 10 upwards. As last year we will have the privilege of going to Southwark Cathedral in November for the Confirmation service.

RECEIVING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT It is usual in the Church of England for communicants to receive both the host and the chalice directly. This is both convenient and hygienic. The habit of dipping the host in the chalice is not encouraged but it is worth remembering that, if you are concerned about passing on infection, it is perfectly proper to receive the host only. The full benefits of the Sacrament are to be got from the host OR the chalice alone.

ASCENSION DAY The Feast of the Ascension (marking Christ's final departure from this world) falls on Thursday 30th May. There will be a sung Eucharist in the evening at 8pm. This is a lovely celebration as we witness Jesus taking our humanity back to heaven thus sealing the unbreakable bond between the human race and its Creator.

FR GEOFFREY will be away from 17th to the 24th May. There will be no Evensong and Benediction on Sunday 19th.

