

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Today 4 – 5pm

Valentine's on-line quiz

## 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:** 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

14<sup>th</sup> February

## SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

**Readings: 2 Kings 2.1-12, Psalm 50 1-6,**

**2 Corinthians 4.3-6, Mark 9.2-9**

### THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>8pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>

**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](http://www.ststephensnth.co.uk)

**PRAYING FOR THE PARISH** This month we are praying for all who live in Craignish Avenue and Nutfield 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. Today the elements are sponsored by Thomas and Aileen Ross in memory of their beloved friend, Pat Pudney. Please contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements.

**WALSINGHAM** We have rebooked for the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Please keep these dates in your diary.

**FROM THE TREASURER** On 5<sup>th</sup> February we said goodbye to Mum (Pat) with a Funeral Requiem at St Stephen's - once again my sincere thanks to all those of you who have offered prayers, condolences, and your support at this difficult time. We are continuing, at Dad's request, to support St Stephen's in memory of Mum. So, if you are able please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/pat-ststephen>

We also welcome new Faces of the Plate to our main JustGiving page. The two gentlemen in question are Ken McCalla, a local artist, and St Bernard Mitzeki, in his icon, commissioned by our BHM team at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/st-stephen2020>

It would be great if you could support our church via either of these links – remember 100% of your giving + any Gift Aid comes straight to us and you do not have to pay any additional (voluntary) fees.

It is worth visiting these sites just to view the ever-growing picture gallery. As ever please contact me if you have any questions on our finances. E: [pudney@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:pudney@blueyonder.co.uk) M: 07856 747299

**THIS PRESENT TIME** All public worship at St Stephen's has been halted. The situation will be kept under review but we anticipate no significant relaxation before the end of February. 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.

**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 but for now it's in a safe place until we can put it up in the south aisle of the church. We are still welcoming contributions to our archive of "talking heads"; five minute (max) talks to camera by anyone who wants to reflect on BLM, Black History, theology. Please read the attached document explaining how to share your video on our Facebook page and get it archived on the St Stephen's website. If you're shy or lack the technology please write your story and someone can read it to camera.

**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. If you have unwanted toiletries for men, women or both please bring them in.

**CONFIRMATION** The service planned for 6<sup>th</sup> February has, as expected, been 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/>

