

## 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:** 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

17<sup>th</sup> January

### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

**Readings: 1 Samuel 3.1-10, Psalm 139.1-5**

**Revelation 5.1-10, John 1.43-51**

#### THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<b>10am</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 Beverstone Road and Heathview Road. In view of current uncertainties we won't be resuming card deliveries yet.

**THE CHURCH HALL** A tender has now been accepted for the structural work in the hall. Work on the creation of a lavatory with disabled access started this week and will take about one month to complete. After that the new kitchen can be installed.

**THE BREAD AND WINE.** Even in lockdown you can still donate in the name of a loved one or for a special event. 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** I hope you will excuse this week's note being a very personal one. Pat (Patricia) our loving and devoted wife, mother & grandma "Nanny" died peacefully at home on Thursday 7th January 2021. She will be greatly missed by all of us especially Dad (Eric) after 63 years of marriage. She had been battling against ill-health, including severe Osteoporosis, for a few years and in the end despite the best efforts of us all, her carers & the medical professionals it was time to say God Bless & goodbye. Many thanks to all those of you who have offered prayers, condolences, and your support at this difficult time. Mum's funeral will obviously be a small gathering due to COVID restrictions nevertheless I will let you know more details in due course. Dad has expressed a wish that we support St Stephen's in memory of mum.

So, if you are able please visit:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/pat-ststephen>

As ever you are welcome to contact me if you have any questions on our finances - my contact details are 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 I 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** We have inaugurated an 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 down and someone else can read it to camera. We have also commissioned an icon of St Bernard Mitzeki which we hope will be with us in the next few weeks.

**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** We don't yet know for certain what will happen in the light of current health alarms but the plan is for there to be a Confirmation service at St Jude's, Thornton Road (on the way to the crematorium) on 6<sup>th</sup> February. If you signed up on the list last year this affects you. Fr Geoffrey will be in touch with everyone soon to firm up arrangements. If you or a child over 10 would like to be Confirmed please let Fr Geoffrey know as soon as possible.

**LINK FOR LIVESTREAMED WORSHIP** Click here to join the Sunday 10am Mass. <https://www.facebook.com/ststephensNTH/live/>

