

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APCM

25th October 11.30am

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

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

St Stephen Norbury & Thornton Heath

Newsletter

18th OCTOBER

Readings: Isaiah 35.3-6. 1-6. Psalm 147.1-7

2 Timothy 4.5-17. Luke 10.1-9.

ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST

THIS WEEK

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

MASKS MUST 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. 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

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH This month we are praying for all who live in Warwick Road and Weybridge Road. In view of current uncertainties we won't be resuming card deliveries yet.

THE CHURCH HALL With the tender for the internal work now out we very much hope to have some good news on a start date for the final phase of the hall refurbishment.

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 coppers and 5p coins at the back of church.

THE BREAD AND WINE Contact Fr Geoffrey if you want to sponsor the elements for a special event or a loved one..

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

FROM THE TREASURER I cannot resist coming back to the topic of our Just Giving page this week – it is now just over 6 months since the launch, and we have raised over £3,000 (plus Gift Aid). Not only that but an endless display of wonderful St Stephen's characters continue to be on display in the gallery at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/St-Stephen2020> We started with an email featuring a plate but quickly moved onto 4 of the cutest kids – Sadie, Gene, Taylor and Jackson and then Caterham's finest feline Phoebe. Was that enough – no flying high in the London Eye came Norbury Royalty Sonia and Keith and for the past three weeks St Lucia and Thornton Heath's most beautiful couple Hazel and yours truly have been popping into your inbox.

Now here's the thing, in the words of Donna Summer "I'm so excited" next week it all goes up a notch another St Stephen's couple will be encouraging you to help push us towards our £4,000 target. Don't forget our annual church meeting (APCM) is next Sunday 25th October at 11.30am – do try to attend either in person or on-line. I am sure Fr Geoffrey will be providing more details about this and if you have any questions on financial matters please let me know in advance if possible, to ensure I can provide a comprehension answer.

HARVEST FESTIVAL As always we are receiving gifts of tinned and preserved goods, and toiletries for Croydon Nightwatch. Bring your gifts into church any weekday morning apart from Mondays. At all other times bags can be left in the vicarage porch. Last date for donations 24th October.

THIS PRESENT TIME After a flurry of anxiety caused by the government's reimposition of COVID restrictions it now turns out that nothing has changed for the churches so it's steady as she goes for the 10am Masses on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. **It remains necessary to book your place on Sundays each and every time to intend coming to church**, and it will be obligatory to record your attendance on Saturdays and Wednesdays. You can download the COVID-19 app to aid our track and trace programme by connecting with the black squiggly square.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH This will be the 5th year of marking Black History Month at St Stephen's. This year we are starting something new. We will try to raise our awareness of Black Theology and what it can mean for everyone. We are also inaugurating 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. We all have a story. If you're shy or lack the technology please write your story down and someone else can read it to camera.

ALL SOULS The requiem Mass for All Souls will be livestreamed at 6pm on 1st November but there will be no congregation. Names of loved ones to be remembered should be emailed or 'phoned to me no later than 31st October.

