

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Canterbury day trip  
Summer Ball

Cancelled  
18<sup>th</sup> July

## 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 (Not available Mondays)

**Assistant Priest:** Canon Joyce Forbes SCP

### Churchwardens:

Andrea Anderson      [msequinox@msn.com](mailto:msequinox@msn.com)

Hazel Pudney          [hazelpudney69@gmail.com](mailto:hazelpudney69@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

22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2020

Gospel: Luke 2.33-35

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

#### SERVICES THIS WEEK

TODAY	9.30 – 11.30	EXPOSITION
TUESDAY	CHURCH OPEN 8.30 - 11	
WEDNESDAY	8.30 – 10.30	EXPOSITION
THURSDAY	CHURCH OPEN 8.30 - 11	
FRIDAY	8.30 – 11.30	EXPOSITION
SATURDAY	8.30 – 11.30	EXPOSITION
NEXT SUNDAY	9.30 – 11.30	EXPOSITION

**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 Richmond Road, St Helen's Road and parishioners living outside the parish. Our thanks to Helen Doe who regularly delivers the cards to the streets being prayed for.

**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 small change at the back of church.

**THE BREAD AND WINE** As the Mass is not being offered publicly at this time we will not take sponsorship for the elements but if you would like to make a simple donation for someone or something please contact Fr Geoffrey. This week Richard and Pauline Webster have made a donation in thanksgiving for Pauline's successful cataract operation.

**WALSINGHAM** We have booked the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September for our 2020 pilgrimage. Places are already going fast – ONLY ONE now remaining. A completed form and £40 deposit are required to secure your booking. Please return forms with the deposit as soon as possible.

**THE PILGRIM COURSE** Cancelled until further notice

**CANTERBURY PILGRIMAGE 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY** Cancelled. We hope to rebook in due course.

**CONFIRMATION** is scheduled to take place on 6th June 2020 at St Paul's, Thornton Heath. Classes start on 30<sup>th</sup> April. A sign-up list is at the back of church but please speak to Fr Geoffrey if you or anyone you know from the

age of 10 upwards would like to be Confirmed. If anything changes as to classes and dates we will let you know.

**WORD ALIVE** Cancelled until further notice.

**ST STEPHEN'S SUMMER BALL** The date is 18<sup>th</sup> July. Please keep this date in your diary but, of course, anything might happen.

**OFFICE HOUR** Don't forget that a priest is available in church every Saturday between 10.30 and 11.30 (other times by appointment) for you to book baptisms and weddings or to get forms signed, verified and stamped. We will observe proper separation protocols as far as possible, of course.

**THIS PRESENT TIME** *You will know that all public worship in England has been suspended until further notice. However, the last thing the Church wants to do is turn its back on the country. This is why St Stephen's remains open six days a week for prayer, meditation and for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – the sign of God's presence with His people. If you receive this newsletter electronically you will have received a form for Spiritual Communion that you can use at home or in church. We are also sending the format for our usual Sunday intercessions so you can join in the church's prayer for the community and the wider world. The Church is also encouraging us to recite the Lord's Prayer at 1 and 7pm and consider placing a lighted candle in our front windows as a sign of hope in dark times.*

*The Mass will be celebrated once a week but in private and there I will offer the hopes, fears and concerns of the whole community to Almighty God, asking His blessing upon us all.*

*In the meantime we are urged to act as though it is WE who have the virus and act accordingly to protect others. We are a wonderful family at St Stephen's so please be in touch with one another and do not hesitate to ask friends, the clergy, anyone, for help. My love and prayers. Fr GEOFFREY*

