

Welcome to St Mary's. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us. If you are here for the first time please make yourself known to one of the clergy or sidespeople. Do take this sheet home with you.

Prayer for the week:

Grant to us, O Lord, fullness of faith, firmness of hope and fervency of love.
For the sake of the gospel may we sit loosely to our wealth
and daily embrace you in the poor of the world.
As we rejoice in your generosity so may we give ourselves in the service of others;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Sir Thomas More)

Services on 3rd December

8am	Holy Communion BCP	President & preacher: Bishop Richard Harries
10am	Parish Eucharist	President: Rev'd Richard Sewell, preacher: Geoffrey Barnett
11.30am	Informal Service with baptisms	Officiant: Rev'd Richard Sewell
6pm	Advent Carol Service	At St Michael's & All Angels (No Evensong at St Mary's)

The Retreat: Families with young children may like to use the Melvill Room (door beside the organ) as a Retreat space for young children who are getting restless. The service is relayed into there and there are toys and books for children. There is also coffee available for adults.

Collect for 3rd December

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 64 vv1-9

Gospel: Mark 13 vv24-end

10am hymns: 1, 50, 54, 489

11.30am hymns: 45, 394, 576, 667

If you have, or know of anyone who has a pastoral concern, please let one of the clergy or Fiona Barnett know.

Special Prayers:

St Mary's outward giving projects:

The charities St Mary's supports, especially FiSH and Castelneau Centre

The sick, including Alastair Mackie, Carole Stratton

Those who have died: Rev'd Trevor Patterson, Mayella Figgis

Anniversaries of death: Peter Sharrock; Elizabeth du Parcq; Henry Pither; Peggy Langford

This week

Mon to Fri	9.05am	Morning Prayer
Mondays	2.30pm	Sewing group (contact Rosie on 8876 5338)
Thurs 7 th	11.15am	Quiet Time
Dec	12 noon	Holy Communion (BCP): President & preacher: Rev'd Richard Sewell
Sat 9 th Dec	10.30am	Coffee Shop in the Melvill Room in aid of the Macular Degeneration Society
Sun 10 th Dec	8am	Holy Communion BCP: President & preacher: Bishop Richard Harries
Second of Advent	10am	Parish Eucharist: President: Rev'd Richard Sewell, preacher: Martin Calderbank
	11.30am	Christingle Service: Officiant: Rev'd Richard Sewell
	6pm	Healing & Wholeness: Officiant: Rev'd Richard Sewell

If you will be giving your donation to the church in cash, and you pay tax, please use a Gift Aid envelope. This will enable us to claim an extra 25% from HMRC at no cost to you. Write your full name, address and date on the front of the envelope – this MUST be completed in ink to be valid.

Chance to win one of our charities £2000

Starbucks is running a competition this month called "Cheer for Good".
The charities that get most "cheers" or votes from the public win £2000 each.

FiSH and the Castelnau Centre are candidates.

You can "cheer" for your preferred charity by:

tweeting your support using the Twitter handle @CastelnauCentre or @FiSHHelpBarnes and then the hashtag #CheerForGood or by going to <https://www.neighbourly.com/CheerForGood>

Scroll down to your preferred organisation and click on "support this project"

St Mary's Christmas Fair

We are very grateful to Kate Cowell and Philippa Purser for the time and commitment they put into making our Christmas Fair this year another great success. There are many others whose enthusiasm helps to make it such a wonderful event, thanks to them all too. We are delighted that we raised £5200 which is an excellent outcome.

Memorial Window: After much planning and many delays the 1215 Memorial Window has been installed in the Langton Chapel. This commemorates the sealing of Magna Carta and our connection with it through the visit of Archbishop Stephen Langton to St Mary's on his return to London from Runnymede. We celebrated the 800th anniversary of this event in 2015.

We shall be planning a special event to celebrate this important new addition to the fabric of our historic and beautiful church. Many thanks to those who have worked hard to get this project from conception through to completion.

Waiting on God – Advent Prayer Workshops

Monday 4th December at 8pm

Praying with Evelyn Underhill (20th century English writer) Led by Rev'd Richard Sewell

Monday 11th December at 8pm

Praying with R S Thomas (20th century Welsh poet) Led by Christabel Gairdner

Monday 18th December at 8pm

Praying with St Aidan & St Cuthbert (7th century Celtic saints) Led by Sr Margaret Anne

Handbells in the High Street: Friday 8th December

(outside M&S) Please come and support St Mary's Handbell ringers between 6 and 7pm the **Barnes Christmas Festival** evening. The juniors and others will be ringing popular Christmas carols on the handbells and collecting for Under Tree Schools as well as contributing to the BCA nominated charities. Last year M&S were giving away delicious chocolates too!

Rare opportunity

John Harries, our Gift Aid Secretary, would like to retire in the not too distant future, and we are looking for someone with a little time to spare to do this essential job, which last year extracted over £45,000 from HMRC for St. Mary's. It calls for someone at ease with figures and computer software; the job is largely independent, and can be done very much when you feel like it. To arrange a briefing, call John on 8255 0009 or email jmharries@btinternet.com

Our new **Mission Action Plan** is out today. I hope all members of St Mary's will be interested to take a copy and read it carefully. It outlines our priorities for the next few years. It names the particular challenges that we've got and what we need to help us to achieve these. We would be interested to hear all responses.

Calling all children to join the cast of our **Nativity** which is performed on Christmas Eve each year. This time, the play is called, **Gabriel's Big Break'** and we will be retelling the Christmas story from the point of view of the angels. There are parts for everyone and rehearsals take place during the 10am. service on Sundays throughout Advent. For more information contact JulieAnn on jascounselling@btinternet.com or Alison on aejmacmillan@gmail.com

Human Rights Day, Sunday Dec 10th

Annual Vigil 8-9pm, Lady Chapel, St. Michael's

Free Piano Concert 1pm Thurs 14th Dec:

They're back! After their small series of very enjoyable, low-profile piano concerts last winter and spring, Alistair McGowan and Anthony Hewitt team up again for another afternoon of varied piano music. Alistair will attempt to play some of his new repertoire (including Sibelius, Mussorgsky and other pieces by Satie, Chopin, Marcelo, Beethoven and Arvo Part) with possibly more enthusiasm than brilliance before Anthony saves the day with a selection of Brahms Variations. There is no charge for the concert.

Carols for All a dementia-friendly carol service will be held on 21st December from 2-3pm for people living with dementia, their families and carers, followed by refreshments. The service will be shorter than usual, and feature familiar tunes and carols that everyone knows. It is a partnership by St Mary's and the Dover House Singers, a Putney based community choir, and is sponsored by the Barnes Community Association. Members of the St Mary's choir and congregation are welcome to join in.

Barnes Young Musician of the Year 2018

applications are now open to students of Grade 6 standard and above who live, attend school or have their instrumental lessons in Barnes. Go to barnesmusicfestival.com for full details and application form. The Festival outline programme has been published. Please pick up a leaflet with all the details and save the dates of 10 - 25 March 2018 for two weeks of wonderful music-making in Barnes.

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