



@StJames'

Issue 62: June 2019

Ordination of Women

With a female Bishop of London and a female Bishop of Stepney to come, it is hard to remember that it was only 25 years ago that women were ordained to the priesthood in the Church of England. To celebrate the anniversary, women priests are taking roles in many parishes. We are giving thanks for women's ministry in a slightly broader way by inviting Isabel Nisbet (photo below left) to preach at St James' for the first time.



Pack Up

The weekly lunch for the street community, Pack Up, has become a local institution with a great team of volunteers drawn from all over south Islington. It has been led with huge efficiency by Toni Parker (photo above right). Sadly for us, she is moving to Malvern towards the end of the year. To work out how to carry the project forward there will be meeting of volunteers on Monday 9th July. Offers to help co-ordinate the project would be very welcome.

Proms

The eighth series of Islington Proms was bigger and better than ever! Sponsored this year by Knight Frank, the quality of the concerts was exceptional with memorable recitals by Mihai Ritivoiu and Yoanna Prodinova, Dowland Works with Dame Emma Kirkby, the dynamic playing of major works by Pocket Sinfonia, some heart wrenching cello playing by Yalda Davis, completely alone on stage and the rumbustious final event 'Opera on Prebend Street'. In between the sun shone on the Pocket Prom in the Vicarage Gardens and fifteen young people delivered a magnificent Youth Prom. For the first time there was a Fringe: art works on the walls, a first class art lecture and a book launch chaired by Clive Myrie. All this was made possible by a great team led by Isabel Nisbet, including Jeff Pike's hugely professional publicity, Joe White who created a new website and Susan Sorensen who managed the finances.

Photos: Left, Maramba Café Band; Right - Clive Myrie



St James Orchestra

Another new musical venture was the creation of the St James' Orchestra under the baton of Bob Pepper. The concert was in aid of London Cares and raised £1000!



Diary Dates

June

Sunday 23rd - TRINITY 1 Masses at 8am and 10am to include the baptism of Egon Carter.

Wednesday 26th - 7.30pm Deanery Synod, St Stephen's Canonbury.

Sunday 30th - TRINITY 2 Masses at 8am and 10am. This marks the 25th anniversary of the Ordination of women to the priesthood. Preacher: Isabel Nisbet.

July

Monday 1st - 5.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation to St James to include, at 7.30pm a meeting with the PCC

Sunday 7th - TRINITY 3 Masses at 8am and 10am.

Monday 8th - 1.15pm General Meeting of Pack Up Volunteers in the Hall.

Sunday 14th - ST JAMES Masses at 8am and 10am.

12.30pm Arena Families Party, St James' Vicarage garden.

Monday 15th - Monday 29th - Fr John on study leave.

Saturday 20th - 2.30pm Wedding Blessing of James Mason and Sandra Fricker (Fr Stephen).

Sunday 21st - TRINITY 5 Masses at 8am and 10am

Arena Party

The end of term on July 19th leads to a massive exodus of families for the summer school holidays. We are therefore bringing St James' Day forward to July 14th and invite all our families to share lunch in the Vicarage garden from 12.30pm onwards on Sunday

14th. There will be a massive bouncy castle ready for some serious activity. Bring something to eat and drink and let's hope the weather has settled down to provide a lovely summer afternoon for everyone to get together.



Photo: Arena Party 2018

Organ

After three years of intensive research and two congregational meetings, the PCC made the decision to go ahead with the complete rebuilding of the organ at its meeting on May 23rd. This will create an advanced 'combination organ' of pipes and digital sounds and the project has been endorsed in principle by the Diocesan Advisory Committee. However there was a slight concern about process and so the vote will be re-run on July 1st. This is a hugely exciting project which we hope will be completed in time for the 450th anniversary celebrations in the summer of 2020.

Study Leave

While it has been very difficult for Fr John to get away during the first half of the year, he is determined to take a bit of time out to prepare for Catriona's wedding to Daniel Wilkinson at St Mary's Church, Burley in Wharfedale on Saturday 20th July. He will therefore be away from the parish from 15th to 29th June.