

@stJames'

Issue 63: September 2019

Bishop Joanne Grenfell

As many of you know, the huge Diocese of London is divided into five episcopal areas (Two Cities, Kensington, Edmonton, Willesden and our own, Stepney, covering the London Boroughs of Islington, Hackney and Tower Hamlets). Bishop Joanne (below) follows Bishop Adrian Newman who retired on ill health grounds earlier in the year. Her welcome service for Islington ids to be held at St Mary's on Friday 27th September and all are welcome.



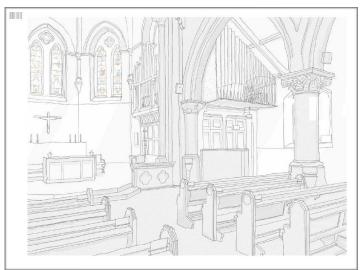
First Communion Programme

This has already started for both adults and young people and the day of admission will be Sunday 13th As we affirmed to the October. Diocese at the time of the Visitation by the Archdeacon of Hackney, St James' parish sees the admission to Communion of young people and those new to the Church as being a key element in our outreach and mission of welcome. We look forward to Sunday 13th as we celebrate the way God draws his children to share his gifts of love and encouragement in our common life of faith.

Organ Project

Technical discussions on the rebuilding of the organ loft have dominated the summer with regular visits by architects and structural engineers resulting in a comprehensive report being sent to the Diocese Advisory Committee for their big meeting on Thursday October 3rd. But we are already planning for the completion of the Organ Project next June. The current plan involves a big choral concert with the new organ at the end of the Islington Proms on Saturday 20th June and then a big service on Sunday 21st to celebrate the end of the William Lambe 450th anniversary with a guest preacher. This will be followed by a Community Lunch (called Lambe's Feast!) and then the celebrity inaugural organ recital in the afternoon. Watch for more details.

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Harvest

With so many of our congregation having links in the Caribbean, it seems only right this year to try to raise funds for all those affected by Hurricane Dorian. So our Harvest celebration will focus on the Bahamas, what happened and what can be done to help to restore communities there. Red Christian Aid envelopes are now available. Please do all you can to support the 2019 St James' Harvest appeal.





Diary Dates

September

Sunday 22rd - TRINITY 14 Masses at 8am and 10am.

12 noon Baptism of Charlie Hobster

Wednesday 25th - 7pm FRG meets at the Vicarage.

Wednesday 27th - **7.30pm** Welcome Service for Bishop Joanne, newly appointed Bishop of Stepney, at St Mary's Church, Upper Street.

Sunday 29th - ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS Masses at 8am and 10am.
7pm Voice and piano recital by Giselle Meyer: Strauss and Debussy.

October

Thursday 3rd - London Diocesan Advisory Committee meets to review the organ at St James'

Sunday 6th - HARVEST Mass at 8am and All Age Mass at 10am.

Tuesday 8th - 10am Islington Proms Committee meets at the Vicarage.

Sunday 13th - TRINITY 17 Mass at 8am. **10am Parish Mass and Admission to Holy Communion.**

Friday 18th - Friday 1st November - Fr John and Maria away on annual leave.

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Canon David Bruno

We are delighted to be able to welcome Canon David Bruno to St James' as he comes to look after the parish when Fr John and Maria take their annual leave at the end of October. David and his wife Maggie lived in Bradford for many years before David retired



to Burton in Lonsdale in North Yorkshire. David will live in the Vicarage from Tuesday 15th October and Maggie, and their two adult children Andrew and Shona, will stay with him for parts of the following fortnight. Sinead will also be there. Please make him welcome; like Fr Stephen, he comes with years of experience of the Church overseas.

Art Exhibition

Throughout the summer we have been enjoying the 'Portraits and Covers' painted by students from John Dewey College in Wood

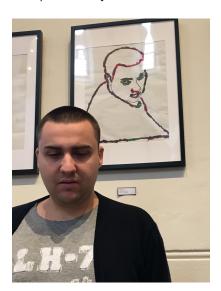


Photo: David Bruno with his work

Green and from our own Richard Cloudesley School in Prebend Street. They will be coming down shortly and we are looking for offers form anyone who would like to display art or photographs on our walls between now and the end of November. If you have contacts with any art groups or individuals who would like to take advantage of these very special spaces, please let us know.

PCC Meeting

The PCC met for the first time after the summer on Wednesday 11th September with a full agenda including safeguarding, the organ project, Islington Proms and church hall hire. Two issues of note are firstly that there is an immediate need for someone to help with the administration of the Church Hall weekend bookings - if anyone would be able to offer some time for this please contact Fr John. Secondly, the PCC agreed to raise our Common Fund Contribution slightly to support other parishes who do not have the historic financial reserves that St James' is fortunate to enjoy both St Andrew's in Thornhill Square and St Mary Magdalene on Holloway Road have had to close during the summer because of safety concerns due to the state of their buildings.