St James’

**March 2024**

**Services for the coming month**

**Sunday 3rd March** **Lent** **3**

8am Mass (Fr Toby Thomas) and 10am Parish Mass (Fr Jim Walters)

Lent Sunday School in Hall at 10am.

**Sunday 10th March** **Lent** **4, Mothering Sunday**

8am (Fr Toby Thomas) and 10am Parish Mass (Rev Irena Edgcumbe).

Lent Sunday School in Hall at 10am.

**Sunday 17th March Passion Sunday**

8am (Fr Stephen Taylor) and 10am Parish Mass (Fr Jim Walters).

Lent Sunday School in Hall at 10am.

**Sunday 24th March** **Palm Sunday**

8am (Fr Toby Thomas) and 10am Parish Mass (Fr Jim Walters).

No Sunday School.

**Thursday 28 March** **Maundy Thursday** 7pm Mass (Fr Jim Walters)

**Friday 29 March** **Good Friday** 2pm (Fr Jim Walters)

**Sunday 31 March Easter Day**

8am (Fr Stephen Taylor) and 10am Parish Mass (Fr Jim Walters).

**Dates for your diary**

**Sunday 3rd March** 6.30pm Concert**:** Music by Prokofiev, Brahms, Dvorak, retiring collection in aid of Target Ovarian Cancer

**Wednesday 6 March** 10am: Funeral of Bernice Ellis

**Saturday 16th March** 7.00 pmCantallini Easter Concert – programme includes Bach Cantatas and Poulenc’s Four Motets For The Season Of Lent.

**Monday 18th March** 7.30pm PCC meeting (including Section 11 meeting to adopt Parish Profile

**Wednesday 20 March** 1pm: Marriage of Silviu Stoica and Jade Amarteifio

See the calendar on the website for concerts and other dates.

**News and Notices**

**Process to Appoint a new Incumbent:**

The PCC met on 21 February to consider options for the future. Their preference was to advertise soon after Easter for a new Vicar of St James’, but also to open the advertisement to proposals for partnerships with neighbouring churches, so that these can all be compared. On 18 March the PCC will meet again and will adopt the Parish Profile, which brings together information about the church and the parish, for interested applicants.

**Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services**

This year, in keeping with recent tradition at St James we are offering a reflective evening Mass on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Mass at 2pm the following day. Please do come if you can. We are grateful to Fr Jim for leading both these services.

**Sunday School**

The Sunday School Lent project focusing on Bach's *Passion Chorale* continues at 10am each Sunday in St James’s Hall. Children and young people will be able to enjoy a series of sessions involving music, stories, art and reflection, culminating in the children singing, playing and signing the chorale in church on Passion Sunday, 17th March.

Everyone is very welcome. For more information, please speak to Lucy Haire or our church wardens, Isabel and Hilary.

**Easter Cards**

Cards handmade by Jo Barton, including Easter cards, will be available for purchase at the back of Church after Sunday Services during March. Attractive, useful and modestly priced please do give your support by buying some. Cash only accepted. All funds raised will go to MOP (Medical Orphans Project) the charity St James’ has long raised funds for – it provides monies for the welfare and education of orphans in Manicaland, Zimbabwe.

**Parish Annual General Meeting**

Traditionally, this meeting has been held two weeks after Easter. However, the rules were changed recently and the meeting now has to be held before the end of May. St James’ APCM will be held this year on Sunday 12 May. Please make a note of this date as it would be great to have as many of the congregation at that meeting as possible. Forms for joining the Electoral Roll and for nominations for the PCC and Deanery Synod Representatives will be available in Church nearer the time.

**Second Sunday Choir**

We want to continue with a choir on the second Sunday of each month, but we would welcome new members. What is involved is meeting for a practice about 45 minutes before the service and singing a short anthem after the Communion, as well as the other music in the 10am service. You should be able to read music, but no audition and all welcome. If you’re interested, just let Isabel know (via admin@stjamesislington.org).

**Parish Office and contact details during the Interregnum**

The Parish office is now located in the Hall. If you want to contact the team, including the Churchwardens, during the next few months, please email admin@stjamesislington.org - this email address will be monitored and messages forwarded on to the appropriate person. The contact phone number is 07852 390 266. Please do not call the Vicarage landline number.

If you would like to talk to a priest, or to discuss holding a wedding, funeral or baptism at St James’, please use the same contact details, and we shall get back to you as soon as we can.

**Fr John**

Fr John and Maria will be living in Sutton, Surrey from 14 March and will be leaving the Vicarage by 17 March. They have been busy packing up – including moving some of the plants and shrubs in their wonderful garden – and our thoughts and prayers are with them.