

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

January 2017

50p



Lord Jesus, make us wise,
keep us faithful and lead us to
your light

St Martin's Church, Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

| | |
|---|---|
| The Vicar | The Rev'd Dr Nicholas Henderson (also Surrogate and Chaplain to Acton Care Centre) 020 8992 2333 |
| SSM Assistant Priest | The Rev'd Brandy Pearson (c/o Parish Office) |
| Permission to Officiate | The Rev'd Robert Pearson |
| Commissioned Lay Minister to Japanese Anglican Church UK | Mrs Yuki Johnson (07572 324107) yukifunakawa@btinternet.com |
| Parish Administrator (weekdays: 9.30am – 1.30pm) | Parish Office, rear of Church Hall, Hale Gardens, W3 9SQ 020 8992 2333 |
| Reader | Dr Margaret Jones (020 8997 1418) |
| Reader Emeritus | Mrs Lynne Armstrong (020 8992 8341) |
| Commissioned Lay Minister | Mrs Jacqueline Nicholls (c/o Parish Office) |
| Churchwardens | Mrs Liza Ambridge (020 8992 3029) Mr John Wilson |
| Director of Music | Mr Kenneth Bartram (c/o Parish Office) |
| Magazine Editor | Clive Davis (clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com) |

The Vicar is available for consultation and enquiries by appointment.
Please ring the Parish Office.

Articles for the next month's magazine should be sent to
Clive Davis (email: clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com)

They should reach the Editor by 16th January.

The February magazine will be on sale by 29th January.

Will it snow?



The child in me says yes please!
However, as the United Nations' World Meteorological Organisation figures show that this last year global temperature was 1.2C above pre-industrial levels and set a new high for the third

year running, I am afraid that the chances are decreasing of me ever using the four toboggans that are in the vicarage garden shed.

These are indeed strange times, not only weather-wise but politically and socially. Somehow the world seems tipped upside down and out of sorts. As Don McLean's old song used to go there is so often 'bad news on the doorstep'. Perhaps I am getting old because I ought to know that bad news is news and good news always seems less interesting from the media's point of view? Nevertheless, we are almost hardened to a constant litany of suffering from bullet and bomb, natural disaster and 'man's inhumanity to man'.

Which almost perversely, brings us to the brave new world of 2017 that awaits us? This coming Lent we are tackling some of the hard questions that we might expect to come up over the year, they include questions of conflict, politics, genetics, welfare, and sex. A heady mix but Christians must never let themselves become detached from reality we are called to be citizens of this world as well as subjects of the next.

What better then as a spiritual exercise might there be than to see God as an innocent child born in humble circumstances and destined to die for our sakes. This is a revolutionary concept, one that has the power to remind us that God loves the simple, the rejected, the suffering and even us. Perhaps when we are feeling depressed about the world around us we can remember this. We have just celebrated the concept at Christmas now we need to live it.

Thank God, people are still inclined to come to church, to slow their normal secular lifestyle and seek something beyond them. In this the

Church must be what it always should be, welcoming to the stranger, non – judgmental and open to change. Sadly and too often the Church gives out a negative message with protests and prohibitions about things that are nothing more than moral relativities. Instead we should live the glorious Gospel of freedom and redemption.

I like to think that St Martin's is quite good at welcoming people whoever they are? Certainly people do report that we are a friendly congregation and in this respect we might consider it as a bonus? It is a truism to say that people come back to a church, not because of the fine liturgy, or even because of a good sermon but because they have received a warm and convivial welcome.

So 'will it snow'? Perhaps or perhaps not, the future is unknown but our resolve as followers of Christ shouldn't be.

The Church started its New Year last Advent Sunday but may I also wish you a very happy 2017.

Nicholas

P.S. If you'd like to see what happened the last time we had some decent snow in 2010 why not go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5KxzDIt_Mo



Music for St Cecilia



Gina Kruger vocals and Fred Karlsson piano entertained us in celebration of the patron saint of music.

See:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybv_k1fU5hs

Lent 2017

Right here. Right now
Scripture, Ethics and Prayer

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 1st March

Lenten Themes at the Sunday 10am Parish Communion &
8pm Thursday evenings in the Parish Room following a simple
Lenten supper available from 7.30pm

Thursday 2nd March
War and the Just War

Sunday 5th March: The Vicar
'Aleppo versus Mosul versus Yemen'
Can Christians tell the difference?

Thursday 9th March
Sickness and health – caring for the sick in a political world

Sunday 12th March: Dr Margaret Jones
Values versus Targets – health and politics

Thursday 16th March
Science and scientific possibilities

Sunday 19th March: Professor Bryony Franklin
Are we playing God? Genetics and the Faith

Thursday 23rd March
Living in the community

Sunday 26th March: Jackie Nicholls
Mothering Sunday – Mother's Day. Is there any difference?

Thursday 30th March
Sex and good sex

Sunday 2nd April: The Revd Brandy Pearson
Is the Church obsessed with sex?



goview
L O N D O N

Go View London, 24 Station Parade, Ealing Common, W5 3LD

020 8992 0333

enquire@goviewlondon.co.uk

www.goviewlondon.co.uk

Professional, Pro-active property advice

Donald Collins (Sales Director)
Direct Dial: 020 8752 3163
dcollins@goviewlondon.co.uk

Bryan Light (Lettings Director)
Direct Dial: 020 8752 3170
blight@goviewlondon.co.uk

goview
L O N D O N

C O M M U N I T Y

As part of our community scheme, please mention St Martin's church and we will donate £100 for every fee generating instruction for sales or lettings.

(Terms apply – please speak to our office).

Visiting St Martin's



It was nice to see Alyson Barnett-Cowan recently when she visited us.

Alyson is pictured here with Liza Ambridge.



PRINT PLUS

• Design • Digital Printing • Stationary

2 Grosvenor Parade • Uxbridge Road
Ealing Common • W5 3NN



PRINTING SERVICES

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Artwork Design | • B/W & Colour Photocopies | • 135mm/APS Processing |
| • Business Cards | • Banners – Indoor & Outdoor | • CD/DVD Duplication |
| • MoneyGram  | • Invitation Cards | • Wide Format Posters |
| • Mobile Phone top-up services | • Greeting Cards | • Men & Women |
| | • Leaflets | Fragrances |



Tel: 020 8992 0208
Fax: 020 8992 0208
Email: print.plus@hotmail.co.uk

Nicholas' alternative office.



Nicholas, pictured here in his natural environment.

When he is not working hard in the Office you will find him in conversation with a parishioner drinking coffee in Costa.



- Funerals arranged with sympathy and dignity at reasonable prices
- Repatriation service to all overseas countries
 - Monumental masonry
 - Prepaid funeral plans

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Please call Christopher Wickenden on

020 8993 8040

13 The Broadway
Gunnersbury Lane
London W3 8HR



Near Acton Town Tube Stn



Tradycyjne Polskie Pogrzeby



Support and dignity

Sonnets and Songs



Rob Pearson reads his contribution at Sonnets, Songs and Celebrations held recently in the Parish Room.



Celebrate Epiphany

Sunday 8th January

6.30pm Epiphany service

Followed by Port and Cake

Celebrating Christmas

The Christmas Tree (a good old fashioned Norwegian Spruce) arrives



The tree is erected with Kenneth Chan, Alexander Chan, Mauricio Rodriues and Eze Kwazema.

The finished product.



The Nativity



King Herod questions the Wise Men at the Junior Church nativity play



Bazaar 2016



Here Jim Hyde is dressed as a Christmas angel with an astonished Simon Merrick looking on.



Here our local MP, Rupa Huq, meets Father Christmas.

The Bazaar raised over £2,100 thanks to all those who supported the Bazaar.

The preparations for Christmas

Preparing the Advent wreath



..... making the Christingle oranges.

See an extract from the Christingle service on the website at:
<http://stmartinswestacton.co.uk/youtubes/>

The St Martin's Bake Off

Ellen West contemplates the cakes entered for the Bake Off competition.

Ellen organised the successful event raising money for the 32.5K Fund.



The Quiz Night

Paul Ambridge, who organised the successful Quiz Night, is seen here as Quiz Master.



The teams thinking carefully about the questions set by the Quiz Master.

Remember November 5th..



Michael and Rob preparing the bonfire.

Brandy and Rob enjoying the glow of the fire.



Keeping warm by the fire.

The fire burning bright



Independent Estate Agents with local expertise



**Successfully selling for over 48 years in Ealing,
Acton and the surrounding areas**

DEREK FJ GRIMSHAW FRICS

5 STATION PARADE, UXBRIDGE ROAD, EALING COMMON, LONDON W5 3LD
TEL: 020 8992 5661 EMAIL: sales@grimshawhomes.co.uk

www.grimshawhomes.co.uk

The Women's Refuge

The residents and staff of the refuge have asked me to thank all the people who have recently made donations.

They were very pleased with the produce which was given at the Harvest Festival. Each of the current residents received some of the fresh food and the staff have reserved the unperishable food which they give out to new residents who often arrive with no money to purchase food.

As most of you know, we prepare "Welcome Packs" for new residents. These consist of a laundry basket filled with new towels, toiletries, toothbrushes, new underwear, tissues etc; the necessities which are needed for basic hygiene but are often overlooked when women are in a hurry to flee from domestic violence. So far this year we have supplied 30 baskets to new residents. Our baskets are always well received; the women and the staff are grateful for our practical concern.

Over the last few months members of the congregation and their friends have also kindly donated lovely clothes for children and babies as well as other baby goods. At present there are a lot of young children and toddlers staying in the refuge with their mothers, and indeed they have recently had 2 new babies. These children all grow very fast and the women have been delighted with all your gifts.



They have asked me to thank you all for the support which they receive from our church. It means a lot to them that we are taking the trouble to care for women and children who find themselves in such a desperate situation that have had to leave their homes.

The children have drawn and coloured this picture.

Margaret

Thank you...

We have received several letters of thanks recently from charities we have supported. The following extracts are from the 'thank you' letters.

From Dementia Concern in Ealing: *"We are grateful to you for the generous donation of £500. I can assure you that all donations are important to us and help us to continue to provide services for people with dementia and their carers. As we have an ever-increasing demand for our services, we are particularly appreciative of your generous donation."*

From SPCK: *"Thank you so much for the £300 gift which we were delighted to receive. As our programme work relies entirely on charitable donations, your support is extremely important to us."*

From St Mungo's: *"Thank you for your donation of £500 to help our services. We are so grateful for your ongoing support... We provide a bed and support to more than 2,500 people a night who are either homeless or at risk, and works to prevent homelessness."*

From Toilet Twinning: *"Thank you for flushing away poverty! Your gift of £120 will help some of the world's poorest people have basic essentials in life such as a toilet, clean water and hygiene education."*



The photo on the left shows Kenneth Chan holding two photo frames from "Toilet Twinning". The photos in the frames show the toilet we have twinned in making the donation.

Kenneth Chan is our new Treasurer.

Acton Care Centre remembers.



The Vicar and Brandy are pictured here with Gina and the choir at the Acton Care Centre.

They gathered in November to support the residents at the Centre for their Remembrance service.



Received into the Church of England

Matthew Phinn was received into the Church of England on Advent Sunday 27th November when the vicar acted as the Bishop's commissary.



St Martin's, West Acton, London



The Parish of St Martin Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ

(Registered charity no. 1132976)



www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

Usual Sunday Services

8am: Holy Communion

10am: Parish Communion

6.30pm: Evensong

Our Junior Church meets in the Church Hall at 10am
except when there is a Family Service.

The 'On-Message' Group meets every second Sunday of the month.
Over coffee the group discusses various issues for Christians.

Our Youth Group meets every Tuesday at 7pm
in the Parish Room (rear of Church Hall)

Japanese Anglican Church UK

meets every third Sunday of the month:
(except July, August and December)

3pm Bible Study and Evening Worship in Japanese

Every **Wednesday** at 25 Birch Grove, W3

11am: Informal Eucharist followed by the Coffee Club at 11.30am

You can now make a donation from your mobile phone.

For example to donate £5: text **STMA34 £5** to **70070**

You can donate any amount you wish.