

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

September 2017

50p



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	Alex Chan

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
The Parish Office (email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com)
Please title the email "magazine item"

They should reach the Editor by 15th October.

The November magazine will be on sale by 29th October.

October and Harvest



'The last bales' – David Shepherd'

We have always held our Harvest Festival in October. This is partly in deference to the poet Keats and his poem 'Ode to Autumn', which ironically he wrote in September 1819 and partly because it takes most of September to recover from the effects of the summer holidays!

Anyway with Rogationtide in May, when blessings were called on the newly sown crops in the old days the harvest wasn't complete until October. In our own times we have access to fruit, vegetables and produce at all times of the year but we still need to celebrate a harvest thanksgiving.

Harvest is nevertheless entirely dependent on planting and tending the crops and this is a good metaphor for the Christian life. Locally we try to express this outwardly by our support of the Ealing Women's Refuge with goods and items.

Inevitably we get caught up as well with finance, this year is no exception. For example, you have already as a congregation been

extraordinarily generous in helping to finance the new Hall kitchen. This generosity will hopefully continue as later this month we have our annual Gift Day (Sunday 29th October) and as we proceed onto the expenses and outgoings associated with 2018. In this respect Ken Chan our treasurer has written a series of articles in this magazine and during October we will have some essential presentations at the main Parish Communion on the same theme.

Overall, however our primary objection, our reason for existence is to seek a harvest of souls and to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Nicholas



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

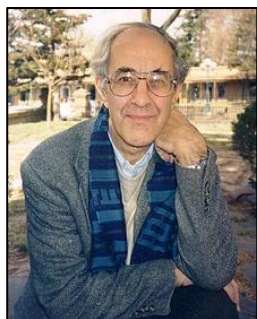
1. FROM BRANDY'S COMMONPLACE BOOK

I have been writing a spiritual journal for many years. I use it to think through how I feel, what I think about God and what God might want of me. Somehow, writing it down helps me. I used to include quotations from books that inspired or informed me. However, my journal is very private. I wanted to share these quotes with others and so I started a Commonplace Book for them. I write them in the book by hand, because I find it a prayerful act, a way of slowing myself down to connect more deeply with the words. (Rob will tell you I have neat handwriting!)

I thought for the next few months, I would share some of these quotations with you – in the hope that you might find these words inspiring and help in your own life of prayer and relationship with God.

If you find anything puzzling - Come and talk to me!

I have started with something about reading spiritually. After all, that is what I hope we will all be doing with these words!



This quotation is by Henri Nouwen, who died in 1996, and is one of my favourite spiritual writers. He was a Dutch Catholic priest, professor, writer and theologian. His interests were rooted primarily in psychology, pastoral ministry, spirituality, social justice and community. After nearly two decades of teaching at academic institutions, Nouwen went on to work with mentally and physically handicapped people at the L'Arche Daybreak community in Richmond Hill, Ontario in Canada.

READING SPIRITUALLY

Reading often means gathering information, acquiring new insight and knowledge, and mastering new fields. It can lead us to degrees, diplomas and certificates.

Spiritual reading however, is different.

It means not simply reading about spiritual things, but also about reading spiritual things in a spiritual way.

That requires a willingness not just to read but to be read, not just to master but to be mastered by words...

As we read spiritually about spiritual things, we open our hearts to God's voice.

We must be willing to put down the book we are reading and just listen to what God is saying to us through its words.

from "Bread for the Journey"
by Henri Nouwen



Summer in the City

Many thanks to everyone who turned up for the St. Martin's Garden Party, hosted by Ken; and for your generous donations towards the Church projects.



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

Harvest Festival


We celebrate our Harvest Festival on 1st October. It is a special occasion when we give thanks to God for all the good food and fruits of the earth which we enjoy. This year, we have a Family Service and also a Harvest Lunch at St Martin's

For some years, we have been supporting the work of the local Women's Refuge and our harvest gifts will be going to them. The refuge accommodates women and their children who are fleeing from domestic violence. They stay in the refuge for some months and have cooking facilities. Our gifts of food are always welcome and in these times when prices are increasing, the residents will be very pleased to receive our contributions.

Gifts of fresh fruit and vegetables will be used immediately, but store cupboard items such as tinned fish and meat, soup, pasta, tea and coffee, long-life milk, cereals etc are much needed. Please bring your donations with you to the 10am service.

We also welcome gifts of toiletries which will go into the Welcome Packs which we provide for each new resident.

Margaret Jones




- 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



H A V E N
Funeral Services

13 The Broadway
Gunnersbury Lane
London W3 8HR

 Near Acton Town Tube Stn

 Tradycyjne Polskie Pogrzeby

Support and dignity

Reflection Group

For about 18 months a small group of us have been meeting from time to time on Thursday evenings to discuss topics relating to our spiritual lives. Usually we start by reading some quotations on the chosen subject from an anthology (copies provided); and the discussion then lasts for about 45 minutes. Subjects we have covered include Prayer, Patience, Joy, Being a Neighbour, Forgiveness, Wholeness and many others. The discussions are not mainly theological. We try to focus on what affects our daily lives, and we have found the sharing of our ideas and experiences a fruitful source of strength.

We now hope to re-launch the group and meet in the church on every second Sunday after the 10 a.m. service, starting on 8th October. We believe that this timing may be more convenient for some people. All are welcome. If you are interested, please contact me: jsbeastall@hotmail.com (or 020 8998 6315).

John Beastall





St Martin's Players
and friends present a

**CHRISTMAS
PANTO
& SEASONAL
SOIREE**



£15.00 and £7.50 concessions
Friday December 8th from 7pm
an evening of jollity - music – supper and laughter
Come and get into the Christmas spirit!

The Vicar's Plum Trees

From Karen Staartjes, who is co-chair of the Ealing Common Society – the vicar's plum 'prunus' saplings which have been grown from seeds, and matured in the Parish Office garden, are to be planted on the Common.

Hello Nick,

Julie and I have now picked up some of your lovely plum saplings. We have planted them in pots for now, and one of them is in the ground in my garden. I will get stakes for the ones in the pots as I know they also require support. We will ask our Park Ranger Jon Skoyles to tell us when the saplings can be safely planted on the Common.

Thank you again,

Karen



Plant a fruit tree for Ealing Common!

Special birthday or anniversary coming up? Stuck for an unusual gift? Looking for a nature study project for the children? Or maybe you just love Ealing Common and want to help make it even more special?

We're turning a stretch of the Common into a mini-orchard, with fruit for everyone to pick and enjoy. Last year we planted a rowan and three mulberry trees. This year we're planning plum, quince, cherry and crab apple - or you could add something different...

A sponsored tree would make a wonderful present for a special birthday or anniversary - or you could just treat yourself to the glow of satisfaction at helping to keep the Common a wonderful resource for us all. The fruit is for everyone to share and the trees are planted and maintained by Ealing Council's rangers.

For a donation/sponsorship form, please visit our website <http://ealingcommonsociety.co.uk/plant-tree-ealing/> or email us on ealcomsoc@btinternet.com. You can sponsor a whole tree or make a donation toward the cost. Sponsors will be invited to the planting day at the end of October and receive a certificate recording their generosity.



Upcoming Events

<p>Sunday October 1st at 10am</p> <p>Harvest Festival</p>  <p>All-Age Service</p> <p>Followed by Harvest Lunch</p> <p>at 12noon</p>	<p>Sunday 15th October at 10am</p> <p>Annual Confirmation Service</p>  <p>Whatever your age, Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been baptised. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.</p> <p>CONTACT THE VICAR AT THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT BEING CONFIRMED</p> <p>mailto:STMARTINS@STMARTINSWESTACTON.COM</p>
<p>For more information: http://www.stmartinswestacton.com</p>	

The Great Clear Up

Many thanks to everyone who came to help clean, wash and dust the Church Hall after all the building works associated with the new kitchen.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Jon and Janet Trussler – married in this church 57 years ago.



St Martin's Foundation 2017

An educational programme for contemporary Christians

Lectures and talks at 8pm on Thursdays

in the Parish Room (Rear of Church Hall) Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ



8pm Thursday 20th April 2017

John Gallagher, past mayor of Ealing, freeman, alderman and councillor, will give a talk on the coats-of-arms of the Church of England bishops and their religious, historic and heraldic associations.



8pm Thursday 18th May 2017 The Vicar lectures on:

'Whatever happened after Henry VIII?'

Three queens and two kings – Reformation and counter-reformation changes with us to this day.



8pm Thursday 15th June 2017

Local M.P. Dr. Rupa Huq

'Religion and British Politics'

Preparation for Confirmation for adults A short course of five sessions on Sundays 11.15am - 12.30pm

September – October 2017 (Confirmation Service – 10am Sunday 15th October 2017)

If you would like to be confirmed or would like to brush up your knowledge with our adult confirmation course please contact the Parish Office



8pm Thursday 19th October

Clive Davis St Martin's Magazine Editor and historian

'Their name liveth for evermore' is inscribed on St Martin's War Memorial - The 36 names may live forever but they were parishioners. Clive explores the men behind the names who they were and how they died.



8pm Thursday 16th November - Elizabeth Shipton

Female Tommies: Women in uniform in WWI

2017 marks the centenary of the first women in the British Military. How did women prove their value in the field and win the acceptance of the War Office during WWI?

A military historian and a researcher for BBC television and radio, Elisabeth Shipton is the author of *Female Tommies: The Frontline Women of the First World War*.



8pm Thursday 14th December

'Last Christmas I gave you my heart'

The Vicar muses on the season

Happy Birthday Lynne!

Lynne Armstrong celebrated her 70th birthday with a cake made by Camilla Reid, and Prosecco provided by Lynne, on Sunday 3rd September.



Happy Birthday Angela!

Angela North celebrated her birthday at the 'Summer in the City' lunch hosted by Ken Bartram in Bob and Camilla Reid's garden.



A Brief Outline of Church Finances – Part 3

Surplus / Deficit

I started this three part series by stating that Church Finances are about income, outgoings and the difference between the two, i.e. surplus or deficit. I hope you've now got a better idea on where St Martin's gets its income from, and what this income is spent on. There is not much that requires further explanation on surplus or deficit per se, so I would like to share my own view of their importance to our Church with you.

Obviously surplus is better than deficit from the treasury management perspective but, for me, there is a deeper meaning for us Christians. If you strip Church Finances down to its most basic parts, the common thread through it all is sacrificial giving. In essence Church Finances is the collection (income through your givings) and redistribution (mostly as Common Fund contribution in outgoings) of funds to sustain the Church, first individually and then collectively. Surpluses strengthen that sustainability, as well as enabling us to do more good work for the glory of God.

I mentioned previously that we are facing financial challenges; as there is a gradual increase in the gap between our committed income and outgoings, which we have to rely on rental income and fundraising events to cover. The significant costs required to complete the substantial upgrade of the Church Hall and Kitchen have inevitably increased the pressure to find additional income if we wish to balance the books.

St Martin's congregation has been consistently generous over the years, and your overwhelming response to the Kitchen SOS campaign is the latest proof, for which the PCC and I are most grateful. We are acutely aware that continuing to ask for more from existing members is not viable, and we are also actively exploring alternative options.

In the midst of this, it's important to remind ourselves the motive to maintain a surplus in our financial position. In Matthew 16 v26, Jesus asked "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world yet forfeits his soul?" It's only a means to an end: let God's will, not ours, be done. We must have faith in God that He will lead us by the right path.

The Treasurer

**supporting
your move**

&

**the local
community**

we donate

£150

to

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

on

**EVERY SALES & LETTINGS
INSTRUCTION***



FOR PROFESSIONAL PRO-ACTIVE PROPERTY ADVICE CONTACT:

DONALD COLLINS Sales Director
DD: 020 8752 3163
dcollins@goviewlondon.co.uk

BRYAN LIGHT Lettings Director
DD: 020 8752 3170
blight@goviewlondon.co.uk

goview
L O N D O N

T: 020 8992 0333

sales@goviewlondon.co.uk
lettings@goviewlondon.co.uk
24 Station Parade, Ealing, W5 3LD

goviewlondon.co.uk

*State code: ST MARTIN'S when registering. Must be a fee-generating instruction for sales or lettings.

Annual St. Martin's Bonfire

Coming soon – this year's annual Bonfire Party in the Vicarage Garden, 6pm Saturday 4th November – a traditional 'back garden' event with refreshments and lots of fun.



St. Martin's Annual Gift Day

WHAT IS A GIFT DAY?

A Gift Day is an annual opportunity to make a special donation towards the work of the Church.

YOUR GENEROSITY CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Today we face difficult financial decisions both in the Diocese of London and in our parish. The Kingdom of God needs your financial support as well as your Faith commitment.

Every parish pays into the Diocesan 'Common Fund'. This coming year we have been asked for £81,600. We gladly contribute this sum over and above what we need to run our own parish, as we wish to support other poorer parishes in the diocese. You can help us meet our commitments with your donation this Gift Day.

Our 2018
income may be
LESS than our
expenditure

A CHURCH REFLECTING LIFE & TIMES

The building of St Martin's church, commenced in 1905 and completed in 1906, was to serve the new and growing population that was developing

in West London as a result of the extension of the Piccadilly Line in the previous century.

The church was consecrated on St Martin's day, 11th November 1906 by Bishop Arthur Foley Winnington-Ingram, Bishop of London from 1902 to 1938. During the 1930s vestries were added to the building and during the 1960s a Hall and church flat were built.

Amongst distinguished members of the clergy, we remember in particular the Rev'd 'Harry' Clement Williams who retired in 1938 and died in 1992 aged 107, being the then oldest living Anglican clergyman in the world!

WHAT NOW?

Spend some time praying about your decision. Ask yourself this: "Is what I give a realistic proportion of what God has given me?"

If you pay tax, whether it is income tax, or tax on your pension or savings, then please fill in a Gift Aid Envelope. This will enable the church to claim 25% back from the taxman on every pound of your giving, with no extra cost to you.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

This is a one-off special gift to St Martin's. It will of course be supplemental to your regular giving but it is rather like giving a special present – so your generosity will be much appreciated.

OUR FUTURE

St Martin's today is a vibrant Christian community dedicated to sharing God's message. It depends almost entirely on you to continue the good work.

WAYS TO DONATE

1. BY CHEQUE

Make your cheque payable to '*St Martin's Church*' and put it in one of the Gift Day envelopes with this leaflet or in the church.

2. * BY BACS

Our Bank details are:

HSBC

Sort Code: 40 - 11 - 58

A/C No: 60482676

3. * BY TEXT

Text STMA34 £.....
with your donation to:
70070

* FOR OUR RECORDS

Please use a Gift Aid envelope to return details of your name, address, amount of donation and method of giving.

Alternatively send your cheque/cash to:

The Vicar
c/o The Parish Office
(Rear of Church Hall),
Hale Gardens,
London W3 9SQ.

Please make your cheque payable to:
'*St Martin's Church*'

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 an All-Age or Parade Service.

The next All-Age Services will be:

Sunday 1st October: Harvest Festival

Sunday 5th November: St Martin'side

Sunday 3rd December: Christingle

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 make a donation from your mobile phone.

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

You can donate any amount you wish.