

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

December 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 24th December.

The November magazine will be on sale by 31st December.

A Traditional Christmas



I feel rather sorry for the robin in the picture. Not only does he look ragged but frozen as well.

Nevertheless the picture is definitely 'seasonal' and traditional.

Like so many illustrations of scenes of idyllic England on Christmas cards the meteorological conditions are akin to those in northern Spitzbergen. In this case also the depicted church

gate and doorway gives a cursory nod towards what Christmas is supposed to be all about – the birth of Christ.

Sadly, for many these aspects of Christmas are little more than a folk memory and the contemporary festival is altogether something else meaning different things to different people.

However, I don't want to be a 'party pooper' or worse still a 'bah humbug' writer of this article, especially as it is my last for St Martin's Church magazine. I've been here long enough to see the many changes that have taken place in this part of West London. The area has for example become more 'Londonised' in the sense that it is more cosmopolitan, less overtly Christian and wealthier. All of these present new challenges to us as Christians and how we are seen in the community.

I like to think that we have a good relationship with those around St Martin's but this is no excuse for complacency as the imperative of proclaiming the Gospel must always be our primary concern. "The Church", said the Second World War Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, "is the only organisation that does not exist for itself

Poppy Crosses

Lovely poppy arrangements for Remembrance Sunday as created and made by Liz Barnes.



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Tel: 020 8992 0208

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Stories of the Saints

St Martin's has lovely stained glass windows depicting saints. Brandy Pearson has written some descriptive information and prayers for each one around the church. Do take some time to take a look.



Bonfire Night

Preparing the bonfire Rob Pearson and Michael Franks and the Guy made by Zac Marshall-Phillips awaits.



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THE EALING CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP

**CHURCH OF CHRIST THE SAVIOUR, EALING BROADWAY
TUE 31ST OCT TO TUE 19TH DEC. MON-SAT 10.00-5.00**

Upcoming Services

The next All–Age Services at 10am

Christingle Sunday 3rd December 2017

Candlemas Sunday 4th February 2018

Mothering Sunday 11th March 2018

Christmas Services

6.30pm Sunday 10th December – Advent Carol Service by Candlelight

6.30pm Sunday 17th December – A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight followed by mince pies and mulled wine

4pm Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December - The Annual Children's Carol Service

11pm Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December – Midnight Eucharist

8am Christmas Day 25th December – Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10am Christmas Day 25th December – The Parish Communion with Carols

6.30pm Sunday 7th January 2018 – Epiphany Carol Service followed by sherry



The Editorial

British Winter. The season we all dread as the wet, cold, and expensive one. Our gas bills rise, and the days shorten. Yet, this year, winter seems particularly bleak. We seem to be living in an age where diplomacy is a thing of the past, and where our leaders resort to playground insults. Another Iron Curtain is slowly rising in the East, and it seems that unity is dead.

However, it is in these times that we must see beyond the dull British rain, and trust in our faith. It is in times like these, when every door is closing, that the Church must keep its doors open. So, this December, I ask you to have faith, for the harshest winter is surely followed by the sweetest spring.

The Editor

Maintaining the Church

Unfortunately, the rear door of the Church received some rather unwanted graffiti. Therefore, we are grateful to the Vicar who gave up his time to repaint the door and maintain our Church.



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Bridging the Pond

We welcomed Fr. Andrew Merrow Rector of St Mary's, Arlington, Virginia; our link parish in the United States. He arrived on Bonfire night and is pictured here (second on the left) at the bonfire in the vicarage garden.



Articles for the Magazine

Do you have something to say?
Would you like a platform to talk from?

If you have an article you wish to share in the magazine, please do not hesitate to contact me-
alexchan.work239@gmail.com

-The Editor



Sunday
December 3rd
12noon – 3pm
in the Church Hall

Books – Crafts – Jewellery – Toys
Christmas Cards – Bric-a-brac
Raffles – Plants – Refreshments

Admission £2.00
Concessions £1.00

Peerage for Bishop Richard Chatres

10 Downing Street has announced that the Rt. Rev. & Rt. Hon. Richard Chatres KCVO, who retired as Bishop of London in March 2017, is to be made a life peer.



The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, has welcomed the news, saying;

"It is wonderful to hear that Richard Chatres will be returning to the House of Lords. His deep wisdom, experience, and integrity were greatly valued during his two decades on the Bishops' Benches, and I pray that this new role will provide Bishop Richard with a fresh opportunity to offer those gifts in service to our national life."

Bishop Richard himself stated;

"This is a tribute to the work we have carried out together, across the Diocese of London, over more than 20 years. I hope to speak up for

the causes important to London and beyond, contributing to a new chapter - without, of course, treading on my successor's toes."

Following his retirement as Bishop of London, Bishop Richard continues to hold the position of Dean of HM Chapels Royal until the appointment of the 133rd Bishop of London.

The Convenor of the Lords Spiritual, the Bishop of Birmingham, David Urquhart, said: "I am delighted to hear that Richard Chartres is to return to the House of Lords in this new capacity.

"Richard has a wealth of parliamentary experience already, having served on the Bishops' Benches for two decades until his retirement earlier this year, and he is popular and well respected in the House. Parliament will be handling many weighty challenges in the coming years and it is reassuring to know Richard will be there again, bringing his characteristic wisdom, wit and experience to bear on the debates ahead."



HOUSE OF LORDS



St. Martin's Review Evening

Don't miss the review evening for St. Martin's Church, where important information about the Church projects and other details will be discussed.

Friday 8th December
7:30pm

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 Come and get into the Christmas spirit!

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Talent Tree

The Junior Church made these beautiful tree decorations to give thanks to God for their talents! They have also made cheques to ask God how he wants them to spend these talents.



St Martin's, West Acton, London



Charity No:1132976

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, HALE GARDENS, LONDON W3 9SQ

November Mailing 2017



Sunday November 5th 10am
All Age Service
for St Martin's
Come and remember
our patron saint



Sunday November 12th 10am
Remembrance Sunday
with
Act of Remembrance
at the War Memorial at 11am

Sunday November 19th 6.30pm
Recital for St Cecilia's Day

Free with suggested donation
of £10 for 32.5K Fund

Sunday 3rd December 10am



The Annual
Christingle Service

Proceeds to the
Children's Society
Followed by...



The Christmas
Bazaar

Sunday 3rd December
12noon - 3pm
in the Church & Hall

All the fun of the season - Admission
£2.00 Concessions £1.00

St Martin's Foundation

Thurs. November 16th

Female Tommies:

Women in Uniform in WW1

How did women prove their value in the
field and win the acceptance of the War
Office in WW1? with Elizabeth Shipton,
military historian and researcher for the
BBC. **8pm - in the Parish Room**



Reflections Group
after the 10am Service
November 12th

Reading & discussion on
issues that affect our daily
lives - a sharing of ideas and
experiences



Prayer Support Group
after the 10am service
November 19th
December 10th

Nurturing our prayer life together



St Martin's Players & 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



With Our Grand Raffle Draw!
Tickets available in church!

The Saints in our Windows

Walk round our church for an opportunity for the Kingdom Season to explore
the saints in our windows and pray with them

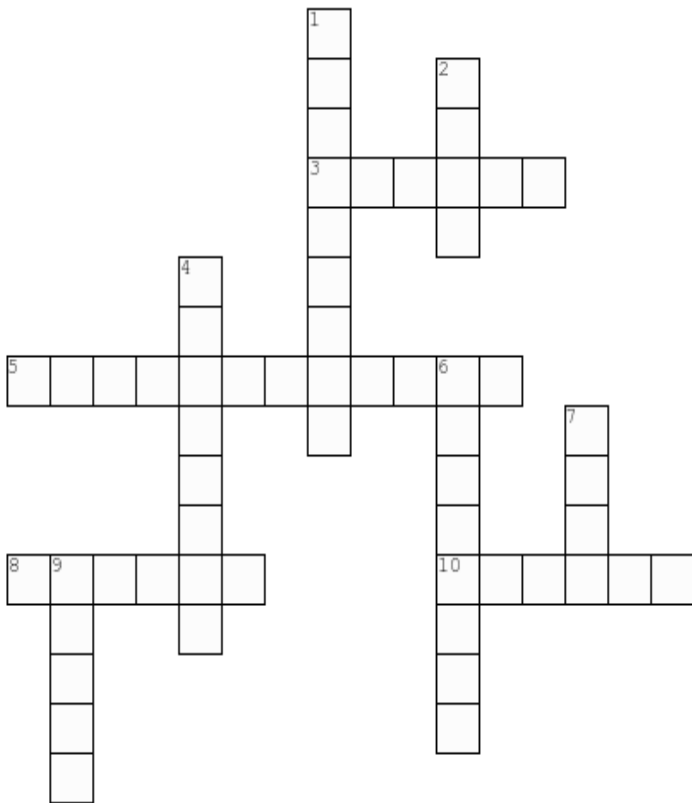
Our 'Just Giving' page: <http://www.justgiving.com/st-martins-west-acton>
How could you help with our fund raising?

For more information: <http://www.stmartinswestacton.com>

For Junior Readers

December Crossword

Complete the crossword below.



Across

- 3. _____ with all the trimmings.
- 5. Scottish New Year's Eve.
- 8. Who stole Christmas?
- 10. Christingle Fruit.

Down

- 1. And a _____ in a pear tree
- 2. Gospel of the Nativity Shepherds
- 4. The Shortest Day
- 6. St. Vicar
- 7. What do we always get at Christmas?
- 9. Small bird of winter.



Hark now hear... Questors Choir

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Saturday 9th December 2017 at 7.30pm

Tickets: £14 (door), £12 concessions or advance booking, under 12s free.
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Book online:

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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

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You can donate any amount you wish.