

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

May 2018

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	Alexander 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 27th May.

The June magazine will be on sale by 1st June.

Tradition

May is the month when the days are getting longer and we hope to see some fine weather. The trees are coming into full leaf and there is a freshness and sense of renewal in nature; a time of hopefulness and anticipation.

In St Martin's, as well as celebrating Pentecost, we mark the season of Rogationtide and its association with Ascensiontide. Rogation comes from the Latin word, 'Rogare' which means 'to ask'. In the strictly Biblical context, the chief thing to ask for is the spirit of God to enable us to become true children of God.

The old Roman festival of 'Terminalia' or 'boundaries' was adapted by the church and became a service and procession- the 'Beating of Bounds'. The rogation themes of blessing the fields and beating the bounds were commended in the 1630s by the poet George Herbert. He said that processions should be encouraged for four reasons: 1) a blessing of God for the fruits of the field 2) Justice in the preservation of the bounds 3) Charity in loving, walking and neighbourly accompanying one another and with reconciling any differences 4) Mercy in relieving poverty and distributing largesse.

Today we live in a city and times have changed, but here at St Martin's we remind ourselves of this ancient tradition when we have our Family Service on 13th May.

Rogationtide follows on from the Easter season of resurrection and renewal. We ask for God's blessing on 3

our countryside. We are once again reminded that we all have a duty to care for God's creation. We are also reminded of the extent of our parish and our wish to serve all those who live within its boundaries as well as all those whom we meet in our daily lives.

The Christian virtues associated with Rogation are those of Hope, Justice and Charity.

As a congregation we are encouraged to look forward together, conscious of God's faithfulness and goodness to us over the years. In the words of St Richard of Chichester, we pray:

*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ.
For all the benefits Thou hast given me,.
For all the pains and insults Thou hast borne for me
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
May we know thee more clearly,.
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly
Day by day.
Amen*



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Saints in Our Windows

Augustine of Hippo – Bishop & Teacher of the Faith

Augustine was born in North Africa in 354. His career as an orator and rhetorician led him from Carthage to Rome and then to Milan where the Imperial Court then resided. He was a passionate and sensual young man who rejected Christianity.

Gradually, under the influence of his mother Monica, and then of Ambrose, Augustine began to look afresh at the Scriptures. He was baptized by Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in the year 387 (pictured in our window). Not long after returning to North Africa he was ordained priest, and then became Bishop of Hippo.

It is difficult to overestimate the influence of Augustine on the subsequent development of European thought. A huge body of his sermons and writings have been preserved, through all of which runs the theme of the sovereignty of the grace of God. He died in the year 430

FEAST DAY: August 28th

PRAYER:

Merciful Lord,
who turned Augustine from his sins
to be a faithful bishop and teacher:
grant that we may follow him in penitence and discipline
till our restless hearts find their rest in you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen

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Baptism with the Vicar

Photos from a recent baptism the former Vicar of St. Martin's Parish officiated.



St Martin's, West Acton, London



Charity No: 1132976

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH, HALE GARDENS, LONDON W3 9SQ Eastertide to Pentecost 2018

ASCENSION DAY EUCHARIST
Thursday May 10th
8pm

Please pray for
Bp Sarah Mullally
as she is installed as the
Bishop of London
on Saturday May 12th

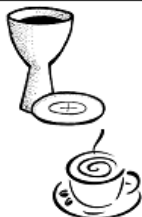
**ROGATION & ASCENSION ALL
AGE SERVICE**
Sunday May 13th at 10am



PENTECOST
Sunday May 20th at 10am
Come and join our scratch choir!

**INFORMAL
EUCHARIST with
COFFEE CLUB**
Wednesdays at
11.30am
in Parish Room

Come & join us!



After the 10am service:
REFLECTIONS GROUP -
April 15th

PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP
April 22nd

ST. MARTIN'S FOUNDATION
Thursday April 26th



The LAZY PERSON'S

guide to

SAVING the WORLD

Soup Supper - 7.30pm
Talk and Discussion - 8pm
In Parish Room
Further evenings:
May 31st and June 28th

Dates for your diary:
Sunday June 10th - All Age
Celebration of Baptism
Followed by **Summer Fair**

**Thurs June 21st - Poems and
Pints - "The Sea"**

**Sunday Oct. 7th -
CONFIRMATION SERVICE**
- If you are interested in
confirmation - speak to Brandy

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>

Are you relatively new to St Martins? Would you be willing to take part in a research project?



Until his recent retirement, the vicar personally welcomed all newcomers to the church. Previous surveys of church attenders suggest that this was important in newcomers feeling welcomed and valued. The church council therefore think it is really important to find out how we should best provide a welcome to newcomers during the time between the vicar retiring and a new one being appointed and beyond. I need

to do a research project this term as part of my theology degree, and so have chosen to do my research project on this topic.

I would like to find out what adults who joined the church shortly before our vicar retired, and those who have joined the church afterwards, think about how we should best provide a welcome to newcomers.

The research will involve taking part in a confidential half-hour interview, at a mutually convenient time and location, so that I can ask about your views on the welcome given to newcomers to the church.

If you would be willing to take part, know someone who may be willing, or would like any further information, please do contact me on bryony@davidandbryony.co.uk or 07940 549167, or speak to me at church.

With many thanks!

Bryony Franklin



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"Messy" Good Friday

The children (and parents) came to the "messy Good Friday" service to paint the hardboiled eggs to celebrate Easter. They learned why Good Friday is called "good" and enjoyed hot cross buns.



A poem - Spring

*Spring is a time for fun and friends,
Stay outside and hope the day never ends,
Shout hooray and yippity-boo,
When Spring is here there's so much to do!*

*Watch the sun fall into the trees,
Smell the first scent of flowery breeze,
It is a sign of life, of fun,
Like the first sign of Easter is a hot cross bun!*

By Katie



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A pastoral letter from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“so, Jesus got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him...” (John ch. 13 v. 4)

We are writing to you to ask for your prayers as Holy Week begins and as the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse has finished its hearing into matters in the Diocese of Chichester. Please will you pray this Holy Week especially for all those involved, and for all affected by safeguarding issues.

We want to emphasise the crucial importance for the Church of England to be a safe place for all who join in the worship of the living God, in God’s mission, and in ministry. Clearly, we need to hear what the Inquiry will say when they issue their report, but, we are convinced that there is much we are doing and much we can do better about safeguarding. Thank you for all that you do. As the Archbishop of Canterbury said last week at the hearing, the vast majority of our parishes are safe places and many thousands of people, mainly volunteers, are working hard to ensure church is safe and understand the need for training, good record keeping and are committed to having policies and practices in place and kept under review.

The heart of the Church is in the parishes and other local congregations and we are very grateful to all of you who are working so diligently, right across the Church of England. The work of clergy is very demanding. We give thanks and pray for all of you and for all you do, as we

move through this week called Holy. At this season we will welcome many new people and occasional visitors. May we ask you all to consider how we ensure a safe and joyful welcome to all who enter our doors, in particular on Easter Day?

We take very seriously all that has been heard by the Inquiry. Archbishop Justin said when he gave evidence last week that he had learned again through listening and reading the evidence given to the Inquiry, that we must not simply say sorry, but that we must also take action that demonstrates clearly that we have learnt the lessons. It is a fact that Bishops and Archbishops are now rightly required to listen, learn and act in accordance with safeguarding legislation and good practice. We are thankful to our episcopal colleagues for all that they are doing in this area and we are grateful to Bishop Martin Warner (Bishop of Chichester) and all his team in Chichester for the particular work they have done and are doing.

There is, of course, absolutely no room for complacency. We need to learn the lessons from what has gone wrong and from the shocking abuse. There are more hearings to come which will focus on the Church of England as part of the IICSA process. So, we do need to continue to listen carefully to all that IICSA has to say and, above all, to listen to the voices of the survivors. Holy Week is about listening to God, the priority for all Christians. Judas betrayed Jesus, Peter denied him, and the rest deserted him. The crowds turned on him. As we go through these days together again let us affirm our commitment to listen to God and to build up the relationships between us as those who are disciples of Jesus Christ. The various signs and powerful actions of this week; the Renewal of Ordination vows and the Blessing of

the Oils on Maundy Thursday; the foot washing and stripping of the altars on Maundy Thursday evening; the starkness of the bare church on Good Friday; the waiting and dead silence of Holy Saturday; and the sheer unalloyed joy on Easter Day; all of these give us the opportunity to renew our trust, ensure we are open and honest one with another and commit ourselves with renewed energy to respond to the good news. Christ is alive and so we proclaim the gospel afresh and confidently in this generation. It is indeed the wisdom of God, the power of God for salvation.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Revd & Rt Hon Justin Welby
Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Revd & Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu
Archbishop of York



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Editorial

Entering the month of May, it is often British tradition to look forward to the summer, which we will inevitably complain about as being far too hot until the end of October. Train journeys are filled with the sneezes of hayfever sufferers, and every single air-conditioning unit in the country seems to spontaneously malfunction.

Still, this year at least, we encounter unsettling times where our leaders find it simpler to enact diplomacy with a fist rather than with words. As Christians, we have an obligation to help those in need; we can offer our prayers that our leaders find a middle ground, and work to rebuild our planet rather than to destroy it.

An Update on the Kitchen

The latest photos of the newly-installed fittings of the Church Kitchen.





Quiz - Last Week's Answers

- 1. Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire*
- 2. Leigh-on-Sea, Essex*
- 3. Wirral, Merseyside and Cheshire*
- 4. Harrogate, North Yorkshire*
- 5. Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent*
- 6. King's Lynn, Norfolk*
- 7. Epsom, Surrey*
- 8. Richmond upon Thames, London*
- 9. Poole, Dorset*
- 10. Chichester, West Sussex*



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

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www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk
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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.

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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