

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

MAY 2019

50p



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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

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 Lizzy Edgington

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 25th May.

The June magazine will be on sale by 2nd June.

Note from Margaret

May is seen as a time of hopefulness. Plants, and weeds, are growing in our gardens and trees are clothed in new fresh leaves. For some, May Day is celebrated as a Labour Day whilst others dance around maypoles.

This year we are very conscious that this May is associated with uncertainty; political uncertainty in the UK and Europe and unrest in the Middle East and North Africa. We have been reminded that 245 million Christians worldwide are persecuted; according to the Pew Report it is the world's most persecuted religion. Christians have been all but driven out of the Middle East, they are persecuted on China and North Korea, but also in India and Pakistan and now in Ceylon. Yet we continue to believe that life is stronger than death and that love will triumph over hate.

This May, in the weeks after Easter, we continue to celebrate the news of the Risen Christ. It is always difficult to live with uncertainty, but if we look at those early followers of Jesus, his disciples, we can understand that they were confused about the future. We are reminded that they had been confronted with death of their beloved friend and teacher and then the puzzling experiences of his resurrection and it clearly took a little while for them to sort out how they were to react to this momentous news. Somehow, they were to be transformed by God's Spirit, from a little timid, frightened band of friends into confident followers of Christ who would tell the whole

world of the love of God and his power to overcome evil and even death itself.

We are fortunate that in England we can worship without fear of persecution. We can continue to be full of hope for the future. This month in St Martin's we shall celebrate Rogation Sunday; this is a time when we are reminded of the parish boundaries as we ask for God's blessing on our work. We shall also have a collection for the work of Christian Aid which works with other Christians throughout the world.

We, too, are called to show God's love to the world.

Margaret Jones



Independent Family Funeral Home

Putting your Family First

Contact Us: 020 8814 8738

We are an Independent Funeral Directors based in West London with dignity & affordability at our core.
We strive to be flexible, diverse & respectful of you & your family's needs.

Arthur and Paul have many years of experience in the funeral profession and looking after local bereaved families in the West London area. They are always available to listen, advise and to help when you need it.

*Private Chapel of Rest * Home Arrangements * World Wide Repatriation * Prepaid Funeral Plans*



Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.gallafd.com

3 The Pavement, Pope's Lane, Ealing, W5 4NG



May editorial – resolution 5: Fasting

Last month's resolution was to have less screen time. This proved to be more difficult than I thought it would. I've had a lot of work deadlines and so many early starts that I broke on a number of occasions and put CBeebies on. Fortunately, the weather has been on my side and we have enjoyed spending a lot more time outdoors in recent weeks.

In fact, it was something unexpected that made me take a step back and rethink my screen-dependency. Woken in the small hours, I instinctively reached for my phone to check the time and to use the torch to investigate what was going on. Only it wouldn't turn on or even charge. Disaster!

Later on, after finding the landline phone hidden behind a pile of books I made the call and booked an appointment at the phone shop. Preparing to leave home, I dug out my watch, only to find it had stopped. I set off to the tube station hoping that I wouldn't be late.

For the first time in a long time I looked around me whilst waiting at the station and sitting on the train. (Admittedly this is easier to do when it isn't rush hour and when the journey is above ground.) I began to relax and started to feel almost liberated.

Later, after nearly two hours, watching other customers glued to their devices, a genius brought my phone back to life. After checking that all my photos were still there, my phone went back into my pocket and stayed there for the rest of the afternoon. My phone is important to me, to stay connected with friends and family who live far away, but the episode did make me appreciate more, what was right in front of me.

May's challenge is fasting, to encourage empathy with those less fortunate. I am dusting off my 5:2 diet book...

St. Martin's Alumna awarded the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism!



Many of you may remember Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, who was a member of St. Martin's until she returned to Canada at the end of 2014. Last month she returned to the UK for an award ceremony with the Archbishop of Canterbury:

Recipients included Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan from the Anglican Church of Canada. Canon Barnett-Cowan, a former Director of Unity, Faith and Order for the Anglican Communion, was awarded the Lambeth Cross for Ecumenism.

"Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan stands in the long tradition of Canadian theologians serving the Anglican Communion in ecumenical dialogue with distinction", the award citation

reads. "In 1977, as a young deacon in the Anglican Church in Canada, Alyson was asked to join an Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue commission in Canada. She went on to take part in, and be secretary of, ecumenical dialogues and commissions at every level, beginning internationally in 1987 as a member of the Anglican-Lutheran International Commission.

"Pre-eminent in her ecumenical achievements stands the Waterloo Declaration that led to the establishment of full communion between the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. She was a member of the Lambeth Commission on Communion and, in 2009, Alyson was called to take on international duties full time as Director of Unity, Faith and Order at the Anglican Communion Office.

"There she nurtured relationships between the Anglican Communion and all the major Christian world communions. Notably she brought to publication or to the point of publication important agreed statements between Anglicans and Lutheran, Methodist, Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox Churches and marshalled the early days of ARCIC III. As secretary, drafter, editor and redactor, Alyson shaped the relationships of the Anglican Communion and other world communions and, as a result, helped Anglicans define their own ecclesiology.

"In her last months at the Anglican Communion Office she was Acting Secretary General and, on her return to Canada, was elected as President of the Canadian Council of Churches. Her contribution in this sphere has been truly outstanding."

**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.

THANK YOU!

The interregnum period here at St. Martin's has now passed the one-year mark. It has been truly remarkable how everyone has come together to help our church through these uncertain times. Thank you to everyone.

The latest Annual Report, presented at the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting demonstrates how much is going on at St. Martin's and how much is involved in keeping a church running day to day. Please do take the time to read through the report, it can be found on the church website.

As ever, we are always looking for more volunteers. There are many different roles within the church so you can find one that suits you. If you have a particular passion or a gift that you would like to share please don't hesitate to volunteer, this is your church.

It is always lovely to hear new voices during the service, so if you would like to do the occasional reading please speak to Amy Stubbs. Likewise, Amy is the person to speak to if you are available to help serve tea and coffee at the end of the main Sunday service. As provider of the biscuits, Junior Church will forever hold you in high regard.

Alternatively, you could volunteer as one of the sidespeople. This is a lovely role that allows you to greet people as they arrive in the church. Indeed, all of these roles provide great opportunities to get to know other parishioners and make new friends. If you would like to find out more or offer your services please speak to Liza Ambridge.

The PCC is also considering the idea of a Treasury Committee. This would be a group that together can look at

ways to raise the income for the church and organise fund-raising and charitable events. If you have any ideas, would like to get involved or even do this sort of thing for a living it would be great to hear from you. Please contact Shelley Merrick.

St. Martin's would also like to thank Michael Franks for all his hard work in revising the Parish Electoral Roll over the last few months in addition all the other things that he does.

In the words of St. Martin's Rev'd Brandy Pearson:

'Thanks to an engaged and well organised congregation, the show has been kept on the road – and keeps going! While it is not the time to engage in new challenges, a new vicar will be coming to a church with a lot to build on.'

PRINT PLUS

+ Design + Digital Printing + Stationery

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





PRINTING SERVICES

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



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

Rogation Sunday – What is it all about?

The fifth Sunday of Easter is Rogation Sunday and this year it falls on Sunday 26th May. On this day we pray for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce our food. The following three days, the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week are the Rogation Days, historically a period of fasting and abstinence.



Better known as beating the bounds, 'Rogation' comes from a medieval agrarian tradition. As the crops began to grow it was time to confirm the boundaries of the villages and fields. In these times the majority of laymen did not read or write, there were few if any maps and so it was incumbent on the church to define the boundaries so there could be no dispute later in the year, specifically at harvest time.

Rogation Day also falls in springtime when the crops are sprouting and are most vulnerable from a late frost. The period of abstinence that followed was seen as an

extension of Lent as food was still not plentiful so 'meatless days' were encouraged. The prayers on Rogation Sunday are thanks for the spring seedlings and a blessing of the coming crop. A failed harvest in these times would have meant starvation for these medieval communities.

There has been a long tradition of beating the Parish bounds. The churchmen would walk the boundaries of the village stopping at significant points, a spring, a stream, an old and venerable tree, a rock formation, all of which defined ownership. Parishioners would follow and the youngest members would fussed over and, in some communities, thrown into nearby streams. The idea behind this was impress upon them the importance of these boundaries and the need to carry the knowledge with them in future years. Beating the bounds was a time to define ownership and the order of life. It was also a time when the plight of the poor was relieved by the distribution of alms. Crosses often marked the village boundaries.

We still have physical boundaries in our modern life. Perhaps we squabble over the positioning of a garden fence or a car parking space. There are other less visible boundaries which are important to us in the 21st Century. Boundaries against prejudice and greed, selfishness and hate. Rogationtide is a time to look out for those who are less fortunate. We may no longer work predominantly in agriculture, but it is important to be reminded of our dependence on those who do, of our responsibility for the environment and not to take these things for granted.

GRIMSHAW

www.grimshawhomes.co.uk

**Local Estate Agents successfully
selling property in Ealing, Acton and
the surrounding areas for over 50 years**



**Thinking of moving?
Contact Derek Grimshaw FRICS
to discuss your move and to arrange a
free property appraisal.**

**5 Station Parade, Uxbridge Road,
Ealing Common, London W5 3LD**

Tel 020 8992 5661 sales@grimshawhomes.co.uk

www.grimshawhomes.co.uk

Junior Church – Egg Painting!

On Good Friday, members of Junior Church turned out to paint eggs ready to be rolled on Easter Sunday. Jackie Nicholls kindly provided the eggs and all the decorative materials, as well as delicious hot cross buns! It was great fun and produced some fantastic designs!





13 The Broadway
Gunnersbury Lane
London W3 8HR



Near Acton Town Tube Stn



Tradycyjne Polskie Pogrzeby



- 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

New Safeguarding Officer:

We are very pleased to announce that Jennifer Dudley, Brown Owl of the Guides and Brownies is our new Safeguarding Officer. Jennifer will be taking up the position from 1st May 2019.



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.

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** in the Parish Room
11am: Informal Eucharist followed by the Coffee Club at 11.30am