Your local Church of England

PARISH NEWSLETTER

St Mary's Mortlake with Christ Church & All Saints East Sheen

'Who's the new Team Rector?'... ...'It's the new Vicar..!'

Revd Jonathan Haynes, Team Rector designate writes

It's all new... no, really it is. Contrary to popular understanding, 'newness' is something the Church should be used to. Ours is a living and active faith, our lives reflect the dynamic God we worship. Ever since it began on that first Pentecost when flames lit the heads of the disciples and they began to speak in many languages, the church has been on the move sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. This is our collective calling and why we are here in Mortlake and East Sheen.

The vacancy for Team Rector highlighted a desire to work more obviously as a parish, whilst maintaining three churches which all enjoy unique characteristics but share a common mission and common theme. That missional theme is love. Love of God and love of neighbour. That commandment is not new but given to us, just before the first Easter, as Jesus washed his disciples feet.

From Genesis (1), Isaiah (43) to Revelation (21) God is making and remaking, doing new things to show His love for us. In response, those who follow God in Jesus look for the signs of newness among us to celebrate and develop. We gain deeper and deeper layers of God's love, of God's truth, and experience God and His saving power in brand new ways and depths.

This is good news for those of us with a long association with the Church. Those with elephantine memories of the parish can hope for brand new ways and depths of experiencing God just as much as those for whom faith is something yet to be experienced or those on the hard shoulder of the Christian highway waiting to get on, and all those who call Mortlake and East Sheen home. God's calling is not about numbers on Sunday mornings (although the doors are open and all are welcome) but more about living and loving in community, celebrating one another as God celebrates God's good creation.

That is what I think team ministry is all about, for a team only exists for the benefit of its members. The members in our case is the whole of Mortlake and East Sheen, all those who live, work, or go to school here.





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This is why the patronage board considered the proposal for me to remain as (the new) vicar of Christ Church rather than relocate to St Mary's. Our parish has no central church hub from which everything is directed nor an obvious geographical centre. This move is not designed to inflate Christ Church nor diminish St Mary's (or All Saints). For mainly pastoral reasons I will, as Rector, remain at Christ Church as their vicar but commit myself also to leading the team and working with Team Vicars, wardens and many more to make sure mutual support and care is shared across our parish, to see where energy lies and champion it. Where appropriate we should consider consolidating or expanding, trying and testing new things where the Spirit leads us. All this will take time, conversation, listening and prayerful action.

Music is highly valued in our parish, perhaps it is time we consider music ministry as something to be developed. Also developing Eco-church, building sustainability and community outreach.

Sport is hugely important in Mortlake and East Sheen, so might we find new ways of celebrating our beloved sports, and ask where we find God on the river, golf or tennis courts, or football and rugby pitch? What new hallowed ground can be found on the cricket pitch - who will join the Rector's XI?

Welcome and hospitality and especially a space to breathe are all needed in what is a very busy parish. Many of us lead exceptionally demanding lives and the Church can often seem yet another commitment. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, he did not do so with a mind to overburden but rather to bring life in fullness. We ought to explicitly reconnect with that in this exciting new chapter of parish life.

Rectors and Vicars come and go, new and old: all this is never about them and their season! Rather the focus is the radical and awesome welcome on offer from God: the source of love and life, open to all. That is the something new that has not yet been realised. The world is not *post-God*, God is here among us; God was, God is and God will be - New.

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PARISH DIARY Swethedate



Venues for events are listed: SM - St Mary's, CC - Christ Church, AS - All Saints

Whether or not you attend church you are welcome to join in these community events either as a guest or a volunteer.

St Mary's Patronal Festival Celebrating our parish church and our patron St Mary - join us from a sung eucharist followed by refreshments. <i>No 10am services at Christ Church or All Saints that</i>	
Funeral of Gerry Dawes Thanksgiving for the life of former St Mary's Churchwarden Gerry Dawes	Wed 11th Sept 12pm SM
Community Ventures Bring and Share Lunch A parish bring-and-share lunch, everyone welcome. contact: skbonn	Thurs 12th Sept 12:30 AS ell50@hotmail.com
Bible Study - coming soon Those interested in joining in on a Bible Study on the Book of Hebrew and or Advent groups - please speak to a member of the clergy.	Autumn/Winter
Harvest thanksgiving at All Saints All Age Eucharist with children's crafts	Sun 15th Sept 10am AS
Piano recital in aid of Medical Lifelines Ukraine Wigmore Hall piano soloist Vedran Janjanin	Sun 15th Sept 6pm AS Doors open 5:45pm.
Mission Action Plan Consultation	Sat 21st Sept 10-11am AS
Harvest Festival at St Mary's & BBQ All Age service followed by BBQ	Sun 22nd Sept 10am SM
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All Age service followed by BBQ Soul Space - a quiet & contemplative time	Sun 22nd Sept 10am SM
All Age service followed by BBQ Soul Space - a quiet & contemplative time 30 minutes of stillness: few words, no demands, come and go quietly All Saints Concert Series The Atenea Quartet HAYDN: String Quartet in G, Op.76 No.1 BARTOK: String Quartet No.3 (1927)	Sun 22nd Sept 10am SM Wed 25th Sept 7:45pm CC y as you need Sat 5th Oct 7pm AS Sat 12th Oct 7pm CC
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Worship for All - A sung Eucharist with MESSY CHURCH and procession of harvest gifts

Community Ventures Bring and Share Lunch

All Saints Patronal Festival

Celebrating All Saints Day with all the parish churches, followed by lunch *No 10am services at Christ Church or St Mary's that day.*

Parish Act of Remembrance

The community gathers at the war memorial for The Silence and wreath laying.

9.30am eucharist services at St Mary's, Christ Church & All Saints beforehand

Holiday at Home 2024 M. Market

Co-oridnator Charlotte Hillier gives a write up of the week

Another wonderful week of Holiday at Home was enjoyed by guests and volunteers alike. All Saints was adorned with French flags, Olympic rings and pictures for 'Summer in Paris'.

The variety of activities was much appreciated by all. These included singing, talks, concerts, sharing poetry, creative writing, play reading, flower arranging, craft, quizzes and more! At the finale on Friday the brilliant Ukelele band was a highlight.

On Thursday the guests were treated to a visit to Chiswick House café on the FiSH Bus where we were served with huge pastries and coffee for all, courtesy of Hamptons estate agency. The weather stayed warm and after a short walk around the kitchen garden we returned to All Saints for a picnic, under the shade of the trees.

Delicious food was served to us every day by Penny, our caterer, and daily menus included a French twist; chicken chasseur, quiche Lorraine, crème brûlée to name a few.

At tea-time we were presented with a variety of homemade cakes from people around the parish which were delivered and eaten every day.

We were pleased to include volunteers from all the churches in the parish as well as from the local community. Many, many thanks to all church movers, St. Mary's chair deliverers, cake makers, volunteers, activity leaders and flower arrangers and everyone who contributed to making it such a success!

We would have liked to have had a few more guests every day so do keep in mind anyone who might like to come next year.

Watch this space for news of Holiday at Home 2025!



"A big thank you for organizing...yummy food for the elderly in the parish and beyond, who are unable to get away on holiday."

"DELICIOUS FOOD EVERY DAY"

"Frances and James' concert rounded off the day beautifully."

" So much love from so many people"



Join us this autumn across the parish for Harvest Thanksgivings

Harvest Collections (non perishable) for 2024 15th Sept - All Saints - The Vineyard 22nd Sept - St Mary's - Glass Door 13th Oct - Christ Church - Christ Church Brixton





Sun 3rd Nov 10am AS

Sun 10th Nov 10:45am

Thurs 17th Oct 12:30 AS

Sun 20th Oct 10am AS

PARISH CONTACTS

Address: St. Mary the Virgin Church, Mortlake High Street, SW14 8JA.

Email: office@mortlakeparish.org.uk

Website: www.mortlakeparish.org.uk



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a verse to rehearse ...

Simon Peter answered him
 'Lord, to whom can we go?
 You have the words of eternal life'

John 6.68

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The Parish

PARISH OFFICE

Tel: 020 8876 1630

Administrator Cheri Crump

Please call for an appointment.

Team Rector (designate)Revd Jonathan HaynesPCC SecretaryCheri CrumpParish TreasurerJon BlytheParish WardenBrenda MorrisParish WardenKate WoodhouseSafeguardingRuth MannParish Newsletter Teamc/o The Parish Office

vicar.cces@gmail.com office@ mortlakeparish.org.uk jblythe@sampsonfielding.co.uk brenda.morris@hotmail.co.uk katewoodhouse20@gmail.com ruthmannnuk@yahoo.co.uk

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St Mary's

The churchwardens are in charge of St Mary's during the vacancy

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BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES Please speak to the vicar of the church where you anticipate having the service. See contacts above