



St Stephen with St John Westminster

www.sswsj.org

Weekly Notes

5th July 2020

(Fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

Today:

10:00am Parish Eucharist live on Zoom
6:00pm Evensong live on Zoom

This Week

Morning & Evening Prayer are said Monday to Friday, 9.15am & 6.00pm

BCP Wednesdays at 12:30pm. Zoom details as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86386472199?pwd=aHVuNFVINGlYQkR5RnEvaopKV1VLUT09>

Meeting ID: 863 8647 2199

Password: 024402

Tea@3 on Thursdays. Please do join us and our friends from St Barnabas via Zoom

[Meeting ID: 876 875 6365](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8768756365)

Password: 657351

St Stephen's Rochester Row now open for private prayer on Mondays and Thursdays from 11am to 5pm. Please be aware that strict social distancing guidelines will be in place for everyone's protection and can accommodate a maximum of 8 people in the church at any given time. Other local churches will have different opening hours. If you are interested in volunteering at the church during these times, please get in touch with the parish office or Graham.

We remain closed for public worship. As we adjust to different ways of worship, our website is becoming an increasingly important means of communication. I urge to look and use these new ways of being and worshipping together.

Tea@3 has now moved to Thursdays. Please do join us and our friends from St Barnabas via Zoom.

Robin Harris, who was a treasurer and a member of the PCC of St Stephen in the late 1960's has recently died. During his time at St Stephen's, Robin's task was to raise the money to repay the loan from the Diocese to repair the steeple, which had been very badly damaged when a barrage balloon had broken away from its moorings in Vincent Square.



Tonight:

- [6pm Evensong & Slow Art](#). (Click on link to access)
Discussions with Marc Woodhead looking at Giovanni Di Paolo's The Birth of St John the Baptist: Predella



Please join us
in wishing
Margaret Duggan
a very Happy 90th
Birthday!

Please use the Ordinary Time service setting posted online [here](#) to follow the service.

If you are so inclined, please do stay behind for a coffee and a chat after the service on Zoom. It is always lovely to catch up socially but understand if you would prefer to contemplate the sermon quietly instead. St Stephen's is here to support you in your own way.

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|---|--|
| <p>1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing:¹
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.</p> | <p>3. Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.²</p> |
| <p>2. Praise him for his grace and favor
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.</p> | <p>4. Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace</p> |

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: *Genesis 24.34-38,42-49, 58-67*

So he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

'I came today to the spring, and said, "O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to

drink,' and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also'—let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son."

'Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, "Please let me drink." She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water your camels." So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.' And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.' So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

'May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes.'

Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Psalm 145.8-15

Response: I will exalt you, O God my king, and bless your name forever.

8 The Lord is gracious and /merciful,
long-suffering and of /great /goodness.

9 The Lord is loving to /everyone,
and his mercy is over /all his /creatures.

10 All your works praise you, O /Lord,
and your faithful /servants/ bless you. R

11 They tell of the glory of your /kingdom,
and speak of your /mighty/ power,

12 To make known to all peoples your mighty /acts
and the glorious /splendour · of your/ kingdom.

13 Your kingdom is an everlasting /kingdom;
your dominion endures through-/out all/ ages. R

14 The Lord is sure in all his /words,
and faithful in /all his/ deeds.

15 The Lord upholds all those who /fall,
and lifts up all those who are /bowed /down. R

Second Reading: Romans 7.15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 11.16-19,25-30*

‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

Prayers of Intercession

In our parish cycle of prayer: Our Administrator and Bursar and Coroner's Court

For those who live in: Bloomberg Street and Millbank

As part of St Stephen's link with the Church in Myanmar:

The children and teachers of the Mary Chapman School for the Deaf in Yangon

We pray for our New York City link parish:

The Church of the Holy Trinity and their Rector, Revd John F. Beddingfield, praying particularly for the staff team and their needs

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of Pakistan (United): Humphrey Peters (Moderator, and Bishop of Peshawar)

Linköping (Sweden): Martin Modéus (Bishop)

Capital Vision 2020 Ambassadors: we pray for all London clergy

Kensington Deanery: Mark O'Donoghue (Area Dean)

Deanery Synod: Howard Evans (Lay Chairman), Adele Pye (Secretary)

Pray for the work of Mary Kok, Area Schools and Youth Chaplain

Among those who have asked for our prayers:

Robin Fairfax; Vera Godsall; Marian Hall; Jean Haswell; Dyfrig Jones; Alan Mack; Michael Pryce Jones; Miriam Lesmond; Pete Read; Bob Szewczyk; Henry Taylor; John Travis-Clarke; Gay Widmer; Anne Norman-Butler; Marian McHale; Amal Griffin; Fraser Copley and his dad, Kevin Copley; Pete Barney; Tom Robinson; Eddie Catton

RIP: Robin Harris

For the Years' Mind of: Florence Cocksedge; Wing Shin Man; Rose Hooker; Janet Scott; Douglas James Brawley; Albert John Edkins; David Armstrong; Thomas Boo; Arthur Woolvett

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven
Open hands to sides and raise slightly, look up.

Hallowed be thy name.
Fold hands together as in prayer.

Thy kingdom come,
Circle hands inward to touch chest.

Thy will be done on earth
Reach down with palms towards the ground.

As it is in heaven.
Turn palms up, look up.

Give us this day our daily bread,
Place right hand over left, palms up.
Forgive us our trespasses
Cross arms over chest, bow head.

As we forgive those who trespass against us.
Open hands to people around.

Lead us not into temptation,
Cross forearms, with arms stretched out in front, palms facing forwards.

But deliver us from evil
Clasp raised hands.

For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,
Lower arms to sides then slowly sweep out and up, as widely as possible.

For ever and ever, Amen.
Hold arms outstretched for a few moments

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Offertory: [I cannot tell](#)

[HON 288](#)

1 I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the
wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how or
when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary
when Bethl'em's manger was his only home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is
come.

3 I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun will shine in
splendour
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is
known.

2 I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted
and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden;
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here

4 I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when at his bidding every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when every heart with love and joy is filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
and myriad myriad human voices sing,
and earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will
answer,
'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is
King!'

Offering is now welcomed through our [CAF Donate link](#).

Post Communion Prayer

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered
by your governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Recessional: [Love divine, all loves excelling](#)

[NEH 408](#)

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n to earth come down:
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest:
take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be:
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
'til in heav'n we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.