



# St Stephen with St John Westminster

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## Weekly Notes

21<sup>st</sup> June 2020

(Third 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=aHVuNFVINGlYQkR5RnEvaopKV1VLUTog>

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

Our speaker today will be Revd Michael Redman.

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

St Stephen's Rochester Row is 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.

We will be opening the church 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.

Annie from our congregation has grown some lovely geranium cuttings, some of which are ready to be passed on, with more available in the following weeks so if anyone would like a little cheery plant, please do email [parishoffice@sswsj.org](mailto:parishoffice@sswsj.org). Please do specify your address and whether or not you could collect or require delivery.

Young people from Westminster School have collected some of their poems together in a small publication for our community. If anyone would like a copy please contact Graham.

### Upcoming events:

- Next week is St Stephen's week and a whole week of exciting events have been planned. Please see the end of the document for a full breakdown of events.

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

The readings are all included below, together with the Psalm and the hymns. You can use the links for the hymns to listen/sing along.

***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.***

**Introit:** [Praise my soul, the King of heaven](#)

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favor  
to his people in distress.  
Praise him, still the same as ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Fatherlike 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!

4 Angels, help us to adore him;  
you 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!

**The Collect**

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
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 21.8-21*

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

### **Psalm 86.1-10,16-17\***

**Response: In your great mercy, answer me, O God.**

8 For your sake have I suffered re-/proach;  
shame has /covered my /face.

9 I have become a stranger to my /kindred,  
an alien to my /mother's /children. R

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me /up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has /fallen up-/on me.

11 I humbled myself with /fasting,  
but that was /turned to · my re-/proach. R

18 Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness is /good;  
turn to me in the multitude /of your /mercies.

19 Hide not your face from your /servant;  
be swift to answer me, for /I am in /trouble.

20 Draw near to my soul and re-/deem me;  
deliver me be-/cause of my /enemies. R

### **Second Reading: Romans 6.1b-11**

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed

from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 10.24-39*

‘A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

‘So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

‘Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

***In our parish cycle of prayer:*** Our churchwardens *and the DEFRA*

***For those who live in:*** *Bennet’s Yard and Marsham Street*

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

*the Holy Cross Theological College, Yangon, its Principal, the Revd. Samuel San Myat Shwe, staff and students*

**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 wisdom about how best to develop their premises.*

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

*Pray for The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion): Henry Ndukuba (Archbishop, and Bishop of Abuja)*

*Visby (Sweden): Thomas Petersson (Bishop)*

*Copenhagen (Denmark): Peter Skov-Jakobsen (Bishop)*

*Capital Vision 2020 Ambassadors: pray for workers in engineering*

*Pray for the work of Miles Baker, Area Director of Ministry*

**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*

**For the Years' Mind of:** *Gladys Phillips; George Alfred Wells; Lady Sophie Laws; Beatrice May Greatorex; Muriel Helen Rosenway*

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

**Offertory:** [Oft in danger, oft in woe](#)

1 Oft in danger, oft in woe,  
onward, Christians, onward go;  
bear the toil, maintain the strife,  
strengthened with the bread of life.

2 Onward, Christians, onward go,  
join the war, and face the foe;  
will ye flee in danger's hour?  
Know ye not your Captain's power?

3 Let not sorrow dim your eye;  
soon shall every tear be dry:  
let not fears your course impede;  
great your strength, if great your need.

4 Let your drooping hearts be glad;  
march in heavenly armour clad;  
fight, nor think the battle long:  
soon shall victory wake your song.

5 Onward then in battle move;  
more than conquerors ye shall prove:  
though opposed by many a foe,  
Christian soldiers, onward go.

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

## Post Communion Prayer

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining  
and whose power we cannot comprehend:  
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,  
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear  
until we may look upon you without fear;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen**

## Recessional: My Jesus, my Saviour

My Jesus, my Saviour  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing  
Power and majesty, praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have  
In You

My Jesus, my Saviour  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort  
My shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
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In You

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Power and majesty, praise to the King  
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise I have  
Oh nothing compares to the promise I have  
Nothing compares to the promise I have  
In You

## St Stephen's Week

Tuesday 23 June - 5pm Silence (Silent Meditation for an hour) FaceBook Live

Thursday 25 June - 12.30pm Discussion with St Barnabas Church -  
"St John the Baptist and Lockdown"  
Zoom Meeting ID: 896 5302 2233 Password: 3vTg3d

Sunday 28 June - 10am Celebration Eucharist; Preacher: Rev Cath Duce  
6pm Evensong. Preacher: Rev John Pearson-Hicks

Wednesday 1 July - 7pm Live Debate  
(Rev John Beddingfield & Rev Graham Buckle)  
"Geneva gowns and Cranmer hats: Priesthood and ministry"

Sunday 5 July - 10am Parish Eucharist (Welcoming our new curate Helena)  
6pm Evensong & Slow Art.  
Discussions with Marc Woodhead looking at Giovanni Di



Paolo's The Birth of St John the Baptist: Predella Panel

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/giovanni-di-paolo-the-birth-of-saint-john-the-baptist-predella-panel>

All the regular services will continue as normal. Please look at our website: [www.sswsj.org](http://www.sswsj.org) for times and links.