

**PARISH OF
CHIPPING BARNET
TEAM MAGAZINE
February & March 2024**



**St John the Baptist,
Chipping Barnet**

St Mark, Barnet Vale

St Peter, Arkley

St Stephen, Bells Hill

CHIPPING BARNET TEAM MINISTRY

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Rev Cindy Kent, MBE

(Work Sun, Tues & Wed)

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Lay Leaders of Worship Laurie Little 8441 1193 Geoff Nicholson 07840 727 922

	 St. John the Baptist	St. Mark	St. Peter	St. Stephen
Church Wardens	Stewart Cracknell 8275 0785 Bruce Stringer 07944 771 018	John Hay 07721 030 933 Caroline Hay 8449 7779	Sharon Butler	Sue Scott 8441 1186 Roger Kemp 8441 5349
Safeguarding Officer	Anna Watkins 07976 727 315	Corinna Illingworth 01707 655366	Maureen Stevens 020 8449 5874	Wendy Dowding 8449 5047
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Music	Terence Atkins 8440 8593		Gillian Del Bravo 8440 8650	

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Fr Tristan Chapman

Vice-Chairman

Nick Dean 01707 262422

PCC

Minute Secretary

Treasurer

Lynn Baker 8449 4689

Reflections



"My advice for the storm:

*draw close to something rooted,
whose summoning song beckons with
vocation –*

*like an oak trunk, wrung from contortions
of coping which yet baffles the wind."*

So writes the Bishop of Ramsbury, Andrew Rumsey, in the epigraph of his book of reflections '*English Pastoral*.' Here is good advice in the face of storms, physical or spiritual: be rooted in something strong, something that has worn storms pasts, and while shaped by them, has stood, and survived ever stronger - just like the warped and contorted, and yet utterly beautiful and dignified trunk of an ancient oak.

It's spiritual equivalent is infinitely stronger, it is Jesus Christ the Lord, in whose love and name we trust. And, if we are grounded in him, then, while the storms inevitably change and contort us, we will not only come through, but like the goodly old oak tree, we will be enriched, all the more dignified and beautified, not only for our survival, but for our rootedness in the Triune majesty of the eternal God.

And how can we be sure to be rooted in the mighty Tree of Life which is God's love - by lives surely, dutifully, and faithfully lived, lives grounded in regular and deep worship, in regular and deep study of the scriptures, and in regular, deep and committed lives of prayer - all three of which move us beyond words and intercessory lists, to a deep connection with the divine word. And, the more we give, the more we will be able to understand, the more we are able to hear His call and will for us, and thus our roots will be deeper, and our tenacity stronger in the face of the spiritual storms that Satan inevitably drives towards us.

And thus, at this time, we find ourselves at the gates of that great season of penitence, prayer, and reflection, Lent. That time when we acknowledge our mortality, and the dust from which are hewn, and to which our flesh shall one day return. What greater time to reflect upon our roots, and our inner knowledge of the divine, than to use these holy and solemn days to look within ourselves, and nurture our own beings with the wholesome water of life that we find in the Christ child, as we move from the crib to the cross in these ashen days.

That great saint, comprehender of the inner life, and encourager of spiritual depth, St Teresa of Avila said,

"Each of us has a soul, but we forget to value it. We don't remember that we are creatures made in the image of God. We don't understand the great secrets hidden inside of us."

She also reminds that.

"Prayer is nothing more than spending a long time alone with the one I know loves me."

So, as January becomes February and Winter looks to Spring, as Christmastide departs and Lent unfurls, water your roots, nurture your depths, pause in prayer and wile away some time in silence and meditation, and let the voice of the infinite majesty, speak to you in your own inner being, that you might be enriched, strengthened, and perhaps even contorted, by the love and light and depth of the wonderous love of God.

Tristan.

Editors' Page

Dear Friends,

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas.

As we write this article we are getting ready to sing in the choir at St Peter's Arkley as part of Cindy Kent's Licensing Service. These are always lovely occasions and we have been lucky to get to know Cindy when she has taken services at St John the Baptist.

It was great to see so many children, parents and grandparents come along to the first Little Saints (previously known as the Toddler group) at St John the Baptist church. Long may it continue.

There is lots going on in all the churches during Lent and in the lead up to Easter. Please make sure you read the magazine to keep up to date on all that is happening.

This coming year is a big year for us as both of our children will be getting married this year. Our daughter will be married in St John the Baptist church in May and our son will get married in August.



We do hope you enjoy reading the magazine but please remember we need articles to be sent from all the four churches to fill the magazine. We have re introduced "Where are they now", but we welcome any suggestions for new features. So if anyone has ideas please do contact us.

One of the strengths of being part of a team of four churches is that we can enjoy the different types of worship. During Lent this becomes more clear, particularly during Holy Week. Do take time to experience the different types of services.

Geoff and Elaine.

Church Verger Report.

WOW! -- What a very busy couple of months but as I always say it's a joy and a privilege to work in the Church during December.

I want to start with a huge THANK YOU to Statons (Nick and Jenny) for sponsoring the enormous outside Christmas tree and towards keeping the church open during the festivities. Also to Mike, Bob and helpers in getting the tree into position and lit. We are also very grateful to Andy Gardener from Barnet market for supplying our inside tree.

Our festivities began with the High Barnet Christmas Street party. An incredible afternoon of choirs and musicians performing to a very high standard. The team at SJB provided soup, amazing cakes, mulled wine and a raffle, resulting in a profit of over a thousand pounds for our Church. Next we had a mid week visit from Ewan Hall Nursery with photos by the tree, bell ringing and festive biscuits. Then it was the turn of our local schools Q.E Girls, Q.E Boys, Lyonsdown and not forgetting amazing Underhill all very enjoyable and well attended.

Now we are in January and time to pack up the trees and decorations and look forward to a New Year of exciting events.



We have held our first meeting of the year to establish what events we would like to put on and what we should be calling ourselves --- Unanimously we decided we will be called "Fun Raisers" because no matter what we may attempt it WILL always be fun. The sort of things we would like to do are events for young families possibly on a Friday evening with an activity and food. Also a multicultural food event / BBQ in the summer, a Rectory BBQ and more . Watch this space.

January 11th we launched Little Saints at SJB hoping to get a few children and their parents/carers through our doors but what a wonderful surprise when we got 20 children/babies. We had a very jolly morning, lots of playing, following the star looking for the kings' snacks and drinks then ending with songs and a prayer.

More news next time:

Jackie

Letter from Sam

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We've made it to 2024, and we can tell it's the start of a new year, because the temperature is rarely above 5 degrees. Neb and I are currently sat under 3 blankets in the Rectory Office.

January and February are, by most people's estimates, the dreariest months of the year. Christmas is over, New Year has been celebrated, but the weather remains intransigent. Perhaps it's appropriate that Easter – and therefore Lent – is so early this year. In a move which I'm certain would thrill St. Valentine, the Church has decided that in 2024 we shall mark romance by reminding people that *they are but dust, and to dust they shall return*. Take that, Hallmark cards.

Yet as a (*very much fledgling*) Bonsai hobbyist, I've been forced to embrace the cold weather of January and February more than in previous years. I've no doubt that those with greener fingers than I will roll their eyes at this basic knowledge, but it has taken me until 2024 to understand that trees of most varieties rely on winter for their survival. I had always assumed that trees simply endured the cold (*much like I do,*) but caring for my small Bonsai collection has taught me quite the opposite. It's during the winter that many trees enter a necessary period of dormancy, of rest and consolidation,



allowing new growth to become hard wood. Without this period, many trees would struggle, indeed might die. For nature in its beauty, constant acceleration is neither possible nor healthy.

Lent is a period in which the church bids us to 'slow down' (*a lesson that clergy themselves might strive harder to hear, me included!*) Before we enter the passion, energy, and excitement of the holiest week of the year, we take a few weeks to pray, reflect, and learn. The church building itself becomes more subdued, entering a sort of liturgical autumn, in which flowers disappear, beautiful surroundings are covered, and worship services lose the jollity of the Gloria and Alleluia Gospel procession.

Whilst we might be tempted to mourn this period of slow solemnity, seeing it as something to merely endure, rather than engage with; perhaps we could learn a lesson from nature. We, like trees, need time to rest. We need time to consolidate.

We need time for freshly learned lessons to become the wisdom of our hearts, though time and reflection. If we are constantly rushing, can we ever truly be said to have developed? Or do we simply skim through life, on the outside a picture of development, but on the inside in need of pruning?

As Lent approaches, I encourage you to use it as the gift it is. Take the time you need to slow down to a stop.

We've barely caught up after Christmas, Lent is the time to remember that we have weeks before we need to buy Easter Eggs, whatever the shelves of Tesco might tell us.

Christ's Passion will be upon us, and to truly engage with it, we need time to get ready.

My Spiritual Director recently encouraged me to start praying the Examen prayer. I know many of you are familiar with it, but I shall share it for those who aren't.

- Begin by taking a moment of silence, centring yourself mentally and physically. Allow yourself to embrace the feeling of God's love, surrounding you.
- Go through your day, and pick the moment you most knew God's love, you were most able to express God's love. Pick the moment you'd most choose to relive, if you could.
- What made it special? How did God console you in that moment?

- Next, go through your day and pick the moment you least knew God's love, were least able to express God's love.
- What made the moment a struggle? Where was God in the struggle?
- Offer to God all your day, the good and the challenging. Know that he was there in all of it.

I've found the prayer an invaluable way of adding a pause into my day. Perhaps, especially this Lent, you can too. Let that be the start of allowing Lent to teach you to rest.

As always, this comes with my warmest blessings. Neb sends his regards too, snoozing gently under our blanket. (*Truly he is an example to us all!*)

With love in Christ,

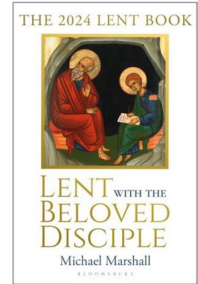
Fr. Sam



Lent Study Group

- Our Lent Study Group this year will be reading 'Lent with the Beloved Disciple' by Michael Marshall. The book is available from Eden Online Bookshop, or may be ordered through Fr. Sam, by email. Last orders will be taken on 7th Feb.

The Lent Group will meet on Mondays at 7:30, in the trustee's room of Church House. The first meeting will be on Monday 12th February.



Ash Wednesday

- Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on the 14th February, at 10:30am in the Ravenscroft Chapel (BCP Eucharist with ashing) and at a sung Eucharist at 7:30pm in the main church (Common Worship with ashing.)



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Fr. Sam will be available to offer The Sacrament of Reconciliation (known as 'confession') on Tuesday 13th February, between 2:30 and 4:00pm in the Ravenscroft Chapel, or upon request.



St. John's Passion

- On Sunday 24th March, SJB is honoured to be hosting a major production of Bach's 'St. John's Passion,' under the leadership of Jonathan Gregory, and in partnership with the Japanese Embassy. Tickets are available online.



(Scan to order here!)

Regular Events in Church

Friendship Group.	Every Monday 11am - 12.30 noon.	
Songsters A friendly informal singing group.	First Monday of every month 8 - 9.00 pm	
Little Saints. Play time for pre-school children and an opportunity for mums and dads to have a cuppa and a chat. The restart date is on 11 th January 2024.	Every Thursday 10 - 11.30 am (school term time only)	
Church Choir practices	Boys' choir	Every Tuesday 6.15 - 7.30 pm
	Ladies choir	Every Tuesday 5.30pm
	Men's and Boys' choir	Every Friday 7.30 - 9pm
Healing Service A time to pray together for healing loved ones.	Every Wednesday 11.30 - 12 midday	
Welcome Table Serving a light meal to anyone who asks for one. There is no charge but please leave a donation if you can.	Every first and third Wednesday of the month 12.30pm	

St John the Baptist Church Services Sunday

8 am Eucharist (BCP)

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30 am Family Service

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday

10.30am Eucharist (Said)

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Churchwardens' Chat

Dear friends.

Whatever you did for Christmas I hope you had a wonderful time. Christmas services at St John the Baptist were very well attended with over 300 people at the Crib service. And as always it was a great pleasure to welcome the local schools for their Christmas Carol Services. If you added up all the people who attended these services well over 1,500 people entered our church. Could it be a New Year wish is that people who came may decide that this church is for them and will come on a Sunday? We can only hope.

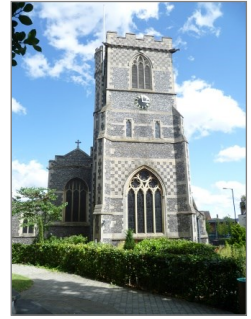
We said goodbye to Gary, our Musical Director who decided that St JB wasn't quite for him. The post has already been readvertised and within a few minutes of it going out on the internet we received a completed application along with several serious enquiries. As Gary left us so Jackie rejoined us a Verger and so we extend a very warm "welcome back" to her. One of the first items Jackie tackled was the restarting of the Toddler Group, so wish them every success under the new name of "Little Saints".

But what does 2024 hold for St JB. From the wardens' perspective there are no major projects to handle, although you

never know what might happen. The boiler has been completed, although one of the boilers suffered a major breakdown a few days before Christmas. This was classified by Valiant (the manufacturer) as an emergency and they attended on the Saturday, made extensive repairs and got it going. The other major project is the refurbishment and upgrade to our organ. Work on this will not start until towards the end of the year. Hopefully the new Director of music will be in place by March, so then we can start moving towards making St John the Baptist Church a centre of music excellence. But I have absolutely no doubt that there will be plenty to keep us occupied.

On behalf of myself, Bruce and Vivien may we wish everybody a very Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Stewart Cracknell.



High Barnet Good Neighbour Scheme at 40. (HBGNS)



1984 was the year that saw the launch of the films Ghostbusters and Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom . It was also the year that launched Band Aid and Do they Know it's Christmas and saw the start of the Miners' strike in the UK.

In Barnet, 1984 saw the start of the High Barnet Good Neighbour Scheme. The idea was (and still is) to support people living at home by offering practical help, transport, advice and friendship. This support has included taking people shopping (or actually doing it), driving to hospital, doctor or dental appointments, collecting prescriptions, gardening and befriending, amongst other things.

In the past 40 years we estimate that our volunteers have made over 20,000 journeys for appointments etc and driven over 200,000 miles. We currently have over 200 neighbours who

we assist as and when necessary and estimate we have assisted over 6,000 neighbours over the past 40 years.

We plan to celebrate 40 years of Good Neighbours in Barnet this year so watch this space. In the meantime we will be holding a fundraising quiz night on Friday 15 March (seats available from the GNS office) and we will continue with our work helping neighbours in the EN5 area.

If YOU would like to assist us by volunteering - either to drive or befriend a neighbour - then please contact Diane or Linda in the Good Neighbour office on 0208 4415678. Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation to our work or a contribution to our Easter raffle then, again, please contact the office.

Jon Holland Acting Chairman



SJB BARNET CHURCH

Supporting Barnet to walk in God's footsteps.

History Society & Barnet Museum

LECTURE PROGRAMME 2024

- Talks are held at St John the Baptist Church (Wood Street, EN5 4BW) and each will be about 45 minutes long
- Talks are £2 or free to members of Barnet Museum and Local History Society

Monday 12 th February	3pm	Rhianna Watkinson Historic Hendon
Monday 11 th March	3pm	Paul Baker Terrific Totteridge
Monday 8 th April	3pm	Nick Dobson Swinging London an Illustrated Timeline of London in the 1960s
Monday 13 th May	7.30p m	Chris Levitt The De Havilland Story and Museum
Monday 10 th June	7.30p m	Bill Bass The HADAS Hopscotch dig in Barnet High Street
Monday 8 th July	7.30p m	Kat Alston Medieval Woman - What they Wore
Monday 9 th September	3pm	John Lynch Another Walk in the Park - more of London's Green Treasures
Monday 14 th October	3pm	Dennis Bird The Trans Atlantic Slave Trade, What's it got to do with Barnet?
November (date tba)	3pm	Gillian Gear Memorial Lecture



Music Notes



Warmest thanks to everyone for their effusive praise of our Christmas music. I cannot thank the choir enough for all their hard work and beautiful singing in both the Nine Lessons and Carols and at the Midnight. One tries to cater for all tastes! A highlight (of many) for the choir was A Hymn to the Virgin by the youthful Benjamin Britten and a special moment for all was a new setting of See amid the winter's snow. With barely a moment to turn round, the Gentlemen and most of the boys were soon back and all set for the amazing Widor Mass at the Midnight; their dedication is beyond commendable! Huge thanks as ever to Jonathan Gregory for his supportive and inspiring organ playing.

Well done to Caroline, Estelle, Janet and Valsa for their much appreciated contribution to the Carol Service. The ladies now rehearse on Tuesdays for an hour at 5.30 pm in readiness for Sunday mornings and all are welcome.

Also welcome, very recently, have been our two organ scholars, Joel Swedensky and Noah Morley, both students of QE Boys' and facing the challenges of the craft on Sunday mornings (Joel) and

evenings (Noah) and at some choir practices too. We will watch their respective progress with interest.

The choir's Request-a-Carol coffee morning was as delightful and successful as ever. In thanking everyone who took part, not least the boys and their parents, special mention must be made of the huge support and hard work of the Hay family – Caroline, John, Becky, and David. The next special choir event is our ever-popular Pancake Party, renowned for there never being any leftovers!!

When you have finished opening your Valentine's on 14th February, don't forget the Ash Wednesday Eucharist at 7.30 pm, with the singing led by the choir Gentlemen.

Palm Sunday, 24th March, will be very special indeed, with the presentation of the Bach St John Passion, under the direction of Jonathan Gregory. Look out for all the publicity and then turn up!

Finally, on a personal note, I offer my grateful thanks to the countless people in our church who have shown me such support at this challenging time.

Terence Atkins

J S Bach

St John Passion

Singers from the UK Japan Choir and from St John the Baptist, St Mary's Monken Hadley, and St Marks have been working at the choruses and chorales and chorus interjections of Bach's profound setting of St John's gospel.

The performance will be guided through by a tenor evangelist, Oscar Golden-Lee and the parts of Jesus, Pilate, Peter, and other roles will be taken by professional soloists with some parts for local soloists.

The professional orchestra will be conducted by Jonathan Gregory who has been rehearsing singers in Monken Hadley, St John the Baptist, Grosvenor Chapel Mayfair and in Cambridge.

The Chorales which act as hymns through the performance will be sung by the chorus and with some sung additionally by choristers and congregation.

Rehearsing together has brought fellowship with different churches in Barnet and friendship with Japanese singers. The soprano soloist is Japanese.

We look forward to the performance on Palm Sunday March 24th at 5.30 pm in St John the Baptist church and will value your support.

Johnathan Gregory

UK-Japan Music Society with St John the Baptist,
Barnet Church

UK Japan
Music
Society



J.S. Bach

St John Passion

Performed by

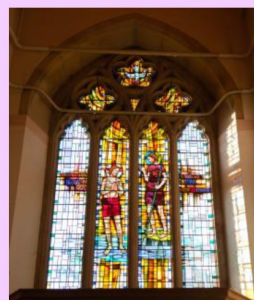
*UK-Japan Choir, members of Church Choirs of
St John the Baptist, Barnet, St Mary's,
Monken Hadley, St Mark's, Barnet Vale with*

International Soloists:

Oscar Golden-Lee Evangelist

With Professional Orchestra

Jonathan Gregory Conductor



Sunday
24th March 2024

5:30 pm

St John the Baptist Church

*Junction of High Street and Wood Street,
High Barnet, EN5 4BW*

<https://www.ukjapanmusicsociety.org.uk>
<https://www.barnetparishchurch.org.uk/>



Tickets: £30 (with Interval drink), £20, £10 and £5

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/uk-japan-music-society/t-pqkxnmy>:

Paper tickets also available from the Churches and the Choirs

**Please note: No under school age children admitted*

**All enquiries, please write to ukjapanmusic@gmail.com
or tel: 07986 196332**

The Travelling Crib

For as long as I can remember at St. John the Baptist Church, Barnet, we have carried on the tradition of the Travelling Crib. This is a portable affair, consisting of a small crib made of light wood, figures of Mary and Joseph-made of felt, and a donkey, also made of grey felt. The crib and figures travel around the parish spending a night or two with each of the participating families. On Christmas Eve the last family returns the crib and figures to church where it is presented and blessed at the Crib Service in the afternoon.

On the morning of Christmas Eve I phoned the final family just to check that they were well and prepared to return the crib. Yes, I was assured, all was well and that the family would be there in plenty of time. I breathed a sigh of relief and crossed that off my list of tasks for the day.



In the Nativity story how does the Holy Family travel to Bethlehem? "On a donkey," I hear you reply. Well, not in our church..... Mum, Dad, twins, James and Cicely, (6 years old), Mary, Joseph, the crib and, of course, the donkey, arrived at church on the 184 bus! I just wish I had been there at the right moment with my camera to record the sight. This has made me smile and chuckle all through Christmas.

Averill Lovatt

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St Mark, Barnet Vale Churchwardens' Chat



Dear Friends,

The Christmas bazaar on 25th November was very successful making a record £1,153. There were delicious refreshments, mulled wine and spiced apple, the tombola, the hamper raffle, the cake stall, jewellery, and the raffle downstairs. Upstairs there were the bric-a-brac, cards, children's activities, and various games. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day and especially to Peter and Tony who organised the whole event.

It was lovely to welcome Revd Jane Kraft as our preacher on 26th November to celebrate Christ the King. That day was also Anna's last service with us following her move to Colchester, so we presented her with Prosecco and flowers to thank her for the immense contribution she has made to St Mark's.

Our Christmas Band Concert was on 15th December when Borehamwood Brass treated us to a lovely selection of Christmas classics and congregational carols.



The Crib Service on Christmas Eve was well attended and there was a good number for Midnight Mass and Christmas morning.

The Epiphany Eucharist and Blessing of the Chalk was held on 6th January. The offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were presented, and the church was



filled with the sweet smell of Frankincense burning in the thurible.

On 9th January we had a visit from Richard Jackson who met with Fr Tristan, the Hall manager and ourselves. He is working with the



diocese to assist churches in identifying ways to generate additional income from churches and halls. He had some good ideas, particularly in the use of technology to make the booking process more efficient and tools and imagery to improve advertising.

Congratulations to Faye and Joe who were married at St Mark's on 16th December. We will miss them as they have now moved away but it has been a pleasure worshipping with them, and we wish them all the best in their new home.

We were sad to hear of the passing of Colin Gass early in New Year. Colin and his late wife Juliet were faithful

members of St Mark's for many years. His funeral was on the 29th January.

We will be celebrating Candlemas on 2nd February with a Festal Eucharist and Blessing of the Candles, then on

Ash Wednesday we have the Solemn Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes at 7.45pm. The Lent Group will be on Tuesdays at 8pm with Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 7.30pm. This year will be St Mark's 125th anniversary so we are hoping to do something special around the time of our

Patronal Festival on 25th April. Details to come in the next magazine.

God bless.

Caroline and John



St Mark's Christmas Tree.

JJ's

Ladies and Gents Hair Salon

Models required for
Shampoo & Sets £7.50
Blow Dries from £12.00

Thursday only

£2.00 off for Senior Citizens

Monday and Tuesday

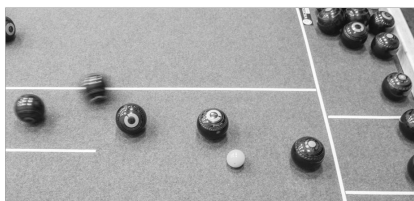
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Fridays 7-9pm

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Jeanette on 0208 368 2838



Just before Christmas I visited a friend in West Finchley. I made use of my Freedom Pass and travelled on the underground train that morning. To exit the station, it is necessary to cross over the lines. As I crossed the bridge, I passed a dog and its owner appearing to be watching the trains. "Oh yes," the lady said, "he loves trains, especially the ones coming from Barnet."

As if on cue, a train from Barnet was about to reach the platform, the dog pushed his nose through the fencing and watched the train, wagging his tail at the same time. It made me smile all day!

**St. Stephen's
Church Hall is
available for hire.**

Please contact
Georgina Awan
on
07725 941 410
for further details

**Copy Date Magazine
April / May**

Please send all material
for the

April / May
magazine to the Editor at
barnetteammag@gmail.com

by
Monday 1st March.

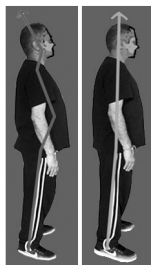
Knit and Stitch Group

We meet on Mondays
every two weeks from
4.30 - 6pm
in Church House.
The cost is £1 per
session.

It is an ideal opportunity
to learn how to knit,
crochet or sew.

Carol Pellowe
07774 270 849

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St Stephen's Churchwardens' Chat



Hi Everyone,

Hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

Thank you to all who came and cleaned the Church for Christmas and to Tristan for the bacon sandwiches.

Our Christmas services were well attended. The Crib service with the children bringing up the figures to put in the stable was very moving and the children loved it. Our Carol service on Christmas Eve with all the decorations, the tree up, and all the candles was very beautiful and joyous.

We had a church full for our Patronal Service with Bishop Jane, Tristan, Sam, and Linda leading the service. Bishop Jane was lovely, very easy to talk too. We hope she comes again.

It was lovely to have Roger back for the Patronal to be with me to lead the Bishop in. We wish him well as he recovers from his op.


We are holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday 3rd February in the hall from 11am to 1pm. Hope to see you there.

Wishing you all a Happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year.

**God Bless
Sue and Roger.**



The Parish Church of
**ST STEPHEN
BELLS HILL**



Part of the Chipping Barnet Team Ministry
St John the Baptist, Chipping Barnet; St Peter, Arkley; St Stephen, Bells Hill & St Mark, Barnet Vale

SUNDAY WORSHIP

1st & 3rd Sundays
Holy Eucharist

2nd Sundays
Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer

4th Sundays
Morning Praise
(A less formal service of praise)

5th Sundays
Holy Communion (BCP)

All followed by refreshments!

All services start at 11.15am

Letter from Tristan

Dear Friends,

Goodness! Christmas is past already, Lent is on the near horizon and 2024 is in full swing, how did that happen!?!

Christmas was wonderfully busy and lively this year at both St Mark's and St Stephen's, a wonderful time to celebrate the good news of Christ's birth, and share that love with our many visitors. New Years Eve was also a great joy, as we welcomed Bishop Jane of Hertford as our preacher and celebrant at St Stephen's Patronal Festival. It was lovely to see the church so full!

I write just before Cindy's Licensing at St Peter's when we welcome her and rejoice that she has come as a blessing to St Peter's and the team!

Ahead of Lent, on Shrove Tuesday, or at other times by arrangement I will be available for '*Shriving*' a pre-Lenten time for confession and reflection. Then across the team, there will be various Ash Wednesday services to mark the great fast. Such services meaning of course is not just in the symbolic act of the imposition of ashes, but in our personal start of a genuine period

of going without and taking up, which combined, make for a spiritually edifying Lent, so do reflect on how you will use the great fast. Across the team our Lent groups will be looking at Bishop Michael Marshals book, '*Lent with the beloved disciple*.' Do consider joining one or other of the groups.

Looking slightly further ahead, 25th April will be St Mark's Patronal Festival and this year will mark the church's 125th Anniversary, so please do get the date in your diary!

**Yours in Christ,
Tristan**



**Bishop Jane, leads the worship at
St Stephen's Patronal Festival on
New Years Eve .**



Twelfth Cake and Wassail ready for St Mark's Epiphany service.

Services at St Mark's

1st of the month—9.15am Parish Eucharist in Traditional Language
no Sunday School

Rest of the month— 9.15am Parish Eucharist *with Sunday School*

Mid-week Eucharist—11.00am Thursday

St Mark's, Barnet Vale & St Stephen's, Bells Hill

LENT 2024

SHROVE TUESDAY (13th February)

6-7pm Shrivng (Confessions) in St Mark's,
or at other times by appointment.

ASH WEDNESDAY (14th February)

11am Service of Penitence, with Imposition of Ashes
at St Stephen's.

7.30pm Solemn Eucharist and Imposition Ashes at St Mark's.

LENT STUDY GROUP

Lent with the beloved disciple

We will study
Bishop Michael Marshall's
book together.

The course is £11,
including a copy of the book.

(Or buy your own copy!)

Please sign up ASAP.

THE 2024 LENT BOOK



LENT WITH THE
BELOVED
DISCIPLE

Michael Marshall
BLOOMSBURY

Tuesdays during Lent
at **11am** at St Stephen's or at **8pm** at St Mark's Vicarage



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7.30pm Thursdays
during Lent at St Mark's.

We meet Wednesday's during Term Time

5.30-6.45pm YR-Y6 (anchors & Juniors)
7.30-9.30pm Y7-Y12 (Company & Seniors)



New Members always Welcome



Human Fruit Machines and fruit monsters. Lots of new healthy tastes!



In pottery, every piece is unique, just like every person. With grateful thanks to a very talented local resident



For our Remembrance Day programme, We prayed for peace, praying for those who live without peace, and praying for those who have died because they lacked peace. We continue to think of the families, children, and all the people of those regions of the world who are in the grips of war.

I'M A CELEBRITY JUNGLE CHALLENGE



A brilliant Enfield Battalion event in November with 10 bush tucker trials: Wobbly Madness, Disaster Chef, Screw Loose, Star Feet, Snake Pit, Tongue Tied, Gutter Run, Flying Cockroaches, Jungle Maze and Jungle Drop to gain all important stars for their team.



The Boys Brigade are blessed as an organisation to have over 10,000 volunteer leaders across the country who support children and young people to learn, grow and discover.

Meet our wonderful volunteer leaders at 4th Barnet Boys Brigade!



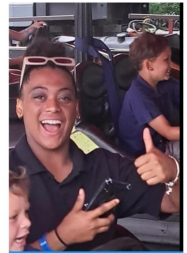
Amanda, loves planning fun activities!



The fabulous Phoebe, our parent helper



Fr Tristan (Chaplain) & Alan who has been a BB Leader for over 50 years



Rhyannan, our young leader & always full of fun!



Alex & Gemma - full of positive energy and true commitment to youth work



Where are they Now?

'I was curate in the Chipping Barnet Ministry Team from my ordination in 2003 till January 2007. I had always felt that my vocation was to hospital chaplaincy, and I obtained the post of Assistant Chaplain at Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust, starting in January 2007. After four months in post, I was promoted to Chaplain within the same Trust.

The Trust comprised three hospitals: Queen Alexandra's; St Mary's; and the Royal Hospital, Haslar. As Chaplain, I was expected to take on an area of responsibility, and mine was to look after the patients and staff in the Royal Hospital Haslar. During my time working for the Trust, the three hospitals consolidated on a single site: a much-enlarged hospital at Queen Alexandra's, so my area of responsibility changed to care of patients and staff in elderly



medicine. When I was appointed, there were seven full-time chaplains in the trust. Over the following 10 years, however, the number of chaplains reduced to just two full-time (of which I was one), and several part time (to help with emergency cover out-of-hours: chaplains were frequently called in when patients were near to death, or had had a miscarriage or still birth).

I loved my work, and found it deeply fulfilling to be alongside people in times of crisis or change, and to help support their families. It was also lovely to work with the nurses, doctors, and other staff in the hospital, and to support them

when the going was tough, too. I retired from my role as chaplain in August 2017.

In chaplaincy posts, unlike Church appointments, accommodation is not provided, so David and I had bought our own home about 7 miles from the hospital. We love our home and its location, so decided not to move when I retired – David had retired from his post as chaplain at HABS before we moved down to Hampshire.

There is a shortage of clergy in parishes in the Portsmouth Diocese, so retired clergy are much in demand, helping on

Sundays and mid-week for services of Holy Communion, and also to take some funerals. I had decided that I wanted to retire, when I finished working at the hospital, so I just help out occasionally, and

also take some Home Communion; but David is still quite active and takes many more services than I do.

Our family has increased since our Barnet days. We now have eight grandchildren, as well as our four children and their partners, all of whom still live in the UK, but not immediately close by, so we are glad to have time to see them when we can. We still return to Hertfordshire from time to time, and have not forgotten the many friends we made in Barnet during our three-and-a-bit years with you. We hope that you remember us, too!



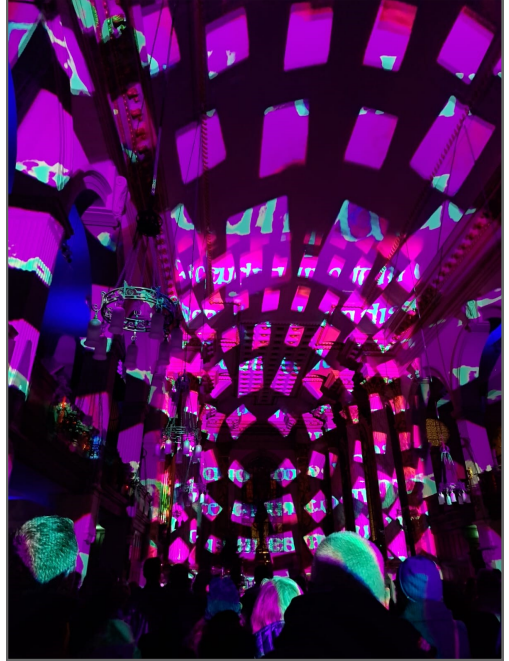
Photo taken in Western Australia last November.

Divine Beauty by Night

Last year the four magnificent Pre-Raphaelite Burne-Jones windows in Birmingham Cathedral were cleaned and restored. This was an enormous task only to be undertaken by specialist conservers. The windows had withstood the years of grime and dirt of the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries.

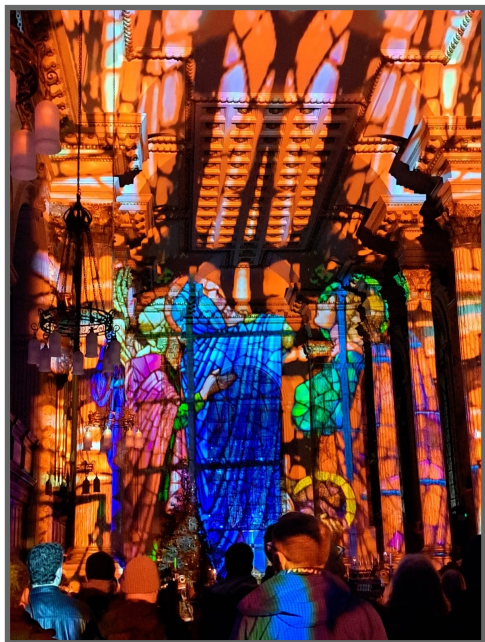
Fearing damage during the

Second World War, the stained-glass windows were removed in 1939 and kept safe in a slate mine in Wales until they were returned almost ten years later.



Support from the National Heritage Lottery Fund has enabled important refurbishment work to be carried out over the past year. At last year's Ceffaa's AGM in Birmingham some of us were able to don hi-vis jackets and helmets and climb the

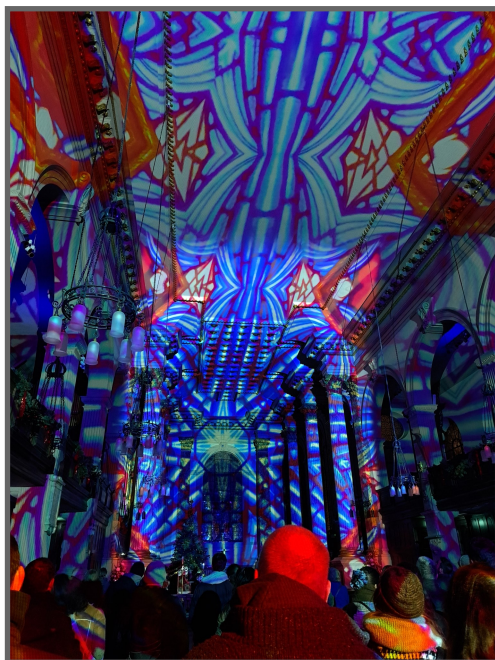
scaffolding to view the work in progress. Further details can be seen on the Birmingham Cathedral website.



The windows are now returned to their original positions and were the subject of a sell-out Son et Lumiere project which I was privileged to experience at the turn of the year. Images of the windows were projected on the walls and roof of the interior of the Cathedral and the effect was stunning. The Cathedral was bathed in bright light,

reminiscent of the kaleidoscopes we enjoyed as children. Music accompanied images of the Holy Family and the Apostles during the fifteen minute presentation. It was a moving experience to watch and also to observe others; some sat on seats or on the floor to enhance their experience. My visit has given me much to reflect upon for some time.

Averill Lovatt.



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Registered charity 288318

Pattern of services at St Peter's

1st Sunday 9.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am **1st Sunday** Family Service

2nd & 4th Sundays Parish Eucharist

3rd Sunday Family Eucharist

5th Sunday Matins

Services, including seasonal variations, are listed in full in our magazine,

Arkley Church & Community News (available free at St Peter's),

and on our website:

[www.stpetersarkley.com/
services](http://www.stpetersarkley.com/services)

ST PETER'S CHURCH HALL

*is available for hire—ideal for sit-down luncheons
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There is a kitchen and parking at the rear for over 20 cars

To book the Hall, please contact Iris Auburn 020 8449 0980

St. Peter, Arkley Churchwarden Chat

2024 marks the start of an exciting new chapter at St Peter's!

When I last wrote, we were still in an interregnum and on the hunt for a new vicar. As the year drew to a close, our services continued to be covered by our friends that took on the extra workload to keep St Peter's going. Sam, Tristan, Geoff, Laurie, Linda, Rosemary, Brian, Christine, +Jane and Cindy all took services during the period since Nick retired. We are very grateful to them all. We are also thankful for the support of Area Dean Laura, Archdeacon Janet and Bishop Jane for their hard work and guidance on the appointment process and to Susan, Chriso, Gill, Nick and Rosemary for taking part in the Bible Study.

But ... we now have a new vicar, the amazing Revd. Cindy Kent MBE!

She is the perfect fit for St Peter's and the whole congregation are delighted at her appointment. She is a very special lady who brings joy, warmth, passion, ideas and energy to the role and we are all very excited to work together with her to take St Peter's forward to the next stage. Her background of being a '60's pop star with The Settlers and subsequently a broadcaster means that she has great communication skills and experience (and stories!) to share with us all.

Her licencing by Bishop Jane and her installation by Archdeacon Janet took place on January the 17th and it was a

beautiful event, the church was packed full, the

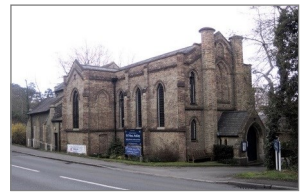
atmosphere was such a happy one and we all wanted to celebrate with Cindy on this very special day. Thank you to everyone that came!

On behalf of our local and Christian communities, Martin Russell MBE DL, Madam Mayor Nagus Narenthira, David Longstaff, Arthur Moss, Dominic Grant and Richard Osborn all welcomed her. The music and choir was as ever perfectly arranged and led by Gill del Bravo and Mark Oliver was chaplain to the bishop and took on the job of printing all the Orders of Service.

Alexander Auburn-Wells, Gabriel Madueke and Sue Scott presented the symbolic bread, wine and water during the service, Cindy's sister Anne Ansell read the lesson and from St Peter's Wendy Oliver and Rosemary Watkins read bidding prayers.

The service was followed by a reception in the hall, a wonderful spread was laid on by Susie, Maureen, Iris and Sophia and Tony was on hand throughout the service and reception to help in many ways.

It was a fabulous night and we are looking forward to the future with Cindy!



Sharon Butler

Boyes Sutton & Perry

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Rev. Cindy Kent's Licensing Service.



were Richard Osborn, on behalf of the Barnet Deanery; His Majesty's Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Martin Russell; The Mayor of Barnet, Cr Nagus Narenthira; and Cr David Longstaff.

The Revd. Cindy Kent MBE became Team Vicar of St Peter's, Arkley on 17th January.

At a joyful and uplifting service, she was licensed by the Bishop of Hertford, the Rt Revd. Dr Jane Mainwaring, and installed by the Archdeacon of Hertford, the Venerable Janet Mackenzie. Among those offering addresses of welcome

Cindy is the 21st vicar or priest in charge of St Peter's since it was





consecrated as a chapel of ease of St John the Baptist in 1888. She is already well known to the regular congregation of St Peter's, having taken a number of services during the interregnum that followed Nick Wheeler's departure last March.

Cindy grew up in the West Midlands. She was ordained in 2007 and was priest in charge of St John the Apostle, Whetstone from 2010-18.

Before coming to the priesthood, Cindy had a very successful career as a singer and broadcaster. In the 1960s and 70s, she was lead singer of the folk pop band the Settlers; and she then moved into radio as a presenter and producer. Cindy was awarded the MBE for services to religious broadcasting and still presents a weekly easy listening show on the internet station, Serenade Radio. **Nick Dean.**



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**FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024
AT 11 AM**

FOLLOWED BY A SOUP LUNCH

“MOZART IN 1778”

TWO SONATAS FOR PIANO & VIOLIN





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Providing grants to individuals in financial hardship and to non-profit organisations located within the specified areas of benefit (EN5, EN4 and a small part of N11 and N14). Each application is considered on its own merits by the Board of Trustees

- White goods
- Baby equipment
- Bedding
- Household items
- furnishings
- Disabled equipment
- School uniform

And many other items.....

Grant and Housing Application Forms can also be downloaded from our website: www.eleanorpalmertrust.org.uk

St Peter's at Christmas



**The Choir
singing at St Peter's
at their Christmas
Carol Service.**



Torch-Support & social group for the blind and partially sighted is looking for people to help on the third Saturday in the month. Help is also needed with the group—refreshments, general help, transporting members from North London to Underhill Baptist.

A rota can be arranged.

Please call Elsie on 020 8449 7086.



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*New
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**Start Date: Thursday
11th January 2024**



THURSDAYS

in term time

10-11.30am

Ages: Pre-School children

Donation per session: £2

Leader: Jackie Peacock

**Opportunity for play and activities for the children
and a time for the adults to talk and enjoy the
company of other carers.**

Parents/Carers/Grandparents welcome with their children (a parent or carer must remain throughout).

Healthy snacks and drinks will be provided for the children/drinks will be provided for the adults. (please do not bring your own).

Contact: The parish office **020 8447 0350** or

Jackie Peacock jackie@barnetparishchurch.org.uk

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Valentine Poole Charity

The charity is seeking suitable, deserving people to join their list of Pensioners.

The qualification is:

"The pensioners shall be poor persons who, except in special cases to be approved by the (Charity) Commissioners, have resided in the area of benefit for not less than three years next preceding the time of appointment ..."

The area of benefit is defined as the former Urban Districts of Barnet and East Barnet.

Those seeking to be considered for inclusion should submit their name and address to the Clerk at the address below requesting an application form:

**The Clerk to the Trustees
Valentine Poole Charity
Ewen Hall
Wood Street
Barnet
EN5 4BW**

clerk@valentinepoole.org.uk

Prayer Diary

February 2024

- 1st. Pray for Fr. Tristan and the congregation of St Mark's Barnet Vale .



- 2nd. Candlemas—we remember today Christ's presentation in the temple.
- 3rd. Give thanks for all who volunteer their time in anyway in our four churches.
- 4th. Pray for the work of missionary societies and the work they do worldwide.
- 5th. The Work of the Bible Society.
- 6th. St Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley and the congregation there.
- 7th. Barnet Brookside Methodist church Shaun Sanders and the congregation there.
- 8th. Christ Church, Rev Andy Rimmer and the congregation there.
- 9th. Pray for the work of Churches Together for Chipping Barnet.
- 10th. The emergency services in Barnet.
- 11th. St John the Baptist Church, for Fr. Sam, Geoff and Laurie (LLWs) and the congregation there.
- 12th. Pray for all in our hospitals, care homes and give thanks for the services of their medical and support staff.
- 13th. Pray for our Bishops Alan Jane and Richard.

- 14th. Ash Wednesday. Pray a for a time of reflection as we begin the season of Lent
- 15th. Give thanks for the music in our churches.
- 16th. Pray for the Chaplaincy at Barnet College.
- 17th. Pray for Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) and for their continuing work.
- 18th. Pray for the peace of the world bringing to God all countries at war or in conflict.
- 19th. Pray for all the members of Barnet Deanery and our Area Dean Canon Laura Hewitt
- 20th. St Stephen's Bells Hill - Fr. Tristan, and Linda Sanders (Reader) and the congregation there.
- 21st. Give thanks for all who volunteer their time in any way in our four churches.
- 22nd. Mary Immaculate and St. Gregory, Father McKenna, his colleagues and the congregation there.
- 23rd. The North London Hospice and Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.
- 24th. St Matthias the Apostle; pray for all churches named in his honour and all who worship in them.
- 25th. Dominic Grant and Chesterfield Road and Wood Street United Reformed Churches.
- 26th. Underhill Baptist Church Pastor Ray Thomas, and the congregation there.
- 27th. Pray for Rev. Cindy Kent and the congregation of St Peter's Arkley .
- 28th. Pray for Hope Corner, the staff and all who use it.
- 29th. Pray for our Member of Parliament and for our Mayor and Councillors.



Prayer Diary

March 2024

- 1st St. David's Day. Pray for the Church in Wales.
- 2nd Pray for the St Albans Cursillo.
- 3rd. Pray for Hope Corner, the staff and volunteers there.
- 4th Pray for Dominic Grant and Chesterfield Road and Wood Street United Reformed Churches.
- 5th St John the Baptist Church, Fr Sam, Geoff and Laurie (LLWs) and the congregation there.
- 6th Pray for our Bishops Alan Jane and Richard.
- 7th Pray for the work of Churches Together for Chipping Barnet.
- 8th Barnet Brookside Methodist church Shaun Sanders and the congregation there.
- 9th St Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley and the congregation there.
- 10th Mothering Sunday – give thanks for all mothers and for all women expecting babies at this time.
- 11th St Stephen's Bells Hill Fr Tristan and Linda Sanders (Reader) and the congregation there.
- 12th Pray for Mary Immaculate and St Gregory, Father McKenna and the congregation there.
- 13th Pray for all who nurture their faith through the scripture.
- 14th Pray for all preparing for baptism in our churches.
- 15th The sick, the elderly and housebound and all who visit them
- 16th Pray for Rev Cindy Kent and the congregation of St Peter's Arkley.
- 17th St. Patrick's Day. Pray for all churches named in his honour.
- 18th Pray for the Church of England Flower Arrangers Association and its members in our churches.
- 19th Today we remember Joseph of Nazareth. Pray for all churches named in his honour.
- 20th Pray for Justice and Peace and an end to war and oppression.
- 21st Pray for St Mark's and for Fr. Tristan and the congregation there.
- 22nd Underhill Baptist Church Pastor Ray Thomas, and the congregation there.
- 23rd The work of the Good Neighbour's Scheme .
- 24th Today is Palm Sunday remember Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem.
- 25th Pray for our Archdeacons, especially Archdeacon Janet of Hertford.
- 26th Pray for our Member of Parliament.
- 27th Christ Church, Rev Andy Rimmer and the congregation there.
- 28th Maundy Thursday. As He washed the disciple's feet pray that we too may be cleansed.
- 29th Good Friday. Pray the way of the cross.
- 30th Easter Eve. Pray with expectation of the glory that is to come that we may be prepared to receive the light of Christ.
- 31st Easter Sunday. He is risen—Give thanks for the glory of the resurrection and pray that we may rise to new life in Him.



AN EVENING PILGRIMAGE TO ST ALBANS ABBEY

On 21st November 2023, a few of us from St John the Baptist's were privileged to join others from the Barnet Deanery for an evening of exploration, meditation, and prayer in the empty, half-lit abbey. Over almost two hours we were led to the choir, high altar, lady chapel, nave, shrine of St Alban, then back to the choir for Compline. In the nave we were shown by special lighting how the medieval frescoes on the pillars would have looked when they were freshly painted. Behind the altar in the nave, the badly worn medieval statues in the niches of the nave screen have been replaced by seven new statues, put there in 2015. They are carved in stone and painted in appropriate colours, as the original ones would have been. The central figure is St Alban, and he is flanked by ecumenical figures including an Orthodox nun, a Jesuit priest, and the Lutheran Dietrich Bonhoeffer who is standing on a crushed swastika. His inclusion reminded me of the contact we had with the Ecumenical Church of the Rhineland through the LEP, and the gift to the abbey from a church in Cologne of a much-venerated relic - St Alban's shoulder blade - that is now under the canopy in the Shrine. It was a wonderful evening. We were grateful to our knowledgeable and patient guides.

Jenny Remfry



2024 Barnet Calendar.

It's entitled 'Barnet - On Screen,
our Town and Surrounds on Film and TV.'

Price £10 and available from church staff (during the week)
and Terence Atkins on Sundays.

Key Contacts

Team Magazine		
Editor	Elaine and Geoff Nicholson	01767 310234 barnetteammag@gmail.com
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Bells Hill Burial Ground	Lynn Baker	8449 4689
Wives' Coffee Break	Janet Austin	8441 0138
Boys Brigade (<i>Wednesday evenings</i>)	Amanda Michalia	07956 846 449
2nd Barnet Scouts (<i>Friday 7.30 pm</i>)	Peter De Naeyer	8440 2437
Good Neighbour Scheme	Church House, Wood Street	8441 5678
Hope Corner 185 Mays Lane, Barnet, Herts	Janet Nestor	8364 8756 hopecorner@outlook.com
Hall hire		
Church House, Wood Street	Elaine Nicholson	8449 4704
St Peter's, Arkley	Iris Auburn	8449 0980
St Stephen's Bells Hill	Georgina Awan	07725 941 410
St Mark's, Potters Lane	Eleanor Walton	07812 568 257 st.marks.hall.bookings21@gmail.com
Websites		
St Peter's, Arkley		www.stpetersarkley.com
St Mark's, Barnet Vale		www.stmarkbarnet.weebly.com
St Stephen's, Bells Hill		www.ststephenbarnet.org.uk
St John The Baptist		www.barnetparishchurch.org.uk
St. John the Baptist		
Altar Guild & Altar Servers	Laurie Little	8441 1193
Church Flowers	Averill Lovatt	8449 0696
Electoral Roll	Parish Office	8447 0350
Church Rota	Elaine Nicholson	07957523335
Guild of Ringers, Tower Captain	Nancy Surman	8440 9498
Mother's Union Representative	Vacant	
Librarian & Archivist	Vacant	
Parents & Toddlers (<i>Tuesdays 10.00– 11.30 am in Church</i>)	Parish Office	8447 0350
Stewardship Recorder and Gift Aid	Sue Yates	8449 4824

Our four churches are part of Churches Together for Chipping Barnet along with Christ Church, St Albans Road, St Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley, Roman Catholic Church St Mary Immaculate and St Gregory the Great in Union Street, The United Reformed Churches in Wood Street and Chesterfield Road, Underhill Baptist Church, Elton Avenue and the Methodist Church, Barnet Brookside in East Barnet and the Wesley Hall in Stapylton Road.



**St Mark's Christmas
Flowers**



**St Peter's flower
arrangement for Cindy's
Licensing Service**



**St Stephen's lit up
for Christmas**



**St John the Baptist
Christmas Flowers**