

St Stephen's, Canonbury
17 Canonbury Road, N1 2DF
Exploring Faith – Sharing Hope – Growing in Love

March 2019

Welcome to St Stephen's. We seek to know God through Jesus Christ. Encountering Him in worship, service, love for each other and those around us. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please leave us your details. Our prayer team can talk and pray with you. If you have a particular need for which you would like prayer, talk to the service leader.

On most Sundays there is Sunday School for children 4-11 and 'Dreams' for young people 11+. On 2nd and 3rd Sundays there is a group for toddlers to reception as well. There are toys for younger children at the back of the church. The sermons are recorded and are available on the website.

Services in March

- Sun 3 11am First Sunday
Reading: Luke 9:28-46 – The Transfiguration
Leaders: Margaret Evans and Lois Gallagher
6.30pm Evening Communion – Speaking truth in a diverse culture
Reading: John 18:33-38 – Speaking truth about truth
Leader: Timothy Muller; Speaker: Margaret Evans
- Wed 6 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Communion
Readings: 2 Cor 5:26b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Leader and preacher: John Beauchamp
- Sat 9 3pm Messy Lent
- Sun 10 11am Holy Communion, Lent 1 – The Beatitudes, Living with blessing
Readings: Isaiah 61:1-3; Matthew 5:1-11 – Poverty and Mourning
Leader: Joy Faulkner; Preacher: John Beauchamp
6.30pm Evening Worship – Lent series 1
- Sun 17 11am Morning Worship, Lent 2 – The beatitudes, Living with blessing
Readings: Psalm 37; Matthew 5:1-11 – Meekness and Hunger
Leader: John Beauchamp; Preacher: Timothy Muller
6.30pm Evening Communion – Lent series 2
- Sun 25 11am Holy Communion & annual meeting
The Beatitudes, Living with blessing
Readings: Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 5:1-11 – Merciful and Pure
Leader: Margaret Evans; Preacher: John Beauchamp
6.30pm No service
- Sun 31 11am Mothering Sunday – The Beatitudes, Living with blessing
Readings: 1 Samuel 25; Matthew 5:1-11 – Peace and Peace Makers
Leader: Margaret Evans; Preacher: Joy Faulkner
6.30pm Evening Communion – Lent series 3

Please pray this month

Urban Hope

- For young people facing hard times and support UH can give
- For junior club giving thanks for recent growth
- For staff and management committee developing future strategy and vision

Preschool childrens work

- For 'Flourish Play Café' starting on Monday afternoons
- For Messy Lent and Messy Easter this term
- For volunteers to help and support Lois in this work

Manna

- For every rough sleeper to survive the winter and get off the streets in 2019
- For every mentally distressed Manna user to find comfort, release and hope
- For the team of staff and volunteers to grow strong in our shared purpose and a whole-hearted attitude to everything we do

Church

- For those who are unwell: Yazna, Joy Maitland, Brenda Coomes, Mary Allen, Val Bull, Len Chalkley, Elizabeth Ainger, Mary Fergus, Rachel Green, Sylvia Dolan, Wendy Reeves, Vivien Mehmet, John Lowe, Stephen Spencer, Christine (Suzanne's sister) and those mourning the loss of loved ones.
- For the election of church wardens and PCC members and the annual meetings.
- For Ralph Dunham and the finance team as we seek to move to a new 'cloud-based' accounting package.

World

- For the people of Eretria, both in the country and those living as refugees across the world. For new justice and democracy in this oppressed country. For Fr Shenouda and the St Mary's Eritrean Orthodox community at Archway.
- For the UK and EU as the Brexit process nears 29th March. That politicians and leaders will speak words of unity, put aside personal and party views and seek the common good for all people.

FLOURISH PLAY CAFÉ – MONDAY AFTERNOONS AT ST STEPHEN'S. As part of our pre-school childrens work project we will be running a new parent/carer and child drop-in on Mondays, starting on February 25th, from 1.15-2.45pm in the church halls. Flourish play cafe will be a relaxed, warm space with good coffee and teas, music, books, magazines and toys. The group is for parents and carers of babies and children from birth to 4 years so if you know of families who might like to join us please tell them and/or bring them along. If you would like to help us run the cafe or you would like to bake some refreshments for us, please let Lois know.

MESSY LENT. Come and join us for Messy Church for Lent on Saturday 2nd March at 3pm in the halls. Craft and activities, stories and reflection, prayer and worship, refreshments and conversation, as we begin this special season of preparation. Everyone is welcome at Messy Church which is for children and adults together. You can find out more from Lois and volunteer to join the team to help as well if you would like to. You can also join us for Messy Easter on Saturday 13th April

SOLAR PANELS PLANNING APPLICATION. The planning application for our solar panels project will go to planning committee on Tuesday 5th March, 7.30pm at Islington Town Hall. Members of the public are invited to attend and show support for applications under consideration. So we would like a group to attend and 'cheer our application through.' If you would like to attend, email, phone or talk to John. If we get permission the panels will be installed during week beginning 18th March.

WINTER GAMES EVENING – Saturday 9th March. We will bring winter to an end and look forward to spring with another board games evening on Saturday 9th March at 6.30pm in the halls. Fun games to play, good company and refreshments. Come and join us to find out how much fun these evenings really are.

LENT AT ST STEPHEN'S. Ash Wednesday is on 6th March beginning the season of Lent as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter in April. There will be an Ash Wednesday Communion service with the imposition of ashes at 7.30pm. During Lent our morning services will be exploring the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1-11. The series called 'Living with blessing' will explore the challenge and blessings that lie within these well-known words of Jesus. Evening services in Lent will follow a special series, details to come soon.

ANNUAL MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS – SUNDAY 24th MARCH.. It is the time of year when we publish our annual report and accounts and hold the annual meetings to elect church wardens and PCC members. The annual reports and papers for the meetings will be published on Sunday 3rd April and available on the church website. The annual meetings are on Sunday 24th March with the Vestry Meeting to elect church wardens at 12.15pm followed by a shared lunch and the Annual Parochial meeting at 1.45pm. The church wardens are elected each year. Janice Emslie will be standing again this year but Suzanne Roberts is standing down after 3 years in the role. There are also 5 vacancies on the PCC. Nominations for wardens and PCC members can be made using the forms available in the Church. All candidates must be members of the electoral roll, 'Communicant' members of the church and not barred from being a charity trustee for any reason. John can give more information. Please think and pray about who you would like to be your wardens and PCC members this year. Talk to potential candidates and/or talk to John to find out more. Please make the time to attend the annual meetings. Come to the 11am service on 24th March, bring some food to share for lunch and then join in the annual parochial meeting. As well as electing PCC members, making some appointments and receiving reports and accounts, you will have the opportunity to raise any issues or ask questions in an open forum. All issues raised will be included on a future PCC agenda.

ELECTORAL ROLL. The new Electoral Roll will be on display from Sunday 10th March in the Church. If you expect to be on the roll you will need to check that your name is entered correctly. Fran and Vernon will be chasing up applications before this and late applications can be made if you have not yet submitted your form. Talk to Fran and Vernon or John if you have any questions. The Electoral Roll is our membership list and being on it entitles you to vote at the annual meeting and take a full part in the life of the church.

JOHN ON STUDY LEAVE. John will begin a period of study leave on 25th March and return to parish duties on 1st July. He will be exploring 'disability as diversity' and writing a paper to encourage the inclusion of disability in the conversation about diversity in ministry. During this time a number of people will be taking over different jobs and roles in the church. More information will be published soon. Please pray for John and Natalie during this time.

MOTHERING SUNDAY – SUNDAY 31st MARCH. In our Mothering Sunday morning service we will worship together before children go out to our pre-school and Sunday School groups. Joy Faulkner will be speaking on peace and peace makers as we reflect on the mothering roles through which God has blessed us and his call to each of us (women and men) to offer 'mothering' to others today as well. There will also be traditional posies to distribute.

Regular events

Mon	1.15-2.45pm Flourish Play Café (for preschool children and parents) (Halls) 4-6pm After School 'Chillzone' years 6 & 7 (Halls) 7-8.45pm Urban Hope drop-in - years 7-9 (Halls)
Tue	9.30am Urban Hope prayers (Urban Hope room) 7-9pm The Manna (Church Halls)
Wed	10.00am Prayers for The Manna (Manna Office) 1-3pm The Manna (Church Halls) 6.30-8pm Urban Hope Junior Club – year 4-6 (Halls)
Thurs	6.30-9pm Urban Hope Drop-in – years 10+ (Halls)
Fri	9-11am The Manna Key-work Session (Church Halls)

Events in March

Sat 2	3pm Messy Lent (halls)
Sat 9	6.30pm Board games evening (halls)
Sun 25	12.15pm Annual meetings and shared lunch
Sun 31	11am Mothering Sunday service

PASTORAL CARE TEAM. PCT members are available to support and pray with you in all circumstances. Contact John Beauchamp by email or on 07946161098.

CHURCH FLOWERS. You can contribute towards flowers for anniversaries and special occasions. Please contact Carol Mellor 020 7263 6916.

Vicar – Rev John Beauchamp – 020 7226 7526 or 07946 161098

vicar@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk

Church Administrator: Rose Mwsigwa

Church office – 020 8616 5505 administrator@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk

Office open: Mon 9.30am-3pm, Thur 9.30am-3pm, Fri 12 noon-4pm

Church and hall bookings: Natalie Beauchamp

020 7226 7526 – centremanager@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk

Church Wardens – Suzanne Roberts & Janice Emslie (Contact through the church office)

The Manna – Homeless and adult support (see diary for opening times)

020 7226 5369 – themanna@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk

Urban Hope – Youth Support Project (see diary for opening times)

020 7354 9616 – hello@urbanhope.co.uk