

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

January 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 January

Sun 6 11am 'First Sunday' for Epiphany

Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Leaders: Lois Gallagher and John Beauchamp

6.30pm Epiphany reflection

Leaders: Timothy Muller and Will Smart

Sun 13 11am Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Leader: Margaret Evans; Preacher: Fola Faleti

6.30pm Evening Worship – Speaking the truth in a diverse culture 1

Theme: Speaking the truth about God

Leader: Timothy Muller; Speaker: Stuart Evans

Sun 20 11am Morning Worship

Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

Leader: John Beauchamp; Preacher: Lois Gallagher

6.30pm Evening Communion – Speaking the truth in a diverse culture 2

Theme: Speaking the truth about faith

Leader: Margaret Evans; Speaker: Carol Mellor

Sun 27 11am Holy Communion

Readings: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Leader & preacher: John Beauchamp

6.30pm Evening Worship – Speaking the truth in a diverse culture 3

Theme: Speaking the truth about the Bible

Leader: Will Smart; Speaker: John Creyke

PRAYING TOGETHER. Join us as we pray together through each day. Pick up a leaflet with morning, daytime and evening prayers and our special prayer for each week, or access our prayer resources at www.ststephenscanonbury.org.uk. As we pray together we grow together into the likeness of Christ.

Please pray this month

Urban Hope

- For Anna Herold the new female youth worker as she joins the team.
- For a good beginning to the new year in clubs, schools work and mentoring.
- For a staff and management committee meeting in January looking at a new strategic plan for Urban hope's work.

Pre school childrens work

- For the growing number of younger children and their parents joining our services and activities.
- For Lois as she leads this work into a new term and helps us place children at the centre of our life and worship.

Manna

- For the on-going work supporting clients with benefit claims, appeals and tribunals, particularly with the introduction of Universal Credit.
- For clients unsettled by Brexit and unsure of their future in the UK.
- For rough sleepers and for all who seek to support them into accommodation and new homes.

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 and those mourning the loss of loved ones.
- For our carbon reduction projects – Led lighting and solar panels – that we will be able to schedule this work in the near future.

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 Father Shenouda and the St Mary's Eritrean Orthodox community at Archway.
- For lasting peace in Yemen and Syria and a new beginning for both countries in 2019.
- For us during the Brexit process, that all concerned may look for common ground and seek the common good.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS APPEAL. Thank you to all of you who contributed to our appeal to support 'Young Roots' and their work with child and young refugees in the UK, Lebanon and Nepal. You can read about their work at www.youngroots.org. You can still make a donation by placing an envelope marked 'Young Roots' in the offering, or making a payment direct to bank; Nat West, Account: St Stephen's Church, Canonbury; Acc no. 04811151, Sort Code: 50-30-09.

NEW YEAR BRING AND SHARE PARTY. Come and join us on Saturday 12th January from 6.30pm for a bring and share new year party. Bring some food to share, savoury or sweet, and join in some fun new year games and quizzes. This will also be a chance to share some thoughts about our High Leigh weekend and what we might do for our weekend in 2020. All welcome. Bring your family and friends.

ELECTORAL ROLL. 2019 is a year when we have to create a new electoral roll. This means that the current roll lapses and everyone has to make a new application for inclusion. All existing members will receive letters and forms to complete in January and there will be spare forms in Church for new members to use. To join the roll you must be baptised in the Church of England or a church in communion with the C of E (talk to John if you would like this explained)., You must be 16 or over by the date of the annual meeting (this year 24th March), live in the St Stephen's parish or, if you don't live in the parish, attend worship regularly. You can also join if illness prevents you attending whether you live in the parish or not. Vernon and Fran Trafford are the electoral roll officers and can provide forms and information. The last date for applications to be received is Sunday 24th February. Please don't leave it that late though. Return your form as soon as you can to make it easier for us to administer this process. Thank you.

WINTER GAMES EVENINGS. Come and lighten a few of these dark winter evenings with some fun at our family games evenings. Enjoy board games, quizzes, food and fellowship. Saturday 9th February and Saturday 9th March, from 6.30pm. Talk to Suzanne to find out more.

ERITREAN EVENING. On Saturday 16th February from 6pm you are invited to join us for an Eritrean evening at St Stephen's. We will be joined by Father Shenouda and members of the St Mary's Eritrean Orthodox Church from Archway who will provide us with some traditional Eritrean food to enjoy together. Then there will be a chance to hear more about Eritrea from Martin Plaut, an ex BBC reporter who is an acknowledged expert on Eritrea, and several people who have left Eritrea as refugees and travelled through Libya, across the Mediterranean to Europe and eventually the UK. This will be a chance to really connect with the stories of refugees and share a little of their experiences, as well as showing our support for the St Mary's congregation. Put the date in your diary and watch out for more information.

JOHN AND NATALIE ON STUDY LEAVE. The Diocese have given John a period of study leave in 2019. He will be away from 25th March – 30th June to spend time thinking and writing about vulnerability and disability within ministry and the church. He hopes to produce something that will stimulate the diocese to think about how to be more inclusive and treat disability as a diversity that can enrich the church and its ministry. There will be more information about who will be doing what at St Stephen's during this time at a later date.

EVENING SERVICE SERIES. On January 13th we begin an evening series called, 'Speaking the truth in a diverse culture.' Over 8 weeks we will explore the challenges of speaking truth about our faith in today's world. We begin by thinking about how we can speak the truth about God today, and go on to think about the challenges of speaking truth about faith, the Bible, discipleship, resurrection, salvation, politics, and finally truth. Evening services begin at 6.30pm and are an opportunity to think together about challenging issues. All welcome.

PARISH GIVING SERVICE. The Parish Giving Service (PGS) is a way of giving regularly to St Stephen's that minimises the administration we have to undertake. PGS collect your donation and then hand that on to us and claim the Gift Aid on our behalf. All donations and the Gift Aid are then paid to us in a lump sum each month. There is no cost to us or you to use this service. We would like to encourage everyone who currently gives regularly direct to bank to think about changing to PGS and any new donors who would like to start giving regularly to do so in this way as well. You will have to set up a direct debit to PGS and there is the opportunity to allow your donation to increase in line with inflation each year if you wish. This will greatly reduce our accounting and Gift Aid admin so we are keen to use this as widely as possible. There are PGS information leaflets and forms at the back of the Church and Ralph Dunham is keen to talk to you about this. You can talk to Ralph after a Sunday service or contact him through the office by emailing administrator@ststephenscanonbury.org.uk. Ralph is happy to meet with people and explain the service and its advantages.

READING AND PRAYING AT SERVICES. We are always keen to welcome new people to the team that read scripture and lead prayers in our services. If you would like to know more about doing this please talk to John or Margaret.

Regular events

- Mon 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)
3pm Holy Communion and prayers for healing (1st & 3rd Weds - Church)
6.30-8pm Urban Hope Juniors 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)

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 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