

## Vicar



Fr Michael Fuller

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## Church Wardens

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## Parish Administrator

Piotr Blak  
020 7221 6546

## Treasurer

Malcolm Johnstone  
0169 772489

## Hon. Secretary

James O'Neill  
020 7516 6825

## Organist

Andrew Wells  
07885 133817

## Sundays:

8 a.m. Holy Communion  
10 a.m. Family Eucharist & Sunday  
School

## Mondays:

6 p.m. Guided Meditation (Side Chapel)

## Tuesday - Friday

8 a.m. Morning Prayer  
6 p.m. Evening Prayer  
6.30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

## Also on Wednesday:

Holy Communion 12 noon.

## Saturday:

Morning Prayer 8 a.m.  
Eucharist 8.30 a.m.  
Evening Prayer 6 p.m.

*Confessions are heard by appointment*

## Fairtrade Stall



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting Christian Aid and other charities, we have started trialing a monthly stall selling Christian Aid and Fairtrade products and cards from the Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust. The stall has already proved a huge success but don't worry if you missed out first time or want to make a repeat purchase as the stall will be in place again in the community space after the service **next week on 7th December**. We will again have

a fabulous range of cards, wrapping paper, small gifts and oh so tasty Fairtrade food. So don't miss out on your last chance to wrap up all that Christmas present and card buying in one go and help a number of good causes, including some of the world's poorest people, at the same time. Come and have a look after the service and one of our highly trained stall holders will be more than happy to help you choose the perfect cards and gifts for your loved ones.



# The St George's Times

Aubrey Walk, London, W8



## Advent Sunday

30th November 2008

## WELCOME TO ST GEORGE'S

Come, you who have much faith and you who have little, and you who have not been for a long time, you who have been here often, you who have tried to follow and you who feel you have failed.

Come, not because I invite you, but because God does; and, as you are welcomed, go, and welcome others.

We welcome you to our worship this morning.

We hope God's Holy Spirit will touch your heart and that you may be strengthened by Word and Sacrament.

## Today's Gospel: Mark 13, 24-37

Today's Gospel reading introduces us to Advent.

Advent is the traditional month of preparation before Christmas, it ought to be a time of fasting and intense prayer, a time of eager expectation. It is above all a time to celebrate waiting as a normal part of human experience, when the Christian tradition invites us to wait for the birth of a child. In Advent we rejoice that we are waiting, that there is still time to prepare a way for the Lord and we celebrate the virtue of patience. By contrast the consumer world tells us in no uncertain terms not to wait, but to 'buy now'. Greed cannot wait, so to learn to wait is a simple antidote to greed.

## Christmas services

Our services over Christmas follow the tried and tested pattern of worship and details are included on a card enclosed with this Newsletter. Our celebrations begins on the **14th December at 6pm** with our **Community Carol Service**. This is a great opportunity to reach out with the message of Christmas before our neighbourhood disappears for the holiday. We hope you will join us, and we hope if you are able to help with hospitality to our neighbours at the end of this service you will let me know. Wine, mince pies, dish washer loaders would be really appreciated. Could you also **deliver cards into the neighbouring streets** of our Parish? You'll find them at the back of the church. Please deliver them just as soon as you are able to.

## Advent



The season of Advent begins today. Advent could be, if we put our minds to it and important way of really celebrating Christmas rather than see it as the run up to a holiday filled with parties, shopping expeditions and excesses we could use it as a real time of preparation and contemplation. We shall begin our church observance of Advent today on **Advent**

**Sunday (30th November) with the usual 8am and 10am service**, with the readings for Advent, Advent carols and an Advent reflection at 10am. Then, **in addition, at 6pm we shall have a candlelit Advent Carol service with our professional choir readings and reflections.** Do please plan to be with us on these occasions.

Christian Aid is offering us an Advent email with daily tips to **help beat the credit crunch this Christmas, and benefit the planet and its people at the same time.** The handy hints and tips, which will be emailed daily from the 1 December 2008 until Christmas Eve on the 24th, "are designed to help consumers save cash, cut their carbon emissions and have some Yuletide fun," says the NGO, which is involved in advocacy and education both at home and abroad. Making Christmas decorations from found or recycled materials is another possibility, says Christian Aid. "Use holly and pine cones collected from local woods to decorate the house, get the kids to make paper chains from old magazines and bake some gingerbread to hang on the tree. Making your own can be cheap, fun and will keep the kids amused for hours." There are also tips include how to cut costs on food, fuel, fashion, entertainment and more. Those interested can register for the daily advent tip at: [www.christianaid.org.uk/advent](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/advent)

## Christmas Help

'Though Christmas still seems a way off, organising our **Kensington Christmas Giving** is well under way. For the last 10 years or so parishioners of St George's have been a pillar of giving to the most isolated and needy of our elderly neighbours who are identified by the RBKC social workers. I have managed the various lists over the years, but now we are not in London every weekend and so this project very badly needs a couple of people who regularly attend church on Sunday to volunteer to hold the lists and liaise with Fr Michael re announcements and progress reports. We also need one person to organise the rota of drivers who collect our elderly party guests on Christmas Day. It is fun to interact with fellow parishioners and an excellent way to get to know each other. We are urgently in need of people to help transport our guests from their home to the church hall and to return them after the lunch. The guests, all of whom live in the area, need to be collected between 12.15 and 12.45 and returned home around 3pm.

If you feel you might be able to help, even for just one leg of the journey, please contact Steve Egget ([steve@steve-eggett.com](mailto:steve@steve-eggett.com)) who is helping to coordinate this event. If you would consider either holding the lists so people can sign up to give a present after church, or if you would consider helping organise the driving rota of volunteers who pick elderly guests up on Christmas Day - thank you and please email me at [luce@briance.co.uk](mailto:luce@briance.co.uk) <<mailto:luce@briance.co.uk>> or telephone 0207 937 2113 and she will get in touch.



## Christmas Tea Party

St George's Lunch Group is holding the Christmas Tea Party at 3:30pm on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. We would welcome any offers of car drivers and any raffle prizes. This party concludes the third year of our group. We begin our fourth year with our usual lunch on January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009 at 12:30pm for 1pm. We have 68 on our database but we sit down to 40. If you know anyone eligible who would like to come please let Anne Morshead know; 020 7727 5975.