



# United Benefice News

for the churches of St George's and St John's



18th April 2010 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

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



**Today's Gospel: J 21, 1-19**  
**Many of us may know the symbolism of the number of fish, in today's gospel reading. According to A E Harvey, the number 153 signifies wholeness. If you add up all the numbers from 1 to 17 the sum is 153. If you then look at the**

**number 17 that number is made up of 10 plus 7 each of which signify wholeness. Thus the two combined signify a perfect whole. By this reasoning the 153 fish could mean all the world or all Christians. In the same way the unbroken net could imply the unity of the Body of Christ in their one united faith in the Risen Christ. May we continue in our prayers for Christian Unity.**

**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH**  
 Aubrey Walk, W8 7LG  
 (Near Notting Hill Gate tube)

  
 A celebration of St George  
 our Patronal Festival  
 &  
 the Patron Saint of our Country  
 Friday 23rd April at 7.30pm

**Sung Eucharist**

Guest Preacher:  
 Reverend Canon Dr Giles Fraser  
 Canon Chancellor  
 St Paul's Cathedral

In the presence of the  
 Mayor The Worshipful Councillor  
 Timothy Coleridge

## For your diary.

**Sunday 18th April** at 5pm. **St John the Baptist Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** All are welcome to this meeting to review the past year and set a direction for the coming year. This will be followed by a **Sung Eucharist at 6.30pm.**

**Tuesday 20th April at 7pm.** The Deanery Synod meets at St Thomas School, Kensal Rise. Guest speaker, Sam Donahue Diocesan children's ministry officer.

**Thursday 22nd April** at 9.30am Toddler Group resumes at **St Georges**

**Friday 23rd April** at 7.30pm. A celebration of St George our Patronal Festival & the Patron Saint of our Country. **Sung Eucharist.** Guest Preacher; **Reverend Canon Dr Giles Fraser**, Canon Chancellor St Paul's Cathedral. In the presence of the Mayor The worshipful **Councillor Timothy Coleridge.** Refreshments.

**Saturday 24th April** at 2.30pm. **St Georges Day Children's Party.** Children from both parishes are welcome at **St Georges** to celebrate St George; healthy refreshments, entertainers and games.

## Saint George's Day, Friday 23rd April

When the pagan Emperor Diocletian started persecuting Christians, St. George pleaded with the Emperor to spare their lives. However, St. George's pleas fell on deaf ears and it is thought that the Emperor Diocletian tried to make St. George deny his faith in Christ, by torturing him. St George showed incredible courage and faith and was finally beheaded near Lydda in Palestine on 23rd April, 303. In 1222, the Council of Oxford declared April 23rd to be St George's Day and he replaced Edward the Confessor as England's patron saint in the 14th century. There is much talk nowadays about the apathy surrounding Saint George's day and about what we should do to celebrate it, but we could do no worse than make St. George's commitment to stand up for the persecuted our own.

## A timely reminder please.

I have elected to take Monday as my rest day and whilst I am always around to deal with urgent matters the increasing number of calls that are prefaced with the words, "I know Monday is your rest day but...." can be just a little frustrating. If something is not urgent and it's Monday please call the Parish Office, where the ever helpful Peter will do his best to assist. Equally for Fr Robert, his rest day is Friday.

## Bookstall

It is my intention in the near future to open a bookstall, perhaps on a monthly basis at St Georges to start with and if the response is good then at St Johns. It is intended to supply Spiritual books and books explaining the basis of other faiths as well as offering material for families and children. I am not intending to compete with Waterstones or Amazon but to provide stimulating and informative reading material. Let me have your thoughts.

## What are the policies of the main political parties on the voluntary and community sector?

ELECTION HUSTINGS EVENT

Wednesday 21st April 2010, 10.30am – 12.30pm

The Great Hall, Kensington Town Hall

Come along and hear what local parliamentary candidates have to say about the issues that affect your organisation and it's work.

This event is for anybody with an interest in the voluntary and community sector including workers, volunteers, trustees and beneficiaries.

Chaired by:

Samira Ahmed, Channel 4 News

Featuring:

Sam Edwards, Alliance for Green Socialism

Sir Malcolm Rifkind, Conservative

Sam Gurney, Labour

Robin Meltzer, Liberal Democrat

## Please become a Prison volunteer

Prison Fellowship, through its volunteers, shines God's light in the darkest of places and aims to transform the lives of prisoners and their families. Do you have some spare time and want to support one of the most vulnerable groups in our society? If so, then why not consider volunteering with us?

There are many different ways in which you can get involved including:

- praying for a local prison
- supporting chaplaincy,
- fundraising/taking part in Angel Tree - a programme that provides Christmas presents to children who have one or both parents in prison
- Helping to run Sycamore Tree – our restorative justice course in prison.

If this sounds like the kind of challenge you are after then please come and join us! Together we can be God's instruments of change; to offer a message of hope instead of despair, love instead of hatred, light instead of darkness. If you want to find out more email [info@prisonfellowship.org.uk](mailto:info@prisonfellowship.org.uk) or phone 01621 843232

## Confirmation preparation.

Confirmation will be held on the 27th May at St Mary Abbots Church. Do you need to be confirmed? Are your children ready to be confirmed? Please talk with me **NOW** and we'll set up some time to talk through confirmation. Also if you think your child is old enough to receive their first Holy Communion please talk with me and we can get moving on this also. (Confirmation and First Communion are not necessarily the same thing).

**United Tuesdays & Bible Study resume this week!**



Your Vicar: Fr Michael Fuller 020 7727 9486, fax: 020 7681 2766

Email: [frmichael@stgeorgescampdenhill.com](mailto:frmichael@stgeorgescampdenhill.com)

Associate Priest: Fr Robert Thompson 07792 564869

Email: [Frr robert@stgeorgescampdenhill.co.uk](mailto:Frr robert@stgeorgescampdenhill.co.uk)



Parish Administrator: Piotr Blak 020 7221 6546 [stgeorgew8@btconnect.com](mailto:stgeorgew8@btconnect.com)

**St George's Church, Aubrey Walk, Campden Hill,**

**Kensington, London W8 7JG**

[www.stgeorgescampdenhill.com](http://www.stgeorgescampdenhill.com)

**Church Wardens:**

**Angela Lascelles 020 7229 5504**

**Christopher Buckmaster 020 7229 7508**

**Organist: Andrew Wells 07885 133817**

**Services:**

**Sundays:**

8:00 Holy Communion (Prayer Book);

10:00 Sung Eucharist & Sunday School

**Weekdays (Tuesdays to Fridays):**

8:00 Morning Prayer;

18:00 Evening Prayer; 18:30 Holy Eucharist

**Mondays:**

18:00 Prayer and Meditation

**Additionally on Wednesdays:**

12:00 Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

**Saturdays:**

8:00 Morning Prayer; 8:30 Holy Eucharist;

18:00 Evening Prayer



**St John the Baptist Church, Holland Road,**

**Kensington, London W14 8AH**

[www.stjohnthebaptisthollandroad.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptisthollandroad.com)

**Church Wardens:**

**Jenny Davenport 020 7912 7656**

**Julian Metherell 020 7610 4254**

**Organist: Paul Joslin**

**Services: Sundays: 18:30 Sung Mass**

**Confessions in both churches are heard by appointment.**



**Next week readings:**

1st: Acts 9, 36-43

2nd: Rev 7, 9-17

Gospel: John 10, 22-30

**This week readings:**

1st: Acts 9, 1-6

2nd: Rev 5, 11-14

Gospel: J 21, 1-19



I AM TRYING TO  
ADD MORE FRIENDS