

50 pence



November 2022

# The Trident



The Parish Magazine of



**Serving Hanwell and Beyond**

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## **A prayer for Autumn**

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of seasons.

As we welcome in the autumn months once again,

may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the vibrant colours of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam from our breaths in the cooler air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and that bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary and that life through you is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen

### **Copy Dates!**

Copy date for December will be Sunday 13th November

Copy date for January will be Sunday 11th December

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.

Adverts in this magazine are not necessarily endorsed by the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.



# From Father Robert

Dear Friends

I am not sure what the ecclesiastical equivalent of a 'Dear John' letter is, but this is a humble attempt at one.

When Sir Humphrey Appleby left the fictitious Department of Administrative Affairs he said to gathered colleagues, "an occasion like this engenders within one a certain emotional ambiguity and personal ambivalence. For while one is honoured by the cause of it, one is saddened by the fact of it..." , and so continues his glacial farewell speech. Finding the right words to describe this feeling is, almost inevitably, an exercise in understatement, especially when it is moving away from a place and people whom you love.

When Bishop Pete contacted me all those weeks ago, and I prayed and meditated on it, I felt rather like Old Testament characters such as Moses, Isaiah, Jonah etc who basically said, "here I am Lord, send someone else". However, as the baptised, whether ordained or not, our life is one of discipleship, which means walking in the way of the cross.

It is this sometimes painful and uncertain path, which ultimately leads to new life.

That is the hope we carry with us as we begin our farewells and moments marked with the phrase, "that will be our last..."

As a family we have been wonderfully happy here, and deeply grateful for the support and friendship particularly in recent months. Our love for you will be an enduring memory.

Can I ask that you pray for us, as surely as we will be praying for you as you enter your interregnum. Interregnums are obviously worrying because they feel uncertain. However, St Thomas' is a wonderful place and has much to offer and receive from a new priest.

Therefore, just a few words of caution.

The path through the interregnum is led by the Archdeacon, and assisted by the Area Dean and others who will help you plan for your future. The system is deliberately managed by the Archdeacon to ensure that the parish shows itself in the best and most honest light. This will begin once I leave, so can I encourage you to let the system do what it is designed to do, and resist the temptation of 'getting ahead in the game'. This will not only help the process run more smoothly, but will also reduce the stress of the wardens and lay chair. Fade, Steve and Annabel will have much to navigate

and this will not be aided by lots of individuals lobbying them. I appreciate how hard it is, because it is a place you care about, but remember those charged with managing this process for the parish are also, largely, embarking on the unknown too. The PCC understand St Thomas' well, and so too do the Diocese and Area, so time spent in prayer will at this stage be the best way forward.

Over the next few weeks I will be wearing out my knees in love, and thanks.

Continue to shine as a light in this area, and then, as Mother Julian of Norwich says in her *Revelations of Divine Love*, "all will be well, all manner of things will be well."

Your friend and priest

Fr. Robert

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Issy, Alex, Fr Robert & Sarah

Deputy Lieutenant of Greater  
London Mr. Richard Kornicki CBE  
Father Robert & Churchwarden  
Fade after the service on October  
16th





# Parish News

Perhaps headlining this month has to be my announcement that I am **leaving** in January to be the **vicar of St Martin's Church, Ruislip**. This, somewhat unexpected, turn of events is one that is mixed with excitement and deep pain as we begin as a family to say farewell to a place and people so important and loved by us. Over the next couple of months I will reflect more and update you, and I am sure the process towards a new appointment will also feature heavily in the *Trident*. Please be patient and prayerful, what is important is that the right priest is appointed, whomever she or he may be.

Our ***Caribbean and International Night*** proved to be a wonderful evening where elasticated waisted trousers were the order of the day as we encountered our world-wide feast. Nearly 50 people came to mark the occasion which also saw the showing of the powerful biopic of Aretha Franklin, 'Respect'. Thank you to all who helped. The money raised was added to the donations from the ***Thanksgiving Parish Mass on St Luke for Health Care Workers***. The money raised after Mass from the cake sale also went to Blood Cancer UK (<https://bloodcancer.org.uk/>), an organisation I am profoundly grateful to.

In sad news, our **Panto Launch** evening on 15<sup>th</sup> October did not happen as the Panto for 2023 has been cancelled. Thank you to Caroline, Anna and Sue who did so much work to get it up and running again. Unfortunately the effects of COVID and concomitant reaction of schools surrounding the demands placed on young people meant that a significant number of cast members felt unable to commit. Hopefully things will settle next year and this important community and church event will once again find its place back on the calendar.

November sees our annual act of remembrance on **Remembrance Sunday** 13<sup>th</sup> November. Also, our **Quiz Night** returns the night before on 12<sup>th</sup>. Please see Sue and Sarah for tickets!

Finally, can I thank Andrew Lumsden and Joe Metcalf who have been doing an amazing job replacing and upgrading our **exterior lights**. This has transformed the outside and made it look much safer and more welcoming; altogether now for the third Collect for Aid against perils: "Lighten our darkness Lord we pray..."

Fr. Robert

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## Would you like to help plant a tree for the Treebllee?

Despite the recent sad passing of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we are still keen to plant a small apple tree in the Church garden as part of the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC).



THE PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

The Queen's Green Canopy is a unique, UKwide tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, by inviting people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."

Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates were encouraged to plant trees from October 2021 when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of

the Jubilee year in 2022. This has now been extended to the end of March 2023 to give people the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour Her Majesty.

The Sunday School children are also going to take the opportunity to bury a time capsule to commemorate a truly memorable year.

If possible, we are hoping to do the digging and planting this November/ December (dates tbc).

If you would like to be involved in either, please do let Bess Hulme know via [besshulme@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:besshulme@yahoo.co.uk)



## St Thomas Christmas Fair Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2-4pm

Volunteers for stalls and setting up needed  
Donations needed: Cakes, handcraft Christmas decorations, Christmas cards, gifts (especially toiletries) and raffle prizes  
(Please place at the back of church)  
Please contact Kirsten if you can help  
([kirstenallen1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kirstenallen1@yahoo.co.uk))



# Goings-on at the PCC

The most recent meeting of the PCC was on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Here is a summary of the main

business that was discussed.

## **Finances**

Caroline, our Treasurer, updated us on the finances. Overall income is a bit better than expected, and more than covers a slight increase in budgeted expenditure. Congregational giving is on target for the year; the Church Hall is doing well — strongly recovering after the past two years; rental income from the church tower telecoms equipment is slightly more than expected.

## **Buildings Update**

A new noticeboard outside the Hall is being planned. The Committee looked at design drawings and agreed a suitable size for the board, from the options on offer.

Fr Robert reported that there are three sections of plasterwork within the church building that have worked loose and are at risk of falling away from the interior walls. A specialist survey has detected that the plaster contains asbestos, but its nature is such as to be very low risk to health when disturbed. Therefore, the building will not need to be closed whilst repairs are made. Scaffolding will be required, and at the same time we aim to inspect and assess the copper roof on the south side, lower level, which may require attention.

The Committee agreed to investigate the setting up of a contract for regular cleaning of rainwater gutters and downpipes. This should largely prevent future problems with the interior plasterwork and woodwork.

## **Annual Pantomime**

You may remember that the pantomime planned for January 2022 had to be cancelled because of concerns about transmission of the Covid virus. Cancellation happened after a great deal of planning and rehearsing had already taken place. Sue Cunningham reported to the Committee that it had been decided, very reluctantly, not to go ahead with a Pantomime in early 2023. It had been hoped that the 2022 production could be brought back to life for January 2023. However, this has not proved to be possible due to non-availability of several previous cast members, difficulty in involving new people (adults and children), and excessive workload on key members of the production team.

*Steve Purcell, Churchwarden.*

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## ST THOMAS' FAMILY EVENTS

DATE	WHAT'S HAPPENING?
13 November	Remembrance Sunday family service

**Pictures by the Park**  
 Bring your own Fettle & Snacks  
 Adults £5 (W/A under 12) £2



## A prayer for Remembrance

Ever-living God, We remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations,  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 Amen.

## Please pray for:

Those who are housebound or in need - Mtr Sheenagh Burrell, Heather Fernandes, Nigel Brooks, Gill Shaw, Peter Gilbert, Eileen Gilbert, Normal Dorival, Susan Cross, Marjorie Kelly, Leo T, Merfyn, Steve Purcell and John Tozer.

**Those to be baptised** - Milo Timothy Sweet-Young on 20<sup>th</sup> November

Brigit Carter whose *Requiem Mass* is on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 3pm

Father Robert and his family as they prepare to move to their new parish in Ruislip

It's back!.....

St Thomas' very popular

## Quiz night



Saturday November 12th

7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start

Come as a team or we can put you in a team

£15 adults; £10 children under 14

Fish and chip supper included but please bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles.

For more details or to book, please contact  
[sue.cunningham@mac.com](mailto:sue.cunningham@mac.com)     07850 889948

## Harvest Festival Cake Sale

Amy, Ella, Hana, Lottie, Nillie and Florence would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who bought a cake in aid of Ealing Foodbank after the Harvest Festival service on Sunday 18th September. As part of their Brownie Charity Badge the girls had baked banana bread, meringues, cup cakes, flapjacks, chocolate crispie cakes, gingerbread and lots more besides. They were supported by Amy's sisters and several Brownies who contributed even more delicious treats. Thanks to the generosity of St Thomas's congregation and the parents of the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides the cake sale raised almost £250 for the food bank and the girls are looking forward to getting their badges.



# Terracycle is back

Some of the waste streams are back but what we can collect is very specific. All the items have to be sorted by type before they are sent to Terracycle, so please keep items separate

What we now collect:

## **Pringles Tubes**

Please recycle the plastic lids yourself but put the tube with the metal base in the box. **Remember they don't want the plastic lid!**

## **Bread**

We can collect bags from bread and crumpets and similar This is sponsored by Warburtons but they will take ANY make of bread, rolls, and wraps.

## **Coffee**

We can take ground coffee bags, and coffee bean bags. This is Sponsored by Taylors of Harrogate but they will take any make of COFFEE

Please see posters on the collecting point in St Thomas car park or look on the Terracycle website.

## Concert recital by The Ramsden Family

Following last month's postponed event, our series of regular Sunday afternoon concerts resumed on 9th October with an hour's entertainment provided by The Ramsden Family. Luke Ramsden, who acted as compare for the concert, is deputy head at St Benedict's School, and is one of my counterparts at Ealing Abbey, running one of their choirs. His wife, Catherine, provided piano accompaniment for their three children, Helena, Lydia and Becky, who played a variety of solos on violin, viola, and trumpet as well as an ensemble piece involving all of them. The modest audience of around twenty people experienced high quality playing from the three girls, and seemed to greatly enjoy the experience. The next concert in our Sunday Series will be in November.

*Keith Spillett*

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## From the Ealing Foodbank

Thank you for continuing to support the foodbank.  
There are several shops locally that have collection points and they're all listed on the foodbank website.

There are other ways in which you can help.

- You can continue to leave your donations in the boxes left in our church porch. However there will be some delay in transferring it to the Foodbank warehouse.
- Another alternative is to give cash or cheque (payable to Foodbank Trussell Trust) to Nicole who will pass it on regularly.

<https://ealing.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

\*\* please remember that our magazine is produced a month in advance, so we publish the shopping list available to us at the time of going to press, So it's a good idea to check the most recent list on the website (see above) or Twitter: @EalingFoodbank or Instagram: ealingfoodbank

### THE OCTOBER SHOPPING LIST \*\*

Rice - we have enough pasta at the moment, tinned fish & meat, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), dried milk & non-dairy milk, long-life fruit juice & squash, instant coffee & instant drinking chocolate, jam & honey, tinned fruit & vegetables, tinned soup, ketchup & mayonnaise, baked beans, savoury biscuits & carckers

Thank you, but the foodbank has plenty of pasta at the moment.



## From the Editors

Do join us at our Quiz night on November 12th - back after three years! Thank you to Stephen who is going to write us a prayers for the magazine.

*Julia & Sue*



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Sunday	CLOSED



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## **Christmas Pop-in Coffee morning at St Thomas' Church Hall**

**On Friday December 2nd  
from 10am - 12pm**

**Tea, coffee and cakes**

**AND**

**Various festive attractions including a table sale,  
a cake stall and a raffle.**

**We look forward to welcoming all members of the  
community.**

# Diary Dates

## October

**Sun 30th**

**4th before Advent**



## November

**Sun 6th**

**All Saints**

**Sat 12th**

**Quiz night at St Thomas'**

**Sun 13th**

**Remembrance Sunday family service**

**Sun 20th**

**Sunday before Advent**

**Sun 27th**

**Advent Sunday**

## December

**Sun 4th**

**2nd of Advent**

**Sun 11th**

**3rd of Advent Christingle time tba**

**Sun 18th**

**4th of Advent Nine Lessons & Carols 6.30pm**

**Sat 24th**

**Children's service time TBA**

**Midnight Mass at 11.30pm**

### POP-IN

**\*POP- IN ON FRIDAYS\***

**AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH HALL  
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON**

**\*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A CHAT**

**\*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!**

**\*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!**



### November

**4th - tea, coffee and cakes**

**11th - tea, coffee and cakes**

**18th - tea, coffee and cakes**

**25th - tea, coffee and cakes**

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

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