

HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH

MAGAZINE FOR MARCH 2023



BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN LOVE, FAITH, WITNESS AND ACTION

IN THIS ISSUE

Stay awhile with God

Jan Rushton writes about the choices we can make in Lent

Charity updates

Island House Hospice Diocesan Lent Appeal Mercy Ships

All you ned to know about this month's music

"From nightly fears and fantasies"
Vivaldi's Gloria
Organ Recital
St Matthew Passion
Lauda Sion
And a review of last month's Collective
concert



HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH

[Registered Charity No. 1129264] Church Row, NW3 6UU

Parish Office: 020 7794 5808 /

vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Website: hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk /

Facebook: Hampstead Parish Church / Twitter: Hampstead_PC /

Instagram: @HampsteadPC

Youtube: youtube.com/c/hampsteadparishchurch

Sundays:

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Common Worship)

5.00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

(Morning services can be found on Facebook live and Zoom) Weekdays:

please check the weekly email—sometimes we have to make changes to this pattern*

Wednesdays at 10.15am Holy Communion in church
Mon – Fri 5.00pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
Thursdays at 8.30am Rosary prayer on Zoom
Saturday 9.00am Morning Prayer in church

For Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communions and Home Visits

please contact

Revd Graham Dunn, Curate

0207 794 5808

graham@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

^{*} to be added to the emailing list please contact the parish office vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Church Staff and Office holders

Curate

Graham Dunn 0207 794 5808 graham@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Associate Priest

Jan Rushton
Jan.rushton5@gmail.com

Readers

Handley Stevens 020 7794 0874 handleystevens@yahoo.co.uk Andrew Penny 020 7794 2763 Andrewpenny 1955@gmail.com

Director of Music

Geoffrey Webber music@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Junior Choir Director

Aidan Coburn aidan@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Administrator

Courtney Terwilliger vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

Churchwardens

Martin Evans mevans@nepgroup.com
Sheena Ginnings sheena@ginnings.co.uk

Treasurer

Inigo Woolf <u>treasurer@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk</u>

Magazine editor

Judy East judy.east@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk



March 2023

Contents

5		
Easter services 7		
we are right – <i>Yehuda Amichai</i> 8		
tes 9		
st 10		
ishton 11		
cholas Walser 15		
se Hospice – <i>Alan Brooks</i> 16		
ent Appeal 18		
os – Jane Bailey 19		
rch 19		
March – <i>Geoffrey Webber</i> 20		
22		
d Collective March concert 24		
Hampstead Collective Review of February concert		
nne Pinkerton 24		
tals 27		
loria 28		
w Passion 29		
(from Parish Pump) 30		
our diary 31		
se Hospice – Alan Brooks ent Appeal ss – Jane Bailey rch March – Geoffrey Webber 22 d Collective March concert d Collective Review of February concert nne Pinkerton tals loria w Passion (from Parish Pump) 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18		

Diary for March

•					
Wed 1 st	10.15am	Holy Communion			
	11.15am	Lent Group in the Choir Vestry			
	6.30pm	Prayer with Taizé chants			
Thu 2 nd	8.30am	Rosary prayer on zoom			
	1.00pm	Stations of the Cross			
	7.45pm	Community Choir			
Sat 4 th	9.45am	Lent Group in the Choir Vestry			
	10.00am	Gardening in the churchyard			
Sunday 5 th Lent 2					
	8.00am	Holy Communion			
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion followed by			
		Traidcraft Stall			
	5.00pm	Choral Evensong			
	•	C			
Mon 6 th	2.30pm	Lent Group in the Gregory Room			
	7.00pm	Hampstead Collective Concert – see page 21			
T 7th	•				
Tue 7 th	7.30pm	Lent Group on zoom. The link will be in the weekly emails			
Wed 8 th	10.15am	Holy Communion			
		-			

Wed 8 th	10.15am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Lent Group in the Choir Vestry
	6.30pm	Prayer with Taizé chants
Thu 9 th	8.30am	Rosary prayer on zoom
	1.00pm	Stations of the Cross
	7.45pm	Community Choir
Fri 10 th	7.30pm	Vivaldi's Gloria: Hampstead Community Choir
		concert – see page 24

Sunday 12th Lent 3

9.45am

Sat 11th

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Choral Holy Communion and Volunteers' Fair
5.00pm	Choral Evensong

Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

Mon 13 th	2.30pm	Lent Group in the Gregory Room
Tue 14 th	7.30pm	Lent Group on zoom
Wed 15 th	10.15am	Holy Communion
	11.15am	Lent Group in the Choir Vestry
	6.30pm	Prayer with Taizé chants
Thu 16 th	8.30am	Rosary prayer on zoom
	1.00pm	Stations of the Cross
	7.45pm	Community Choir
Fri 17 th	6.30pm	Organ Recital – see page 23
		Free – retiring collection
Sat 18 th	9.45am	Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

Sunday 19th – Mothering Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion10.30am All Age Communion5.00pm Choral Evensong



Mon 20th Joseph of Nazareth

2.30pm Lent Group in the Gregory Room

Tue 21st 7.30pm Lent Group on zoom

Wed 22nd 10.15am Holy Communion

11.15am Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

6.30pm Prayer with Taizé chants

Thu 23rd 8.30am Rosary prayer on zoom

1.00pm Stations of the Cross

7.45pm Community Choir

Sat 25th Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.45am Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

Daylight saving – clocks go forward one hour



Sunday 26th Passion Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Choral Holy Communion

Junior Church Passion in the churchyard

6.00pm J S Bach St Matthew Passion - see page 25

Mon 27th 2.30pm Lent Group in the Gregory Room

8.00pm {CC meeting

Tue 28th 7.30pm Lent Group on zoom

Wed 29th 10.15am Holy Communion

11.15am Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

6.30pm Prayer with Taizé chants

Thu 30th 8.30am Rosary prayer on zoom

9.45am Hampstead Parochial School Service

1.00pm Stations of the Cross

7.45pm Community Choir

Sat 1st April 9.45am Lent Group in the Choir Vestry

7.30pm Hampstead Chamber choir – see page 26

Sunday 2nd April - Palm Sunday



8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Choral Holy Communion with Blessing

of Palms and Sung Passion

5.00pm Choral Evensong

Holy Week and Easter Services

Mon – Wed 1.00pm Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday – 6th April

7.30pm Celebration of the Lord's Supper and Vigil till

midnight

Good Friday – 7th April

12 – 2pm Meditation on the Cross

2 - 3pm Liturgy of Good Friday

6.00pm A Sequence of Music and Readings

Easter Eve – 8th April

8.00pm Easter Vigil and Lighting of New Fire

Easter Day – 9th April

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Choral Holy Communion

5.00pm Choral Evensong

The Place where we are Right

Yehuda Amichai

From the place where we are right Flowers will never grow In the spring.

The place where we are right Is hard and trampled like a yard.

But doubts and loves
Dig up the world
Like a mole, a plow.
And a whisper will be heard in the place
Where the ruined
House once stood.

Jan Rushton writes...

Continuing crisp yet dry winter months lead us forward through Lent, and now into March. Our environment steeling us to address the circumstances in which we find ourselves: the first anniversary of war in Europe, the destruction of the beautiful country of Ukraine with all its ancient history, attacked by her neighbour So many, too many, lives lost and devastated As we ourselves pay a price for our support of their fight for freedom and democracy - which is our fight too. We are learning swiftly to tighten our belts - for most of us, no bad thing. As we journey through Lent 2023 we are learning that life is unpredictable. Change can happen suddenly. And bereavement of many sorts feels very real.....

Lent is that season of the Christian year when we specifically make time to stay a while with God, bringing all we are before God, staying the course as we allow those uncomfortable feelings to surface, allowing God's Holy Spirit within us to speak to us through them. Privately at home, alone in our 'chamber'. And together in our Sunday worship, our astonishing music that articulates for us in sublime manner, what we find hard to express; in the time of silence with Taizé worship on Wednesday evenings. As we share together in our Lent groups God may speak to us through each other, as in addition to our musical feasts, we enjoy an on-line visual feast of art from the National Gallery depicting the gifts of the Spirit and curated by our own former curate, Revd Dr Ayla Lepine. In all these ways a sudden flash of insight may turn our hearts around! But more usually, the turning is a gentle progress as we persevere on our journey.

Lent is a season of making choices. We may not be able to change the circumstances around us, but we do have power to choose our perception of them and how we respond. As some of you know, one of my favourite authors for all his wisdom is the Austrian Jewish psychiatrist, Viktor Frankl, and his book 'Man's Search for Meaning' (a good book for Lent!). He survived incarceration in the concentration camps of the Nazi regime though he lost his family, including his beloved wife - hope of being reunited with her was a large part of what kept him alive. Most significantly, under such enormous pressure, he came to the realisation that we may choose our attitudes. And our choice makes all the difference. As Jesus, we may choose to live with love, and loving action, as response in all our circumstances; we may choose to believe in the best in our neighbours - to which it is human nature to want to rise!

With my love and prayers for our journey together through Lent

Jan

March

Judy East

As I write we are embarking on the first full week of Lent with all its attendant activities. The Stations of the Cross are up and waiting for us, the Lent Groups are ready to begin (lots of art involved this year) and we are having a series of Taizé Prayer Groups. Is this a first for HPC? I think it may be but someone will undoubtedly prove me wrong. There is also much music to be enjoyed this month, from the Collective on 6th to The Passion on 26th and, just sneaking in to this issue if not into March, the Hampstead Chamber Choir on 1st April. Having welcomed James Sherlock at the end of February we are delighted that another former organist is represented in the evensong music and hope Simon Lawford will join the congregation at evensong on 5th. If I waxed lyrical over Messiaen in January, it was Simon who taught me to love Vierne. Though if Simon remembers me it's likely to be because I once locked him in the church – and this before the days of mobile phones!



The Creative Crafts Group have been busy making what have become known to us as "Letchworth Chicks". One flock has already departed for the Garden House Hospice in Letchworth and more will be setting off later this month. Filled with a well-known brand of

chocolate egg they are sold in shops in the Letchworth area to raise money for the Hospice – and they sell 1,000s! And if you ask why Letchworth? Well, we had a doctor, who married our curate, who is now their Medical Director and recently elected as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. Congratulations Dr Sarah Bell! We'll still be stitching away on Wednesday 15th so why not join us? Yellow wool and needles can be provided.

Temptation - Adam and Eve A sermon preached for Lent 1 by Jan Rushton Readings: Gen 2.7-9; 3.1-7; Romans 5.12-19; Matthew 4.1-11

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal....

He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." Genesis 3.1-3

On Wednesday we came together to be ashed. Today we set out on our first Sunday Lent. And as we do every year, we join with Jesus in his temptations - as we seek to resist our own. Each year Jesus' temptations linked to a significant moment in the story of God's relationship with human beings as recounted in the Hebrew scriptures.

Out in that Judean desert, it would seem that Jesus' unfolding understanding of who he was, the growing urgency of God's call on his life, all this coming together in the powerful event of his baptism, when he hears in the voice of God the profound assurance that he is indeed, 'God's beloved Son', all combine to throw him into some sort of serious mental collapse. The enormous power he has at his command is overwhelming, and the suffering he sees, waiting ahead, waiting for him, together precipitate a crisis.

Jesus is 'tempted' forty days in the wilderness. This year our lectionary readings take us back to the beginning of the biblical narrative, to that well known yet enigmatic story, of Adam and Eve eating that apple. The story of 'The Fall' as Paul calls it, in his version of what this allegory means. A thorough dose of temptation and its dire consequences! Eve tempted by the Serpent. To eat of the forbidden tree, that tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for it is a delight to the eyes - and to be desired to make one wise. Adam tempted by Eve. But now, with their new knowledge, they become aware of their nakedness, an awareness

which troubles them - and they experience a *new* emotion: shame. Afraid, they hide from God.

Building on Paul's reflection on this story, through the early centuries of the Church, and culminating in Augustine's doctrine of Original Sin, this story has become read, not simply as allegory to explain suffering in the world, but as warning of the dire perils of sexual relationship! All sexual relationships. Sexual relationship per se come to be seen as source, and means of transmission of our sinful condition from generation to generation - corrupting even creation itself. Sex, the 'original' sin. The fatal consequence of which is death, Better beware the profound dangers which surround that astonishing creature, woman.

But, is this right? *Is* the primordial transgression in this story, sex? Is it sex which wreaks such catastrophic consequences on the whole world? It is not the issue with which Jesus wrestles in the desert.

According to the account of their creation, these first humans have already experienced the joy of sexual union. God created woman to be companion to 'Adam', and when God presents him with his woman, the man delights in her. They cleave to one another and become one flesh. Thus the notion that sex has newly entered the world at the point of disobedience in the Garden - destroying the goodness of God's created order, such an idea is *not* present in this allegory. And such thinking does not form part of the ancient Hebrew mindset.

So if not sex, what is this dangerous, tempting fruit, the knowledge of good and evil? What is it that God has wished to *protect* his first created couple from? What is their lost innocence about? Contemporary scholarship has suggested a different focus.

This story in the Hebrew is written with a sharp pun on words. The adjective used to describe the serpent, *arum*, means 'clever', while the word *arummim* describes Adam and his woman as 'naked'. In the

closeness of these Hebrew words, is the author suggesting here, that these first humans, in their disobedience have now become 'clever'?

In the story, compiled in the time of the early Israelite monarchy, the figure of the serpent is not an intrinsically evil being, such as much later notions of the figure of Satan. And maybe we should be taking the naming of this forbidden tree more literally! In the eating of this fruit is the acquisition of *knowledge*, a knowing of the difference between good and evil - and thus the loss of innocence. Here God's first humans have gained power to *control*, power over creation - and, the almighty struggle for power over one another.Biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann puts it like this: 'In God's Garden, *as God wills it*, there is mutuality and equity.

In God's Garden now, permeated by human distrust, there is *control* and *distortion*.' Potential for exploitation has entered the world, the tragic unravelling of the connectedness that had been an integral part of God's creation. And there are consequences. In our vulnerability human beings will live now by the sweat of their brow, and women shall experience, rather than partnership with men, domination.

God had warned them, eating of the forbidden tree spells death. But they do *not* die. In God's change of mind here, we may see that the prohibition on taking, eating this fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, had been imposed for their protection. They will loose that exquisite intimacy they had enjoyed with God - but God is still very much present around them. He continues to protect them, giving them the skins of animals for cover. And, in the fulness of time, God will enter human society in human flesh, will come to *redeem* this 'Fall' by the free gift of his Son. A gift which brings justification - or, put more simply justice.

This story of Adam and Eve is a meditation throwing light on life as the people of Israel experience it: a troubled, anxiety-ridden existence, lacking justice and war-torn - much like our contemporary world. The

gross inequalities between rich and poor. Abuse of power by a wealthy elite.

The significant and remarkable thrust of this story, is that it tells us such hierarchy, exploitation and inequality are precisely *not* God's plan for humanity. It is the abuse of human freedom that is the root of evil and suffering. In which of course, sexual exploitation is a major part. It does matter. This ancient story tells of a deeper root of our malaise, filled as it is, with the suggestion that life could be another way.

The temptations faced by Jesus in the wilderness are each those of using the divine power he possesses for quick-fix, self-centred purposes; gaining a following and the adoration of the crowd by offering bread without work; dazzlingly with miraculous feats defying the laws of nature; the circumventing of the real work of caring relationships; selling his soul in manipulation and deceit born of his superior abilities; an overbearing focus on self, and an absence of loving kindness, the breaking down of trust in thoughtless self-assertion.

Maybe our presiding sin is rather, our failure to take sufficient interest in, awareness of, and care for, the well-being and dignity of our neighbour. A care which does not fail, or count the cost, or ever turn away Amen.

(More sermons can be found on our website hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk/what-we-do/sermons)

Musings on daily life (from Parish Pump)

- A day without sunshine is like, well, night.
- I am in shape. Round is a shape.
- I plan on living forever. So far, so good.
- What's the perfect gift for the person who has everything?
 Storage space.

PCC Report

Nick Walser, PCC Secretary

The PCC meeting on 6 February came soon after the Bishop's announcement that Jeremy would no longer be our Vicar, and provided the PCC with its first opportunity to discuss the situation. For the first part of the meeting, Bishop Rob Wickham (Bishop of Edmonton) and Mother Carol Barrett Ford (Camden Area Dean) joined us to share their thoughts and to offer their support to the PCC and congregation.

As we move forward, we will continue to work on our new Mission Action Plan which will identify the parish's priorities and objectives over the next five years. This will be an important component of the information that will be used in the recruitment of a new Vicar.

As part of our regular business agenda, we approved the budget for 2023 and agreed to go ahead with recruitment of a new part-time administrative assistant to provide additional support in the Parish Office. This should allow Courtney to focus on supporting our work with children and young people, as well as the website and communications.

We received an update on the planned repairs and improvements to the roof of the choir vestry, which may be able to proceed later this year subject to receiving planning permission from Camden Council.

We also formally approved the Annual Report and Accounts for 2022, which will be presented at the APCM on 24 April, and voted to co-opt Edward Armstrong as a new member of the PCC.

The PCC's next scheduled meeting is on Monday 27 March.



CHARITIES

AFRICA

ZIMBABWE

"Our

years

current

(1) Island Hospice Zimbabwe – one of the charities supported by the parish.

A report by Alan Brooks, UK Trustee and Director, Island Hospice and Bereavement Service (UK)

In 2022 Island Hospice and Bereavement Service (UK) responded to the following request by the Zimbabwean Charity that we support, requesting help in purchasing a replacement vehicle for their old vehicle in Bulawayo.

small sedan, a Nissan March 2007 model, mileage 213273km which we have had for eight

has become very expensive to maintain as

it often breaks down. Major issues the vehicle are overheating, oil leaks, suspension BULAWAYO issues poor engine performance. This year and had about five breakdowns enroute to do alone we have home visits or other branch errands. The underbody of the vehicle is also worse for wear as it lets in dust into the trunk. The vehicle has low ground clearance which is not suitable for the road conditions in most of the areas we visit. We estimate the current value of the car at USD800-1000. We have been using the vehicle to cover the greater Bulawayo area and travel a total distance of about 40km per home/hospital visit at average three visits per week. We see about 4 patients together with their families and carers per trip. With a better performing vehicle our travel time can be reduced which will allow us to see additional clients and/or spend more time with clients hence improving the quality of care we provide to our patients and their families. A newer vehicle will also reduce our operational costs and improve the financial performance of the branch which will benefit the patient by availing funds for the provision of essential medication for free to the more vulnerable patients".

We were advised that as a UK based charity, raising funds abroad we would be able to import a new 4x4 duty free and decided to purchase a vehicle from South Africa. This would be a lot cheaper and a far better option than trying to source a second-hand vehicle within Zimbabwe, where prices were increasing as they were in the UK because of the shortages as we came out of the pandemic. In the end it took nearly eight months dealing with the paperwork, border delays, other vehicles on the transporter causing delays as they awaited clearance, etc. Finally in September the vehicle arrived in Bulawayo, and I attach a report prepared by the branch

REPORT ON SUZUKI VITARA BREEZA The work of the Island Bulawayo Branch has become much easier after receiving the Suzuki Vitara Breeza.

To date, the car has travelled over two thousand kilometres (2000km). Of this mileage, 3% has been accumulated by administrative work which includes



day-to-day errands to ensure the smooth running of the office, and 97% of the mileage is accrued from projects and home and hospital visits to patients.

Bulawayo is currently implementing two projects namely the Supporting Older Person Project and Oak Project. The former aims to improve the lives of older people living in peri-urban Bulawayo whereas the latter project aims to see sustained and quality palliative care provided in Bulawayo. The activities of both projects, in which the car plays a pivotal role, will ensure that palliative care is integrated for continuity and sustainability upon completion of the projects. This will be achieved by building local professional and community human resources' capacities in providing palliative care and training older

person champions. The condition of the roads in the peri-urban areas, and some of the areas where our clients live, had previously presented challenges to carrying out these activities. The Suzuki allows the Bulawayo team to reach these patients with greater ease and more cost-effectively than the previous vehicle through improved fuel consumption and lower service and costs. There is now a greater appreciation of the need to integrate palliative care into the provision of holistic health care resulting in a greater demand for Island's services. Given the current economic challenges facing most Zimbabweans, Island finds itself working with more patients who are unable to pay for the services it provides. Donations such as this one, allow Island to continue to provide its services impactfully.

Island Hospice and Bereavement Service (UK) has been the recipient of funds from St John's for the past few years, and this vehicle (that cost US\$15,000) was funded by unrestricted donations made by three churches, a community charity based in Surrey and an American individual who is a palliative care academic living in California. These donations are very gratefully received and go a long way to improving the lives of the people that the charity are able to reach.

(2) London Diocesan Lent Appeal

Mozambique Conflict Trauma Support: Healing the memories

The Bishop of Edmonton, Rob Wickham, and Archbishop Justin travelled to Mozambique in November 2022, to celebrate the inauguration of the new province IAMA (Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola).

The trip included not only the celebrations but also a visit to Pemba and Chiure in North Mozambique to meet with people who have been traumatised by conflict. Since 2017, over a million people living in northern Mozambique have been displaced by a violent insurgency and 4,000 have been killed.

The stories they heard were heart-breaking, and the Diocese of London's 2023 Lent Appeal will raise money to train leaders in Mozambique who can provide pastoral care and support for those with trauma. Many professionals have said that their need for trauma counselling is as great as their need for food, but agencies and organisations do not have funds for this.

The Anglican Diocese of Nampula has been working with internally displaced people (IDP's) for the last couple of years. The church there has a vision to widen their community development work, and to create a trauma support project which begins to 'Curar as Memórias'... 'Heal the memories'.

To find out more or donate to the appeal please visit:

london.anglican.org/lentappeal2023

Or scan the QR code



(3) Mercy Ships – Used Postage Stamps requested

Jane Bailey

Please donate used postage stamps in aid of Mercy Ships: there is a box at the back of church. Please trim to leave ½ cm paper round each stamp.

Mercy Ships is a global Christian charity which has two state-of-the art hospital ships staffed by international volunteers. The ships spend several months in each port giving free surgery and medical



attention to thousands of patients and also teaching local healthcare professionals. Their current focus is on West Africa but since its inception in 1978 Mercy Ships has worked in over 55 countries and helped over 2.8 million people. For more information please

see: https://www.mercyships.org.uk/

Readings for March

10.30am 5.00pm

Lent 2 -5th March

Genesis 12.1-4a or Romans 4.1-5,13-17 Numbers 21.4-9 John 3.1-17 Luke 14.27-33

Lent 3 – 12th March

Exodus 17.1-7 or Romans 5.1-11 Joshua 1.1-9

John 4.3-42 Ephesians 6.10-20

Lent 4/Mothering Sunday – 19th March

Tbc Micah 7 or Prayer of

Manasseh / James 5

Lent 5 – 26th March

Ezekiel 37.1-14 or Romans 8.6-11 St Matthew Passion

John 11.1-45

MUSIC SECTION

Music for March

Geoffrey Webber

Our music for March culminates with the singing of Bach's St Matthew Passion on the 26th, but before then we perform a variety of Lenten fare. The organ music will be notably different in tone from usual, being quieter and more contemplative, with some settings of Lenten chants and chorales. Amongst the less-well-known composers we encounter music by the blind Spanish organist Pablo Bruna (1611-79) who worked in Daroca in the region of Zaragoza, Aragon. On the 19th March we hear two works by him, one in an expressive harmonicbased idiom (the style known in Spain as de falsas), and the other with a solo line for the right hand (mano derecho) designed to be played on Spanish organs where the single keyboard was effectively divided in the middle so that the stops could be used either in the bass or the treble range. On the same day we hear music by the French organist and composer Jeanne Demessieux (1921-68), a pupil of Marcel Dupré and famous as the first woman organist to receive a recording contract. Her seven Méditations on the Holy Spirit were probably inspired by her work as Organist of *Église du Saint-Esprit*, a cavernous neo-Byzantine-style church in the 12th *arrondissement* in Paris.

Some of the music at Evensong has been chosen to fit with the church's Lenten study of the Fruits of the Spirit. We would not normally sing William Byrd's anthem *Sing joyfully* during Lent, but joy is the focus on 5th March. This service also sees the London première of a setting of the Preces & Responses by former Director of Music at Hampstead PC, Simon Lawford, based on Allegri's famous chant for Psalm 51, known as his 'Miserere'. Simon hopes to attend the service, so those who recall his time here may wish to see him afterwards. (No, his setting doesn't feature top Cs...). The other anthems for the 'Fruits' are *O pray for the peace of Jerusalem* by Howells on the 12th and the *Geistliches Lied* by Brahms on the 19th, a text by 17th-century poet Paul Flemming.

Perhaps the strangest piece to be performed this month occurs at Evensong on the 19th in relation to Charles Wood's splendid Latin Nunc dimittis in B flat. I was recently asked by a colleague which setting of the Magnificat I normally choose to sing with Wood's Nunc, since the piece was originally composed for Compline at Westminster Cathedral and so has no Magnificat to accompany it. The obvious setting would be the Latin Magnificat in B flat by Charles Stanford, a virtuoso piece for unaccompanied double choir with echoes of Bach's Latin Magnificat at the start. However, this is long and demanding, and with limited rehearsal time normally available a shorter setting would be more practicable. Having myself recorded two CDs of music by Wood and being familiar with most of the rest of his choral output, I decided to have a go at composing a new companion setting myself in a pastiche of Wood's style. It is therefore in six parts (like Wood's Nunc), makes reference to plainchant (tone v), and finds melodic and harmonic inspiration in Wood's most beloved 19th-century composers Beethoven, Brahms and Wagner. I look forward to receiving comments of whatever nature after the performance, at which point I shall decide whether or not to hit the delete button.

For the performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion on the 26th in place of Evensong we will be joined once again by the Baroque Collective led by Alison Bury, and two of our regular singers, Ruairi Bowen and James Geidt, will be Evangelist and Christus respectively. In fact most of our regular team will be singing and the arias will be divided between them. This time the performance will be a little different as we'd like to encourage members of the congregation to join in with the singing of some of the chorales. Words and music will be provided in the booklet, which will also feature a new translation prepared by Anne and Handley Stevens of much of the non-biblical text used in the work. The text will be given both in German and English for those who prefer to sing in English. We hope that this may increase the sense of involvement of everyone in the church during the performance. We begin at 6 pm, and it should end around 9 pm.

Music List for March

Sunday 5th March – 2nd Sunday of Lent 10.30 am. Holy Communion

Organ Prelude *Kyrie* (Messe della Madonna) Girolamo Frescobaldi Opening Hymn 476

Mass setting (Ky/S&B/AD) Mass in A minor (Op. 197) Josef Rheinberger

Gradual Psalm 121 Tone vii/6

Offertory Hymn 68

Communion Motet Try me, O God Charles Wood

Post-communion Hymn 382

Organ Postlude Passacaglia (BuxWV 210) Dieterich Buxtehude

5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Adagio* (Sonata No. 1 in F minor) Felix Mendelssohn Introit *I will arise* Charles Wood

Preces & Responses (after Gregorio Allegri) Simon Lawford Psalm 135 Francis Pott

Canticles *Evening Service in E Minor* Daniel Purcell

Anthem *Sing joyfully* William Byrd

Hymn 400 (t. 311) Final Amen William Mundy Organ Postlude *Herzliebster Jesu* (Op. 122) Johannes Brahms

Sunday 12th March – 3rd Sunday of Lent 10.30 am. Holy Communion

Organ Prelude *Durch Adams Fall ist gantz verderbt* (BuxWV 183)

Dieterich Buxtehude

Opening Hymn 333

Mass setting (Ky/S&B/AD) Missa tempore Quadragesima Michael Haydn

Gradual Psalm 95 Tone iii/4

Offertory Hymn 280

Communion Motet Tantum ergo (MH 773) Michael Haydn

Post-communion Hymn 94

Organ Postlude Fuque in D minor C. P. E. Bach

5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund* (BWV 621) J. S. Bach Introit *O Lord, in thy wrath* Orlando Gibbons

Preces & Responses (after Gregorio Allegri) Simon Lawford

Psalm 40 George Thalben-Ball

Canticles The Second Service John Sheppard

Anthem *O pray for the peace of Jerusalem* Herbert Howells Hymn 73

Final Amen William Mundy

Organ Postlude Fuque (Sonata VI/ii) Felix Mendelssohn

Sunday 19th March – 4th Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday 10.30 am. All-Age Holy Communion

Organ Prelude *Tiento de falsas de 2º tono* Pablo Bruna Opening Hymn 272

Mass setting (Ky/S&B/AD) *Missa brevis* G. P. da Palestrina Gradual Psalm 34.11-20 Tone vii/2

Offertory Hymn 137

Communion Motet *Ecce nunc tempus acceptabile* Francisco Guerrero Post-communion Hymn 186

Organ Postlude Tiento de 10 tono de mano derecho Pablo Bruna

5 pm. Evensong

Organ Prelude *Consolateur* (Sept Méditations sur le Saint-Espirit)

Jeanne Demessieux

Introit Hide not thou thy face John Farrant

Preces & Responses (after Gregorio Allegri) Simon Lawford

Psalm 23 Henry Walford Davies

Canticles Magnificat in B flat Geoffrey Webber

Nunc dimittis in B flat Charles Wood

Anthem Geistliches Lied Johannes Brahms

Hymn 481

Final Amen William Mundy

Organ Postlude Sicilienne (Suite, Op. 5) Maurice Duruflé

Sunday 26th March – Passion Sunday 10.30 am. Holy Communion

Organ Prelude Christe, du Lamm Gottes (BWV 619) J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn 613 (NEH supplement)

Mass setting (Ky/S&B/AD) Mass for Four Voices William Byrd

Gradual Psalm 130 John Goss

Offertory Hymn 83

Communion Motet Look down, O Lord William Byrd

Post-communion Hymn 446

Organ Postlude Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß (BWV 622)

J. S. Bach

6 pm. The St Matthew Passion - J. S. Bach

The Choir of Hampstead Parish Church with The Baroque Collective

Joe Hyam *Organ Scholar*

Aidan Coburn Director of the Junior & Community Choirs

Joshua Ryan *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*

Geoffrey Webber Director of Music

The Hampstead Collective

'From Nightly Fears and Fantasies'

Monday, 6 March 2023 19:00 - 20:30

Music for compline and vespers

Works by Tallis, Sheppard, Gabrieli and Monteverdi professional vocal sextet directed by Malachy Frame

Wine will be served

Tickets **£15.00**

Free entry for under 18s Thehampsteadcollective.com

Small Matter for Wonder – Review of the

Hampstead Collective concert on 6th February
Suzanne Pinkerton

It might seem an odd way to start a concert review but one of the pleasures was the very well-produced programme. The programme notes were very informative, and as some of the music was not well known, we needed them.

It was also very welcome to get proper biographies of the singers – I found out things I didn't realise and I know them all! – and also to find out about the Hill Quartet, of which I'd never heard, and about the career of the pianist.

The programme was an excellent idea, using four singers. Each of them sang something which was first performed by that type of voice, except that we had a countertenor instead of a mezzo. It's good to see the Collective bringing in an audience which is not the congregation, and a good idea that the concerts are not over-long. I think, with this kind of repertoire, that was probably enough in one go. I personally found it interesting that all these composers are, or were, alive in my lifetime, and there may have been other people there who felt the same.

Off we went with countertenor Patrick Terry. His voice is familiar to me from RAM days, I found it impressive then, it's even more impressive now, and it was very nice to meet him again. He met the challenge of having to start unaccompanied in great style, specially as the quartet started straight after him and it would have been disastrous if anything had gone wrong.

Next up was Christine Buras, elegantly gowned as usual, in green. As the programme went on one began to realise there is a definite soundworld of music written in the earlier to mid-twentieth century and it would be quite easy to make a guess if you didn't know. This group was with piano and Chad Vindin described himself in the programme very aptly as a collaborative pianist, which is exactly what he is. You were very conscious of his support for the singer. It's many years since Gerald Moore wrote the book "Am I too loud?" and the accompanist has been an equal partner for some time!

Christine's voice has come on a lot since she came the church and varies far more in light and shade. She's moving into opera too, so her career seems to be developing nicely.

A lovely performance was then given by mezzo Cath Backhouse and cellist Jacob Garside - at the bar. It was the interval.

Christine was the only lady, so it was over to the gentleman in the second half, starting with our recent baritone, Malachy Frame, ex-RAM, who has been replaced by James Geidt, ex-RAM. If anyone wonders why he is no longer in our choir, though he has kept his links with the Collective, all they have to do is read the bit about him in the programme. You know you can rely upon Malachy to do a good job, and that is exactly what he did, with very professional expert collaboration from the Hill Quartet.

We ended with our long-serving tenor, Aidan Coburn. Aidan started in the choir so young he must have notched up close on 20 years already. He's branched into conducting with the Junior Choir and the Community Choir. Malachy had sung "Dover Beach" but Aidan had quartet and piano. I hadn't heard him sing this kind of repertoire and found it suited him well. I don't know who sorted out who sung what, but they got it right.

I look forward to Mr and Mrs Sherlock, and then Malachy directing a group of singers in Renaissance church music. And I should have mentioned what an excellent idea it was to have the texts of the songs!

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

17th March 2023

Kyoko Canaway

Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge

Music by Mendelssohn, Bach, Jackson & Sanders

14th April 2023

Geoffrey Webber

Hampstead Parish Church

Music by Böhm, Franck & Howells

HAMPSTEAD COMMUNITY CHOIR

ANTONIO VIVALDI GLORIA

Conducted by Aidan Coburn

Free entry

with a retiring colletion for Foodbank Aid

Friday 10th March 2023 at 7.30 pm

HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU

Tube: Hampstead (Northern Line) Buses: 46, 268 Parking is difficult in the immediate vicinity

Information 020 7794 5808

hampsteadcommunitychoir.org.uk

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN-AT-HAMPSTEAD



Sunday 26th March 2023 at 6.00 pm

Evangelist: Ruairi Bowen Chris

Christus: James Geidt

The Choir of Hampstead Parish Church with The Baroque Collective Leader: Alison Bury

Directed by Geoffrey Webber

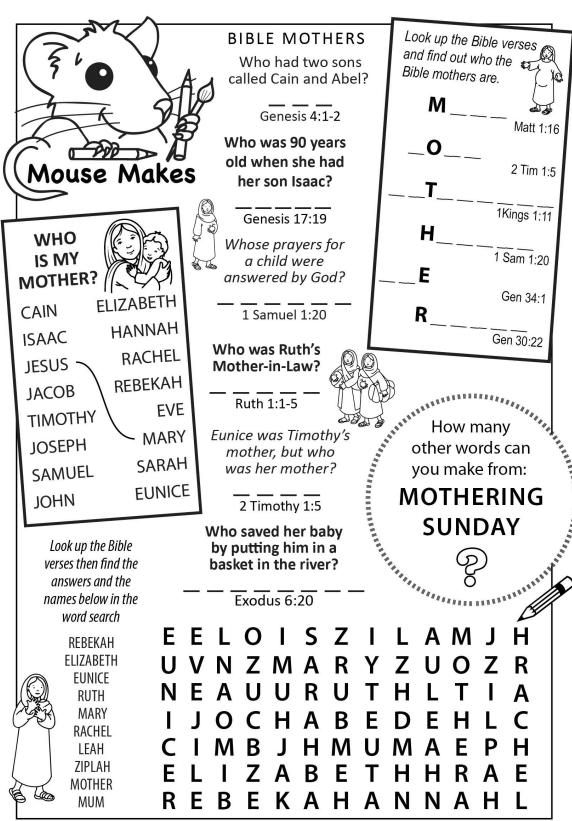
Free admission with a retiring collection for The Diocese of London Lent Appeal 2023 Mozambique Conflict Trauma Support



Church Row London NW3 6UU 020 7794 5808

hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk fom@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk





Mar23 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Some dates for your diary:

April

Holy Week and Easter

3rd – 5th Mon – Wed 1.00pm Holy Communion

6th Maundy Thursday

7th Good Friday

8th Easter Eve

9th Easter Day

24th Annual Parochial Church Meeting

May

6th – Coronation Day

28th – Pentecost

<u>June</u>

30th – Summer Nights Concert

<u>July</u>

6th- 8th Hampstead Players' summer production of *Measure for*

Measure

<u>August</u>

Week of 31st July – Holiday in Hampstead

<u>September</u>

3rd – Backpack Sunday

<u>October</u>

1st – Harvest Thanksgiving : All Age service

8th – Dedication Sunday

November

5th – All Saints

IIth - Come and Sing Brahms' Requiem

12th – Remembrance

18th - Craft Fair

26th – Christ the King

 $30^{th} - 2^{nd}$ Dec: Hampstead Players' autumn production of My

Fair Lady

December

3rd – Advent : All Age service in the morning,

Advent Carol Service in the evening

17th – Nine Lessons and Carols