

**Hampstead Parish Church**

# **Magazine for February 2025**

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

**The importance of  
photographs**  
Mother Carol writes

**Music for February**  
and a brief look at  
what Holy Week has in

**Sidwell Memorial  
Recital**  
With  
Rebekah Nießer-Jones  
Eoghan Desmond  
Jo Ramadan



**Racial Justice  
Sunday**

**Lent Reading**  
and parish groups

**Charity News**  
Children's Society  
&  
C4WS Night Shelter

## **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

Instagram: @HampsteadPC / X: @Hampstead\_PC

Youtube: youtube.com/c/hampsteadparishchurch

### **Sunday worship:**

8.00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.30am Choral Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
5.00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

### **Weekday worship:**

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

But please check the weekly email—sometimes we have to  
make changes to our pattern of worship\*

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

please contact The Vicar

Revd Carol Barrett Ford

**0207 794 5808**

vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

\* to be added to the email list please contact the parish office  
vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

## **Church Staff and Office holders**

### **Vicar**

Revd Carol Barrett Ford 0207 794 5808  
vicar@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Curate**

Revd Yin-An Chen  
curate@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Readers**

Handley Stevens 020 7794 0874 - handleystevens@yahoo.co.uk  
Andrew Penny 020 7794 2763 - Andrewpenny1955@gmail.com

### **Director of Music**

Geoffrey Webber - music@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Junior Choir Director**

Aidan Coburn - aidan@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Organist & Assistant Director of Music**

Joshua Ryan - organist@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Administrators**

Courtney Terwilliger - Courtney@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk  
Huw Robinson - Huw@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Churchwardens**

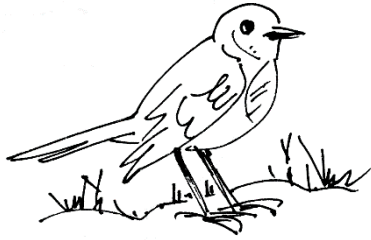
Sheena Ginnings - sheena.ginnings@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk  
Angela Gardner – angelamgardner@btinternet.com

### **Treasurer**

Inigo Woolf - treasurer@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk

### **Magazine editor**

Judy East - judy.east@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk



# February 2025

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# Diary for February

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> 10.00am Gardening group in the churchyard

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation of Christ in the Temple / Candlemas

8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Choral All Age Service  
 5.00pm Choral Evensong followed by sherry with the Choir



Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> 7.00pm Hampstead Collective concert – see page 21

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion

Thu 6<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Community Choir

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Sidwell Memorial Recital – see page 23

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> before Lent / Racial Justice Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Choral Holy Communion  
 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion

Thu 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Community choir

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Junior Church outing to Messy Church at St Paul's

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Choral Holy Communion (half term, no children's groups)  
 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion

Thu 20<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Community Choir

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.00am Gallery cleaning – all most welcome to come and help!

4.00pm Organ recital – see page 22



### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> before Lent**

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Choral Holy Communion (half term, no children's groups)
- 5.00pm Choral Evensong

Wed 26<sup>th</sup> 10.15am Holy Communion

Thu 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Community Choir

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Junior Church outing to Luxmuralis at St Paul's

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March Next before Lent**

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Choral Holy Communion
- 5.00pm Choral Evensong

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## **The Vicar writes**

*If I had a photograph of you,  
something to remind me...*

In my family home, tucked under my parent's bed there is a large old-fashioned suitcase, probably purchased in the late 1950s. It is full of polaroid photos, dating back to the early 60s when my parents were 'courting'. As a child it was one of my greatest joys to heave the suitcase out and pore over the photos. They began with black and white 'snaps'; my mother and father looking impossibly young on a visit to London, my mother feeding the pigeons in Trafalgar Square. Trips to the seaside with their friends, wedding photos from various relations, and my own parents' wedding. The first photos of me (still in black and white) and then my little sister. The clothes and the hairstyles changed as the decades passed – a window into our family life right up until the early 2000s. People's family photographs intrigue me and I am genuinely interested in images of the 'younger self'. Photos can also be a little mysterious, I am put in mind of Steven Poliakoff's wonderful drama 'Shooting the Past', which dealt with the proposed sale of a large photographic collection. In one extraordinary section

the life of a woman is traced from her girlhood in Germany to her last years in London simply through photographs.

I remembered our suitcase of photos while browsing an exhibition at the Tate Britain a couple of weeks ago. 'The 80s - Photographing Britain' is an interesting mix of social, political and artistic photography spanning the decade. (I'm afraid I couldn't resist starting this article with a reference to 80s popular music—the two lines above are from the song 'Wishing' by the band 'A Flock of Seagulls'). Some of the images in the exhibition are famous and I had seen them before. I was thrilled to see images by Martin Parr and Chris Killip—two of my favourite photographers—as they focus on people and place, managing to catch the 'unusual in the commonplace'.

I suppose that in this day and age of social media and cameras on our phones it is easy to forget that there was once a time when we could not document every single occasion in our lives, and that having pictures of family and friends was once the preserve of the relatively well-off. There is—of course—a balance to be struck between images and reality. As one wise priest has said to me 'look with your eyes, not the camera phone'. And yet I am very glad that the old suitcase is under the bed, holding the memories of my family, a window into the lives of those whom I love.

## *Mother Carol*

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“Love all God’s creation, the whole and every grain of sand of it. Love every leaf, every ray of God’s light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery of things. Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day. And you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love.”

*From The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoyevsky)*

# February

*Judy East*

“February fill dyke”

“February brings the rain that  
Thaws the frozen lake again.”

Or, as Flanders and Swan put it ...

“February’s ice and sleet  
Freeze the toes right off your feet.”<sup>1</sup>

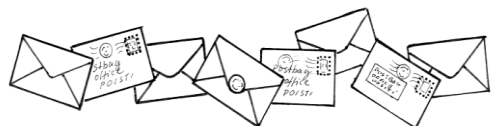
February always seems to get a bad press but really is it so bad? The days are getting longer so even if the sun isn’t giving off much warmth it is potentially shining on us for a bit longer each day. There’s lots to do – everyone’s back from their Christmas and New Year breaks and have mostly got over their January blues.

## What can we look forward to in February?

Junior Church have an exciting term ahead – do look at their leaflets. Even if you don’t have children it’s interesting to see what a substantial proportion of our congregation are up to – there’s an outline of their activities further on in this issue. The music department are in full swing, and we have Geoffrey Webber’s notes on the month’s music as always, along with the list of service music. There’s also the Sidwell Recital, the Hampstead Collective, an Organ recital – details of all these further on as well as on posters and flyers; the Hampstead Players have been inviting proposals for their summer production – it’ll be interesting to see what they decide on. And, although unusually Lent doesn’t begin until March, we have news of the Lent groups and some book suggestions.

## Also in March..... The Voluntary Rate

An important date for your diaries is Saturday **8<sup>th</sup> March** when we will again be preparing the letters for the



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<sup>1</sup> *February Fill Dyke*, from a popular country rhyme was, rather confusingly, used as the title of a 19<sup>th</sup> century painting by Benjamin Williams Leader of a watery November landscape.



voluntary rate by hand. In recent years it's all been posted, so, in an effort to retain more of the income from this project, we plan to prepare (put the letters in envelopes) ourselves - AND THEN DELIVER THEM! Yes, we used to hand deliver all 4,500 of them and whilst that's more challenging these days because so many properties have security doors/gates, we intend to give it a go.

Of course the VR isn't just about money, it's also a chance to say "Hello, we're here for you" to all the residents of the parish. An important part of our ministry. Do make a note in your diaries now to help on 8<sup>th</sup> – it's actually quite an enjoyable day, you can chat as you work, and lunch is provided. And the more helpers we have the quicker it will get done. Then get your comfiest shoes out and prepare to walk the parish. Under the guidance for levying a Voluntary Rate the letters should be delivered by the end of the month – a suitably Lenten task perhaps?

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## Baptism

*A sermon preached by Fr Yin-An Chen on 19<sup>th</sup> January*

Last week, I went down to the Crypt with our Junior Choir to reflect on Christ's baptism. Our young people, as always, offered sharp insights through their questions. (They never disappoint me!)

One boy asked thoughtfully, 'Why do we baptise infants when Jesus was baptised as an adult?' A teenage girl eagerly responded with theological precision: 'It is because of original sin. Since we're born with sin, we need salvation through baptism as early as possible—especially considering infant mortality rates in ancient times!'

As a theological skeptic rather than just an RE teacher, I posed a challenging question: 'If baptism is about cleansing, how can we ensure we remain clean until death? If we know we'll sin again, why baptise so early when we only have one chance? Why shower before playing football if you only get one shower in your life?' (I confess to being a somewhat naughty curate in stirring up such debate!)

We often miss baptism's deeper meaning when we reduce it to mere sin-washing, like taking a spiritual shower. We long for something with a lasting impact—a magical transformation that would permanently free us from sin and failure. But in focusing on this, we forget the crucial question: What comes after this one-time baptism?

In our faith journey, we frequently demand immediate signs from God. When instant results do not appear, we question, complain, and doubt. We may even reject God for not meeting our efficiency-driven expectations of immediate problem-solving.

Today's reading from Isaiah reminds us of God's covenant faithfulness amid apparent silence. The prophet spoke to people in desperate circumstances, not unlike our own. When we ask, 'If God exists, why does not he stop wars or deliver us from our enemies?' we echo their struggles. Yet Isaiah's prophetic tradition persistently affirms God's promises—even when God's kingdom seems far from restored.

Isaiah uses powerful imagery: God's people will be a 'crown of beauty' and a 'royal diadem'. They will no longer feel abandoned or forsaken. God will delight in them. Isaiah proclaims with conviction that 'the time' will come!

This theme of divine timing resonates in John's account of the Cana wedding. When Jesus says 'My hour has not yet come,' He refers to his future glorification through crucifixion. Yet he doesn't abandon the celebration to empty wine jars. Instead, Jesus transforms water into the finest wine—even before his appointed hour.

In our efficiency-obsessed world, where instant solutions and immediate results reign supreme, baptism stands as a powerful counter-cultural witness. It reminds us that God's transformative work rarely follows our rushed timelines or productivity metrics. Like the water turned to wine at Cana, like the restored glory promised to Israel, baptism initiates us into a different way of measuring time – God's time. The waters of baptism do not offer a quick fix or an instant spiritual upgrade. Instead, they immerse us in the slow, patient work of divine transformation.

There is the time to come – a time Isaiah proclaimed, a time Jesus pointed toward at Cana. Baptism marks not an endpoint but our

incorporation into this great journey of waiting and becoming. Just as the water at Cana was in the process of becoming the finest wine, we too are in the process of transformation. We are still waiting for that real-time to come, that ultimate hour of fulfilment. But this waiting isn't passive; it's a dynamic participation in God's ongoing work. When we resist the urge to demand immediate results from our faith, when we learn to trust in God's timing rather than our schedules, we begin to recognise our role in this unfolding story of transformation.

Our baptismal identity thus becomes not a one-time washing but a continuous reminder that we are people of the 'time to come' – people who trust that the God who turns water into wine is still at work in us and through us, preparing us for that ultimate hour. This identity calls us to embrace the practice of patience and waiting, which is counter-cultural, and trusts that God's seeming silence does not indicate absence, but rather the deep, lasting work of renewal that operates on divine rather than human timetables. The question then becomes not 'Why isn't God fixing everything now?' but 'How can we faithfully participate in God's patient work of transformation?'



## The Night Shelter

*Andrew Penny*

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January was the last night for the C4WS shelter which we have been hosting since the beginning of November, and Bill the Van, C4WS' regular and reliable man with a van arrived on the following Monday morning on time and with a heavy shower of freezing rain. He and I were soaked carrying eighteen mattresses, more pillows and duvets and all the bedlinen to his van filling its capacious interior. A little later, as I steamed gently in the passenger seat on the way to St George's Bloomsbury, which hosts the next two and half months of the shelter, I listened to Bill's stories of youthful escapades circling the Arc de Triomphe several times in his van on Marseilles. Encouraged perhaps by thoughts of the warm south, I reflected that, happily, the magnificent restoration of St George's included installing underfloor

central heating in the church itself where our guests sleep and where the mattresses are stored. Mattresses and damp guests would soon dry out.

At St John's the mattresses are kept warm by the central heating pipes running through the Undercroft. Our guests fare slightly less well as the Parish Rooms' heaters battle with the uninsulated chill. But they receive a warm welcome and the magnificence and variety of the dinner they enjoy makes up for the cosy but functional brickwork. I am told that we are one of the guests' favourite venues which is, of course, very gratifying as we are very cramped for space and have no shower. What we do have, apart from the food, is a dedicated team of volunteers - bed making families, inventive and lavish cooks, friendly servers and hosts, sterling washers up, tolerantly insomniac overnights, and a breakfast and clearing up team which manages to be friendly even very early on cold Sunday mornings. All of you contribute to the shelter's success. I shall report later with an overview of the whole C4WS season but the immediate purpose is to thank so many of you for making the shelter at St John's a worthwhile exercise again. Thank you!

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## The Children's Society



### **What we do**

We provide specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope. They want a future they can look forward to and we're here to make sure they get it. Working alongside young people, their families and community, we will not rest until together, step-by-step, we've created a society built for all children.

Young people come to us when they have low self-esteem. When they're living in families who can't afford the next meal, the next size up in school uniform. Or when there's no one else to lean on.

Refugee and migrant children land in this country alone and look to us for guidance to achieve the life they dreamed of. To have a settled home, a secure job and starting a family. They're not asking for too much.

We see teenagers in our services who want to quit using drugs or alcohol. Who are looking after mum, dad, or their siblings more than they bargained for. Or who have been taken advantage of and find themselves carrying drugs to far away towns, or having sex with strangers.

Often, the hope inside them has taken a battering, it might only be hanging by a thread. But we know it's there.

### **And we see a better future is within reach.**

Young people come to us when they need someone to talk to, for therapy, sometimes just a bite to eat. To help with their court case, to talk to their mum, social services, their teacher, to sometimes not talk at all. We work with young people for as long as it takes and we're with them no matter what.

We also listen to their needs and campaign and lobby on their behalf. We want to make sure they are heard at local and nation government level. They know better than anyone what will make all the difference. They're happy to start over again and try something new to reach their goals and we're there to give them the encouragement they need. We take inspiration from the courage and hope we see in young people every day, fuelling our belief that a good childhood is something every young person deserves.

### **In their own words**

When young people want to tell their story, we listen. These young people still believe in a better tomorrow. They know they can break free from those who hurt them, have a happy home life, feel better over time.

Often their stories aren't easy to tell, but they tell them. Because they know sharing their story will help them and others like them.

## **This winter, children can't wait.**

Too many children are counting down the days to crisis. Their childhoods are hanging in the balance. They can't wait any longer for support.

Your generosity this winter can help prevent mental health crisis. Teenagers are children too. They have the right to mental health support and we can provide that vital help. Together, we can end their wait.

You can donate today at [childrenssociety.org.uk](http://childrenssociety.org.uk) from which this article was taken.

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## **Cleaning at HPC**

### **A Volunteer's View**

*Beryl Dowsett*

I often have to talk myself into sorting out the under-the-stairs cupboard or hauling out the overstuffed contents of my larger garden shed which still isn't big enough. Once I get going and finish, I feel very satisfied. Similarly when volunteering to clean at HPC.

The high profile cleans are Easter and Christmas, which I feel are also important in that they are moments of outreach to all who may walk through the doors on that and subsequent days.



When cleaning this Christmas, a lady came in and said that her children were baptised here many years ago and another said to me at the altar, that she had never seen the church looking so beautiful. People come especially to get a glimpse of the Christmas spirit even if they do not attend services. I would also highlight that among the volunteers, there are 5 participants aged 80 or over and 1 who will qualify sometime in the new year.

It is so satisfying to view our handiwork, for it is done with love and care, not only on the high-profile days, but also in 'ordinary' time. I hope that there are members of the congregation who are younger than some of us and might be tempted to join in and enjoy the companionship and good humour which accompanies our endeavours.

Our next session will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> February when we will be tackling the gallery. We start at about 10am and usually finish between 12 and 1pm. Refreshments provided! If you would like to join the cleaning team please contact [helen.taylor0412@googlemail.com](mailto:helen.taylor0412@googlemail.com)

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Helping to keep a church open helps to keep the rumour of God alive for a fresh generation. – *David Ford*

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## What are our children doing?

We see the children assemble at the start of the 10.30am service and then troop off with book and candle. And we see them come back in time for communion or a blessing, sometimes bearing or even wearing, the fruits of their labour, always looking as if they've had a thoroughly good time. Who knows what they do? They have a themed programme that follows the liturgical year – it's available in leaflets around the church – and sometimes outings. Highlights this term include trips to *Messy Church* and *Luxmuralis*, both at St Paul's Cathedral, in February.

Week by week in term time they meet in the crypt rooms and choir vestry in four groups –

**Holy Hamsters** (under 5s)

**St Matthew's Group** (Years 1- 3)

**St Luke's Group** (Years 4 -6) **St John's** (Year 7 and above)

**Junior Choir** – 8yr olds and above – rehearsing on Thursdays and Sundays and singing alongside the adults at the morning eucharist.

There's also **Sacred Space** – a monthly Sunday evening Youth group for Years 9 and above.

# MUSIC SECTION

## Notes for February

Geoffrey Webber

Much to my surprise, no-one has confronted me regarding my January notes to point out that whilst we do well to celebrate Orlando Gibbons (d. 1625) this year, we can scarcely avoid marking a major anniversary of perhaps the most celebrated composer of church music of them all, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, who was born half a millennium ago this year in 1525. Perhaps readers were at least partly assuaged by the appearance of his motet *Tribus miraculis* sung at Evensong for the Baptism of Christ. In February's music list his name is sadly absent, but there will be plenty more of his music during the course of the year with a special attempt to mark the actual date in mid-December. Gibbons is back with another of his wonderful verse anthems, *If ye be risen again with Christ*, though this time we perform with organ accompaniment rather than viols.

This month we sing two Mass settings outside our regular fare, a *Mass in C* by Mozart and an unaccompanied setting which was once regularly sung here (the copies are old and much used!), by George Oldroyd (1886-1951), his *Missa Ave Jesu*. Nicknames have been adopted to distinguish between Mozart's various Mass settings, and this month we perform K258, one of three settings in C he composed in late 1776. This one has been called the 'Piccolomini' Mass and the 'Spaur' Mass; the former presumably refers to the relative brevity of the setting despite its big orchestral scoring, and the latter relates to the Mass performed at the consecration of a bishop, Count Ignaz Joseph von Spaur, though it's not certain if this was actually K258. George Oldroyd was a leading church musician and academic in his day, whose main posts were at the Anglo-Catholic church of St Michael's in Croydon and King's College London where he became Professor of Music. An expert on counterpoint, his own church music shows little of that technique, but inhabits an austere *a cappella* idiom that was deemed most suited to music performed in that tradition of the Church of England. A pamphlet written by Henry Walford Davies in 1913 sums up some aspects of this approach: "We need remoteness,



aloofness, restraint...Church music should furnish an escape from all temporalities and personalities - including our own...Any excess is to be strictly shunned in that it will crowd out something; it is refreshing *wholeness* that is needed. Sensationalism and sensuousness are treachery in church. So is intellectuality, though it is not usually a very besetting sin.”

The Presentation chorale based on the Nunc dimittis, *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin*, appears three times on the 2nd of February, in the form of preludes by Bach and Buxtehude and also at the conclusion of the extended motet *Warum ist das Licht gegeben?* by Brahms sung at Evensong. The text of the motet is a typically challenging and intellectual compilation of Brahms, with passages from Job, Lamentation, the Epistle to James and the Nunc dimittis. The text begins “Why is light given to the weary, and life to those of a sad heart?” and Brahms emphasises the questioning mood with distinct settings of ‘Warum’. Whether his question is answered by the theology behind the subsequent texts is for each of us to consider.

Amongst other pieces being performed this month we have a sequence of movements from Haydn’s *Creation* (a general theme around this time of the liturgical calendar) in which Haydn unusually repeats and then extends his chorus ‘Achieved is the glorious work’, following a trio sung by archangels Gabriel (soprano), Uriel (Tenor) and Raphael (Bass). *Omnipotent Lord* by Charles Gounod was one of several works he composed for the choir of the newly-opened Royal Albert Hall in the 1870s, of which he was the chief conductor. And for further French music, don’t miss our Organ Scholar Louis performing two entertaining classics, the G major *Toccata* by Dubois and the *Sortie* in E flat by Lefébure-Wely.



# **SIDWELL RECITAL**

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30 pm

*Geoffrey Webber*

This academic year we are pleased to be presenting two Martindale Sidwell Memorial Recitals. The first was held last October, featuring two of our choir members Jessica Gillingwater and James Geidt, and this month we are delighted to welcome two more fairly recent choir members, Rebecca Nießer-Jones (mezzo-soprano) and Eoghan Desmond (baritone), to give a joint recital on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, as shown on the poster. They will be joined by pianist Jo Ramadan, a vocal coach at the Royal College of Music, and an alumnus of the choir of Chapel Royal St James's Palace, Durham University, and the Royal College; he is also currently Director of Music at St Vedast Foster Lane in the City. Their programme is based on the theme of sunset, with varied repertoire from Johannes Brahms to Herbert Howells.

## **Music List**

### **Sunday 2nd February – Presentation of Christ**

#### **10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Opening Hymn 234 (ii)

Mass setting (GI/S&B/AD) *Communion Service in F* Harold Darke

Gradual Psalm Psalm 24. 7-end Tone vii/5

Offertory Hymn 157

Communion Motet *Senex puerum portabat* William Byrd

Post-communion Hymn 186

Organ Postlude *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin* (BWV 616)

J. S. Bach

#### **5 pm. Evensong**

Organ Prelude *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin* (BuxWV 76)

Dieterich Buxtehude

Introit *Sacerdotes Domini* William Byrd

Preces & Responses Martin Neary

Psalm 132 Edward Elgar

Canticles *Evening Service in D* Herbert Brewer

Anthem *Warum ist das Licht gegeben?* Johannes Brahms

Hymn 156 (ii)

Final Amen Felix Mendelssohn

Organ Postlude *O Welt, ich muß dich lassen* Johannes Brahms

### **Sunday 9th February – 4th Sunday before Lent**

#### **10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Opening Hymn 408

Mass setting (GI/S&B/AD) *Mass in C “Piccolomini”* (K 258)

W. A. Mozart

Gradual Psalm 138 James Turle

Offertory Hymn 440

Communion Motet *O sacrum convivium* Samuel Webbe

Post-communion Hymn 493

Organ Postlude *Sortie in Eb* A. Lefébure-Wely

#### **5 pm. Evensong**

Organ Prelude *Duo* (Suite du Premier Ton) L.-N. Clérambault

Introit *Omnipotent Lord* Charles Gounod

Preces & Responses Martin Neary

Psalm 2 Robert Ashfield

Canticles *The Third Service* William Byrd

Anthem *If ye be risen again with Christ* Orlando Gibbons

Hymn 381

Final Amen Felix Mendelssohn

Organ Postlude *Praeludium in C major* BuxWV 138

Dieterich Buxtehude

### **Sunday 16th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent**

#### **10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Opening Hymn 377

Mass setting (GI/S&B/AD) *Missa Ave Jesu* George Oldroyd

Gradual Psalm 1 (Responsorial) Harry Brama

Offertory Hymn 383 (ii)

Communion Motet *Dextera Domini* Josef Rheinberger

Post-communion Hymn 464

Organ Postlude *Fantasie* (Fantasie und Fuge über das

Thema B-A-C-H) Franz Liszt

### **5 pm. Evensong**

Organ Prelude *Herzlich tut mich verlangen (I)* Johannes Brahms  
Introit *O God, be merciful* Christopher Tye  
Preces & Responses Martin Neary  
Psalm 6 Humphrey Clucas  
Canticles *Evening Service in B flat* Henry Purcell  
Anthem *Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven* Henry Purcell  
Hymn 427  
Final Amen Felix Mendelssohn  
Organ Postlude *Toccata* Théodore Dubois

### **Sunday 23rd February – 2nd Sunday before Lent**

#### **10.30 am. Holy Communion**

Opening Hymn 466  
Mass setting (GI/S&B/AD) *Missa Dixit Maria* Hans Leo Hassler  
Gradual Psalm 65 Richard Langdon  
Offertory Hymn 484 (t. 167)  
Communion Motet *Ego sum panis vivus* T. L. da Victoria  
Post-communion Hymn 388  
Organ Postlude *Praeludium in E minor* Nicolaus Bruhns

### **5 pm. Evensong**

Organ Prelude *Herzlich tut mich verlangen (II)* Johannes Brahms  
Introit *And God saw everything (The Creation)* Joseph Haydn  
Preces & Responses Martin Neary  
Psalm 147 Charles Stanford  
Canticles *The Second Service* Thomas Tomkins  
Anthem *On Thee each living soul awaits (The Creation)* Joseph Haydn  
Hymn 285 (omit \*)  
Final Amen Felix Mendelssohn  
Organ Postlude *Chorale Prelude on Croft's 136<sup>th</sup>* C. H. H. Parry

Louis Horsman Carpenter *Organ Scholar*  
Aidan Coburn *Director of the Junior & Community Choirs*  
Joshua Ryan *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*  
Geoffrey Webber *Director of Music*

# Music for Holy Week and Easter

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

6.00pm Bach's St Matthew

Passion

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April,

6.00m Maundy Thursday Choral Holy Communion

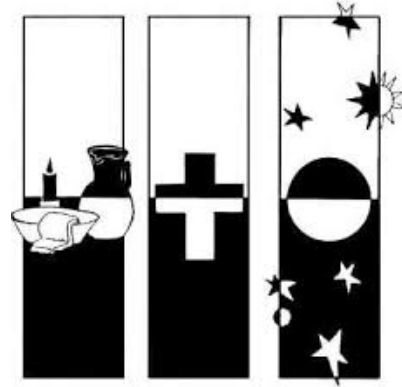
Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April:

2.00pm Sung Liturgy,

6.00pm Choral Tenebrae

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April:

5.00 pm: Easter Evensong (transferred from Easter Day)



## The Hampstead Collective

### **Messiaen: Harawi**

Monday 3 February 2025

7pm – 8.30pm

Rebecca Hardwick (soprano)

Tickets £15 from [thehampsteadcollective.org](http://thehampsteadcollective.org)

### **Harmonische Raffinesse:**

### **A German Homage to the Italian Baroque**

Monday 3 March 2025

7pm – 8.30pm

Rebecca Hardwick (soprano)

Malachy Frame (baritone)

The Players of the Hampstead Collective

Tickets £15 from [thehampsteadcollective.org](http://thehampsteadcollective.org)

### **Dowland: Lachrimae, or Seven Tears**

Monday 7 April 2025

7pm – 8pm  
Aidan Coburn (tenor)  
The Players of the Hampstead Collective  
Tickets £15 from [thehampsteadcollective.org](http://thehampsteadcollective.org)

**Handel: Saul**  
Monday 5 May 2025  
7pm – 8pm  
Malachy Frame (Saul)  
Rebekah Jones (David)  
Rebecca Hardwick (Merab)  
Christine Buras (Michal)  
Ruairi Bowen (Jonathan)  
The Players of the Hampstead Collective & Colla Voce Singers  
Aidan Coburn (conductor)  
Tickets £25 Concessions £20

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## **Organ Recitals**

Hugh Rowlands, London  
22nd February at 4pm

Geoffrey Webber, Hampstead Parish Church  
22nd March at 4pm

Ivan Leung, Canterbury Cathedral  
12th April at 4pm

Mitchell Miller, USA  
24th May at 4pm

Richard Gowers, St George's Hanover Square  
21st June at 4pm

Molly Hord, Pembroke College, Cambridge  
19th July at 4pm

# THE SIDWELL RECITAL

# Songs at Sunset

*a journey from Brahms to Howells*

REBEKAH NIEBER-JONES  
MEZZO-SOPRANO

EOGHAN DESMOND  
BARITONE

JO RAMADAN  
PIANO

**Saturday 8th February 2025 at 7.30 pm**

Tickets £15  
(Concessions £10)

Buy online at [fom.org.uk](http://fom.org.uk)

Tickets also available  
on the door

Information: 020 7794 5808

**HAMPSTEAD PARISH CHURCH  
CHURCH ROW, NW3 6UU**

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



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN AT HAMPSTEAD

# LENT READING GROUP

A 90 MINUTE DISCUSSION EXPLORING THE STORY OF EASTER

# GOD WITH US

THE MEANING OF THE CROSS AND  
RESURRECTION - THEN AND NOW

BY ROWAN WILLIAMS

**Please sign up in advance by adding your name to  
the sign up sheets in church, or email the office.**

Handley Stevens at his home: Tuesdays 11, 18, 25 March and 1, 8 April 7.30pm-9pm	Fr Yin-An in the Choir Vestry: Fridays 14, 21 March and 4, 11 April 7pm-8.30pm
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Mthr Carol at the Vicarage:  
Saturdays  
15, 22, March and 5, 12 April  
3-4.30pm

Copies of the book can be purchased from the office or from stockists online



## More Lent Reading

As well as Rowan Williams' **God With Us** which will form the subject of our Lent Groups in March here are a few suggestions for books available from the Church House Bookshop website:

### **Healing Wounds: The 2025 Lent Book** *Erik Varden* £12.99

Are we healed through our wounds or are our wounds themselves healed from some other source?

In this 2025 Lent Book, Erik Varden starts by examining the New Testament where it spells out why Christ's wounds were efficacious for the healing of humankind. He contends that while this theological perspective is fundamental, it often falls short of addressing the Emotional and spiritual needs of believers.

Structured to guide readers through a journey of reflection, beginning with the raw reality of suffering and moving toward the possibility of redemption and renewal. Varden employs a contemplative tone, inviting readers to sit with their own experiences of pain and consider how these might be transformed through faith and introspection. His insights are particularly relevant during the Lenten season, a time of reflection on Christ's passion and its implications for believers.

**Wild Bright Hope: Reflections on Faith -The Big Church Read Lent Book** SPCK £11.99 This hugely heartening book on hope will galvanise readers into looking at the world and the challenges we're facing in a new way. It gathers together a fantastic range of lively, up-and-coming writers who are willing to dig deep. Here they write passionately about what gives them hope.

### **Who Do You Say I Am?**

#### **Lent and Easter Reflections for a Holy City**

*Joanne Woolway Grenfell, Adam Atkinson, Ali Mulroy* £13.99

Poetry, prayers, art and scripture meditations come together to create a reflective guide for personal and corporate devotion on the events at the heart of the Christian story from a contemporary, urban

perspective. Focusing the death and resurrection of Christ, this is suitable for year-round use as an alternative form of the Stations of the Cross, but also with a special significance for Holy Week and Easter.

The book springs from a series of talks given at St Paul's Cathedral in Holy Week 2023.

Also available as an eBook for download by customers in the UK at the same price.

### **Doorways to Hope: Forty days of spiritual wisdom**

*Christopher Chapman* £12.99

When so much seems to be falling apart, it is a struggle to find ground for hope. In forty daily reflections, Christopher Chapman explores the nature of hope and offers ways of cultivating and practicing it.

Avoiding wishful thinking or 'looking on the bright side', he offers a hope rooted in a God whose dynamic, creative breath is always bringing the new into being. This hope is incarnate and redemptive, forever coming along side us to renew what is broken.

This is a liberating, encouraging book for all who feel powerless in the face of the pain of the world or hemmed in by personal circumstance.

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## **Readings for February**

10.30am

5.00pm

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> – The Presentation of Christ**

Malachi 3.1-5

Haggai 2.1-9

Luke 2.22-40

John 2.18-22

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> before Lent**

Isaiah 6.1-8

Wisdom 6.1-21

Luke 5.1-11

Colossians 3.1-17

## **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> before Lent**

Jeremiah 17.5-10

Luke 6.17-26

Wisdom 11.21 – 12.11

Galatians 4.8-20

## **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent**

Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end

Luke 8.22-25

Genesis 1.1-2, 3

Matthew 6.25-end

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## **A prayer for Racial Justice Sunday (9th Feb)**

Migrant God, unbound and free from borders, your presence spans the universe.

In all our travel and travail, you are the constant companion of all, in you is our eternal rest and refuge.

In Jesus who had nowhere to lay his head, you reveal yourself taking sanctuary among us.

We behold you still in the face of all who are uprooted from their homes

by war and weather, persecution and poverty.

We bless you for their courage and resilience in seeking justice, freedom and sanctuary.

Grant them safety in all their trail and turmoil.

Be the shelter of their lives and souls.

Enfold in your peace those who have died on the way.

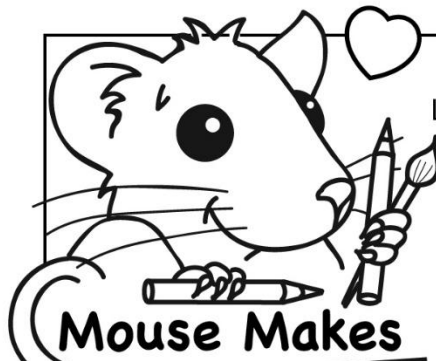
Give to us all compassion and the capacity to listen and learn as people share their stories of their search and struggles for safety.

Strengthen us as we work together to build communities and congregations

of warm welcome, protective hospitality, and sanctuary for all.

Bless us all pilgrims together, here we have no abiding city, bring us where you want us to be.

In the name of Christ. Amen



## Mouse Makes

"Love is

\_\_\_\_\_ ,

**love is** \_\_\_\_\_ .

It does not, \_\_\_\_\_

it does not \_\_\_\_\_

it is not \_\_\_\_\_ .

it does not \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ,

others, it is not self - \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ it is not easily \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ it keeps no record of \_\_\_\_\_

**Love** delights in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ it always \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

The steadfast **love** of the Lord never \_\_\_\_\_ ;

His \_\_\_\_\_ never come to an end; they are new every \_\_\_\_\_ .

*Lamentations 3:20-23*



*I pray... you will understand... the greatness of Christ's **love**,*

*how \_\_\_\_\_ and how \_\_\_\_\_ and how \_\_\_\_\_*

*that **love** is.*

*Ephesians 3:18-19*

God is **love**.

whoever \_\_\_\_\_

in **love** \_\_\_\_\_

in God, and God \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in them.

*1 John 4:16*

Give \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, for He is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ his steadfast **love** endures \_\_\_\_\_

*Psalms 136:1*

## HOW DOES GOD LOVE ME?

### **God sent me a saviour:**

He sent His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him.

*1 John 4:9*

### **God gave me His spirit:**

He has given you the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His **love**.

*Romans 5:5*

### **God called me His child:**

See what great **love** the Father has for us that He would call us His children.

*1 John 1:3*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus told us to:

**LOVE** the Lord your God with all your **heart**, all your **soul** and with all your **mind**.

*Matthew 22:37*

**LOVE** your neighbour the same as you **love** yourself.

*Matthew 22:39*

P T Y D E B P O P T E L T  
 E R D L N M A Y R F D G R A  
 A U G O D J T H O P E F U L  
 C S K V U U I K T S F L T O  
 E T P E R S E V E R E S H Y  
 K I N D E T N B C S N L F A  
 M N I Y S L T W T S D M U L  
 I G R A C I O U S E S K L I  
 H U M B L E S E L F L E S S

GOD • LOVE  
 PATIENT • KIND  
 GRACIOUS • PEACE  
 JUST • TRUTHFUL  
 TRUSTING • LOYAL  
 HOPEFUL  
 PERSEVERES  
 ENDURES  
 HUMBLE  
 SELFLESS  
 PROTECTS • DEFENDS

# Some dates for your diaries

## March

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Voluntary Rate Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Community Choir concert
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Mothering Sunday

## April

- 13<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Easter Day

## May

- 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Parochial Church Meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Ascension Day

