

THIS WEEK:

Thurs 6.30 pm Christian Meditation Group, St Stephen's

THIS MONTHParochial Church Council Tuesday April 22, 7.30pm at St Stephen's
Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 27 April, 12.30pm at St Michael's
Please note change of date.**NEXT MONTH**

St Stephen's Committee Monday 12 May, 7.30pm at St Stephen's.

NEXT SUNDAY:**10 am SUNG EUCHARIST**Celebrant and Preacher – The Reverend Dr James Heard
Acts 7.55-60 (p) 1 Peter 2.2-10, John 14.1-14 (p)*Sunday School meets in St Stephen's school**Sunday Youth meets in the Glebe Maisonette**Small Children are welcome to play in St Thomas's Chapel, near the porch**Baptised Communicants of other Churches are encouraged to receive communion**Children and other non-communicants are invited to come to the altar for a blessing**The Ministry of Healing is offered in the Chapel, after Communion is given***Diocesan Events****London Diocese Fairtrade Day:** 12 July**Christian Aid Week:** 11-17 May - www.christianaid.org.uk**Environment Sunday:** 3 June - <http://en.arochoa.org/ukconsunday/index2.html>**Refugee Week:** 16-22 June - www.refugeeweek.org.uk**Global Day of Prayer in London:** 11 May**JustShare May Day event:** annual event on 2 May at 12pm in the City**Home Communion** – Available to any unable to come on a Sunday. Talk to Father Bob (8743 3166) if you or anyone else might be interested.

Any enquiries about pastoral concerns, baptisms, weddings or funerals please get in touch with Father Bob. The only time that Bob will be unavailable is between Friday pm and Sunday am.



13 April 2008
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Welcome to St Stephen & St Thomas Church
Visit the church web site at www.ststephensw12.org.
You can read all the latest news about the parish.
You can also read the sermons which are posted each week

Please give a big St Stephens welcome to Dr James next Sunday who is coming from All Saints Fulham to take the Sunday Service. I am going to be giving a paper at a conference in Oslo on contemporary family life – in robust health (you will be pleased to hear).

James will be baptising Poppy the daughter of Ben and Jules Foster. I will be really sorry to miss the day and not to be here with you all.

Wednesday 16th April is the year's anniversary of the death of Rowlette's husband George. We are going to have an anniversary Mass in St Stephens at 7pm in the evening.

The following are actual signs found on church property.

- "No God-No Peace. Know God-Know Peace."
- "Free Trip to heaven. Details Inside!"
- "Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here!"

Processional Hymn

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

(p.)

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written:

“He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor;
his righteousness endures for ever.”

Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL

(p.)

Jesus said to the Pharisees: ¹Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' ⁶Jesus

used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

Amazing love, oh what sacrifice

The Son of God, given for me

My debt He paid, and my death He died

That I might live, that I might live

INTERCESSIONS

Please pray for

- The sick and suffering: especially Felix Okike, Lucilda Bernard, Joan Andrew, Elizabeth Dorsett, Ivy Smith, Susie Leach, Norbert Edwards, Brother Paul Anthony, Sylvia Steed, Caroline Nevill, Tracey Davies, Esmay Young, Roger Cox, Althea Ferns, Dorian Henry, Detroy Henry. Mary Rodney, Esme Hoyte, Esme Fairburn

Offertory Hymn

Communion Hymn

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Recessional Hymn

Coffee in Church after the service