

**THIS WEEK:**

Thurs 6.30 pm Christian Meditation Group, St Stephen's

**THIS MONTH****NEXT SUNDAY:****10 am SUNG EUCHARIST**Celebrant and Preacher – The Reverend Dr Bob Mayo  
Romans 8.12-25 (p313), Matthew 13.24-30,36-43 (p314)*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*

**It's a crazy world:** A kiwi fruit flown from New Zealand to Britain emits five times its own weight in greenhouse gases. To get us off season fruits, our food is travelling a long ways. Those kiwi fruits, for example, have travelled 20,000 kilometers, either by plane or road. Increasingly, we're becoming more and more dependent on the fuel it takes to get them to us.

**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 July 2008  
Eighth Sunday after Trinity

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

Sylvie and I are away on holiday. Today we welcome Rev Simon Downham as our celebrant and preacher.

I am gathering names for people who are interested in being confirmed later in the year. Confirmation is the Church of England version of adult baptism. It is a chance to explore the Christian faith further, to go to a big service, to have your family make a fuss of you and to meet the Bishop of London. If you are interested let me know 07969 090907.

Would you like to become a Chaplaincy volunteer at Charing Cross Hospital? You would visit and chat to people who were in the hospital. If you are interested please ring either Rev Christopher Guinness (02088461041) or Father Nigel Griffin (02088461042). You could be linked either with Charing Cross Hammersmith or Queen Charlotte's Hospital.

## Processional Hymn

### Collect of the Day

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### First Reading

**Romans 8.1-11**

**(p.307)**

<sup>1</sup>There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

### Gradual Hymn

#### GOSPEL

**Matthew 13.1-9,18-23**

**(p.308)**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen! <sup>18</sup>Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky

ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

*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, 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

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

### Recessional Hymn

*Coffee in Church after the service*