



9 November 2008
 Third Sunday before Advent
 Remembrance Sunday

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

Processional Hymn

Collect of the Day

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Wisdom of Solomon 6.12-16

(p.425)

¹²Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
 and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
 and is found by those who seek her.
¹³She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
¹⁴One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
 for she will be found sitting at the gate.
¹⁵To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
 and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
¹⁶because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
 and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
 and meets them in every thought.

Gradual Hymn

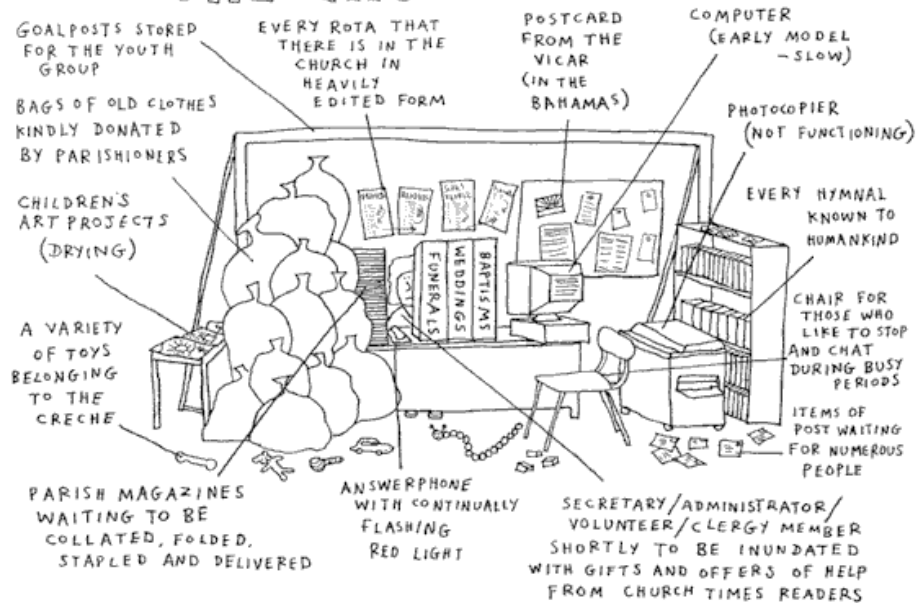
GOSPEL

Matthew 25.1-13

(p.428)

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: ¹The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹But the

THE CHURCH OFFICE



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Christmas Services

Sunday December 7 th	10am Christingle Service for Children
Tuesday December 9 th	6.30pm BBC Carol Service (by popular demand)
Monday December 15 th	9am St Stephens School Carol Service
Sunday December 21 st	10am Sung Eucharist 4pm Children's Crib Service (Sunday school)
Wednesday December 24 th	11.30pm Midnight Mass (Christmas Eve)
Thursday December 25 th	10am Sung Eucharist (Christmas Day)

wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." ¹²But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

*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, 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

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Recessional Hymn

Coffee in Church after the service

THIS WEEK AT ST STEPHEN'S

Wednesday – Holy Communion – 6 pm

Thursday – Christian Meditation Group – 6.30 pm.

NEXT SUNDAY: 16 November 2008 Second Sunday before Advent

10 am SUNG EUCHARIST

Including Baptism of William Stephen Reid, Edward James Diggle, Euan Montgomery Murray.

Celebrant and Preacher – The Reverend Dr Bob Mayo
1 Thessalonians 5.1-11 (p433), Matthew 25.14-30 (p434)

Rev Bob Mayo St Stephen's Vicarage, 1 Coverdale Road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W12 8JJ
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✉ bob.mayo@london.anglican.org

NOTICES

Children at St Stephens:

Sunday School – This is for children 4 years old and above. Younger children can stay with their parents on the colouring table or go into the playroom.

Playroom (not crèche) – Parents who want 'time out with their children during the service. There is a speaker system set up so that you will be able to hear the service while sitting in the room with your children

Colouring table – parents can sit with their children during the service

Mother & Toddler group – meets on Monday from 9-11. Ring the door on the Coverdale Road side to get in

Christmas

Christmas choir: Would you like to take part in a choir to sing Christmas Carols. We are planning a children's service at 4pm on Sunday December 21st. Please let Rev Bob know if you would be able to help with this.

St Stephen's Christmas Party – 'SAVE THE DAY' This is on December 6th at the vicarage. It starts at 4pm and goes on till 11pm. Drop in for mince pies and a glass of mulled wine – 'bring and share!'

Advent Quiet Day – 'God in His Time' – reflections on the patience of God, led by the Rev Rachma Bush at St Mary's Convent, Chiswick on 13th December 10.30am-4 pm. Cost £5, includes hot drinks but bring a packed lunch.

Organised by Kensington Area of our diocese. To book a place please contact Father Bob.

International Student for Christmas HOST is a well-established charity, backed by the Foreign Office and many universities, which links adults studying in the UK with hospitable volunteers throughout Britain. Welcoming a student who might otherwise spend Christmas on a deserted campus, fosters international understanding, and will make Christmas special. See www.hostuk.org or call 0207 254 3039, for more information.

Other notices

Servers – We need people to help serve on Sunday mornings. Anyone interested?

Activities at St Michael's Tuesday. 7.30 pm Prize Bingo evening to raise funds for the church