



THIS WEEK AT ST STEPHEN'S

Monday Mother and Toddlers (9-11)

Wednesday Parent and Child Reading Group (from 3.30)
Holy Communion – 6 pm

Thursday Christian Meditation Group – 6.30 pm.

Sunday 10 am Service of Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher – The Rev Dr Bob Mayo
Revelation 19.6-10 (p474), Mark 1.14-20

FOREVER
IS A LONG, LONG TIME.
WHERE DO YOU PLAN
TO SPEND IT?



St Stephen & St Thomas'
Church

18 January 2009
Second Sunday of Epiphany

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 God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Revelation 5.1-10

(p.469)

¹I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; ²and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?' ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁴And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.' ⁶Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. ⁸When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; ¹⁰you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.'

Gradual Hymn

GOSPEL

John 1.29-42

(p.48)

²⁹John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' ³²And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

*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, 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 glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord

Recessional Hymn

Being a church in Shepherds Bush

There are three strands to our being a church together

1. We get to know each other – otherwise known as fellowship
2. We learn about God together – otherwise known as worship and teaching
3. We get stuck in when we see people in need – otherwise known as mission and outreach

There are two things planned to help us get to know each other better.

1. **Midweek Group (Talk to Edd)** – Would you be interested in meeting with other people from the church during the week? This would become a 'House Group'. You would meet in someone's home, have a meal together and look at the Bible. If you are interested talk to Edd - 07836156835, eddstock@hotmail.com.
2. **Residential (Friday April 24th)**. We would like to go away for one night with as many members of the congregation as our able to come. It takes time to get to know each other and there is no short cut to our fellowship together.

NOTICES

The Church Hall

Building starts next month – We will need help with fundraising! Is there anyone out there with a few hours in the week that they can spend helping with this.

Visiting

We are linking younger with older members of the congregation. People who spend a lot of time at home may be glad to be visited by a mother and child. It could be nice also for the child to have contact with an older member of the community

The garden

We are gathering names for a work day (once the weather gets nicer)

Servers in church on Sunday

If you are interested in contributing your ideas there is a meeting straight after church.

Confirmation

I am trying to get a date with Michael Schumm (and the new Bishop)