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27 November 2026

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CHURCH SERVICES – DO JOIN US!

Please join us for our special ADVENT services this **Sunday 29 November.** The Parish **Eucharist** will be celebrated at **9.30 am** and the **Advent Carol Service** will be at **6 pm** when we shall be joined by the Marble Hill Singers.

On **Tuesday 1 December** at **12 noon** the Funeral of Antonio Carmona will take place at Hanworth Crematorium. The family have asked us to extend a welcome to all who wish to attend (more details below).
On **Wednesday 2 December** the **Holy Eucharist** will be celebrated in church at **10 am**.
On **Thursday 3 December** at **10 am** the staff, pupils and families of Strathmore Special Needs School will be celebrating their Christmas Carol Service in church.

Next **Sunday 29 November** is the Second Sunday of Advent. and the **Parish Eucharist** will be celebrated at **9.30 am** when we shall also be making donations to the four charities we support at St Mary's**.** The ashes of Stuart Sandy will be laid to rest in our Memorial Garden at 10.45 am. The **Christingle Service** will take place in church at **4 pm.**

MANY THANKS

To all those who delivered cards around the parish inviting the residents of Twickenham to join us for our Advent and Christmas services. This is one of the most significant times when we reach out personally to those in the area and I am profoundly grateful to all who walk the streets delivering cards and pray for all who live in the parish of St Mary's. Thanks too to Chris who helped format and produce the cards.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE – SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 6 PM



ANTONIO CARMONA'S FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The service will be at South West Middlesex Crematorium on Tuesday 1 December at 12 noon, followed by refreshments at St Mary's Scout Hut, Twickenham. Please confirm attendance by RSVP to Emily Moss 07776 186047 or Sarah Kershaw 07747 448832.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 4 PM

A lovely family service celebrating Christ the Light of the World where children (and quite a few adults!) bring a donation for The Children's Society and receive a Christingle, with refreshments served by the Scouts afterwards in the Hall. Do come!



HELP NEEDED WITH ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

We are looking for volunteers to help welcome, hand out service sheets, monitor the galleries on Christmas Eve and hold the collection plates or card reader after each of the big Christmas services. The Christmas collections are divided between the 4 charities we support as a church (Embracing Age, Otakar Music Trust, Friends of Vellore Hospital in India and Friends of Mengo Hospital in Uganda) and the church. We will be serving mulled wine and mince pies in the hall after the Carol Service on 20 December. Any help with that and donations of mince pies would both be appreciated. Signing up sheets are in the church porch.

ST MARY'S GROUP – TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER – 7.30 PM

If you have ordered a ticket for "It's a Wonderful Life" please meet in the foyer of the Mary Wallace Theatre at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 8 December.

UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS FAIR – SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 3 PM

Enjoy Ukrainian Christmas traditions with gifts, food, performances and carols at St. Luke's Church, The Avenue, Kew TW9 2AJ from 3 until 8 p.m. Entrance £5 for adults; children under 16 are free.

NOTES ON A GREEN THEME

A reminder about this year's Reith Lectures being broadcast on Radio 4. In this year's lectures, the best-selling writer Robert Macfarlane argues that a belief in human superiority has brought us to the brink of planetary catastrophe. 'We imagine ourselves perched atop a pinnacle, when in fact we are entangled in a web of life', Macfarlane says. The first of the four lectures was broadcast on Radio 4 on 24 November and can be accessed via BBCSounds. The remaining three lectures will follow:- on Tuesday 1 December at 9 am, Tuesday 8 December at 9 am and lastly on Tuesday 15 December again at 9 am .

Christmas! - Many Salvation Army churches and centres across the UK will be running a Christmas Present Appeal, collecting donated presents until mid-December. They are asking for donations of new and unwrapped toys to be donated and then distributed to children who would otherwise be going without this Christmas. Our local Salvation Army can be found in May Road Twickenham.

Another toy appeal is being run by Tesco. It was noticed that the Mogden Lane branch has a big box by the customer services accepting donations of toys and gifts bought in the store that will then be distributed to those in need.

EMBRACING AGE – CHRISTMAS FUND RAISING

Could you help more older care home residents enjoy regular meaningful connection in the new year?

Embracing Age is a Christian charity based in Twickenham matching older care home residents with a trained volunteer befriender. Between 1 - 8 December, every pound given to or raised for their Big Give page will be doubled by match-funders, meaning you can help twice as many residents feel valued and connected in the new year.

You can make a difference by donating directly at http://bit.ly/EA-Double, helping spread the word about our appeal or hosting a *Cuppa Cheer* - a simple catch-up with friends, church groups or colleagues over a cuppa that makes twice the difference - a wonderful time feeling connected together as well as raising funds that will be doubled! You can find out more on our website, including how to get a free Cuppa Cheer fundraising pack: https://www.embracingage.org.uk/big-give.

They need to raise £4,000 on their Big Give page by midday on 8 December to unlock all of the match-funding on offer and would be so grateful for anything you can do to help access this vital funding and make a real difference in bringing more older people joy in the new year - thank you.

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS – TEDDINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH – 5 DECEMBER 7 PM

The Manna Family is performing a Christmas musical production at Teddington, which will conclude with a short time of worship and opportunity to respond.

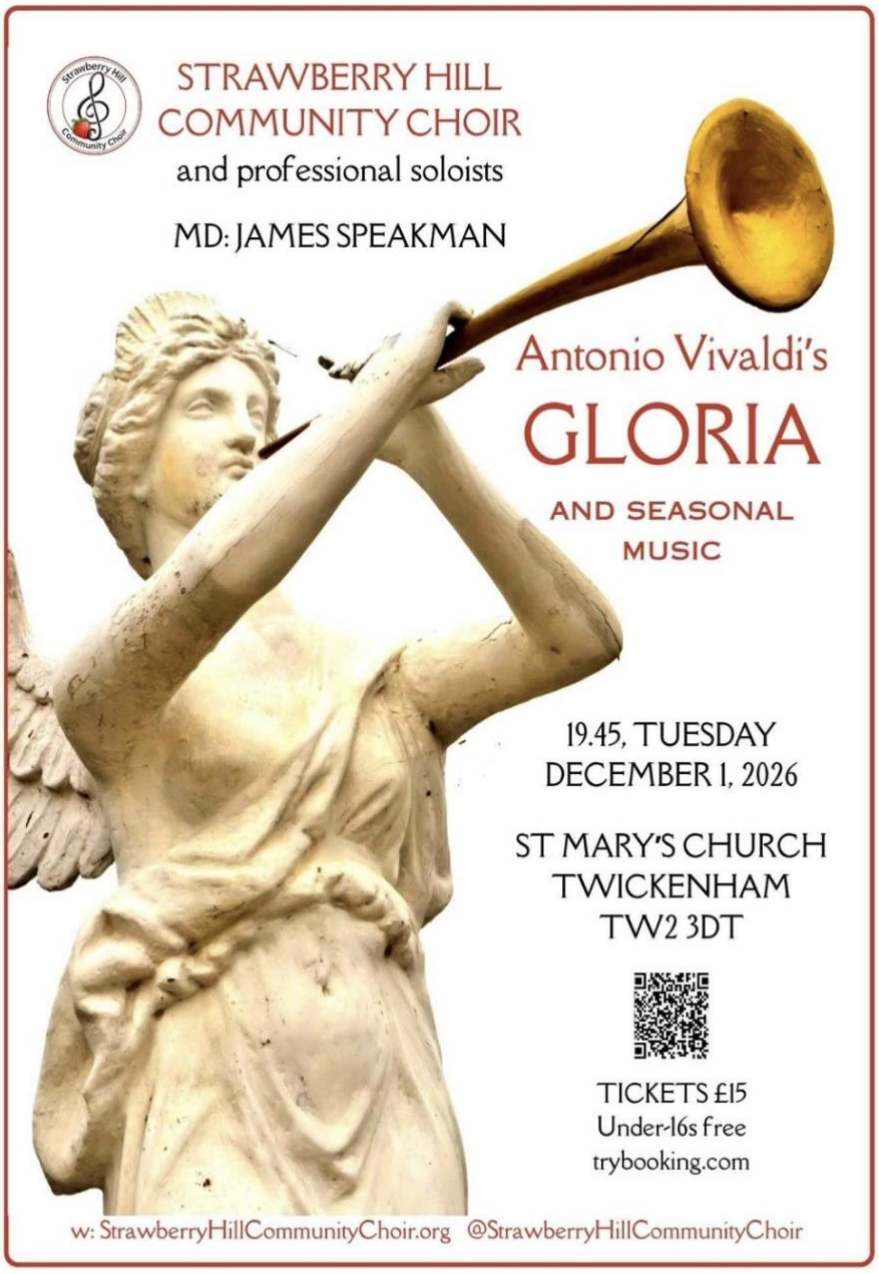
'When a fierce Victorian snowstorm forces unexpected visitors to seek shelter at Mr Warren's home, his carefully planned Christmas is turned upside down. As strangers gather beneath his roof, their stories challenge his expectations and soften his heart. Through unexpected kindness, compassion and the joy of giving, Mr Warren discovers that the true wonder of Christmas isn't found in what we receive, but in the love, we share with others.'

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available afterwards.

Tickets are Free. Booking is required through Eventbrite.co.uk using the following link or the QR code below.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-victorian-christmas-tickets-2003909272578?aff=oddtdtcreator

Please contact the Teddington Baptist church office if you have any questions or have an issue with booking (office@teddingtonbaptist.co.uk or 020 8977 8000). For further information about the ministry of Manna Family visit their website at https://www.mannafamily.co.uk/



STRAWBERRY HILL COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT – TUE 1 DEC 7.45 PM

Come and join us in Venice, 1715 as we sing Vivaldi's 'Gloria', then sail with us across the ocean to Twickenham 2025, to dip into L'Estrange's modern reimagining of 'The Four Seasons'.

Prepare yourself for summer storms (climate change), winter cosiness, and find, with us, the time to sing.

We have room to expand and welcome new members. There are no auditions. All you need is a love and enjoyment of making music, commitment, and a willingness to be challenged by a mixture of genres and styles

TEA @ 2.30 – 2 DECEMBER CHANGE OF VENUE

There will be no further meetings in church until 6 January 2027! The December ones are at different venues. For more information speak to Julia Scofield or Julie Hall.

On 2 December we are going to Ham House to see the Christmas display and take our 'tea' in the cafe. We aim to meet there at 2 pm, do join us if you'd like to.

Julie & Julia

KNITTING GROUP – FRIENDS OF FAITH

We meet in St Mary's Church Hall (The Windsor Room) Church Street, Twickenham. TW1 3NJ from 10.30-12.30 on the third Saturday of each month in St Mary's Church Hall Windsor Room - so the next meeting is on 19 December. For more information ring Lynda 07545 054 481, info@hounslowfriendsoffaith.org, www.hounslowfriendsoffaith.org.

ST MARY'S GROUPS FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

St Mary's Families brings together parents and children at St Mary's. Email bulletins include information on events and ways to get involved at church, and there's also a friendly WhatsApp group. To be part of St Mary's Families please email stmarysfamilies@gmail.com. You can find further details of the groups on our website: https://www.stmarytwick.org.uk/children

Sunday School - (groups for ages 3+) runs every Sunday at 9.30 am in term time except the 3rd Sundays of the month when we all worship together in the Church. Please contact Julie Hall for more information.

Little Fish - for newborns to 2 year olds and their carers runs during the 9.30 am service every Sunday in term-time, except the 3rd Sundays of the month when we all join the full service in the Church. Please contact Sarah Waller on minnows@stmarytwick.org.uk with any questions.

Minnows – A relaxed time for parents and carers of children aged 0-4 chatting over refreshments, with playtime and singing. Drop-in Mondays in term-time 9.30-11.15 am. All are welcome! Contact Sarah Waller on minnows@stmarytwick.org.uk with any questions.

SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS, WHO TO SPEAK TO

If you have any concerns or queries relating to safeguarding, please don't hesitate to talk to us or to Jeff or the Churchwardens:

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Liz Sledge (liz.sledge18@gmail.com) 07903 183930
Children's Champions: Judy Britton (judy1britton@gmail.com), Julie Hall (julie_clive@yahoo.co.uk)
Adults Champion: Sue Pawsey(suepawsey@hotmail.co.uk)
NB Local Authority Social Services - Children: 020 8547 5008 Adults: 020 8891 7971

BEST WAY TO GIVE REGULARLY TO ST MARY'S – PARISH GIVING SCHEME

The Parish Giving Scheme is the simplest way of giving your own regular donation to St Mary's. To set something up, or if you have any queries, please go to https://www.parishgiving.org.uk or call them on 0333 002 1260 or email on info@parishgiving.org.uk

You will need our details, including our reference number, which are all set out below

Parish: Twickenham St Mary. Diocese: London Diocese. Parish Ref: 230623218.

A QUICK WAY TO GIVE TO ST MARY'S

You can also give to St Mary's online at Give to St Mary's Twickenham. Or if you use this QR Code with the camera of your smartphone, it will take you to the St Mary's donation page. It is another way of giving money to St Mary's for the Offertory Collection or indeed making a one-off donation at any time. The main purpose is to give our visitors and parishioners another way to donate should they wish to do so.

To submit a Notice, please send your text and any related image by email to notices@stmarytwick.org.uk by close of business on Wednesday for inclusion, if approved, in the Friday notice sheet. You can read more about St Mary's, our news and events on:

- Our own website: www.stmarytwick.org.uk

- Our page on the CofE's national website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15505/
- Our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StMarysTwickenham/