

## A journey with God

As we journey from one year to the next I was thinking about the journeys we make in life. Some journeys we take are physical - in January we celebrate the Epiphany, the journey taken by the Magi to find the infant Jesus. We may go shopping, to visit friends or on holiday. Journeys can be alone or with others, short or long, with those we know or those we don't know.

Some journeys are much more personal and spiritual. Some people go on pilgrimage, mainly to sights of religious significance (as a group from St Mary's did in October). A pilgrimage is marked along the way by waymarkers.

For those who are Christians we are on a journey - our journey of faith in God is ongoing, it is lifelong, and it too has waymarkers. Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our life. As we continue on our journey we may be admitted to communion and later choose to confirm our faith. Two of our congregation members marked their journey and were confirmed in November by the Bishop of Rochester The Rt Rev James Langstaff and a photo from this occasion can be found inside this month's SPAN.

In our own individual journeys of faith we often forget how important our own experiences are. It often seems to us that 'other people' know far more than we do and are better Christians.

It can be too easy to hanker after somebody else's faith and to want to live their journey. We can be tempted to try to make their faith our faith and to try to live out their understanding. No two people see or understand their faith in identical ways.

We continue to explore our faith in a variety of ways including bible study notes and home groups: we would be delighted if you too wanted to meet with us to try and find answers to the questions you may have.

*Rev Morag Finch*

**ALL WELCOME:** The family of the late Canon Doug Redman look forward to celebrating Choral Evensong with the congregation at St Mary's at 6.30pm on Sunday 15 January.



### Were you part of St Mary's Youth Club?

A reunion is being planned in 2017 for anyone who was part of the Youth Club at St Mary's during the 1970s.

Ian, Janie and Lance Nurdin were, in turn, chair of the committee, and John Perryman was the leader; after he left, John Oliver stepped into his role.

If you would like to be part of the reunion please email [simonj.saunders@btinternet.com](mailto:simonj.saunders@btinternet.com) If you are in touch with anyone who was there and no longer has access to SPAN, please pass this on to them.



**A WARM WELCOME** awaits you from our 'baristas' serving coffee after 10.30am services at St Mary's

### Special Events and Services

**Sunday 8 January - Epiphany Service**

**10.30am Family Communion**

**Sunday 15 January**

**6.30pm Choral Evensong**

Responses: Smith 5 part

Canticles: Stanford in Bb

Anthem: Evening Hymn - Balfour Gardner

### Stay in touch!

The Parish Office email is now [office@stmaryshortlands.church](mailto:office@stmaryshortlands.church)  
To keep up with news from St. Mary's in between editions of SPAN, you can like our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter – search for 'St Mary's Shortlands'.

Don't forget our website  
[www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk](http://www.stmarysshortlands.org.uk)





## From the Registers

### Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family:

11 Dec

Thomas Napier Schon Waters

Lily Rose Szekely Waters

### At Rest

We extend our sympathy to those who loved:

Rose Woodward 23 Nov aged 88

Wendy Grover 23 Nov aged 59

Jean Luckhurst 1 Dec aged 73

## Remembering

### Jean Luckhurst

Jean Luckhurst was born in 1943 in Loughborough where her family had been moved because of the war: the family returned to North London later, and this is where she grew up.

She was diligent and hardworking, which is reflected in her forty years of service for the Government.

Jean was very proud of her work but had many interests as well. She and Alison, her partner of 32 years, loved to travel, enjoyed opera, and her garden. Jean was also pretty passionate about worms and had several dustbin sized containers of them – not garden worms but very special ones you send away for.

There were other achievements: Jean played cricket for Middlesex Ladies (her cousin Brian Luckhurst opened for England).

Together Jean and Alison travelled all over the world: Cambodia was a favourite destination. They didn't travel alone: Snort and Voyage were their (stuffed animal) companions and were with Jean in hospital.

Jean joined Alison in coming regularly to St Mary's a while ago, and Jean will be missed by very many people.

### I would have my heart

I would have my heart  
Be still  
The well of you;

I would have my mind  
Be still  
The thought of you;

I would have my voice  
Be still  
Except of you;

I would have my work  
Be still  
Honest to you;

I would have my home  
Be still  
The joy of you;

I would have my days  
Be still  
The road with you;

I would have my end  
Be still  
Alive with you.

*Tim Aldred*

### Food for thought

Would you like to read the Bible more regularly but never seem to get around to it?

The Bible Reading Fellowship produces daily reading notes which are very helpful and give food for thought. The three-year cycle of readings that we hear in church cannot use all of the Bible and so the notes help to broaden our knowledge of the Bible by often using different passages. Different people write the notes in each four-month issue so there is variety.

There are several different series and I would be very happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have – call me on 020 8650 0947.

*Judy Rambridge*



**CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP:** Members of the 2WWs enjoyed lunch together at the Park Langley Tennis Club in December, an occasion they like to arrange a couple of times a year. There was much friendship and plenty of conversation around the tables. The 2WWs are a group of people who are on their own and enjoy the company and fellowship of others.

### Saint of the Month

#### St Paul – 25 January

Saint Paul is undoubtedly one of the most important figures in the history of the Western world.

His works are some of the earliest Christian documents that we have: 13 of the 27 books of the New Testament were written by him, and he's the hero of another, The Acts of the Apostles.

He travelled tens of thousands of miles around the Mediterranean visiting Israel, Syria, Cyprus, Turkey, Greece, Malta, Italy and possibly Spain. During this time he founded many churches and enthusiastically encouraged the members of others.

The letters which he wrote to these churches in his three missionary journeys are considered extremely important since they contain what everyone agrees to be Paul's own statements about his life and thoughts. In Paul's writings, he provides the first written account of what it is to be a Christian and thus a description of Christian spirituality.

It was Paul who came up with the doctrine that would turn Christianity from a small sect of Judaism into a worldwide faith that was open to all.

Like St Peter, he started life with a different name – Saul. He was born in Tarsus in modern day Eastern Turkey. Though he was a Jew, he was also a Roman citizen. He took the name Paul after his conversion to Christianity on the road to Damascus, when he changed from persecuting Jesus to preaching that Jesus was the Jewish Messiah and the Son of God.



**FESTIVE FUN:** St Mary's hall was packed with bargain hunters at the Christmas Fair.

## Welcome to the parish!

Harris Primary Academy Shortlands settled into the parish in its permanent home on Kingswood Road in September 2016, having previously been in temporary accommodation on Westmoreland Road. There are currently 180 children on roll in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Miss Sam French is Executive Principal at the school: she leads both this school and Harris Primary Academy Kent House, in Penge, although she spends most of her week in Shortlands. She has been Principal at Kent House for three years, and before moving to work for Harris she was deputy head at Valley Primary School.

She told SPAN: 'I hope to be able to provide our children with the very best education I can because I believe that no child deserves any less. I want to ensure that children leave us well equipped to succeed in the next phase of their education, both academically and socially'.

The school has several connections with the parish of St Mary's: Miss French grew up in Shortlands and her parents still live in the parish. One of the school's Year 2 teachers is the granddaughter of Canon Doug Redman, previously vicar of the church, and another member of staff lives in the parish.

The school is looking forward to welcoming 60 more families to the growing school in September, and will be at capacity in September 2020 with 420 children aged 4-11.

## Looking forwards together

Christmas celebrations are now coming to an end. The Christmas tree, turkey, crackers and presents have left you relaxed and satisfied – another Christmas come and gone.

You may have enjoyed the Christmas Carol Service, listened to children singing 'Away in a manger' at the Christingle service, been to the Crib service to see children dressed up as characters from the nativity, or enjoyed Midnight Mass to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Perhaps you saw in the New Year and made your resolutions – which you promise to keep faithfully this year (of course!)

If you have taken part in any of these things, you will know how uplifting are the celebrations, the renewed hope at the beginning of a new year, the planning and expectation for the year ahead.

We would like to remind you that a warm welcome awaits you at St. Mary's not only at Christmas, but throughout the year. After services during the Christmas season, people often say 'I should come more often, I really enjoyed that' or 'I must make time to come to church more'.

If you are one of those people, you really are very welcome to come back to join us – please don't leave it until next Christmas. Of course, if you do find another year gone and Christmas 2017 arrives, we will still be here and would love to see you again.

When we at St Mary's come to church, we are uplifted both in worship and friendship. We support each other through times of trouble and celebrate together when things are good. We live with the hope Jesus shared with us of eternal life, which helps and encourages us to look forward with excitement for another year.

We hope to see you soon.

*Debbie Speller (Pastoral Assistant)*

## Mission of the month

### The Leprosy Mission



Founded in 1874, The Leprosy Mission (TLM) is a leading Christian global charity working in numerous countries across Africa, South Africa, and East Asia providing and evaluating a range of medical and social projects that help transform the lives of leprosy affected people.

Untreated, leprosy can cause progressive and permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs and eyes, yet for more than 30 years the disease has been easily curable with multi drug therapy, a combination of antibiotics.

Early diagnosis and treatment are essential. Due to the lack of awareness and stigma that surround the disease, some people delay seeking help and are diagnosed too late to prevent life changing disabilities: fear and the stigma can lead to social exclusion which can be more damaging than leprosy's physical symptoms.

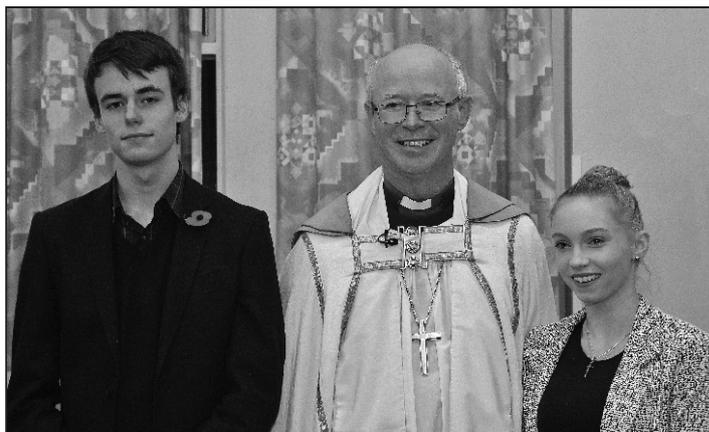
Research and trials continue in a search for a preventative vaccine but in the meantime more than 200,000 new cases are diagnosed annually with more than 3 million people living with irreversible disabilities, including blindness, as a result of late diagnosis and treatment.

TLM continues to work hard in reversing the injustices of leprosy: its work includes treatment, health care, surgery, physiotherapy, health awareness training and providing small business loans to enable those affected to escape poverty and become independent.

St Mary's has a long record of supporting this charity. Further information is available from the display at the back of the church throughout January and you can find out more at [www.leprosymission.org.uk](http://www.leprosymission.org.uk)

## Songs of Praise

Come along to Songs of Praise at 6.30pm on Sunday 26th February. This service will be led by the St. Mary's Music Group and will feature popular hymns, worship songs, Bible readings and prayers. The programme will be chosen from suggestions made by members of the congregation and SPAN readers. If you would like to put forward one of your favourites, please contact the Parish Office during January.



**CONFIRMED:** Lucy Hemsley and Oliver Wright-Jones were among 28 candidates recently confirmed at St John's Eden Park.

## Painting & Decorating

by a time served tradesman of forty two years experience

**T: 020 8650 7973**

**M: 07841 655733**

**E: [www.stretton-downes.co.uk](http://www.stretton-downes.co.uk)**

## Need long term care?

**My Care Consultant** provides information and guidance on your care and paying for care needs.

We can help you with:

- Finding the best care
- Immediate care annuities
- Your property options
- Wills & Power of Attorney

Contact us for a no obligation chat today:

**Email:** [ask@mycareconsultant.co.uk](mailto:ask@mycareconsultant.co.uk)

**Phone:** (020) 3290 3110

**Website:** [www.mycareconsultant.co.uk](http://www.mycareconsultant.co.uk)

**GMM**  
**INSTALLATIONS LTD**  
**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS**

20 Bromley Gardens, Bromley, Kent Br2 0ET

Tel/Fax: 020 8249 8198

Mob: 07721 454 716

Email: [gmminstallationsltd@gmail.com](mailto:gmminstallationsltd@gmail.com)

J.I.B. Approved Electrician

NAPIT Part P

24 years experience

**The Parish Church of St. Mary, Shortlands**



Link Parish  
St. Francis of Assisi, Douai, France

**WORSHIP**

**Every Sunday**

- 08.00 Holy Communion
- 10.30 Family Communion, except when notified. During term time there are separate groups in the Church Hall for children aged 0-18.
- 18.30 Choral Evensong (3rd Sunday in the month)

**Every Monday**

- 17.30 Evening Prayers

**Every Wednesday**

- 10.00 Holy Communion

Further information about all services can be obtained from the Parish Office.

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

Vicar	Rev. M. Finch	8464 8065
(Sat - Thu)	revfinch@btinternet.com	
Associate Vicar	Rev. R. Finch	8464 8065
Associate Vicar	Rev. J. Peters	07531 617302/8460 5682
(Sun, Mon, Wed)		
L. L. M.	Mrs S. Aldred	8460 3978
	Mrs C. Bingham	8460 0324
Readers	Mr. P. Stotesbury	8650 3259
	Mr. S. Buchanan	8777 8008
Pastoral Assistants	Mrs. S. Harrison	8464 0284
	Mrs. D. Speller	8466 1184
	Mrs. M. Westropp	8650 5178
Parish Administrator	Ms. N. Blake	8460 5682
Assistant	Mrs. E. Parker	8460 5682
Churchwardens	Mr. A. Williams	07914343495
	Mrs C. Corbin	07973295134
Deputies	Mrs. A. Swatton	8650 1114
	Mrs. P. Chase	8464 6188
	Miss A. Parks	8464 1157
	Mr. S. Clark	8464 0696
	Mr. D. Cooper	8460 0682
	Mr. B. Waring	07957 186027
PCC Secretary	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947
Treasurer	Mr. T. Dawson	8460 5884
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. R. Hogg	8290 0613
Organist and Director of Music	Canon C. Tillotson	8460 7368
Assistant Organist	Mr Daniel Beach	8289 6510
Electoral Roll	Mrs. M. Shaw	8460 9681
Stewardship	Mr. J. Westropp	8650 5178
Junior Church	Mrs. S. Aldred	8460 3978

**PARISH OFFICE Tel: 8460 5682**

e-mail: office@stmaryshortlands.church  
Open 9.30am - 12.30pm weekdays.  
Information regarding Baptisms and Weddings can be obtained during these hours.

**ST. MARY'S ORGANISATIONS**

Mothers & Toddlers	Mrs. J. Runicles	8650 4553
Mothers' Union Fellowship Group		
	Mrs. P. White	8460 9357
Friends of St. Mary's		
	Miss J. Rambridge	8650 0947

For admissions to Beavers, Cubs & Scouts please contact email: 7bromleyadmissions@gmail.com

Scouts (Fri)	Mr. R. Howe	8462 7132
Cubs (Mon)	Mrs. P. Braithwaite	8460 4152
Cubs (Tues)	Mr. J. Griffiths	07954 437658
Beavers	Ms E. Hay	07932758801

For admissions to Rainbows, Brownies & Guides please tel: 08001695901 or go to [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

Guides (Tues.)	Ms. N. Keast	07516 650940
Guides (Fri.)	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Brownies (Mon.)	Miss. K. Higgs	8462 3285
Brownies (Wed.)	Mr. R. Kateswaran	8249 0984

Brownies (Thurs.)	Mrs. S. Tight	8460 8122
Rainbows	Ms. H. Last	8460 1705
	Mrs. S. Tight	8460 8122
Pre-School	Mrs. P. Chase	8290 6704

		or 07960 988552
The 2WW's	Mrs. A. Heayberd	8460 9537
Church Flowers	Mrs. M. Parr	8249 7127
Mission Chairman	Mrs. S. Shelton	8402 3299
Douai Link	Mrs. G. Dawson	8460 5884
Fair Trade	Mrs. C. Willatt	8313 0246
Mobility Class	Mrs. Jan Boam	8460 7101

**LOCAL COOKS**

Cllr. M. Cooke	020 3665 0357
(Email: Mary.Cooke@bromley.gov.uk)	
Cllr D. Jefferys	020 8460 6030
(Email: david.jefferys@bromley.gov.uk)	

Residents' Association	8460 4060
Shortlands Safer Neighbourhood	8721 2614

**SPAN INFORMATION**

Website [www.stmaryshortlands.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshortlands.org.uk)  
Editorial Parish Office 8460 5682  
Distribution Mr. M. Harrison 8464 0284

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those supported by the publishers, and no responsibility can be accepted for accuracy. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for work carried out by advertisers.

ADVERTISING: £18.00 per column inch per issue. For details call 8460 5682 during office hours. Copy by the 5th of each month to SPAN, Church House, 39 Kingswood Road, Shortlands, BR2 0HG

**AEROBICS - BUMS, TUMS & THIGHS**  
**LADIES - COME AND JOIN JACKIE**  
Every Monday 8-9p.m.  
at St. Mary's Church Hall, St. Mary's Avenue, Shortlands.  
For more information Tel: 8650 2083 mob. 07967 214279  
*A class all ages can enjoy, beginners welcome.*

**Dawoods**  
The Family Law Specialists  
Family and relationship breakdown is a very difficult time for anyone. Please contact Kumari Dawood in confidence for advice. Tel 020 8249 6047 or email [confidential@dawoods-solicitors.co.uk](mailto:confidential@dawoods-solicitors.co.uk)  
Based just off Beckenham High Street  
[www.dawoods-solicitors.co.uk](http://www.dawoods-solicitors.co.uk)  
resolution first for family law

**FERNDALE HOUSE**  
Dental Practice  
All aspects of general dental care in a friendly, relaxed environment  
New NHS and private patients welcome  
020 8466 7393  
[www.ferndale-dental.co.uk](http://www.ferndale-dental.co.uk)  
250 Bromley Road, Shortlands, BR2 0BW

**QUALIFIED PLUMBER**  
**P. J. EDWARDS**  
01322 868212 or 07831 54 59 51  
Bathrooms, kitchens and all domestic work undertaken  
Advertising in SPAN for over 15 years

**LOCAL PLUMBER**  
(Beckenham)  
All types of general plumbing  
Toilets, Showers, Taps, Ball Valves.  
**BATHROOM INSTALLATION SPECIALISTS.**  
07793 867306 Ask for Michael



**HANDYMAN SHORTLANDS**  
Competitive rates, professional, reliable service.  
Most trades covered.  
Call John Prior 07967963162 / 02086998695  
or email [JOHNPRIOR2000@live.com](mailto:JOHNPRIOR2000@live.com)

**Beckenham based Funeral Caterer**  
**CAREYS** FUNERAL CATERERS FINE FUNERAL CUISINE  
Established for over 25 years and able to provide catering and waitress service in your own home or a venue of your choice.  
To see our suggested menus please go to [www.careysfuneralcaterers.co.uk](http://www.careysfuneralcaterers.co.uk) or tel: 020 8658 5008

**HOLT MAINTENANCE**  
Garden Maintenance, Landscape Gardening, Window Cleaning, Domestic and Commercial Cleaning.  
Accredited Safe Contractor  
Tel. 07956 172979

**J. & R. KILLICK Ltd.**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS Est 1879  
\* FAMILY RUN \* 24 hours a day  
\* Personal service \* Modern or  
\* Pre-paid funeral plans advice given Classic funeral fleet  
For advice, assistance and our INFORMATION folder please phone PETER or MICHAEL KILLICK  
020 8777 4502 Website [www.jrkillick.co.uk](http://www.jrkillick.co.uk)  
112 High Street, West Wickham BR4 0ND

**Sunnyfields Day Nursery**  
19 Bromley Grove, Shortlands  
7.30am - 6.30pm daily  
children 3 months to 5 years  
Tel: 8313 9191

**PICTURE FRAMING**  
Oils, Photographs, Watercolours, Tapestries, Prints, Embroideries  
**Jo Powell**  
3 Highfield Drive, Shortlands  
020 8464 3149

**Langley School of Dancing**  
Ballet, Tap, Modern, Street Jazz, Boys Street Jazz & Zumba  
from age 2½ to adult - at St. Mary's Hall  
Tel: 07540 400615 for a free trial class

**Vicky - Mobile Hairdresser**  
over 25 years experience 07958 210577

**Creativity, Confidence Communication**  
Drama for 5-8 yrs, 8-11 yrs, 12-18 yrs  
01689 812 336  
[bromley@helenogrady.co.uk](mailto:bromley@helenogrady.co.uk)

**SHORTLANDS DENTAL CARE**  
98 Martins Road, Shortlands, Br2 0EF  
NHS\*Private\*Quality Care\*  
\*Denplan Available\*  
Tel 0208 460 7520  
[www.Shortlandsdentalpractice.co.uk](http://www.Shortlandsdentalpractice.co.uk)

**Local, friendly and professional building company for your larger projects.**  
Extensions, Conversions, Refurbishment and Electrical. Excellent references available  
No job too large  
E: [steve@rutlandbuilding.co.uk](mailto:steve@rutlandbuilding.co.uk)  
T: 020 8249 8769 M: 07949 593294

A flexible and friendly care service in your own home.  
**Home Instead SENIOR CARE**  
to us, it's personal.  
•Companionship •Personal care  
•Specialist dementia care •Shopping  
Contact us on 020 8658 2535  
[www.homeinstead.co.uk/bromley-chislehurst-orpington](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/bromley-chislehurst-orpington)

**DON'T D.I.Y.** ... Decorating ... Tiling ... Decking ... Carpentry ... let us ... and more.  
Contact Luke, telephone: 07946 545049  
or e-mail at [lukeb12345@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lukeb12345@yahoo.co.uk)

**ROOFING**  
ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN  
GENERAL BUILDING \* LOFT EXTENSIONS \* FENCING  
GUTTERING \* SKYLIGHT WINDOWS  
SEAMLESS FLAT ROOFING \* NEW SHED ROOFS  
PATIO & DRIVES PRESSURE WASHED  
HARRY ALLEN 020 8402 0156