THE KING

The Parish Magazine of
St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

DECEMBER 2026



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING
NORTHWOOD HILLS

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SERVICES

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday
Also streamed from our website

Other Services - Said Eucharist
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, 10.30 am Saturdays

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.
contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession), BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNS OF MARRIAGE - please telephone the Vicar.

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MAGAZINE

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January Magazine

All contributions for
the January Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by
Friday 18th December
020 8866 7173
jonesjennye@googlemail.com

The January Magazine
will be available
from Sunday 27th December

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

December can seem to gather speed as it goes along. There are cards to write, presents to buy and arrangements to make, alongside all the ordinary things that still need doing. I wonder how often we reach Christmas wishing we had found a little more time to enjoy the journey towards it.

Advent offers us a different rhythm. While much around us urges us to hurry, the Church invites us to wait: to make room for prayer, to listen, and to look again for signs of hope. This is not another task to squeeze into an already crowded diary. It is an invitation to pause, even briefly, and remember what all our preparations are really for.

As we light the Advent candles, the growing light reminds us that darkness does not have the last word. We bring to God the world's troubles, the needs of our neighbours, and the things that weigh on our own hearts. Advent hope does not ask us to pretend that everything is well. It invites us to trust that God is at work, even when we cannot yet see the way ahead.

This Advent also marks the beginning of the Year of Discipleship to which our Bishop has invited every parish in the Willesden Area to take part in, under the theme "Gather Together in My Name" (*Matthew 18.20*). It is not a call to fill our diaries with more activities, but to make room for what matters most: following Jesus and allowing his love to shape who we are becoming.

We are invited to make that journey together: praying, reading Scripture, learning from one another and encouraging each other in everyday faith. Each of us has something to offer, and something to receive. Bishop Lusa's hope is that, as a parish, we will respond by deepening our life together and making Christ's love visible in our welcome and care for our neighbours. The child we welcome at Christmas is the one who calls us to follow him throughout the year. The P.C.C. agreed a Mission Action Plan earlier this year and one aim was to start a Bible Study group which is in the planning stage and is one way of growing our faith together – I would encourage everyone to join this group. Details to follow later.

At Christmas, that hope takes flesh. God comes among us in Jesus, born in Bethlehem: not at a safe distance from the world, but sharing its vulnerability and ordinary life. The child in the manger is the promise that we are not forgotten or left to face life alone. God is with us.

For some, Christmas will be full of laughter and company. For others, it will bring memories of someone much missed, or make loneliness feel sharper. There is room for all of this in the Christmas story. We do not have to arrive at the manger with everything sorted out. We come as we are and find a love that welcomes us.

Perhaps one way to prepare this Advent is to make room for someone else: a phone call, an invitation, a visit, or simply time to listen. Such small acts of kindness can help another person know that they matter. And amid the bustle, I hope you will find a moment to be still, to pray, and to let the good news of Christmas speak afresh to you.

May you know Christ's peace this Advent and the joy of his presence at Christmas.

With love and prayers.

Fr. Michael

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS DECEMBER 2026

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

6 SUN **2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Isaiah 40.1-11, 2 Peter 3.8-15a, Mark 1.1-8

8 Tues 2.30 pm Women's Guild Carol Concert

13 SUN **3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24, John 1.6-8,19-28

20 SUN **4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
2 Samuel 7.1-11,16, Romans 16.25-27, Luke 1.26-38

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER
6.30 pm 9 LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE
4 pm BLESSING OF THE CRIB and NATIVITY STORY
followed by EUCHARIST (Said)

11.00 pm MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY
10 am FAMILY EUCHARIST WITH CAROLS

NEW YEAR'S EVE
5.30 pm DEVOTION and BENEDICTION

26 Sat **St. Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr**

27 SUN **1st SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**
Isaiah 63.7-9, Hebrews 2.10-18, Matthew 2.13-23

28 Mon **The Holy Innocents**

29 Sat **St. John, Apostle and Evangelist** *(transferred from 27 Dec)*

OTHER DIARY DATES

Sunday 3rd January	The Epiphany
Saturday 9th - Saturday 16th January	St. Edmund's Pantomime "Mary Had a Little Lamb"
Sunday 31st January	The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)
Wednesday 10th February	Ash Wednesday

BRING - AND - BUY

SALE

1st SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

11.15am IN THE HALL

Part of our Eco Church Project

SUNDAY SCHOOL

at St Edmund's Church

For more information
call Carol 07827 159 586



FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The traditional telling of the Christmas story in words and music

6.30 pm Sunday 20th December

followed by seasonal refreshments

ADVENT

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation,
as the Church prepares to celebrate
the coming of Christ in his incarnation,
and also looks ahead to his final advent as judge at the end of time.

THE ADVENT WREATH



The Advent wreath is a ring of evergreen cuttings such as holly, pine, yew, cedar, or ivy. It is not placed in Church as a sort of pre-Christmas decoration; it is there to represent the eternity of God and his endless mercy, which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath is our faith in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life.

Placed around the ring are five candles - three purple, one rose and one white. The first (purple) candle is lit on the 1st Sunday of Advent, and one further candle is lit on each subsequent Sunday. The rose candle is lit on the 3rd Sunday, to signify *Gaudete* ("Rejoice") Sunday. Each of the four Sundays reminds us of those who prepared the way for Christ. In the middle of the ring is a fifth (white) candle, which is lit only at Midnight Mass and on Christmas Day, to represent the birth of Christ. All of these candles symbolise the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son.

The traditional themes represented by the candles are:

Advent I	The Patriarchs
Advent II	The Prophets
Advent III	John the Baptist
Advent IV	The Blessèd Virgin Mary

A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

St. Edmund's Women's Guild

The next meeting will be on

Tuesday 8th December at 2.30 pm

Peter Heath will lead us in a Carol Concert

Followed by a Festive Tea

THE "LIGHTS OF LIFE" MEMORIAL TREE

The Christmas season can sometimes bring with it a keener sense of loss as we remember family and friends who are no longer with us.

The Lights of Life tree will be in the Church foyer from

Thursday 3rd December to Monday 4th January

All are invited to place names of the departed on the tree and record personal tributes in the Memorial Book

The tree will be blessed at the 10.00 am Eucharist on Thursday 3rd December, to which all are warmly invited. Refreshments will be served after the Service.

The Church foyer and Lady Chapel will be open daily from 9 am until 5 pm

~~2026~~ 2027

A SERVICE OF DEVOTION and BENEDICTION

for New Year's Eve

5.30 pm Thursday 31st December

Prepare for the New Year in prayer

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE - 23rd - 25th OCTOBER 2026

Marjorie Pimm

Members of St. Edmund's joined fellow pilgrims from St. Anselm's, Hatch End, for our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, Norfolk, accompanied by three priests: Fr. David, Fr. Michael and Fr. Rayner.

We began with a short Blessing of Pilgrims at St. Edmund's, then set off in a convoy of cars, stopping halfway for refreshments and a headcount to make sure no one was lost.

On arrival, the hospitality team greeted us and directed us to our rooms.

After settling in, we made our first visit to the Holy House, a replica of the house in Nazareth where the Annunciation took place, within the Shrine church. There was an immediate, wonderful sense of the presence of God and Our Lady's prayers. So began two days of processions, Stations of the Cross, Masses, prayer services, Benediction, confessions, laying on of hands and anointing, and sprinkling with holy water from the well, which draws visitors from the surrounding countryside.

The weather was uncooperative. We managed the Stations of the Cross outside, but one of the two processions had to be held in the Shrine church. Saturday afternoon was free, but heavy rain cancelled visits to the seaside. Some of us went instead to Holt, an attractive nearby village, and enjoyed a large cream tea before a substantial supper prior to the Procession of Our Lady, Benediction and Healing Ministries. On Sunday, all the pilgrims walked to the Parish Church of St. Mary and All Saints, Little Walsingham, for Parish Mass, in which all the participating clergy took part.

The Last Visit to the Holy House took place on Sunday afternoon after Benediction. All the pilgrims gathered together, facing the Holy House within the Shrine church, to pray for a safe journey home, thank God for the blessings of the pilgrimage, and ask Our Lady of Walsingham to pray for them as they returned to daily life. This marked the end of the pilgrimage.

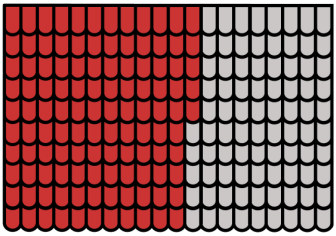


RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

Dear Friends,

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped at this year's Christmas Bazaar and at all our fundraising events held in 2026. It has been an extraordinary year with our Bring and Buy Sales, Bonus Ball game, Plant Sale, Summer Fair, Walking Miles Together sponsored walk (proceeds split with Bowel Cancer UK), Arrow Players' fabulous Quiz Evening and the Christmas Bazaar. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these events and for the fun and fellowship we have shared.

Here is our latest fundraising total which doesn't include the proceeds of the Bazaar, which weren't available at the time of writing. Stay tuned for January's article in which I'll share the new total and some more coloured-in tiles!



Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only close our fund raising gap through a combination of prayer, collective fund raising events, grants and personal donations.

If, after prayerful thought and consideration, you feel able to make a personal donation towards the Hall and Lady Chapel roof replacement it would be greatly appreciated. Donations may be made in several ways:

- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank
  (preferred method as we receive the whole amount with no fees taken):
  - account name: PCC of St. Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
  - sort code: 40-52-40
  - account number: 00017222
  - reference "Raise the Roof"
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the "Donate here" button on our website: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk
- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St Edmund The King
  (with "Raise the Roof" written on the reverse please).
  Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer,
  St. Edmund's Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.

Thank you for considering a donation
and my sincere thanks to those who have already donated so generously.

With my best wishes Steve Castle

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Sarah Parnaby

Christmas Greetings to you all! By the time you read this, you will have no doubt plunged into preparations for the festival. Let's try not to become enslaved to expectations, real or imagined, but keep in mind that Christmas is about God's immense love for us all. Let's enjoy the reality of his saving grace and share that truth with others, rather than getting anxious and stressed.

I make it sound easy, but I'm pretty hopeless at coping with Christmas pressures. However, I'm going to try and make this Christmas more relaxed and unworried and my house more hospitable, rather than beavering away at unnecessary activity. I'll let you know how I get on!

All Saints' and All Souls' Days contained the usual bittersweet mix of joy and sorrow; joy because we know we're connected with all the company of heaven, even if 'we feebly struggle, they in glory shine' as the hymn goes, and sorrow because we grieve for those we love and see no more. Poignantly, All Saints' Day (Sunday 1st November) was also the date of the interment of Margery Richards' ashes in the Garden of Remembrance. It was well-attended; Margery's sunny character, firm faith and determination was an inspiration to us all. She's not the only one of our number that we've lost this year - but not forever, as the Scriptures remind us. We're separated from them for now, yet we are always joined to them within the love of God. Monday's tranquil All Souls' Requiem Eucharist, with the golden candlelight set against the mournful purple and black vestments, helped us visually to acknowledge that twofold mystery.

Sunday 8th November linked us again with the departed, our Remembrance Sunday morning worship dwelling on the sacrifices of those who had given their lives in war. Our church was well attended; it was so good to welcome again members of the uniformed organisations, their families and other visitors, to share such a significant occasion. Fr. Michael encouraged us to reflect on the colours of the poppy symbol: the black centre depicting the hatred, suffering and violence of war, and the red the blood of the fallen - but also the blood of Jesus, who sacrificed His life for us all. Then, the green in the stems and leaves, symbolising new life and the growth of peace. The Beavers and Squirrels then recited a thoughtful "Poppies" poem about war and peace. After the Act of Remembrance the Brownies, Beavers and Squirrels brought forward some Remembrance symbols they had crafted, which they laid before the Altar. The whole service was uplifting in spite of its sadness - and the two minutes' silence was utterly quiet and attentive.

The Memorial Service in the afternoon focused particularly on those known personally to us, who had died more recently. We remembered our beloved friends, Margery, Ruth, Elizabeth and Hilda, and others dear to us. Fr. Michael's sermon reminded us that while we needed to acknowledge our grief, we should try to remember God's great promise of resurrection. We each lit a candle in memory of a loved-one, and the many twinkling lights put me in mind of comforting words from the book of Wisdom: 'The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God….they will

shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble'. This service was also well attended, and most stayed for a comforting tea and a healing chat afterwards.

The Women's Guild met on Tuesday 10th November, for an illuminating talk by Lorraine Singh, entitled 'Discovering Jamaica'. Lorraine has Jamaican family, and an intimate knowledge of the Island. After asking us what we already knew about Jamaica (not a lot!) she filled us in with some history. Yes, those pirates of the Caribbean were real, but they were sort-of working for the British Government, by plundering Spanish ships! The British had taken over in 1655; sadly, both Spanish and British almost wiped out the indigenous population, the Tainos, who'd called the island 'Xaymaca' - land of wood and water. The island's population is now 3 million. It contains many beautiful places, including mountain ranges, river, waterfalls and beaches, but it's not that easy to get around, as the roads are often inadequate and unlit. Moreover, the summer season is humid and rainy, and there's a danger of storms like Hurricane Melissa, which did a great deal of damage, much of it still unrepaired.

Jamaica, we learnt, became independent in 1962. Its flag is black and green with a gold diagonal cross. The black represents the people, the green the land and the gold the sunshine. They also have an inspiring National Anthem, and a Coat of Arms designed by a former Archbishop of Canterbury. Their motto is 'Out of many, one people'. The national symbols include the Lignum Vitae flower, the Ackee fruit, the bendy Blue Mahoe tree and the Doctor-Bird, a kind of humming-bird.

The islanders are mainly Christian, the most prevalent denomination being Seventh Day Adventist. Religion is very important to the Jamaicans; so too is language. The distinctive Jamaican dialect developed over many years, from the time of slavery, and so contains many diverse elements. The Jamaicans are great storytellers; they love their ghost stories and their poets. Much of their poetry and songs are connected with their religious beliefs.

Their history of slavery has played a great part in their identity. A number of national heroes fought for their freedom, and there were some big slave rebellions. Even after the Abolition of Slavery, life was still harsh and restricted for the labour-force, but shared suffering drew the nation close together. After tourism, the biggest income is from remittance money, from Jamaicans abroad. Other income comes from products such as bauxite (an ore of aluminium), rum, and coffee from the Blue Mountains, which are a favourite with tourists. A cause of indignation among the locals is that some of their beaches are now not accessible for them.

Lorraine illustrated her presentation with some beautiful and informative slides, and played us some Jamaican songs which were filled with sunshine and hope. She also brought some authentic treats to our customary tea: coconut water and banana-cake. We're grateful to Lorraine for her edifying and absorbing talk, and to all those who helped to make it such an enjoyable afternoon.

We celebrated our Patronal Festival at 3 pm on Sunday 15th November: St. Edmund's Day itself is 20th November, but this timing gave a better opportunity for finding a guest preacher and other clergy visitors for our very special Eucharist! And we had clergy in abundance: Fr. Tommy Merry from Ruislip Manor was our preacher and he,

with Fr. David Green from Hatch End and Fr. Paul Reece from Little Stanmore, concelebrated with Fr. Michael, all brightly robed in the red that symbolises martyrdom. Also present was Fr. Mike Still with some of his Kenton parishioners. Our hymns and prayers reflected our thanksgiving for St. Edmund and all the Saints, and the choir sang the joyful anthem 'Glory to the Lamb' by D. Blackwell. We were pleased to have Peter Crawford and Peter Heath playing organ and piano respectively for the service, in Mark's absence.

Fr. Tommy preached about St. Edmund's devotion to the Scriptures and his resolute life of service and faith. He reminded us that to serve Jesus, we need to be with Him, as Jesus states in St. John's Gospel Ch. 12. Like Jesus, Edmund faced a cruel death, and suffered greatly, yet however much we suffer, we know that Jesus has conquered death. As Paul says in Romans Ch. 8: 'Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus' - some of the most encouraging words in the Bible.

Afterwards, we adjourned to the Hall for a slap-up tea. It was lovely to share this time with friends from St. Edmund's and other churches. Thanks to Glenda, Clare and Nicky for catering for us so beautifully, and to all - clergy, servers, musicians, flower-arrangers and more - who made the Feast of St. Edmund such a glorious and well-choreographed occasion.

On Saturday 21st November was the Trinity Orchestra Concert, and as usual it was not a disappointment. After an interesting talk about the music we were to hear, the first work played was Frank Bridge's masterpiece, 'The Sea', an orchestral suite in four movements. The orchestration was magnificently atmospheric, in the rich harmonies of 'Seascape', the bubbly and playful 'Sea-foam', the serenely lyrical 'Moonlight', and the wild drama of 'Storm'. Bridge's work contains elements of Vaughan-Williams' and even Elgar's sound-worlds, and he clearly influenced the Sea Interludes of his pupil, Benjamin Britten in his opera, 'Peter Grimes'.

The second work, Saint-Saens' 3rd Violin Concerto is a colourful piece, written while the composer was living in Spain. The first movement was filled with lively Mediterranean passion interspersed with lilting romantic melodies, whereas the second, the Andantino, was gentler, with an enchanting tune rather like a cradle-song. The energetic finale reminded me of a forceful tarantella, interwoven with slower, sweeter themes. The performance of this piece was superb; the violinist, Madeleine Jones, a young student at the Royal Academy of Music, played with great skill, ardour and confidence.

I'm not going to say anything intellectual about the final work of the concert; Elgar's music is so deeply a part of me. This was his 1st Symphony - solemn, romantic, emotional, fiery, magical. It also speaks prophetically of an England that was soon going to be fighting for its life and freedom. I can hear in it the soldiers marching determinedly to their destiny; but I can also feel Elgar's hope, and his love of Worcestershire, his birthplace, the Malvern Hills, the River Severn. This concert was a fantastic performance of a challenging but wonderful programme. I felt so privileged to be there, listening to it, in our own church in Northwood Hills.

I wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas. Sarah Parnaby.

6th NORTHWOOD BROWNIES

Girlguiding has had a revamp of their uniform; the Brownies were delighted to hold a fashion show to show each other and their parents what's available by demonstrating on their own catwalk!

They have been working extremely hard on their Skills Builder 2 First Aid badge, learning all about the different scales of responsiveness, DR ABC (Danger, Response, Airway, Breathing, Circulation) and the recovery position, which they all went home and practiced on their parents. They really enjoyed making simulated phone calls to 999, taking the role of the operator and the first aider to better understand what might happen if they were ever in the position to be calling.

We also took part in the "Indian Challenge Badge," supporting a leader who is travelling to India next year with Girlguiding. We learnt lots of facts about India, made Diva lamps, had a go at glitter rangoli patterns and tasted poppadoms, Mango Chutney and Raita Dip. This was particularly nice for two of our Brownies, who discovered they both speak the same Indian dialect!

The girls were particularly proud of their Remembrance stones bearing the name of war heroes from Northwood, which they took up to the Altar during the church service. These can be found on the ledge in Church if you would like to have a look.

As it's getting darker the girls' favourite activity is having a campfire (even in the rain). They all learnt how to light a match safely during the evening, and lit their own tea light! They enjoyed hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows and bananas stuffed with chocolate and biscuits cooked on the fire. It's always our most popular evening, with both the girls and the leaders.



We are looking forward to going to watch "Hexed" (a Disney animated supernatural fantasy film) at the cinema in a few weeks time, and to doing lots of Christmas activities in the coming weeks, including a visit to the Brownies at Holy Trinity, Northwood.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with love from 6th Northwood Brownies.

Nicola Setterfield and Shannon Jones

Brownies are part of Girlguiding, open to girls aged 7-10
We meet at St. Edmund's Hall on Wednesdays from 5.30 pm to 7 pm
For information, please contact Nicola
at brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

Many Christmas hymns/carols are of fairly recent origin, of 'only' a few hundred years, but this one has its origin from at least 7th century Greece. Its central theme is the miraculous nature of the Incarnation, using biblical references from both Old and New Testaments.

A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure!
The Virgin bears the Infant
with virgin-honour pure.
Repeat the hymn again:
"To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"

The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high!
And cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky. ℟

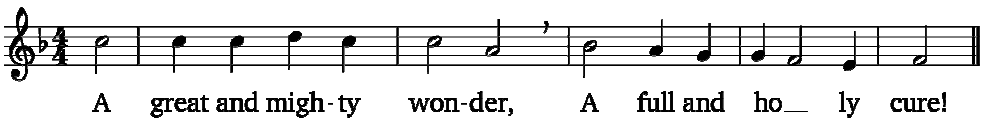
While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,
Ye oceans, clap your hands. ℟

Since all He comes to ransom,
By all be He adored.
The Infant born in Bethl'em,
The Saviour and the Lord. ℟

And idol forms shall perish,
And error shall decay,
And Christ shall wield His sceptre,
Our Lord and God for aye. ℟

The original text of the hymn is attributed to St. Germanus (634-734), Patriarch of Constantinople. It was translated into English by Rev. Dr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), and first published in his "Hymns of the Eastern Church" in 1862. Neale was a leading figure in the Oxford Movement and one of the most influential translators of ancient and medieval hymns into English. He was born in London, educated at Sherborne School and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1842. At the age of 22 he was Chaplain at Downing College, Cambridge, but ill health and his strong support of the Oxford Movement kept him from ordinary parish ministry. So Neale spent the years between 1846 and 1866 as a warden of Sackville College in East Grinstead, a retirement home for poor men. There he served the men faithfully and expanded Sackville's ministry to impoverished women and orphans. He also founded the Sisterhood of St. Margaret, which became one of the finest English training orders for nurses.

The tune used for the hymn is "Es Ist Ein Ros Entsprungen", literally "A rose has sprung up", but usually referred to as "Lo, how a rose e'er blooming". The "rose" is a symbolic reference to the Virgin Mary. It was first published in 1599; later revised in 1609 by the German composer Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

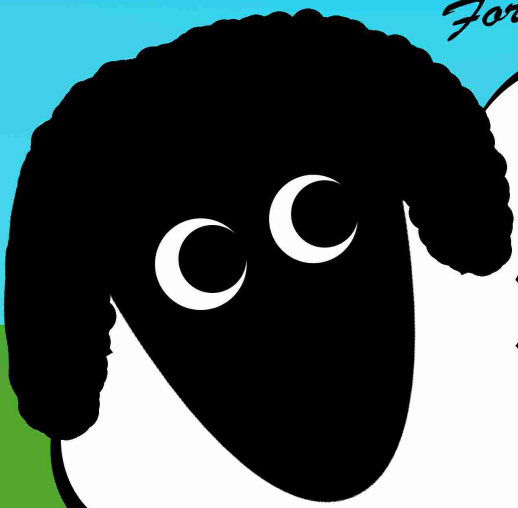


NODA
For every stage

ARROW PLAYERS Present

The St Edmund's Pantomime

For all the family!



Mary Had A Little Lamb

By Mike Warrick

Jan 2027

Saturday 9th at 3 pm
Sunday 10th at 3 pm*
(*Relaxed performance)
Thursday 14th at 7.30 pm
Friday 15th at 7.30 pm
Saturday 16th
at 3 pm & 7.30 pm

Tickets £12
(child £10)

www.arrowplayers.org.uk/tickets

St Edmund's Hall, Pinner Road, Northwood Hills, HA6 1QS

FROM THE ARCHIVES - DECEMBER

14th Dec 1935 - The first church building (now the Hall) was dedicated by Bishop Winnington-Ingram, Bishop of London.

Dec 1945 - Fr. Ronald Arthur was appointed the new Priest in Charge.

Dec 1961 - Fr. Reg Ames re-started the project to build a permanent church building

24th Dec 1982 December - BBC TV broadcast an extract from the January 1982 St. Edmund's production of 'Aladdin' within a programme about Pantomime Dames entitled "Oh Yes I Am ... Oh No You're Not!". This featured a number of professional Dames - and our own Fr. Reg, who frequently took the part of the Dame in the St. Edmund's pantomimes.

Dec 1992 It was announced that Fr. Peter Vannozzi would be the next Vicar. He was currently in charge of the Church of St. Philip and St. James, daughter Church of All Saints' in Fleet and had previously he had been a Curate at St. Mary's, Kenton.

29th Dec 1998 - It was decided that the December edition of the Church Magazine would be sent out to the whole parish as a "Christmas Card". This became normal practice for Christmas, Easter and Harvest, eventually being superseded by the "Glossy" Newsletter.

3rd Dec 2000 - The liturgy from 'Common Worship' replaced the Alternative Service Book for all Services.

3rd Dec 2000 - The Millennium Rose Arch (a symbolic 'bridge' from one Millennium to the next) in the Garden of Rest was dedicated.

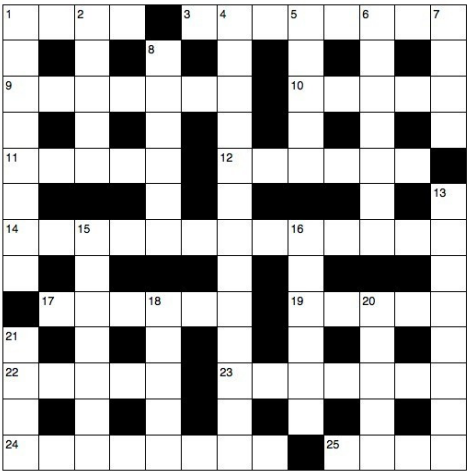
Dec 2000 - Fr. Tony Andrews was welcomed as a Non Stipendiary Assistant Priest at St. Edmund's.

17th Dec 2000 A group of 'strong men' from the congregation gathered at the home of David and Jenny Jones to fell a Norway Spruce conifer from their garden, which was then carried through the streets to the church. It was set up in the Sanctuary and decorated in the time-honoured way for Christmas. This ritual was repeated for several years until the Jones' arboretum had finally given of its plenty.


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LEADER: MARIA NOSKOVA
SOLOIST: BRITTANY KING
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FOUR LAST SONGS
TOM KILWORTH
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DECEMBER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. 'How long will you — your face from me?' (*Psalm 13.1*) (4)
3. 'Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the — he bore' (*Hebrews 13.13*) (8)
9. Posh sin (anag.) (*Romans 8.15*) (7)
10. Solemn pledges (*Matthew 5.33*) (5)
11. Italian term for full orchestra (5)
12. 'For he who avenges blood remembers; he does not — the cry of the afflicted' (*Psalm 9.12*) (6)
14. Prescience (*1 Peter 1.2*) (13)
17. Where a Hindu holy man lives (6)
19. 'If he found any... who belonged to the Way, whether — — women, he might take them as prisoners' (*Acts 9.3*) (3,2)
22. Fragrance (*2 Corinthians 2.15*) (5)
23. Vine hen (anag.) (*Jonah 1.2*) (7)
24. Precious stone decorating the twelfth foundation of the New Jerusalem (*Revelation 21.20*) (8)
25. 'Will you keep to the old path that evil men have — ?' (*Job 22.15*) (4)

DOWN

1. 'Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with — — ' (*Numbers 20.11*) (3,5)
2. 'You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, " — — murder"' (*Matthew 5.21*) (2,3)
4. One of Paul's many hardships endured as a servant of God (*2 Corinthians 6.5*) (13)
5. 'We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, — inwardly' (Romans 8.23) (5)
6. Changed (*Daniel 6.8*) (7)
7. 'My yoke is — and my burden is light' (*Matthew 11.30*) (4)
8. Recoil (*Revelation 12.11*) (6)
13. 'O Lord, you have — me and you know me' (*Psalm 139.1*) (8)
15. ' — to me the joy of your salvation' (*Psalm 51.12*) (7)
16. Express sorrow (*Isaiah 16.7*) (6)
18. 'Then he said to Thomas, " — out your hand and put it into my side"' (*John 20.27*) (5)
20. 'God has said, " — will I leave you; — will I forsake you"' (*Hebrews 13.5*) (5)
21. Son of Onam and brother of Shammai (*1 Chronicles 2.28*) (4)

November Crossword Solution

	H	O	P	E	F	U	L	N	E	S	S	
T		F		X		R		O		O		W
H	I	T	T	I	N	G		D	U	P	R	E
E		E		T		E	R	E		R		S
O	Z	N	I		R		E		W	A	I	T
L			C	L	I	M	B	S		N		M
O	B	E	Y		T		U		J	O	N	I
G		P		C	U	C	K	O	O			N
I	N	I	T		A		E		Y	A	W	S
C		T		E	L	M		G		C		T
A	L	A	R	M		E	P	I	S	T	L	E
L		P		I		N		F		E		R
	W	H	I	T	S	U	N	T	I	D	E	

The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934. The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles, martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ in the year 869 when he was 29 years old. The crown and arrows of the church crest symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.

