

THE KING

JANUARY 2026



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

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING

NORTHWOOD HILLS

VICAR

The Reverend Michael Miller (020) 8866 9230
The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS
e-mail vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

LAY MINISTER

Miss Sarah Parnaby (020) 8866 8309

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, Saturdays 10.30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church
Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

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

OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Mr. Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY (020) 8868 0482 Mr. Isaac Odeyemi <i>e-mail</i> churchwardens@stedmundtheking.org.uk
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. Amanda Roberts <i>e-mail</i> secretary@stedmundtheking.org.uk
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. James Mair (020) 8428 1349
Director of Music	Mr. Mark Hammond 39b Carlton Avenue, Kenton HA3 8AX (020) 8909 2687
Hall Bookings	Mr. Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY (020) 8868 0482
Safeguarding Officer	Ms. Frederica Pratley-Lovegrove 07981 327 678

ORGANISATIONS

Flower Guild	Mrs. Glenda Greenfield <i>e-mail</i> ggreenfield60@gmail.com 07850 581 551
Women's Guild	Mrs. Hilda Greenfield 01923 823 134 Mrs. Connie Ambrose 01923 825 524
Arrow Players	Mr. Michael Warrick 07813 618 225
Youth Group	Mr. Steve Castle 3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY (020) 8868 0482
Scout Group	Mrs. Amanda Roberts <i>e-mail</i> amanda.roberts@renscouts.org.uk
Brownies	Nicola Setterfield <i>e-mail</i> brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk 07742 886 758

MAGAZINE

Hon. Editor	Mrs. Jenny Jones 19 Latimer Close, Pinner HA5 3RB (020) 8866 7173
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WEBSITE

www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

FACEBOOK



St. Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills

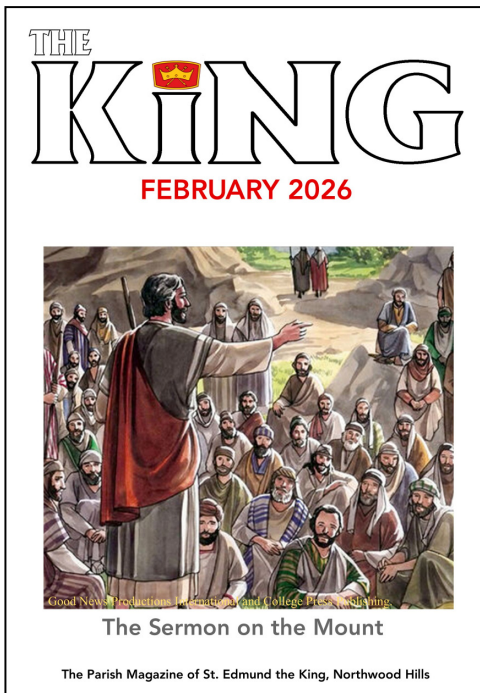
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giving their name and postal address
(having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

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to the latest edition of this magazine and to The Orbit pew sheet.

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FEBRUARY MAGAZINE

*All contributions for
the February Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by*

Friday 16th January

020 8866 7173

jonesjennye@googlemail.com

*The February Magazine
will be available
from Sunday 25th January*

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

As the New Year begins, Christmas decorations are quickly taken down in our streets and our shops; and our retail outlets begin to prepare for Easter. I was surprised one year on popping into a supermarket on Boxing day to see Hot Cross buns on sale,- even the secular Christmas doesn't end until 6th January! In the tradition of the Church, Christmastide carries us beyond December through Epiphany (which we will celebrate on 4th January) and reaching all the way to Candlemas – The Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The season of Christmastide invites us to linger with the wonder of Christ's birth and the mystery of God's presence with us.

The Epiphany celebrates the visit of the Magi to the Christ child and reminds us of the revelation of God's glory to the wider world; to all of humankind not just the Jewish people. The journey of the Wise Men, following the star to Bethlehem, is a powerful sign of Christ's light shining for all people. May we, too, look for the signs of God's love in our lives, and be ready to welcome the presence of Christ wherever we find him.

As Christmas stretches through to Candlemas, we have an opportunity not only to rejoice in the birth of Jesus, but also to think about what his coming means for us and for our world. The message of peace and hope, so fresh at the start of a new year, remains with us as we reflect on the humility of the stable, the faith of the shepherds and Magi, and the promise of God's enduring love. With the situation in our world at the moment the message of peace and hope has never been more needed, and I pray that 2026 will see an end to conflicts throughout the world.

There is a hymn called "Let There Be Peace on Earth", and the last line of the chorus finishes with the words "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me". There is no point in praying for peace in the world if there isn't peace in our hearts and in our own lives. So my prayer for you all is that you will have peace in your hearts and peace in your lives as we venture into this New Year.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful New Year.

With love and prayers.

Fr. Michael

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS JANUARY 2026

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

4 SUN THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 60.1-6, Ephesians 3.1-12, Matthew 2.1-12

10 Sat St. Edmund's Pantomime - "Hickory Dickory Dock"

- 3.00 pm Saturday 10th

17 Sat 3.00 pm Sunday 11th

7.30 pm Thursday 15th

7.30 pm Friday 16th

3.00 pm Saturday 17th

7.30 pm Saturday 17th

11 SUN THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST; 1st Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 42.1-9, Acts 10.34-43, Matthew 3.13-end

18 SUN 2nd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49.1-7, 1 Corinthians 1.1-9, John 1.29-42

25 SUN 3rd SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Isaiah 9.1-4, 1 Corinthians 1.10-18, Matthew 4.12-23

OTHER DIARY DATES

Sunday 1 st February	The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)
Wednesday 18 th February	Ash Wednesday
Sunday 15 th March	Mothering Sunday
Sunday 29 th March	Palm Sunday
Thursday 2 nd April	Maundy Thursday
Friday 3 rd April	Good Friday
Sunday 5 th April	EASTER DAY

MEN'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

The Annual Men's Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place
from **30th January to 1st February 2026.**

For further details, or to book, please speak to Fr. Michael
or e-mail Fr. David Green at ***fr.david@live.co.uk***.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



at St Edmund's Church

**For more information
call Carol 07827 159 586**



**BRING - AND - BUY
SALE**

**1st SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH**

11.15am IN THE HALL

Part of our Eco Church Project

St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

Meets usually every 2 weeks
on Wednesdays during term time;
7.30 - 9 pm, in the Hall. Open to all aged 10-16.

Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.

See www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup
for details and dates

25th JANUARY - THE CONVERSION OF PAUL

This is the day on which we celebrate the conversion of the greatest ever apostle of the Christian faith. He was a Jew, born as 'Saul' at Tarsus, and brought up by the rabbi Gamaliel as a Pharisee. A devout, fanatical Jew, Saul persecuted the Christians, and watched with satisfaction the first Christian martyrdom, the stoning of Stephen.

On his way to Damascus to organise a purge of Christians in that city, he was blinded by a bright light and heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' He asked the identity of the voice, and it replied, 'Jesus, whom you are persecuting'. Stunned by the experience, he followed further instructions which led him to a Christian man in Damascus, who prayed with him. As he did, Saul's sight was restored.

The experience convinced him that Jesus - crucified in Jerusalem four or five years earlier - was in fact the Messiah and had risen from the dead. After a period of instruction, Saul was baptised and took the name by which history has recognised him, Paul. At first, some Christians were wary about the reality of his conversion, but over a period of time he was accepted and indeed eventually recognised as an 'apostle', a 'special messenger' of Jesus Christ

Life as the greatest apostle was not easy: he was stoned, beaten, mobbed, homeless, hated, imprisoned, and finally martyred. Tradition has it that he was beheaded in Rome during the persecution of Nero in AD 64, and buried where the basilica of St. Paul 'outside the walls' now stands. His mighty faith in Christ has kindled similar belief in many hundreds of millions of people down the centuries.

Paul's stature and leadership gifts quickly marked him out, and within a few years he became a leading figure in the emerging Christian Church, preaching and founding churches all over the Middle East, largely of Gentile converts.

Paul was the first intellectual of the Christian Church, the man who was able to set the events of the life and teaching of Jesus, and especially his death and resurrection, into a coherent theology, with its roots very clearly in the Jewish faith of his own upbringing. He's not always easy to follow. Even the New Testament admits that: 'there are some things (in his letters) hard to understand' (2 Peter 3.16). But at the same time he gave the new faith a foundation and credibility which have stood it well down the centuries.

Many people think of Paul as a rather negative, narrow misogynist, but even a quick reading of his letters actually reveals a person of great warmth, who evoked enormous affection and devotion from others. 'You would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me!' he writes to the Christians at Galatia. He was, of course, a man of his time and culture, in days when women were disregarded in terms of status and leadership.

But read his letters, and see how large a role women play in them and how much scope he gave them to lead and teach in the Church. In terms of the first century, St. Paul was a dangerous liberal! So all in all, the amazing Paul of Tarsus deserves a bit of celebrating on 25th January.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

One of the things the PCC is involved in is the Scout Hut Project. As I'm sure you are aware, the current hut is in a state of disrepair, and, as such, Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been meeting in the Hall, for which I know the group are extremely grateful.

St. Edmund's sponsors the Scout Group as part of our community outreach, and over the years, members of the Church have supported the group, and currently there are a number of PCC members who are also 2nd Northwood Scout Group Trustees, Supporters or Leaders. With such a close bond, the PCC have been working hard in getting all the relevant paperwork together and liaising with the Scouts, Diocese of London and solicitors over recent months to agree Heads of Terms in preparation for a new lease.

It's been a interesting journey, which unfortunately is still being travelled. However, we believe that in the very near future a lease will be drawn up and agreed. As you can imagine, between all the interested parties it's not straightforward, but please be reassured that we are committed to making it happen.

Supporting young people formed a large part of our recent Away Day discussions when we reflected on the Mission Action Plan so we are extremely pleased to support the youth organisations who use St. Edmund's as their base.

Amanda Roberts, PCC Secretary



FROM ZAC, A 2nd NORTHWOOD SCOUT

During my time as a Scout I have learnt many new vital skills such as independence and discipline, and new interests that you never knew you enjoyed and seen that the Scouting organisation contributes to better well-being and happiness amongst teens who attend, as well as (hopefully) the leaders, who take their own time to educate these youngsters in ways that school might not, but that are just as important.

I would recommend scouting to everyone who could spare just over an hour a week for purposeful learning. Especially at this stage in life, organisations like these really do help to become a better person in the future. Once old enough, some Scouts will have the skills, convictions and a motivation to perhaps also continue in the organisation. And it's important to mention achievement in Scouts (e.g. Chief Scout Award) can help when looking for jobs, as employers across the UK know about the value of Scouting and how it can aid your working life, for example with strong leadership skills, relationships, social skills, and teamwork ability.

For a final note, I think that age is not only defined by how long you've lived for, but also your maturity and how you act. Scouting genuinely acts on that and you'll know how much self-improvement you've gone through after you grow too old for Scouts and move on.

RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE



Never in my wildest dreams did I think we could achieve gross income of over £3,000 from our Christmas Bazaar but, by the grace of God, we did. A huge “thank you” to everyone who contributed to this event and made it such a wonderful success. I hope you will all agree it was a very busy and happy occasion and we are grateful to our friends at Harrow Concert Band for their festive live music during the day.

The Fundraising Team will be meeting in late January, soon after our Pantomime, to plan fundraising events for 2026. If you are reading this and have any new ideas, or a request for a previous favourite event to be repeated, please let me or one of the team know: Fr. Michael, Carol Diggins or James Mair.

Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only reach our fund-raising target through a combination of prayer, collective fundraising 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
 - optional 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.

Finally, please continue to keep the project in your prayers as we seek to continue the great progress made in 2025 and keep our Hall and Lady Chapel open, safe and available for all in our Parish.

With my best wishes for a happy and peaceful new year.
Steve Castle

New Year greetings to you all! Last year was a pretty grim one (do I say that every January?) but we, as Christians, hang on to hope, and continue to pray fervently for our world.

The Christmas Bazaar was a great success; in spite of the rain, the footfall was healthy, and the atmosphere warm and friendly. There was a tempting selection of nice things to buy and raffle prizes. The lunch menu was varied and delicious - thank you, Glenda and team! - and the cake-stall was also groaning with goodies! Judith provided an inexhaustible supply of imaginatively crafted candles to buy; another stall with some great decorations. As usual, I missed getting the best prizes on the Tombola despite many attempts, but some people did win them! Anyway, I did purchase some lovely socks on the Bric-a-brac stall. And, of course, there was the usual excited queue of children outside Fr. Christmas's Grotto!

Because of splendid support of the Choir on the Grand Draw, I was seconded to the bookstall, which Lorraine had very kindly agreed to take on, owing to Mike Gant's recent heart attack. We wish him a full recovery: we were glad to see him and Peter at the Bazaar, this time as punters! Lorraine did well, providing a personal service by searching for just the right books for people. As usual, I bought almost as many books as I brought! Members of the Harrow Concert Band created a festive atmosphere with their carols. (We heard them again in concert on Saturday 13th December - see Marjorie's description later.) In all, the Bazaar was a very enjoyable occasion, and worth all the hard work. Thanks everyone!

On Tuesday 2nd December I attended the Willesden Advent Quiet Day, which was held at St. John's Greenhill. Our speaker was the psychologist and Spiritual Director, Julianne McLean. We focused on a passage written by the great mystic St. Teresa of Avila, which likened our souls to a garden that needs watering, sometimes in different ways, in order to bring forth the flowers which represent the 'virtues' in which God delights. The day took the form of a 'Lectio Divina' in which we were read the passage and then meditated on it; after this we discussed with a neighbour what we drew from the experience, and then had a further quiet time of contemplation. After this came the 'examen' when we discussed what it might mean for us personally at this time, and then prayed together about it. I found it a truly helpful and peaceful day, and gained some insights for myself. We were well looked-after at St. John's and had ample and tasty refreshments. My thanks to Bishop Lusa, Julianne, Wendy the Vicar, and all who made such a valuable day possible.

Our friends the Eastcote and Ruislip Choral Society held their Christmas concert at St. Edmund's on Saturday 6th December. Their joyous seasonal programme included the Bach Advent Cantata 'Watchet Auf' (known to us as 'Sleepers Awake') and a rich variety of carols, some involving audience participation, and it was followed by a satisfying tea. The Choral Society are keen to attract singers to come and sing choruses from Handel's Messiah with them on 24th January at 2pm at Ickenham URC, followed by a short performance and tea: details from Jenny Jones.

Our All-Age Service for Advent 2 on Sunday 7th December began with an amusing video showing us a better and calmer way to prepare for Christmas, emphasising the importance of Advent as a time to get ready for the coming of Our Lord. From the number of worship-songs we sang, my favourite was Kendrick's upbeat 'Come Lord Jesus'; it was good also to have the soul-stirring 'Lo, He comes with clouds descending' as we processed in. In his homily, Fr. Michael asked the young people whether they kept their rooms tidy. The response was positive, if a little sheepish! Then we were asked whether we would need to rush home and tidy up if we suddenly found we were expecting a visitor. (I certainly would!) He explained how John the Baptist, the subject of our Gospel, was urging his audience to prepare their hearts for the coming of their Saviour - and that we need to do the same. We were shown a picture on screen of the wilderness where John spent his time, and saw how quiet and empty it was: we were then silent for a while, thinking about 'clearing away the rubbish' from our lives, including our sins, as John had exhorted his listeners to do. We were given stones on which to write some wrong-doing (or failure) which we were sorry for. During the prayers we placed our stones in water to wash away what we'd written, to symbolise being forgiven. Then the stones were made into a pathway to the altar, reminding us of Isaiah's words: 'Prepare the way of the Lord: make His path straight'. It was a potent image of what Advent is all about.

The Women's Guild Carols took place on Tuesday 9th December, beginning with the introduction of a little-known carol, 'The Snow in the Street' with words by William Morris (yes, the one who designed the wallpaper!) and music by Vaughan Williams. It reminds one of pictures of snowy countryside peopled only with a few sheep and some shivering but determined carol-singers! It's one of the gems from the Oxford Book of Carols. Peter Heath was in charge of the proceedings as usual: as well as accompanying the carols, he gave us an interesting little talk about the origin of Christmas carols, and read a touching and thoughtful Christmas poem by a former congregant, Josephine Raison - for whom we pray on Sundays, and to whom we wish a very happy Christmas. After some animated carol-singing, Peter and Mark ended the programme with a lively rendering of 'Jingle Bells' on two pianos! We then had a stunning Christmas tea, complete with crackers to pull. Many thanks to Peter, Connie and all who were involved in a lovely afternoon.

On Thursday 11th December, a small but enthusiastic group of us sang carols at Northwood Hills Station, accompanied by Mark and Peter on the keyboard. Amanda Roberts handed out flyers containing information about our Christmas services, and was engaging people in conversation. We received some very positive comments, making our efforts seem worthwhile. We were then kindly entertained at the vicarage by Fr. Michael, with traditional refreshments for the season. We do hope for more carol singers next year, even if you think you can't sing: it's called solidarity, and you get fantastic mulled wine, mince pies, etc., afterwards!

Of the aforementioned Band Concert, Marjorie Pimm writes:

'On Saturday 13th December, the Harrow Concert Band delighted us with their concert entitled Mistletoe & Melodies. As is customary, it drew a packed-to-capacity house. The evening began with a stirring rendition of John Wasson's

“Festival Fanfare for Christmas”. The brass section took the spotlight, with a powerful fanfare that set an uplifting tone for the night. Gradually the entire orchestra joined in, creating a medley of much-loved carols. The concert continued with the evocative strains of “Finlandia”, followed by “When You Wish Upon a Star”, and then “Through the Eyes of Love”, featuring an impressive trumpet soloist. Adding a contemporary touch, the band performed “Fairytale of New York” and the first half concluded with a spirited selection from “Guys and Dolls”. Coffee and mince pies followed in the Hall, and the performance resumed with a festive selection of Christmas Snow songs. The evening reached its climax with the popular Carol Sing-along, with everyone participating enthusiastically, ending the concert on a joyous note. As always, thank you to the Harrow Concert Band, and their Director, Grant Bentley, for a thoroughly entertaining evening for all the family.’

Community Connex Christmas Show took place on Thursday 17th December. They presented a delightful Christmas play about travelling to different European cities - Paris, Rome and Copenhagen, before heading to the seaside at Blackpool! At each place, they sang a relevant song, such as ‘I love Paris’, ‘Three coins in the Fountain’, ‘Wonderful Copenhagen’, ‘The Ugly Duckling’ (for Hans Christian Anderson of Denmark), and one about Blackpool which was new to me. After this, they sang us some Christmas songs (‘Rudolph’ made an appearance!) and we had a visit from Fr. Christmas, who benevolently distributed sweets to the audience. Many thanks to all the hard-working performers and organisers - you are AMAZING! - and to Marjorie for the refreshments.

Our Carol Service was held on Sunday 21st December. Choir carols included ‘The Truth from Above’ - an old melody arranged by Vaughan Williams; Adam Lay Ybouden’ set by Peter Warlock; the spirited mediaeval song ‘Gaudete’; ‘O Little Town of Bethlehem’ set by one of our resident composers, Peter Heath; ‘The Holly and the Ivy’ to the jazzy tune by John Gardner, and John Rutter’s touching ‘Candlelight Carol’. These were interspersed with some of the usual favourites such as ‘Once in Royal David’s city’, ‘God rest you merry’, ‘While Shepherds watched’, O Come all ye Faithful’. The Church looked radiant with flickering candles and the sparkling of the lighted tree, as well as the blue-green lighting in the Sacrament Chapel, which created an atmosphere of awe and expectation.

We had a set of very good readers, some of them first-timers, including young Anthony who did very well indeed. As the age-old story of Jesus coming to save a damaged world built up with each of the nine lessons, culminating in the great mystery told at the beginning of St. John’s Gospel, it seemed to carry us towards the wonder of Christ’s birth and the renewal of hope. We were treated to minced pies, mulled wine, cake and nibbles afterwards, which added to the warm glow the service had created.

At the time of writing, we await the Christmas services. We hope you had a joyful and holy Christmas and that you will have been able to attend the reflective service of Devotion and Benediction on New Year’s Eve.

A very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year to you all.



ARROW PLAYERS
Present

NODA
For every stage

The St Edmund's Pantomime

HICKORY DICKORY DOCK

By Mike Warrick



For all the family!

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

Tickets £12

www.arrowplayers.org.uk/tickets



January 2026

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th at 3 pm

Thursday 15th & Friday 16th at 7.30 pm

Saturday 17th at 3 pm & 7.30 pm

6th Northwood Brownies have had another busy term at St. Edmund's.

We have worked hard on our Live Smart Stage 2 Skills builder. We made fajitas, looked at how navigation on cars works and had a go at a variety of jobs that aren't typically seen as 'feminine' to prove we can do anything. Linked to Harvest Festival we went shopping to see how much food items cost and then chose items within our budget to buy and donate to the Church at Harvest.

The second half of the term was just as busy!

We enjoyed a campfire in the garden with sparklers and were lucky to see some fireworks set off by the neighbours, as well as enjoying s'mores (toasted marshmallows) and enjoyed a nice warm hot chocolate.

The Brownies and their parents who stayed enjoyed the Remembrance service and found Fr. Michael's sermon about Scouting and Guiding in the War very interesting. The girls were delighted to see in the church the Poppy wreath they had made.

We have presented lots of badges this term, Aviation, Local History, Languages, Painting and Jobs to name a few. We have also presented 4 Brownies with their Bronze Badges, which is a lovely reward for their hard work and dedication.

Our last few meetings have been full of Christmas fun. We did lots of fun tasks towards our "Reindeer Challenge Badge" such as making tree decorations, hot chocolate reindeer cones, Christmas cards, build a human snowman and many more. To finish the term we went on a trip to the cinema to watch Zootropolis 2, and of course we are off to the St. Edmund's Pantomime "Hickory Dickory Dock" in January, to which we are really looking forward.

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year.





CAROL SINGING - FROM PETER HEATH

On Tuesday 16th December a group of around 10 of us met at St. Luke's Hospice, Kenton, to sing carols. We were led by Fr. Richard Norman, Vicar of St. Mary the Virgin Kenton, and most of those who sang were from churches in the Harrow area. I recognised Fr. Mike Still and Peter Crawford (former organist at St. Edmund's), as they had attended our recent Patronal Festival.

Carols were selected from Carols for Choirs Book 1; I shared the keyboard duties with a young person from a Kenton church, whose sister played violin, and we also had a guitarist in our music group.

We sang in the lobby so we never saw any of the residents but we were assured that they could hear us and were appreciative of our singing, as were the staff.

Although we only sang for about 30 minutes, I thought it was a great privilege to go there and bring some happiness into the lives of those who will not be able to enjoy Christmas in the same way that most of us will.



ST. EDMUND'S FLOWER GUILD

Would you like to be part of the team that
prepares flower arrangements
for the Church?

We are looking for volunteers
to join the team

No immediate experience is required -
learning on the job is all part of the fun.

If you would like to find out more,
please talk to Glenda Greenfield -
07850 581 551.

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

Though usually only used during Epiphany, there is no reason this wonderfully poetic hymn could not find use throughout the year. Each verse refers to a different stage of Jesus’ life and work, from His lineage, birth, the visit of the Wise Men, baptism, first miracle, acts of healing, and eventually to His second coming, with the recurring reference to Good made man in Jesus.

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David’s stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan’s stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest
In thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in power divine,
Changing water into wine:
Anthems be to thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil’s might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill:
Anthems be to Thee address,
God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear:
Thou by all wilt be confest,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Mirrored in Thy holy word;
May we imitate Thee now,
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we like to Thee may be
At Thy great Epiphany;
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

The text of the hymn was written in 1862 by Rev. Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885). It was published in his book “The Holy Year”, which contains 127 hymns and poems for every season and each phase of that season. He was born in Lambeth, England; he was a nephew of the poet William Wordsworth. He was educated at Winchester and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1835. He was a teacher at, then Headmaster of Harrow School from 1836 to 1844. He was appointed a Canon at Westminster Abbey in 1844, and was Vicar of Stanford in the Vale, a few miles south-west of Oxford, from 1850 to 1869, during which time he was also Archdeacon of Westminster from 1864 to 1869. Then in 1869 he was appointed Bishop of Lincoln, which he remained until shortly before his death in 1885.

The tune mostly used for the hymn is called “St. Edmund”. There appear to be at least five hymn tunes with that name, one of which was composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan, but the one used for this hymn was composed in 1849 by Charles Steggall. It is not clear after which of the three St. Edmunds it is named.

Charles Steggall (1826-1905) was born in London and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge and at the Royal Academy of Music. Later he became a Professor at the Academy, and an examiner at Cambridge. He was an Organist at Christ Chapel, Maida Hill, Christ Church, Lancaster Gate (incidentally the Church that donated the funds for the building of our first Church in 1936); and at Lincoln’s Inn

Other tunes used for the hymn are “St. George’s Windsor” (better known for use with the Harvest hymn “Come Ye Thankful People”) and “Salzburg” (mainly used for the Easter hymn “At The Lamb’s High Feast”).

He composed many hymn tunes, and edited *Church Psalms* (1849) and *Hymns for the Church of England* (1865), and 1906 (re-)published the “Complete Edition” of “*Hymns Ancient and Modern*”.



COME AND SING

Do you like four-part singing? Then join us to sing

Handel’s Messiah choruses

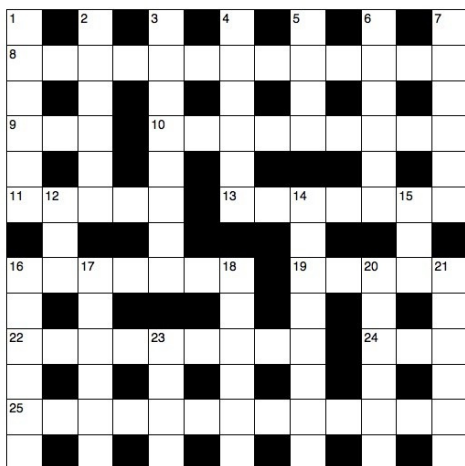
2 pm to 5 pm Saturday 24th January 2026,
followed by short performance at 5.00pm
at Ickenham United Reformed Church,
Swakeleys Road, Ickenham UB10 8BE

Cost is £15, including music, tea and cake

Music: Handel’s Messiah (Watkins Shaw Edition) - Music provided

Tickets on the day; enquiries to 01895 904556

JANUARY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

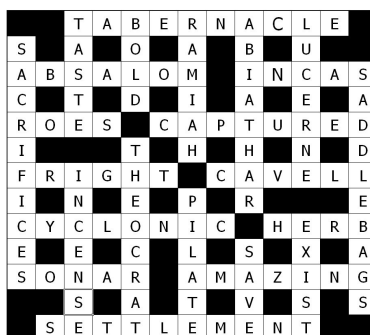
8. How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorised Version (*Revelation 9.1*) (10,3)
9. Frozen water (*Ezekiel 1.22*) (3)
10. The Ten Commandments (9)
11. In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
13. Des cons (anag.) (7)
16. 'Though [your sins] are red as — , they shall be like wool' (*Isaiah 1.18*) (7)
19. Keen (*Romans 1.15*) (5)
22. Repugnant, loathsome (*Jeremiah 24.9*) (9)
24. Drink like an animal (*Judges 7.5*) (3)
25. First and last (*Revelation 22.13*) (5,3,5)

DOWN

1. Father of Ahi, a Gadite (*1 Chronicles 5.15*) (6)
2. Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (*1 Samuel 17.40*) (6)
3. 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy — doings heard on high' (8)
4. 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their — at night' (*Luke 2.8*) (6)

5. United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)
6. 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (*Matthew 18.17*) (1,5)
7. Where Paul was taken when things became difficult for him in Berea (*Acts 17.15*) (6)
12. Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)
14. 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (*2 Corinthians 5.17*) (8)
15. Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (*Exodus 25.5*) (3)
16. Vat car (anag.) (6)
17. 'Be joyful — — , patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (*Romans 12.12*) (6)
18. 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (*1 Corinthians 12.23*) (4,2)
20. Ancient rowing boat (*Isaiah 33.21*) (6)
21. Say again (*2 Corinthians 11.16*) (6)
23. What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up (*Luke 4.16*) (4)

December Crossword Solution



*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*



*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.*

