

THE POSPER

WINTER 2019



Parish of
Old St Pancras

THE CHOIRS OF ANGELS

St Michael's Patronal Festival



On Sunday 29th September, people from across the parish came to St Michael's to join with them to celebrate their Patronal Festival. Mass started at 3pm, a new initiative to try and encourage people from across the parish—and beyond—to attend. In the end, St Michael's was full of friends old and new, and it was great to see some of our old Pastoral Assistants there.

Church looked wonderful, with the London School of Floral Art having spent a day decorating the church in advance. We were blessed to have some extra people join our already talented choir, and the sound they made was wonderful. Fr Sion Evans, Diocesan Secretary for the Diocese of Bangor, preached to us

about St Michael's and gave us an interesting insight to the history of the church and of the statue of St Michael in particular. It was a truly wonderful afternoon, and many people stayed behind for a glass of bubbly at the end.



AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

St Mary's Patronal Festival



On Monday 16th September, friends of St Mary's travelled from across London and beyond to be with us as we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady at the Cross. Although Fr Paschal had said he wanted an intimate 'in house' celebration this year, some people couldn't stay away and we were joined by former Pastoral Assistants, the sisters from Edgeware Convent, and other members of our extended church family. The church had been beautifully decorated and the pews were full. Fr Paschal spoke movingly on Our Lady, and we all hope and pray that by next year, the damaged Calvary will be fully restored and relocated in one of the side chapels at St Mary's. Following Mass, we were treated to one of the wonderful banquets for which St Mary's is famous.

It was wonderful that so many people stayed and enjoyed food, drink and fellowship together. It was a very happy occasion and we look forward to next year!



YOUTH CLUB TRIP

Samsung Centre KX



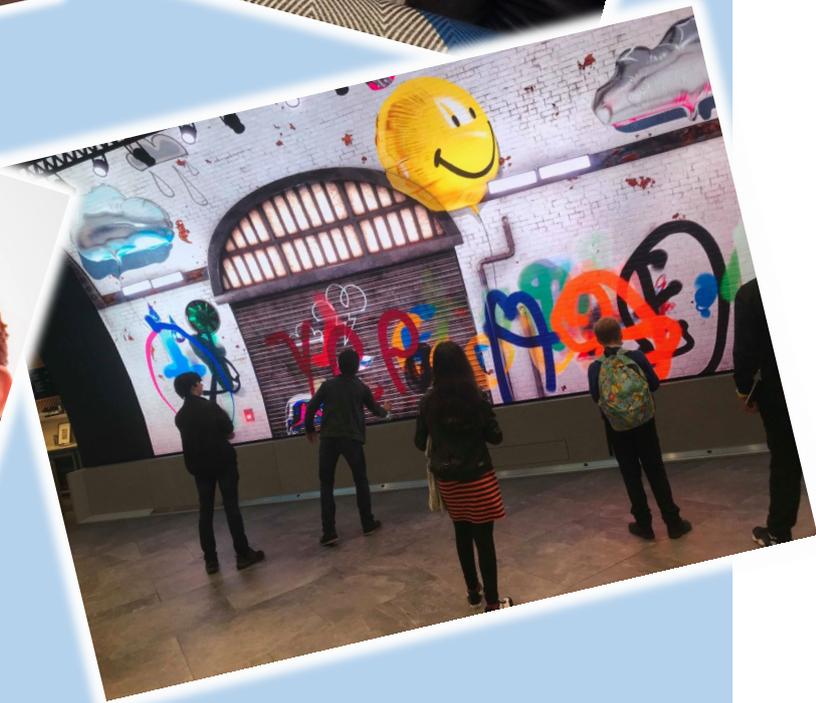
On 7th October, 17 young people from across the parish attended a trip to the Samsung Centre in Kings Cross. The Samsung Centre is a brand new exhibition space which shows off the latest and future technologies, and allows people to try the latest phones, televisions, audio equipment and virtual reality. Our young people, along with the Pastoral Assistants and some parents tried their hand at an interactive graffiti wall as well as a new driverless car from the future!

We had lots of fun and ended up staying half an hour longer than we expected.

The Samsung Centre is open daily to the public and is free to enter.

Why not going along yourself?

Some of the fun from the Samsung Centre.....



Pictures (clockwise from top left)

1. Jack tries driving Virtual Reality
2. Some boys try gaming on the latest widescreen T.V.
3. Tom and the PAs about to grab a coffee!
4. Young people try graffitiing the interactive wall



The Summer Holidays are well and truly over and so it's time for another school year of Messy Church at St Paul's! In September we thought about new beginnings and Tom told the story of Moses and the burning bush, before Fr James blessed all the children's backpacks for the new school year. In October we celebrated Messy Harvest and Ben, one of our community gardeners, made



some delicious pumpkin soup with the children. We've saved the pumpkin seeds and plan to plant them in the spring at a future Messy Church. Have you never been to Messy Church before? Why not come along sometime and see what we're about?



Youth and Children's Events

Autumn/Winter 2019

4th November

Youth Club

*Bonfire at St Paul's Church
with hot dogs, sparklers and games*

13th November

St Paul's Church

4.30pm

Messy Church Saints and Sausages

*This has become a popular event in recent years.
We meet at St Paul's for a bonfire, hot dogs and
soup, plus a fancy dress competition!*

11th December

St Paul's Church

4.30pm

Pop-up Nativity

*No need to rehearse or make a costume – just
turn up and everything will be provided!*

14th December

Youth Club

Trip to Winter Wonderland



CHORAL EVENSONG

for

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

6pm at St Michael's Church, Camden Town

Anthem: Blest Pair of Sirens

followed by a Prosecco Bar in church



St Pancras Old Church
Parish of Old St Pancras

The Fauré Requiem

Tuesday 5th November 7pm

A Mass for Our Departed
Loved Ones



Parish of
Old St Pancras

SAINTS & SAUSAGES

WEDS NOVEMBER 13TH @ 4.30PM
ST PAUL'S CHURCH, CAMDEN SQUARE

Celebrate All-Hallowstide with arts and crafts,
singing, hot dogs, soup,
a torch-lit procession
and a BONFIRE

Come dressed as your favourite Saint or
Angel and win a prize!





The leaves are changing colour, the evenings are getting darker and the mornings are getting chillier. Before we get to the mad rush of Christmas sales, the church invites us to give thanks for the Saints, those heroes of our faith who have been the light in their various generations.

On Wednesday 13th November, we will be having an All Saints-tide bonfire at St Paul's as part of our regular Messy Church celebrations. Starting at 4.30, we will have an hour of arts, crafts and cooking before heading into the garden in a torchlit procession as we invite the saints to pray for us. Outside, there will be a bonfire and we will be serving hotdogs, soup and hot drinks.

This is the third year we have had a bonfire, but this year we are adding a twist. Everyone attending (grown ups too!) are invited to come dressed as their favourite saint or angel—with a prize for the best dressed adult and the best dressed child. If you want to come but are stuck for ideas as who to dress up as, we're handing out picture books of the saints in our four churches to give you some ideas. Don't forget to look up some costume ideas on Google too! If you'd like to come to the bonfire, please let Tom know so we have a rough idea of how many people to plan for. We hope to see lots of you there!



Social Justice Group



There is a long tradition of the churches in Camden being involved in issues of social justice which effect the lives of people living in Camden, Kings Cross and Somers Town. Fr Basil Jellicoe, Parish Priest of St Mary's in the 1930's, was very much involved in the local community and was responsible for much of the regeneration of

the area which involved the tearing down of the slum housing and building of beautiful new flats. His presence is still very much felt in the local area, and he features in a large wall mural in Somers Town, as well as in the Magdalene Hall at St Mary's where his portrait still hangs.

It is in the tradition of justice and care for the marginalized that a new parish Social Justice Group has been formed. They meet regularly, and will work with the groups that already exist in the parish to advance social justice and mission. Our current social justice groups include:

- Legal drop-in at St Michael's Camden Town
- Winter night shelter at St Mary's Somerstown
- Community gardening project at St Paul's Camden Square
- Parent and toddler drop in at St Mary's Somerstown
- Work with older people in The Magdalen Club at St Mary's and at the St Pancras Community Centre



Recently, members of our Social Justice Group, together with other volunteers, spent a day at St Paul's Camden Square with the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan. This public event was to highlight issues relating to the rise in gang violence and knife crime that has taken place over the last few years. They were joined by a large group of local school children in conducting a knife and needle sweep in the streets and public gardens surrounding St Paul's, and then went back to St

Paul's for a talk given by Sadiq and other local authorities. It was a very busy day for St Paul's and the local media were out in force to report on the event. A very big thank you for everyone who worked hard to make this day a success! We look forward to hearing more from our Social Justice Group over the next few



issues of The Posper, and we will hopefully get to hear from each of our various social justice projects in turn. Stay tuned!



St Paul's Woodland Garden



Award-winning garden

First prize in the Church Times Green Health Awards

Wednesday | 11:30am-1:30pm

Come and garden with us

All welcome



St Paul's Church
Parish of Old St Pancras

Some holy reading for Advent...



Sacred Space for Advent and the Christmas Season invites readers to develop a closer relationship with God during this season of preparation and anticipation.

Throughout the Advent season, each day there is a Bible reading and points of reflection, as well as a weekly topic enhanced by six steps of prayer and reflection. With its small size and meaningful message, Sacred Space for Advent and the Christmas Season is a simple way to build a richer relationship with God and embrace the Advent season as a sacred space.

These books are available for sale in all our churches at the very reasonable cost of £4.50. Get your copy from your pastoral assistant before they run out!

John Henry Neman

A hero of our movement is canonised

On Sunday 20th October, a great crowd of Roman Catholics and Anglicans gathered at Westminster Cathedral to celebrate an ecumenical service of Evening Prayer, presided over by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and sung by the cathedral choir. They had come to celebrate the life of John Henry Newman who that day had been proclaimed a saint by Pope Francis.



Born in 1801, St John Henry Newman became a priest in the Church of England and an Oxford academic. He had a great love of church history and became convinced that the Church of England formed one of three branches that made up the “one holy, catholic, and apostolic” Christian Church, alongside Roman Catholicism and the Orthodox Churches. This attracted Newman to the High Church movement which was becoming

popular at the time. Using his academic skills, Newman authored a series of pamphlets teaching the faith which became known as the ‘Tracts for the Times’. As well as teaching, he was a prolific writer and translator of hymns, many of which are still sung today. The movement that Newman popularized eventually became known as the Anglo-Catholic movement, and is the movement that our parish belongs to.

Despite his popularity in some circles, Newman was a controversial figure, and many criticized his attempted reforms of the church, which

Despite his popularity in some circles, Newman was a controversial figure, and many criticized his attempted reforms of the church, which people saw as moving the Church of England in a more Roman Catholic direction. The success of the Anglo-Catholic movement can be seen in the fact that before Newman and his colleagues, church ornaments such as candles, crucifixes, statues, vestments and holy water were almost unheard of in the Church of England.

Eventually, in 1845, Newman left the Church of England and became a Roman Catholic priest. In 1879, he was created a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII, in recognition to his hard work in service to the Catholic Church. He remains a hero to Anglo-Catholics and Roman Catholics alike, and in 2010 was beatified by Pope Benedict during his visit to England. His canonisation by Pope Francis attracted thousands of English pilgrims to Rome.

At Evensong at St Michael's on All Saints Sunday, the choir will perform 'the Dream of Gerontius', one of Newman's works. Do come along and listen—it's a beautiful piece by one of the founders of our movement.





St Michael's Church
Parish of Old St Pancras

The Advent Procession

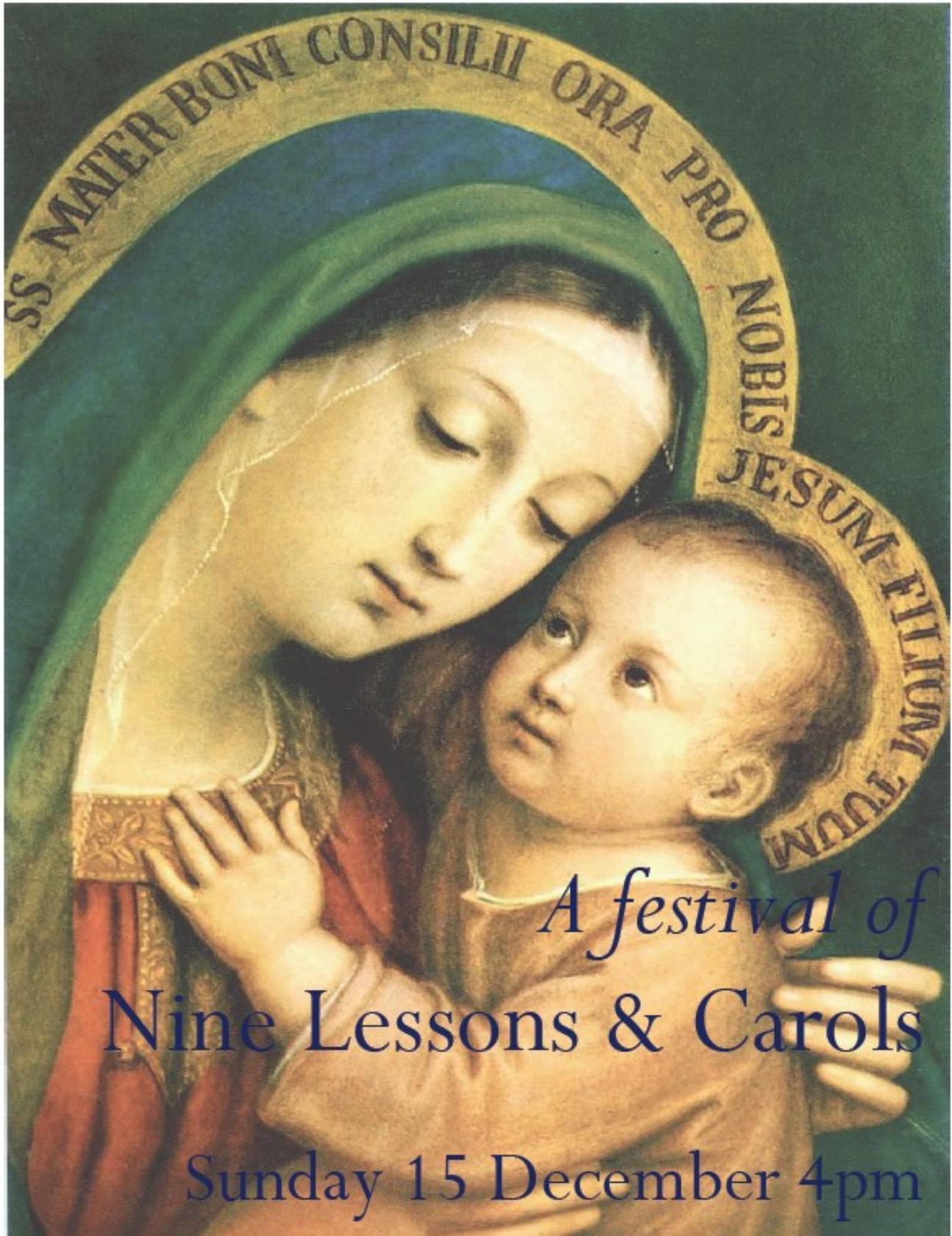
*Sunday 1 December 6pm
followed by refreshments*

Do come and join us



St Michael's Church

Parish of Old St Pancras



A festival of
Nine Lessons & Carols

Sunday 15 December 4pm



St Pancras Old Church
Parish of Old St Pancras



Festival of Lessons and
Carols

Sunday 22nd December 6pm

followed by refreshments

Christmas and Advent Services

Advent Sunday - 1st December 6pm

The Advent Procession *St Michael's Camden Town*

Sunday 22nd December 6pm

Christmas Carol Service 6pm *St Pancras Old Church*

Christmas Services across the Parish

St Mary's Somers Town

Christmas Eve 4pm *Children's Crib Service*

Christmas Eve 11.30pm *Midnight Mass*

Christmas Day 10.00am *Mass with Carols*

St Michael's Camden Town

Christmas Eve 9pm *Vigil Mass*

Christmas Day 10.30am *Parish Mass*

St Paul's Camden Square

Christmas Day 11am *Mass*

St Pancras Old Church

Christmas Eve 4pm *Children's Crib Service*

Christmas Eve 11pm *Carols by the Tree*

Christmas Eve 11.30pm *Midnight Mass*

Christmas Day 9.30am *Parish Mass*

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH

Clergy of the Parish

Fr James Elston *Team Rector and Vicar St Pancras Old Church and St Paul's Camden Square*

Fr Paschal Worton *Team Vicar, St Mary's Somers Town*

Fr Michael Thomas *Team Vicar, St Michael's Camden Town*

Fr Guy Willis *Assistant Priest*

Lay Ministry Team

Ms. Judy Powell *Community Chaplain at St Paul's Camden Square*

Dr. Andrea Werner *Licensed Lay Minister at St Michael's Church*

Tom Dumbell *Children's and Young People's Worker*

Lynn Trigg *Parish Administrator*

Pastoral Assistants

Jack Allen *Pastoral Assistant St Pancras Old Church and St Paul's*

Hugh Reid *Pastoral Assistant St Mary's Somers Town*

Peter Greenfield *Pastoral Assistant St Michael's Camden Town*

All can be contacted via the Parish Office on 0207 424 0724

