

# St Stephen Walbrook Parish Newsletter

November 2018

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## Thanks be to God!

Welcome to our newsletter for November. Thanksgiving is a key part of the rhythms of this month: deep gratitude for the inspiration of all saints, for all our loved ones who have gone to glory and for those who laid down their lives and have suffered on our behalf in conflicts across the world. At Stephen Walbrook, we also give thanks for the year of devoted service of Charles and Samantha Bowman as Lord and Lady Mayoress, two of the very few inhabitants of our parish. In addition, we are very thankful for John, Sarah and Vince and their courage in making their confirmation vows at St Paul's last Saturday. Finally, I am extremely grateful for all the generous support given to all aspects of Christ's mission at Walbrook - particularly, this month, for the Community Choir and the arrival of the Musicians' Church. With blessings and all good wishes,

*Reverend Stephen Baxter*

## Parish Life in Pictures

Congratulations to Sarah Martin and John Omoti who were confirmed and Vincent White who was baptised and confirmed at St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 3rd November by The Rt Revd Pete Broadbent. It has been a great privilege to explore aspects of our faith together with Sarah, John, Vince and many others at "Time and Space" - our Thursday evening discussion group this term. Please hold Sarah, John and Vince and their families in your prayers at this special time.





## Yo-Yo Ma performs Bach

It was a great privilege to welcome the world's most famous cellist, Yo-Yo Ma, to St Stephen Walbrook to talk to Catherine Bott for Classic FM and give us a special performance of Bach's Cello Suite No. 1.

The cellist has been playing the music of Bach for 58 years, and has just released his third recording of the Cello Suites. He explained that he first encountered the composer at the age of four: "It's like having a great best friend in each chapter of your life... a great companion, a person that is there to help you go through sticky wickets in life."



## City Giving Day

We were delighted to welcome the Lady Mayoress, Samantha Bowman and hundreds of guests to a champagne reception with beautiful music from pianist Rimantas Vingras, before The Long Lunch in St Swithin's Lane on City Giving Day.



Over £450,000 was raised at events across the City on 25th September, which will benefit three ground-breaking charities working to address social issues, changing and saving lives: Place2Be, OnSide Youth Zones and the Samaritans, who were founded in our church 65 years ago. The Long Lunch is one of the most popular events of the day with hundreds of guests sitting down to enjoy the delicious food and hospitality of some of the top restaurants in and around our parish. We are thankful to all at Hispania, 1 Lombard Street, The Don and Coq d'Argent for their generosity in making the reception and the Long Lunch such a special occasion. (Photographs courtesy of The Don Restaurant)



### Behind The Scenes....

Thank you to Mark Butler for updating the signboards in church. Mark has been our signwriter for ten years.

## Service of Thanksgiving for the Lord Mayor's Year in Office

Each Lord Mayor is invited to be invested as an Honorary Churchwarden of St Stephen Walbrook and is also invited to a Thanksgiving Service for the Mayoralty, where thanks are offered to God for the work of The Lord Mayor and work undertaken with the City Livery Companies and Ward Clubs. Join us for the Annual Thanksgiving Service for the Lord Mayor's Year in Office on Monday November 5th at 5pm. The preacher will be The Reverend George Bush, Lord Mayor's Chaplain. The service will be followed by a reception. Spaces are limited so please RSVP to the Parish Office.



## The Musicians' Church comes to St Stephen

Last November the Diocese of London launched the Musicians' Church website, [www.musicianschurch.org](http://www.musicianschurch.org), to provide a trusted online home for musicians to identify, view and book the many churches throughout the City and beyond that have facilities for concerts, events and rehearsals.

Supporters of the Musicians' Church are welcome to join us at 6pm on Thursday 22nd November for an Evening of Words and Music for St Cecilia's Day. This special evening featuring the Choral Scholars directed by Andrew Earis and John Rutter CBE, marks the next exciting stage in the development of the Musicians' Church, firstly by establishing it at permanently at St Stephen Walbrook, and secondly by celebrating the launch of a new and more comprehensive website. The Musicians' Church is committed to expanding our community of churches within and outside London, as well as developing events and support programmes to celebrate and cultivate our Partnership in the Gospel between churches and musicians.

### *Parishioner Perspective.....*

## Magnifi-Cat Anima Meow



**This four-legged parishioner is Paul, a Russian Blue, who belongs to Lee our Verger, who writes:**

"I brought Paul to work with me for a quick visit while I prepared the church for a wedding. At first he was very worried about his new surroundings - and then the organ started with the trumpet! Within a few minutes, Paul was fine!"



## Remembrance for the City - November 8th at 12.45pm

Join us for this special service during which we will remember those who have died in conflict around the world. This year we remember especially the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice.

A number of life-sized soldier silhouettes will be placed around the church, sponsored by members of the parish, part of a national art installation "There But Not There." Our new Community Choir (pictured) will join our choral scholars to perform music during the service. Prayer requests can be left online via the London Internet Church.



# Service Times

## Monday

**1.00pm-1.30pm : Choral Classics**  
30 minutes of sublime music.

## Tuesday

**7.45am - 9.15am : Start Stop**  
Reflections beginning on the quarter hour. Start the day by stopping to reflect.

**1.00pm Lunchtime Concert**  
organised by the Walbrook Music Trust.

## Wednesday

**1.00pm-1.45pm : Community Choir**  
Begins Wednesday 12th September.

**6.00pm-6.45pm : Choral Evensong**  
(Wednesday 21st November).

## Thursday

**12.45pm Sung Eucharist**  
with music from the St Stephen's Voices. Followed by light lunch.

**2.00pm Prayer Group**  
in partnership with the London Internet Church

**5.30pm-6.15pm : Time & Space**  
An informal discussion group on aspects of the Christian faith. All welcome.

## Friday

**12.30pm Organ Recital**

# Christmas Services

**Carols by Candlelight**  
**Wednesday 12th December at 6.00pm**  
Followed by mulled wine & mince pies

**Christmas Eve by Candlelight**  
**The Midnight Mass of Christmas & Blessing of the Crib**  
**Monday 24th December at 11.30pm**

Followed by refreshments. A car lift may be available after the service if you can let the office know your destination in advance



# Business Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who joined us on October 4th for our lunchtime Business Harvest Festival, giving thanks to God for our skills and talents and the good use we put them to. Thank you to all those who brought along objects to represent their daily work (both paid and unpaid). These symbols were processed to the altar during the service, as a symbol of thankfulness.

The collection was in aid of the British Red Cross Indonesia Appeal and raised £200. We were delighted that Solangela Garbutt, Vice President of the British Red Cross, was able to be with us.



## From the Parish Registers...

Congratulations to those married here over the past few months. Please pray for both couples and their families

Robin Mortimer and Jo McDerra  
Married on 1st September 2018  
(Pictured)

William Nott and Araminta Nicholson  
Married on 20th October 2018.