

PARISH OF THE HOLY TRINITY



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

9 JANUARY 2020

No. 10

*Weekly Worship, Events & Announcements —
Submissions Welcome!*

Upcoming Week

- ❖ Sunday [Liturgy - Variable Parts](#)
 - ❖ Archdiocesan [Sunday bulletin](#)
 - ❖ Saints' days in [Greek](#) and [English](#)
 - ❖ Online [9.30 Sunday Matins & Liturgy](#) at Holy Wisdom Cathedral, London
 - ❖ Online [10.30 Sunday Liturgy](#) at St Nicholas Parish, Oxford
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Events & Announcements

Some reminders about services in the Church:

- There is a [new sign-up link](#) for Liturgies in January.
- Families must sign up each adult and each child who will attend the service.
- If you find that you are not able to attend, there is a link in the confirmation email from Eventbrite enabling you to **cancel your reservation**. This will allow one of our very limited places to go to another parishioner.
- Please send prayer lists to [Fr Ian](#) the evening before liturgy at the latest.

On 2 January we had a lovely Zoom with Metropolitan Kallistos cutting the community vasilopita — the event is detailed below!

From Fr Ian

Dear Friends,

Last spring, when we entered the first lockdown, many of us expected that by this time we would be well back to our normal ways. Instead we find ourselves facing a third, and indefinite, lockdown. It is a reminder to us all that the future is never certain. As St James tells us in his epistle, “You do not even know what tomorrow will bring.” (4:14) This last year has taught us all to be more aware of the fragility of life, and the precariousness of the precautions that we take. Our recent need to cancel the first two Liturgies of the new Year has served to underline this for our whole community.

And yet, as I said last week, there are signs of hope. We have begun to learn how to “meet” together, thanks to the possibilities presented by our modern technology, and although we were not able to celebrate together on St Basil’s Day, it was a great joy for many of us to join Metropolitan Kallistos as he cut the Vasilopita for our community. I hope that in the year ahead we will return to our occasional programme of talks and social events, even if initially this has to be via Zoom. We can also be grateful that this time around the lockdown regulations do not stop our meeting together for worship, even if we have to do so under restrictive conditions. I want to thank all of you for your understanding and cooperation with our safety protocols which have meant that we can continue to be a physical worshipping community, and I especially want to thank those who have volunteered as marshals, singers, servers and cleaners – the “key workers” in ensuring that the services continue. As long as we are able to we shall continue to serve our regular Sunday Liturgies, and I hope that as we go forward we shall be able to serve some weekday ones, too.

In the longer term, of course, our hopes are that the programme of vaccinations now underway will bring us to the point where we will no longer have to restrict the number of people coming to the church services. Easter this year does not fall until May 2nd, so it may be reasonable to look towards the possibility of freer Lenten and Easter services. In the meantime let us continue to look for ways in which we can work together as a community, building up the body of Christ, and enabling one another to grow into the fulness to which we are called.

With my love to you all,

Fr Ian

Auxiliary Association of St Andrew



The Auxiliary Association of St Andrew has had a busy festal season, working to spread some Christmas joy with hamper & vasilopita deliveries, and organising a blessing from Metropolitan Kallistos over Zoom for the community ([Link to Video](#)).

Many thanks to Metropolitan Kallistos, Simon J for filming, Roula T for baking the (reportedly delicious!) vasilopita, Ioanna C, Anna GT, Gillian E, & Ioanna P for logistics and seasonal deliveries, and Melina D and Philip A for help with communications. If you would like to join us in our efforts at philanthropic and community-enhancing work, please [email our Chair, Chara Tzanetaki](#).

The Auxiliary Association will next fundraise for a community memorial dedicated to our beloved Patricia Scott, a project that was interrupted by the health crisis.

Parish Council



The next in our series of introductions, this week a new Parish Council member:

I have been a member of the parish since 2010. I started attending the Orthodox Church after being baptised at St John the Baptist monastery near Lake Kerkini, Greece. I have lived in Oxford most of my life, for the past three years in Marston. In non-COVID times you will most likely see me making coffee, after church or at the Food Fair so do come and say hello! —**Ioanna Pavelin**



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**Please remember
Holy Trinity Parish
in your prayers!**

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