

Thursday 12 September 2024

Dear Friends,

I am going on a walk – on rather a long walk.

On Monday, I will be embarking on a pilgrimage across Northern Spain, from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port to Santiago de Compostela. God willing, I will walk about 784km (487 miles) over the course of 33 days. I'll be walking 20-25km (12.5-15.5 miles) a day, staying in pilgrim hostels called albergues, and meeting lots of lovely new people on the route.

Some of you, I know, have undertaken this particular pilgrimage already. Others of you want to, or wanted to but haven't been able to. So, forgive me if I am telling you things which you already know!

The Camino de Santiago (The Way of St James) is in fact many ways: it describes a network of pilgrim routes across Spain to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostella, wherein are the remains of St James the Great. It was an important destination for medieval pilgrims, who travelled from all across Europe to visit the relics and to pray at the shrine of St James. In 1495, Pope Alexander VI declared the Camino de Santiago one of the three great pilgrimages of Christendom (along with Jerusalem and the Via Francigena to Rome). In the last 50 years, the Camino has seen a revival, with 446,000 people from all over the world making their pilgrimage last year.

People walk the Camino for a huge variety of different reasons: a journey of faith, in search of answers, for health, for adventure, a space for reflections. (Perhaps you have seen the Martin Sheen film 'The Way', which addresses this rather beautifully.)

On the journey, pilgrims carry the *credencial* which permits them to stay in albergues, and in which they collect stamps – as a record of their journey. At Santiago, one's *credencial* can be presented as proof of the journey, qualifying the pilgrim to collect a Compostela.

I would do almost anything for a certificate! But the point of the pilgrimage is, of course, the journey: Time and space; the rhythm of travel; meeting fellow travellers. I will be praying for you on my journey and, of your charity, would you pray for me too?

Buen Camino!

With prayers and blessings from the Richmond clergy team,  
Anne, Charlie, Joe and Wilma

*This letter was written by The Revd Charlie Middleton*

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**Please pray for:**

... **Fr. Jamil Khadir and the Anglican congregations in Nablus** in the West Bank; for the peace of Jerusalem, release of hostages and for an end to conflict

... **Christ Church**, the Anglican Church in Kyiv, and the people of Ukraine

... **Christ's School**, and other schools in the parish. For Ada Rugg, the new chaplain at Christ's.

... **the sick and those in need** - Gill Doling, Liz Velluet, Marc Cranfield-Adams, Barbara Adamson, Jean Hayes

... **the departed, may they rest in peace** - Ann Voller, Shelagh Johnstone (funeral at St Mary Magdalene on 1 October, 1pm)

Please note that the **Prayer List is renewed at the beginning of each month.**

If you would like your own name added, simply [email the parish office](#).

If you would like to add someone's name, please ensure you have their agreement, if at all possible.

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## **Church, Community and other news:**

### **September Holiday arrangements**

The Parish Office will be closed from 16 September till 30 September. If you urgently need to get hold of someone, please contact a member of the clergy.

There will be no Zoom Morning Prayer on 16 – 18 September, however in church as normal. St Mary Magdalene may be closed on Monday 23 September and Friday 27 September. Please check with Churchwardens for further info.

### **NEW: Searching for a Flag Master**

St Mary Magdalene are looking for a new Flag Master who would like to carry on the wonderful work started by David Shaw. We have a large collection of national flags, many of them donated by Richmond residents. It would be wonderful to fly these on special days for the various countries. Is this something you might like to do?

We also need to sort and label all the flags and will do that on a Saturday in October in church. If you would like to know more, please talk to one of the Church Wardens or to Charlie.

### **NEW: BOOK and CD sale outcome**

Thank you for everyone who contributed to the book sale at St Mary Magdalene last Saturday. An amazing £1370 was raised for the Richmond Soup Kitchen and lots of positive conversations were had.

### **NEW: Litter Pick**

Sunday 29 September at St Mary's after the 9.30 service - Another litter pick planned for tidying the churchyard as part of our plans for World Clean Up Day in September - do join us. All picking equipment will be provided, but you might want to bring gloves. Of course there will be coffee and biscuits too.

### **NEW: Climate Chat at St Luke's, Kew - 8pm, Tuesday 17 September**

Come along to St Luke's, Kew, to hear from a stellar line-up of speakers, who will offer practical advice on the small things we can all do to fight climate change and take care of the environment. The panel will include:

Anna Hughes, founder of [Flight-Free UK](#), a charity set up to encourage people to travel without flying.

John Rose, who set up [Friends of Street Trees](#), a local charity which aims to increase young tree survival through resident involvement in tree watering and care.

Eve Risbridger, a Director and Cafe Manager for [The Real Junk Food Project](#) (TRJFP). The project aims to reduce food waste and tackle food poverty in Richmond borough by collecting surplus food from local shops and turning it into delicious meals at its cafes.

Tickets are £5 per person, and include drinks and nibbles after the talk, where there will be a chance to network and engage further with the panelists. Click [here](#) to book tickets. Contact Charlotte or Suzie for more details – [kewecofair@gmail.com](mailto:kewecofair@gmail.com).

### **NEW: Tabletop Sale at St John's Church Hall**

Saturday 28 September 11am-2pm. Books, Holy Icons, Bric-a-brac, clothes and lots more! Funds raised for the restoration of the Church Textiles.

### **NEW: Eaglets Update**

We were so happy to open our doors again for Eaglets. It was great being back.

We will be back every Tuesday from 9:30-11:30. Please spread the word. All are welcome

### **NEW: Pre-teens meet Underground Our new Pre-teens group**

After a lovely Palm Sunday event and a lovely Summer event, we're going to be launching a monthly pre-teens group (for 8-13). We will meet on each of the dates below at the Parish Office: Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Board Games night

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Bonfires and Burgers  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Film night

Please invite those that you think would enjoy this. Get in touch with Emma ([cypml@richmondteamministry.org](mailto:cypml@richmondteamministry.org)) for more information.

### **Vineyard School Music**

The Vineyard School is opening a small music school on site, giving hundreds more children the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. However, being a state school we have no budget! Do you have an orchestral instrument you could donate to our instrument library, or a music-themed picture for our bare walls? Or would you like to sponsor a child in financial difficulty to receive lessons? Please email [music@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:music@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk) for more information.

### **Confirmations 2024**

Richmond Team Ministry will be presenting candidates for Confirmation at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 23 November. If you are considering taking this step on your faith journey, speak to your vicar about the possibility of confirmation this year. Preparation classes will take place over 4 sessions in October and November: dates to be confirmed.

### **Zero Waste Week**

As part of our commitment to Zero Waste Week – we will be supporting Workaid. We will be collecting all haberdashery items - dress making material, wool, knitting needles, cotton, scissors, buttons, zips, elastic, sewing machines and so on.....the charity then send this to Africa and also train young people to use the items in order to have a trade and be able to make a living. Please leave all contributions in the boxes at the back of all three churches. The boxes will be out for the first three weeks of September. <https://workaid.org>

### **Updated: Recitals at St Mary Magdalene Autumn 2024**

This week! Sat 14 September, 12.30pm

Seb Gillot, organ: a programme of music by J.S. Bach

Sat 5 Oct, 12.30pm Rachel Smith, flute, and Emilie Capulet, piano

Sat 2 Nov, 12.30pm Pavlos Triantaris, organ, and Marily Kritikou, mezzo-soprano

All recitals are free entry, with a retiring collection for the St Mary Magdalene Choral Foundation.

### **Reflective walks with Rev'd Anne – next one on Friday 20 September**

The next walk takes place on Friday 20 September, starting at 10am and ending with coffee. The route will be finalised nearer the time – if you would like to join and haven't walked with the group before, please email Anne and she will send you the information you need [anne.crawford@richmondteamministry.org](mailto:anne.crawford@richmondteamministry.org) The walks are gentle and last around an hour and half. New walkers always welcome. More walks planned for Fri 18 Oct and Fri 15 November.

### **Climate Pilgrimage for the Planet**

Saturday 21 September from Hammersmith Bridge to Teddington Lock

Starting 10.30am Holy Trinity, Castelnau Road and finishing Teddington Lock 4.00pm. Following the Thames Path upstream from Hammersmith Bridge. The path is rough but easy to walk on.

Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome. Wear comfortable shoes, and pack a waterproof, sun cream and sun hat, water and a packed lunch. For more information contact Judith at [ccawestlondon@gmail.com](mailto:ccawestlondon@gmail.com). *"Let justice flow on like a river..." Amos 5:24*

### **London Open House Festival**

St Peter's Church in Petersham will open their doors on Sunday 22 September from 2-5pm, as part of the annual London Open House Festival. A team of very knowledgeable volunteer historians will be on hand to celebrate over 1350 years of architecture at St Peter's. No need to book – please just pop along. For more information please contact [st.peters.petersham@googlemail.com](mailto:st.peters.petersham@googlemail.com)

## **Eucharist for Healing and Wholeness on the last Tuesday of the Month at St John the Divine at 7pm**

From September, on the last Tuesday of the month our regular Said Eucharist at 7pm at St John's will be a Eucharist for Healing and Wholeness. There will be the opportunity to receive the Ministry of Laying on of Hands with Prayer and Anointing for yourself or to receive it on someone else's behalf. All are welcome.

## **Children's choir! Launching Thursday 26 September**

We're so excited to be launching our children's choir in September. This will be an extension to the St Mary Magdalene Choral Foundation. The choir will meet on Thursdays after school 5.15-6.00pm, and we would love to welcome children between the ages of 7-13. If you are interested or you would like more information please email [music.stmarys@richmondteamministry.org](mailto:music.stmarys@richmondteamministry.org)

## **Christian Aid Richmond Riverside Sponsored Walk - Saturday 28 September**

This sponsored walk will start 10.30am at St Matthias. The route is the same as in previous years, i.e. via St Richard's Ham, then back along the river to Kew and finishing at St Anne's.

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/events/walking>

## **Harvest Barn Dance**

At Raleigh Road United Church, TW9 2DX Saturday 28 September 2024, 7pm. Dancing to the Craigievar Ceilidh Band. Tickets £10 each including light supper and unlimited soft drinks (you are welcome to bring your own alcohol!)

For tickets, contact Jane from Raleigh Road United Church on 0208 948 7851

## **Piano Concert – Saturday 28 September, 7.30pm**

Anthony Adkins will be performing Mozart & Chopin in aid of St Richard's Church restoration appeal. St Richard's CE Primary School. Ashburnham Road, Ham, TW10 7NL. Tickets are £25 including interval refreshments and are available on Eventbrite (search Anthony Adkins) or on the door. Enquiries – [aadkinsconcerts@aol.com](mailto:aadkinsconcerts@aol.com)

## **Unite for the night: Sleep Out to end homelessness**

Glass Door's annual Sleep Out will be taking place on Friday 4 October. Participants give up their bed for one night to give someone a chance to find a pathway out of homelessness. Find out more and sign up at [www.glassdoor.org.uk/sleep-out](http://www.glassdoor.org.uk/sleep-out)

This year, Glass Door Homeless Charity is encouraging people either to join them at Duke of York Square in Chelsea or to take part remotely. Registration is free, but participants are asked to fundraise for Glass Door Homeless Charity. All funds raised go directly to the charity to help someone find safe shelter and support to get off the streets in London for good.

## **Children's Service – 5 October, 4pm**

Young people of all ages are very welcome to the next Children's Service at St Mary Magdalene on Saturday 5 October at 4pm. We will be celebrating Harvest together and thinking about where our food comes from. All Harvest gifts will go to the Richmond Foodbank.

## **Ageing with Grace Study Day**

10am-3:30pm, Saturday 19th October at St Peter's Petersham. A day for reflection, prayer and practicalities around the new challenges growing older brings. To reserve a place contact

[st.peters.petersham@googlemail.com](mailto:st.peters.petersham@googlemail.com)

## **Next Bible Study: Hebrews (23, 30 Oct, 6, 13 Nov)**

Ever wondered what the letter to the Hebrews is about? Who wrote it, who was and is it for? A four week bible study on this letter will take place on 23 and 30 October, and 6 and 13 November. It will be at 11am at St Mary's, and 7:30pm in the Parish Office and on Zoom. Please contact Charlie with any questions or to get the Zoom link:

## Parish Rooms update

We now have a rough timeline for the works on the Parish Rooms. The next big step is to appoint the contractors who will do the actual work, which will start in early 2025, with completion in March 2026. Before that we have still quite a lot to do, including clearing the parish rooms of everything that is currently stored there. If you have things hidden away somewhere in parish rooms, do start planning how to retrieve it. The building needs to be completely empty by the end of November.

## Upcoming meetings and special events

16 September, 7pm	St John the Divine Church Committee
23 September, 7.30pm	RTM Standing Committee
28 September, 10am	St Matthias Church Committee
30 September, 7pm	Property and Finance Committee
30 September, 7.30pm	Deanery Synod
2 October, 7.30pm	PCC

## Giving, one off, regular and planned

At the end of each service you will find a plate at the back of church for your cash offering. Gift aid envelopes are available if you are a UK taxpayer. You can also give by using the card machine. If you can, would you consider making a regular gift to the Richmond Team, for the upkeep of our churches and the work of the Team?

Last year we introduced the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Many thanks to those of you have joined the scheme. If you are still making regular donations by standing order, envelope or GiveALittle, please do switch to PGS if you are able to. This will help us enormously by reducing the amount of administration and significantly improving our cashflow. If you have any questions, please [contact Jackie Harrison](#) or 07747 111525.

## Church Services:

**St John the Divine's** Sunday service at 11.00am is both in-person and live-streamed via their [Facebook page](#). St John's midweek service takes place on Tuesday evenings with half an hour of quiet contemplation focused on the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30pm, followed by the Said Eucharist at 7.00pm.

**St Mary Magdalene's** Sunday services are at 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.30am (third Sunday only) and 6.30pm. Our 9.30am service will be live-streamed via [St Mary Magdalene Facebook page](#). You can watch the service live as it happens, or once it is uploaded. There is a Said Eucharist at 10.00am every Wednesday, followed by coffee.

**St Matthias'** 9.30am Sunday service is an in-person service. The midweek Eucharist at St Matthias is held on Thursdays at 10.00am and is followed by coffee and biscuits. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

Orders of service / readings for all three churches can be found on the News page of our website – here: <https://richmondteamministry.org/news/>

## Private Prayer:

St Mary Magdalene is normally open on Saturdays between 10.00am and 12.00noon, when you can light a candle and reflect or meditate.

The church is also open Monday – Friday, from 8.00am until 3.00pm.

## Morning Prayer, Monday – Fridays, at 8.30am:

Morning Prayer takes place in church and on Zoom. We meet at St Mary Magdalene on Mondays, at St John the Divine on Tuesdays, at St Mary Magdalene on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and at St Matthias on Fridays.

**NEW:** There will be no Morning Prayer on Zoom on Monday 16 – Wednesday 18 September and on Monday 23 September.

On Zoom, **Monday – Thursday**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554825313?pwd=cVVLdFkrUy95MFU4OTVld3hNNi9tUT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5482 5313

Passcode: 410548

and on **Fridays**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81983343470?pwd=ejVpVnB4d3VGdkFtWjl2c2tTOC9XUT09>

Meeting ID: 819 8334 3470

Passcode: FriPrayer

With best wishes,

John

Parish Administrator

Parish Office, The Vicarage, Ormond Road, Richmond TW10 6TH

020 8940 0362

Richmond Team Ministry

St Mary Magdalene • St Matthias • St John the Divine

[www.richmondteamministry.org](http://www.richmondteamministry.org)

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