

St Lawrence Jewry March 2020 Newsletter

St Lawrence Jewry is the church on Guildhall Yard, dedicated to bringing the light of Christ to the City of London.

Dear Friends,

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Lent is a period of self-reflection, repentance, prayer, fasting and self-denial — a spiritual cleaning of sorts. Some of us are aware that we clutter our homes with things that we really don't need. It's hard to get rid of them sometimes. But are we also aware that we clutter our spiritual home, our soul, with unnecessary things? Lent is the perfect opportunity for us to reflect on this and work out how we can dispose of those things.

Services

Our Holy Communion service is every Wednesday at 8:30am and every Friday at 1:15pm. We welcome everyone to join us in our services.

The <u>Spital Sermon</u> is on Thursday 5th March at 12noon, another tradition in the City of London where the Lord Mayor invites a Bishop to preach about the Truth. This year preacher is The Rt Rev. and the Rt Hon. Lord Chartres GCVO, former Bishop of London.

Every year, the Freeman's School organises a tour visit of their students to the City of London. This tour starts in our church with a service before they proceed with the visit to the city. This year's Freeman's School Service is on Friday 19th March at 11am. This is the only time of the year where our church is filled with children.

Music

We continue with our School Organ Series this month of March. This is a wonderful opportunity, overseen by Catherine Ennis, to allow some of the young organist who are growing in skill and confidence a platform on our amazing organ. They always love coming and we see it as a vital part of our work to support the future of organ playing in this country. Thanks to Catherine for pulling the series together and to all the teachers and pupils who will come to play. We also would like to thank Rob Miller, who has generously sponsored this annual event for several years now. We have expanded the series this year and we have over 20 pupils from 10 schools. This is an amazing statistic. To see the complete programmes, please visit our School Organ 2020 webpage.

For our piano recital, we welcome Zhu Sun, Dinara Klinton, Mikhail Shilyaev, Olga Stezho and Antonio Oyarzabal. For details of their programmes, please visit our <u>Piano</u> webpage.

Popchoir's Spring term 2020 is now ongoing every Wednesday from 6:30-8:00pm. To know more about the choir and on how to join, please visit their website https://popchoir.com/.

We have three special concerts this month:

 Saturday 14th March at 6pm – Handel's Messiah Concert to be performed by musicians from the Academy of Ancient Music with up to 100 primary school-aged participants from around East London.

- 2. Monday 23rd March at 7pm Music in Offices Spring Choir Concert
- 3. Friday 27th March at 6:30pm J P Morgan Symphony Orchestra Concert by invitation only

Christopher Webb Lecture

If you love the windows of St Lawrence Jewry Church, then you might be interested to know about the artist behind it, Christopher Webb. There will be a lecture about him by Revd Canon John Edwards on Friday 13th March at 6:45pm in the Art Workers Guild, 6 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AR. For tickets and more details, please click https://www.bsmgp.org.uk/news-events/events/lectures/.

Crowding Fund for our Grand Piano Restoration Project

Our Steinway grand piano has been a critical part in our Music Ministry of providing a venue for budding artists to showcase their talents/skills in front of an appreciative audience. In fact, our weekly lunchtime recital series have the highest audience numbers among the city churches. The piano was made in 1926 and was originally owned by Sir Thomas Beecham. Although we do our best to keep it in good-working condition, it now needs a major restoration to put it back to the international playing standard. We need £8,625 to make this happen. Please support us in this endeavour by donating through our SpaceHive webpage. We need at least 30 supporters to be considered for a grant from Our City team.

Other fundraising activities

If you're booking a holiday soon, please remember to use #easyfundraising. You could raise over £120 for us when you book package holidays, flights, hotels, travel insurance, airport parking, toiletries or anything else you'll be buying for your break! THIS IS FREE MONEY FOR US! Plus, when you raise your first £5, easyfundraising will match it!! Sign-up using our unique link and search for St Lawrence Jewry Church London.

Refer a friend using this <u>link</u> and raise another £5 every time someone successfully join and raises £5 as a supporter.

You shop. Amazon gives. Every time you shop with <u>Amazon Smile</u>, it will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to the charitable organisation of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support St Lawrence Jewry by starting your shopping at <u>Amazon Smile</u>.

Please don't forget that we also collect used stamps to raise fund for our church. Please drop them off to the church office and we will do the rest.

Online / Contactless Donation



We are trying to be scarily high tech and whizzy here at SLJ!

We have created a QR Code to make it easy for people to donate to the church using their mobile phone or tablet. Simply download a QR reader app and scan the QR code. This will lead you directly to our Give.net donation webpage where you can make your donation online. We will include this QR code in our printed publication.

You can also now donate using a contactless terminal in the church. You will find our contactless card reader by the donation box at the entrance of the main church. Specially designed collection plates will also be used for contactless giving during services.

But if all that is just not you, we still take cash!

Annual Guild Church Council Meeting

The Annual Guild Church Council Meeting (AGCM) is on Monday 30th March at 6pm. All those in our Electoral Roll are welcome to attend this meeting.

Advance Notice

Holy Week starts on Palm Sunday 5th April and the church will be open until Maundy Thursday 9th April 12:00pm. The church will be closed until Easter Monday 13th April. The church will be open again starting Tuesday 14th April.

Heavenly Humour



God bless you all.

David Parrott

vicar@stlawrencejewry.org.uk

If you receive this newsletter but would not wish to stay on our list, please let us know straight away and we will remove you.

Katrina Bradley katrina@stlawrencejewry.org.uk

Arnel Sullano arnel@stlawrencejewry.org.uk

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