

# Parish Newsletter of St Martin-in-the-Fields

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20 November each year marks the Transgender Day of Remembrance when we remember all transgender people who have been murdered or died because of who they are. 2021 is the deadliest year since records began. Discrimination arises in part because of a dispute about the nature of the conditions. One group, mainly the Professional Medical Institutions consider transgender identities to be natural personality variations within the normal range of development. Opposing groups consider them to be personality disruptions. The lived experiences and management methods are almost opposite to each other. Great harm can occur when incorrect diagnoses are made. In such conflicts, how can we, and how can you, find ways to understand? As Jesus welcomed everyone, we need to acknowledge the voices that are heard.

For all transgender people the search is for identity and the rejection of what is wrong, it is not about behaviour or sexual desire. Most people consider trans women to be women because of the ways we interact with society, and how we share common interests and concerns. It is far more than biological sex. Will you find that our senses of gender identity lie at the heart of the personality that is created? Transgender people sometimes describe themselves as being 'born into the wrong body', but this is a truth of experience. Few, if any, believe that we literally change biological sex.

This is a conflict where only one group can be right. Another group must impose their own viewpoints on us, by telling us what we ought to be, pursuing other agendas they may seek. What we need more than ever is for people to listen and understand. Paul says we are all one in Christ Jesus. When that happens, the murders, suicides, persecutions, and traumas faced by transgender people will begin to decrease.

*Susan Gilchrist*

Services listed in *italics* will be streamed only to the Congregation Facebook group or Chinese Congregation zoom group. Morning Prayer is available [on Facebook](#), Sunday and Wednesday Eucharist services will be [on Facebook](#) and [St Martin's Digital](#). For more information about joining the congregation group email [sian.conway@smittf.org](mailto:sian.conway@smittf.org). \*You're welcome to join us in the building for services marked with an asterisk. Choral Classics, Wednesday Choral Eucharist and Choral Evensong services are in person only.

## Sunday 21 November

### Christ the King

10.00am	Eucharist (in English)*
<i>Presider</i>	Revd Dr Sam Wells
<i>Preacher</i>	Revd Catherine Duce
<i>Readings</i>	Daniel 7: 9-10, 13, 14; Revelation 1: 4b-8; John 18: 33-37.
<i>Readers</i>	Lois Howarth Wendy Quill
<i>Intercessor</i>	A member of the congregation
<i>PCC Duty</i>	Tricia Sibbons
12.00pm	<i>Eucharist in Mandarin</i>
1.30pm	Eucharist in Cantonese*
3.15pm	Choral Classics*
5.00pm	Choral Evensong*

## Sunday 28 November

### First Sunday of Advent

10.00am	Eucharist (in English)*
<i>Presider</i>	Revd Dr Sam Wells
<i>Preacher</i>	Revd Richard Carter
<i>Readings</i>	Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-end; Luke 21: 25-36.
12.00pm	<i>Eucharist in Mandarin</i>
1.30pm	Eucharist in Cantonese*
5.00pm	Advent Carols*

**The Parish Pipeline** email goes out once a week with stories and information from around St Martin's. Subscribe on [www.smittf.org](http://www.smittf.org).

**Clergy contact.** In situations of bereavement or emergencies relating to physical or mental health, a member of the clergy can be contacted by texting 07910 652573 or 07761 661529; one of the clergy team will call you back.

## Services: 22 November - 27 November

### Monday

7.00-8.00am	<i>Contemplative Prayer</i>
8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayer
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

### Tuesday

8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayer
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

### Wednesday

8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayer
1.00-2.00pm	Choral Eucharist*
4.00-5.00pm	Choral Evensong*
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

### Thursday

7.00-8.00am	<i>Contemplative Prayer</i>
8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayer*
9.30-10.30am	Morning Song (recording)*
1.00-1.30pm	Great Sacred Music*
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

### Friday

8.30-9.00am	Morning Prayer*
8.30-9.00am	Morning Song (online)
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

### Saturday

8.00-9.00am	Contemplative Prayer
9.00-9.15pm	<i>Night Prayer</i>

**The Friends of St Martin-in-the-Fields** is a worldwide community sharing the vision and supporting the mission of St Martin's. Our members are those living anywhere in the world who wish to be part of a global family maintaining contact with the ministry of St Martin's. For an application form please go to the [SMITF Friends page](#).

# Parish News/Diary/Special Notices

**Church Life/**We are gradually bringing back elements we reduced over the pandemic. For live-stream services please use our [Facebook](#) page or [St Martin's Digital](#).

**Showing Care in Covid/**We are inviting everyone to continue to care for each other by wearing a mask indoors and following other social distancing measures. Rapid flow tests are available in order to test ourselves before coming into church.

**Children's & Youth Church/12-12.45pm** in the Ho Ming Wah Centre. For primary school children (4-10) and secondary school children (11-16). For more information email [Anna-Rose](#) or [Sally](#).

**Tots Chillout Zone/**during the 10am and 1.30pm services for pre-school children and children with special needs. This is an unmanned service. For security reasons all parents must be on the electoral roll to participate, for more details speak to [Anna-Rose](#) or Anna, our verger for children's ministry, or to join the electoral roll speak to [Sally](#) or [Siân](#).

**Please note** there will be no Bread for the World on Wednesday 24 November.

**Vacancies/**We have two positions available in the Church Operations Team: Church Operations Office Manager: this is a senior role to play a key part in the strategy and delivery of the religious life of St Martin's (3.5 days per week) and full-time verger. There are also vacancies in the concerts and cafe teams. For more information please visit [our website](#).

**Choir Cassocks/**If you have some time to spare and would like to help mend the odd button or small hole, please contact [jennifer.sterling@smitf.org](mailto:jennifer.sterling@smitf.org).

**Join a Team/**Stewarding online or in the building, email [Siân](#) for more details.

**Christmas at St Martin's/**All of our usual Christmas services are happening this year in person and online: 5pm Sunday 28 November Advent Carols, 5.30pm Sunday 5 December Blessing of the Crib, 4pm Sunday 12 December Nine Lessons and Carols, 6.30pm Tuesday 14 December Community Carols, 1pm Christmas Eve Crib Service, 3pm Christmas Eve Parish Carols, 5pm Christmas Eve Parish Carols, 11pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, 10.30am Christmas Day Eucharist, 10am Sunday 26 December Eucharist.

**St Martin's Shop/**As Christmas approaches, please pop into our shop and browse for gift ideas. Congregation can receive 20% discount across the store throughout November – at the till simply let the staff member know you are a member of the congregation and your discount will be applied.

**Being With Courses/January** Would you or a friend like to explore the basics of the Christian faith within the positive and inclusive theology of St Martin's? Courses will begin in early January both for those who are new to exploring religion and other courses for those who are more experienced but wishing to refresh. No prior religious knowledge needed. Open to those who are not regular members of our church too. For more details contact [Siân](#).

**Media and Wider Ministry**

Revd Dr Sam Wells presented BBC Radio 4's Thought for the Day on Tuesday 16 November. [Click here](#) to listen again.

Revd Sally Hitchiner was on Talk Radio at 9.20pm on Wednesday 17 November, discussing our Christmas activities across St Martin's, and unusual activities of large churches and cathedrals. [Click here](#) to listen.

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**Prayer for the Week**

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

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**Clergy**

<i>Vicar</i>	Sam Wells
<i>Associate Vicar for Ministry</i>	Sally Hitchiner
<i>Associate Vicar for Mission</i>	Richard Carter
<i>Associate Vicar for HeartEdge</i>	Jonathan Evens
<i>Assistant Vicar for Partnership Development</i>	Catherine Duce
<i>Assistant Vicar for International Ministry</i>	Harry Ching

**Lay Leaders and Senior Staff**

<i>Churchwardens</i>	Mel Adams and Jeff Claxton
<i>Chief Executive</i>	Chris Denton
<i>Director of Music</i>	Andrew Earis
<i>Readers</i>	Jeff Claxton, Eugene Ling, Ruly Tsang
<i>Church Coordinator</i>	Siân Conway
<i>Worship Coordinator</i>	Interim cover Siân Conway
<i>Sheppard Scholars</i>	Anna-Rose Harris, Rose Lyddon, Ben Sheridan
<i>Safeguarding Officer</i>	Huw Mathias ( <i>Safeguarding Assistant</i> Ruly Tsang)
<i>Children's Champions</i>	Anna Warbrick and Emmy Ng

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**How to contact us**

**E-mail** [clergy.office@smitf.org](mailto:clergy.office@smitf.org)



/smartininthefields

**Internet**

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

[www.facebook.com/smartininthefields](https://www.facebook.com/smartininthefields)



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