



# **St Lawrence Jewry**

## **December 2019 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**

Christmas season is here, and you can feel the hustle and bustle everywhere, not only in shops but also in St Lawrence Jewry.

But the spirit of Christmas is not about us being busy with carol services, or shopping, or sending Christmas cards to people. It is the spirit of love, of giving, of believing. We as Christians, celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, the day we receive the greatest gift of all, our dear Saviour, Jesus Christ. This Christmas season let us remember the other gifts God is continuously giving us through St Lawrence Jewry.

### **Gift No. 1 – Carol Services**

Our church will be filled with carols again with 24 carol and music events in the next few weeks. Most services are open to the public (some are ticketed events), but the two we particularly invite you to amongst these carol services are:

**City of London Corporation Staff and City Police Carol Service** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1:00pm

**The Lord Mayor's Carol Service** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm.

Refreshments will follow after these services. Everyone is invited.

### **Gift No. 2 – Music**

Our music programme continues in December as ever. For programmes of our [Piano](#) and [Organ](#) recitals, please visit our website. Other dates to remember:

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 7pm – Deutscher Chor London [“J.S. Bach Weihnachtsoratorium” Concert](#)

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 1pm – Special lunchtime concert with Tessa Uys and Ben Schoeman performing Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony transcribed by Scharwenka for four hands to start their year-long concerts to celebrate Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020. This is also a fundraising concert for the restoration of our grand piano. A free reception will follow for the Friends of St Lawrence Jewry and the artists. But everyone is welcome to join us for a donation. Please contact Katrina in the church office if you want to join the reception

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 1pm – SLJ Organ and Choir with Reading Carol Concert – free

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 7:30pm – [The Esterhazy Singers “Carols and Part-Songs, Old and New” Concert](#)

In our own series the last piano concert of the year is on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December and the last Organ concert is on 17<sup>th</sup> December when our wonderful choir and organist will lead us in carols and readings for Christmas.

Piano concerts resume on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January and organ concerts on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January.

## Gift No. 3 – Christmas Appeal – Bibles for Rwanda

Our Christmas Appeal this year is to provide at least 500 bibles to the church in Rwanda. We spend a lot of time and energy on fabric matters here and this year we really want to focus on something much more important. Having the chance to read a bible seems obvious to us in the UK, but in Rwanda they are desperate to get their hands on a copy of God's Word. We can help! Any donation towards this cause is welcome but a £35 donation will provide a pack of 5 bibles. We are still far from reaching our target of 500. The Christmas season is a season of giving. So, this is an opportunity for all of us to give something that will impact the spiritual lives of our Christian brothers and sisters in Rwanda. You can give your donation to the church office by card, cash or cheque (payable to "St Lawrence Jewry") or you can scan the QR code to donate online.



## Gift No. 4 - Other fundraising activities

Another way of helping raise fund for our church is by signing up to easyfundraising when you're doing your everyday shopping online. 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 [link](#) and raise another £5 every time someone successfully join and raises £5 as a supporter.

From 1<sup>st</sup> December, easyfundraising supporters have a chance to WIN prizes and donations worth £500 every day in their fantastic Advent Calendar competition. Click this [Advent Calendar toolkit](#) to know more.

You shop. Amazon gives. Every time you shop with [Amazon Smile](#), 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 [Amazon Smile](#).

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.

## Gift No. 5 - 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.

## More Gifts to come

Plow Monday Service – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 5:30pm. This is the service in which we pray for the staff and work of the City of London Corporation at the beginning of another year.

## Church Opening Times

The church will be closed from 21st December 2019 until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020. We will open our door again starting Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. Holy Communion Service will resume on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

## Heavenly Humour



## And Finally...

As one year is about to end, we give our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who have been involved, in one way or another, with St Lawrence Jewry this year. It has been a very busy year for us that brought lots of joy in our hearts. To all the livery companies down to the single individual who have given their supports to us, words are not enough to thank you all.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a blessed new year to come.

God bless you all.

David Parrott

[vicar@stlawrencejewry.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:katrina@stlawrencejewry.org.uk)

Arnel Sullano

[arnel@stlawrencejewry.org.uk](mailto:arnel@stlawrencejewry.org.uk)

We've updated our Privacy Policy which can be found at <http://stlawrencejewry.org.uk/privacy-notice/> . If you have any questions or would like a printed copy, then please let us know.