



A warm welcome to St Katherine Westway

We are a Church of England Church within the Kensington area of the London Diocese.

St Kat's (as we affectionately refer to ourselves) is a vibrant, diverse, and multi-cultural family church where everyone matters, from the youngest to the oldest member. Our sung worship is heartfelt, and we are passionate about God's word, and the work of the Holy Spirit within us to make us more like Jesus.



Visitors can anticipate warm hospitality and invitations to join in with the life of the church at their own pace. 'Growing Younger' is one of our priorities, in line with the London Diocese 2030 Vision. As well as our Sunday gathering, we hold a monthly Messy Church service to reach families with young children. We connect with our local community through other weekly, monthly, or seasonal events and services which you can find on our website at stkatherineswestway.org

For those who enjoy a little history, St Kat's story is quite an interesting one with the original building dating back to 1165 although not on this site but was situated in what is now 66a Fenchurch Street in a building called Haddon House. We have a fact sheet with more info about the church which is available in our coffee bar for you to pick up when you pop in for a cuppa.

We are located on the busy A40 trunk road, Eastbound into London and the parish is within the most deprived Ward of Hammersmith and Fulham. The pretty cottage housing belies the harsh reality of a deprived area, suffering from multiple interlinked problems.

Wormwood Scrubs Prison (category B men's prison) and Hammersmith Hospital with Imperial College, and the large open grassland, also named Wormwood Scrubs, or 'the scrubs' are within our parish as well as two primary and one secondary school.

We would appreciate your prayers for our priorities which are church growth including growing younger; for people we connect with in our community, through our services, activities and events, to come to faith in Jesus; and for our new project which is a multi-use community hub and community garden to be a blessing to the community and spaces where we can build relationships and share the good news of Jesus.

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ST KAT'S WESTWAY

stkatherineswestway.org

Our mission statement expresses who we are and our purpose together:

St Kat's is a place where everyone is welcome just as they are, meeting together to worship God and deepen in discipleship, to share the Good News of Jesus.

Our parish was founded back in the 1950's not long after the White City estate had been built. Back in those days it was a largely Irish local population so there was a need for a Catholic church to serve them. This was later followed by a Catholic primary school next door (St John XXIII school). Over the years since then, the local community has become much more multicultural and this is reflected in our diverse church congregation today, including many parishioners from the Caribbean, the Philippines, West Africa, different parts of Europe and even a few Irish still as well! The wider White City community is changing rapidly – about a third of the local population are now Muslim and a chronic shortage of affordable housing mean that it is harder and harder for families to stay in the community.

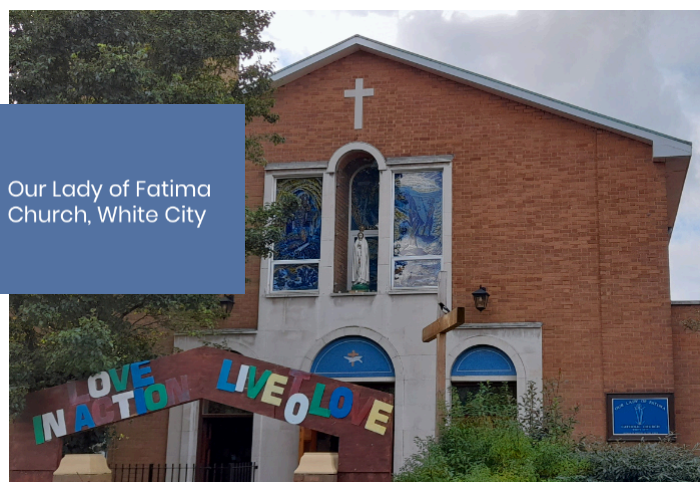
People often describe our church as 'warm', 'welcoming', 'prayerful' and as having a 'strong sense of community'. We try our best to offer opportunities for personal reflection and prayer before the Lord in the stillness of the day, as well as celebrating with a vibrant liturgy of praise and worship when we come together as a whole community. We have a very dedicated young parish 'tech team' who livestream our Sunday 11am Mass and other celebrations, especially so that the housebound and elderly can still feel included in the community. Like so many church communities, the pandemic was a tough time for us and we sadly lost many of our 'golden generation' of older, life-long dedicated parishioners. So we are on a journey of rebuilding the community, trying all we can to encourage the younger generations to really be engaged in the life and growth of the parish. We have in recent times employed a 'Parish Youth and Evangelisation Worker' to help with this.



Also, very importantly, we are a very outward looking parish – absolutely not wanting to be a little 'Catholic bubble' at the heart of the White City estate. We are blessed with a large, attractive parish centre behind the church and this allows us to really engage with the wider local community. For the last 6 years we have been running a Community Food Project on Monday mornings where local people can come together in a friendly and caring environment to receive free, good quality and mostly nutritious food to help them get through the week. On Saturdays the wonderful FoodCycle charity host a free 3-course vegetarian community meal for local residents. It is wonderful to see the diversity of people who come together for this. We also have a weekly social group for the over 60's,



Our Lady of Fatima
Church, White City



a family Wednesday Warm Hub Space and community exercise classes to help bring people together and keep them active. We have a Community Support Worker who does an amazing job walking beside people in their difficulties and helping them to tackle the deepest challenges of their lives. We are widely respected in the local community for all the support work we do.



You may also notice that we are very passionate about caring for the environment. When you visit, look out for our 'We are Crucifying our Planet' art installation and our community composting scheme! Most people living on the estate don't have access to a garden so we try to make our parish garden a welcoming and restful place where people can come and relax.

We would really appreciate your prayers for our community at this time of great change, when there are so many pressures on people. We seek to root our lives in God's love and then to radiate that love to our local community. Thank you for coming to visit our church here in White City – we are all in this great mission together!

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St Clement's Notting Dale

St Clement's is described by Historic England as "a very skilful if unusual example of an Anglo-Catholic church of the 1860s... the ingredients are well disposed here, and the exterior is also remarkably picturesque." While accurate, the description belies the true significance of St Clement's.

Designed by James Piers St Aubyn, a notable Victorian architect, St Clement's was consecrated in 1867. It was built to serve the worst slum in London and service to the local community has always lain at the heart of the church's activities.

Notting Barns farm, once lying north of the church, was primarily used to raise dairy cattle until the land was sold to Stephen Bird as a brickyard. The industry was uncontrolled and brickmakers, who lived where they worked, built their homes on whatever land they could find.

When pig keepers were forced out of Marble Arch, they decamped to Notting Dale. They built little cottages with one room for people and one for the pigs which were fed on waste collected from other parts of London. With no fresh water and no drains, the swill and sewage accumulated in

In 1860, Arthur Dalgarno Robinson, a curate at St Stephen's, Shepherd's Bush, moved into this insalubrious "plague spot" as Charles Dickens called it.

He erected a temporary iron church in 1862 and a school in Treadgold Street in 1866, a year before the adjoining church. He paid from his own resources for the land which had once been part of Bird's Brickfield and contributed his own funds for St Clement's construction.

Dalgarno Robinson then arranged for the building of a much larger school in St Clement's (now Sirdar) Road.

In 1881, Dalgarno Robinson built another church, St Helen's, just north of St Clement's, where he continued working with the poorest people in Notting Dale for the rest of his life.

Dalgarno Robinson's replacement at St Clement's was Sir Edwyn Hoskyns. He created the Parochial Relief Society, and some Sunday collections were earmarked for it, though they were nowhere near enough to meet the needs. He also raised the funds to build a church hall and a mission church in Mary Place, named not after one of the figures in the Bible but after a woman who kept pigs there.

Even after the pigs were finally cleared away, water supplies were improved and sewage drains were

installed, the death rate in Notting Dale remained high. Insanitary housing and overcrowding were largely responsible. In 1895, for example, there were 42 houses in what is now Sirdar Road with an average of 12.9 people per house.

St Clement's Parish Hall played an important role in tackling local poverty. At the beginning of the 20th Century, it was running a soup kitchen offering a free meal to up to 100 children a day.



In 1899, CET Roberts, the vicar of St Clement's, persuaded Octavia Hill, the housing reformer, to apply her talents to Notting Dale. She took over the management of five houses in St Katherine's Road (now Wilsham Street) where she made repairs and improvements and both expected and received the collaboration of the tenants.

Earlier, Roberts had collaborated with the priest at St Francis Roman Catholic Church to raise funds to have "The Ocean" filled in. It is now Avondale Park.

Through the first quarter of the 20th Century, the church records show a continuing concern with helping local people. Families were given coal, milk, groceries and meals because the adults were ill, out of work or not earning enough.

The original school building on Treadgold Street became St Clement's Day Nursery, largely funded by wealthy families not living locally. Nursing mothers were allowed into the nursery to feed their babies at lunchtime and were sometimes given free meals themselves. On Thursday evenings, donated clothes were sold for a penny, the proceeds going into the poor box for later distribution.

Electricity was installed in the 1920's and new heating was introduced but little was done to the church itself until a V2 rocket landed across the street where the Lancaster West estate is now. The date, 12 December 1944, is commemorated in the damaged window at the west end of the church. The congregation decamped to the church hall in Mary Place and set about



excavations abandoned by the brickmakers. One area, dubbed "the ocean", was an acre in size and seven feet deep. By 1840, Notting Dale was populated by 1,000 people and 3,000 pigs. Little wonder that the area was known as the Piggeries and the Potteries.

Cholera and other diseases were rife and in 1846-1848, the average life expectancy was 11 years and 7 months, as opposed to 37 years in London generally.





raising money for the restoration. Plain glass replaced coloured, the roof was mended, and the organ repaired. The Lady Chapel was decorated.

After the war, an influx of immigrants from the West Indies changed the population mix in Notting Dale and the National Party and British Union Fascists provoked the race riots of the late 1950's. While many churches turned their backs, St Clement's, led by curate George Austin, set about organising jazz gigs with musicians of different races performing together. The concerts were the first, tiny beginning of what became known as the Notting Hill Carnival.

In the mid-1970s, St Clement's was amalgamated with the nearby St Mark's at Clement's Hall and the mission in Mary Place brought financial stability to the parish for the first time.

In 1978, the vicar, David Randall, reasserted St Clement's role in the neighbourhood. The minutes of the annual general meeting that year report him as declaring "Christians...ought to be more concerned with the Community at large...(which) might benefit from the use of the church building. Christians in Notting Dale must be concerned with social issues such as the fight against racialism and fascism; the strengthening of Christian education, the problems of violence on the local housing estates; high rents and decline in local health facilities."

Projects for local young people were developed in the converted vestries and

Fr Randall began to work with men suffering from Aids and HIV. He created CARA to support them, and when a hospice was needed, the former school building at St Clement's was converted for this purpose.

The long tradition of reaching out to those less fortunate continues today. In 1992, Hugh Rayment-Pickard, then vicar of St Clement's, established the ClementJames Centre,

a project providing an adult learning programme teaching English and other basic skills, an employment programme for young adults, and IntoUniversity, a programme of academic support for children and young people.

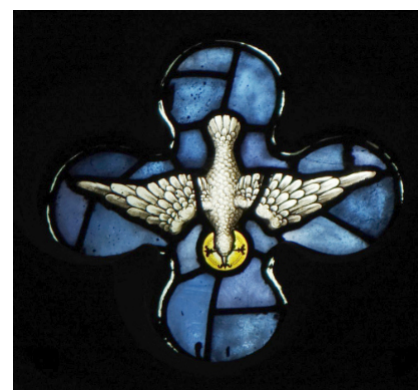
The Centre's community hub offers tailored support for local people, focusing on numeracy, literacy and well-being, along with specific advice on practical matters such as housing benefit.



The vicar of St Clement's, currently Gareth Wardell is a trustee of the ClementJames Centre, and the church council has the right to appoint up to four other trustees, ensuring that the Centre reflects the role of the church in the wider community.

The former school building now hums with activity as people take advantage of the services on offer while a new space, created in the chancel in 2007, is now a busy classroom. The Centre has had an enormous impact on the people of Notting Dale, with remarkable success rates across all the programmes. The achievements of IntoUniversity were so outstanding that in 2007, it became a separate charity, head-quartered at St Clement's but with branches throughout England. The original Notting Dale project still runs at the ClementJames Centre.

More recently, the church



was one of the buildings that opened up in the early hours of Wednesday June 14th as the Grenfell Tower Fire raged. There is a beautiful memorial in the church called the "Butterfly Memorial". It is made up of large and small butterflies for the adults and children who lost their lives in the tragedy.

Only 3 or 4 minutes' walk from the church it is possible to visit The Grenfell Tower Memorial Wall. An area near the foot of the tower where you will find messages, pictures and thoughts for all those who not only lost their lives in the tragedy but for those whose lives continue to be impacted by the fire.

Outside the church on Treadgold Street, there is a small memorial garden designed and created by a member of the church. In this garden you will also find a wonderful mosaic anchor – St Clement, of whom the church was named after, was martyred by being tied to an anchor and thrown into the sea.

Next to the Butterfly Memorial is a painting by a well-known local artist Mark Cazalet. The artwork is a triptych and portrays the Holy Family – Joseph with a heavily pregnant Mary and the Notting Hill Carnival. The painting was completed and hung in the church before the Grenfell Tower fire and if you look carefully, you can spot Grenfell Tower in the picture. There is also a depiction of St Clement and the beautiful courtyard garden in front of what was the old school hall and where the public can access the Clement James Centre.

Today there is a small community of regular worshippers. Along with the Vicar, Fr Gareth Wardell, there are two curates, a youth worker and two administrative support people. All of whom work to serve not just St Clement's but also St James Norlands about an 8-minute walk from St Clement's.

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stclementandstjames.org.uk



NOTTING HILL METHODIST CHURCH



Welcome to Notting Hill Methodist Church

Notting Hill could be seen as a village in the inner city, a microcosm of London. It's an area where some people come to stay, some to visit, some pass through, some pass by without even noticing. It's been a neglected area and a highly fashionable area. Here in the 1950's and 60's the poor and migrants were sent to live here, some were preyed upon by ruthless landlords. By the 1990s parts of the area became gentrified. So, we find people with a lot of money live side by side with those who are struggling to survive. As a church we want to declare we are here for God, for all, for you.

The calling of The Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. Methodism seeks to be an inclusive, justice seeking Church – which has long been the desire of the Methodist Church at Notting Hill.

There has been a Methodist Church in Notting Hill since the 1870s. Throughout our history the church has adapted to changes in the area, its needs and its population. We aim to continue serving our changing community, whilst challenging injustices both near and far. In the 1990s the building was

remodelled. The worship area is on the top floor (we encourage you to spend a few moments there) with the rest of the building being used regularly by members of the local community.

Our congregation comprises people from many different countries. We are different people, or different ages, sharing a common desire to worship God, to declare Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and to grow in our faith. We believe that faith is something to be practised, with blessings and sorrows shared. This is reflected in our worship. We recently introduced Café Style Worship into our pattern to encourage people to talk to each other as part of their discipleship.

Sitting, as we do, in the shadow of the Grenfell Tower we continue to remember in our prayers all those affected by the events of the 14th June 2017. We stand alongside the community as it seeks justice for all those who were affected by the tragic fire.

As a church we make significant donations to local charitable organisations, we run a small housing association and hire our premises out to community organisations. Our basement is a hub for a programme of activities seeking to promote wellbeing and combat loneliness. Among others we work in partnership with the Kensington and Chelsea Foodbank and the 240Project.

We constantly seek new forms of partnership, but most of all we want to be a church that offers good hospitality: that provides a space for everyone to feel welcomed, affirmed and loved.

We invite you to give thanks to God for his providence and give thanks the stewardship of past church members who have insured our financial security for the future. We invite you to pray that our church might grow in number. We pray for the raising up of a music group and specifically that a drummer



might bless us with their talents. We pray for God's guidance and we seek to minister effectively to children and young people. Thank you for visiting us today. Please do visit our website.

nottinghillmethodistchurch.org.uk

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A bit of history

The Salvation Army was founded in 1865 by William and Catherine Booth. Originally named The Christian Mission, the work began in London's East End and was motivated by a desire to win the world for Jesus – through loving God and loving others, helping the 'whosoever will' to embrace and experience the fullness of life available through Jesus. Present in Notting Hill from 1878, and situated on Portobello Road since 1924, the Salvation Army had discerned the need to show God's love to the community of Notting Hill.

So, Notting Hill Corps 'opened fire' as a Christian Mission station in 1878. The Christian Mission Magazine announced at the time:

OPENING OF A STATION AT NOTTING-HILL written by Anne Haddock

With the Victoria Hall, or Bijou Theatre, for Sundays, and two smaller places kindly lent us for weeknights, we have made a commencement, and after about a fortnight's work, heard of a real Mission Society over twenty strong, and of open-air and indoor service, which give every promise of glorious doings ere long.

Notting Hill Corps moved into our current church on Portobello Road in 1924 - the grand opening event was attended by British Commissioner Florence Booth who led a stone-laying ceremony - and the commemorative engraving can still be seen on the stone by our front door. The building is very 'of its time' architecturally, although the hidden gem is the garden at the rear of the building!

And more current news...

Today, we continue our endeavours of 'glorious doings ere long' and are deeply involved in sharing life with people and being part of the Notting Hill community. One of The Salvation Army's most popular slogans is: Soup, Soap and Salvation – and below are just some of the ways we work this out in the fabulous community in which God has placed us:



SOUP: We provide two opportunities for people to come together to share food. On Tuesdays between 9.30 and 11am we provide toasties and hot drinks free of charge (there's nothing like an Army cup of tea!), and on a Friday we host a Sanctuary Café which offers good food and drinks on a 'pay what you can' basis – part of our belief that everyone is entitled to something good to eat no matter their circumstances. Whilst not a Foodbank ourselves, we provide emergency food bags for those in need and can then refer to local foodbanks. We also do 'soup on the market' at Christmas time and hope to roll this out on Saturdays in Spring 2024.

SOAP: We literally give soap as we part of our shower provision at Notting Hill, so that those who are sleeping rough or cannot access shower facilities are able to wash and freshen up. We also offer laundry facilities, and a basic bag of toiletries for those in need.

SALVATION: None of the work would be possible without God – his grace, his love and his mercy! We worship as a community on Friday morning, which is when the local community are out and about (before the tourists descend at the weekend!); if ever there was a physical manifestation of Love God, Love others this is it as we worship God and then serve our community. We also host a bible study and prayer underpins all we do in the week.

Other opportunities to join our church community come in the form of Knit and Natter held on Tuesday between 12 and 2pm – all levels of knitters and natterers welcome!

In keeping with our market surroundings, we have a clothing, accessories and bric-a-brac sale every other Saturday between 11am and 2pm. It gives us the opportunity to raise funds for the mission and be missional in the process as we welcome people from all over the world.

PRAYER POINTS

- For all those we serve during the week: that they would see God's grace and love in all we do.
- For our Friday worship, which is still in its infancy: that it will flourish and be a real beacon of love at the heart of community.
- For all our activities: that they extend God's hospitality and show that Notting Hill Salvation Army is indeed a little piece of Kingdom in their midst.



ST THOMAS KENSALTOWN

Kensal Town or as it used to be called 'Chelsea-in-the-Wilderness' was originally marshy farmland outside of the blossoming town of London. The church has been here since the Victorian era, firstly as a mission hut before becoming a parish of its own in 1889 under the direction of the priest Fr Lawson, who became the first vicar.

With the tramline on one side and the canal on the other Kensal quickly became a place of industry - looking back through the records of the church the population were largely employed in panel beating and train driving or working in White Knights Laundry service, providing bedding for hotels, hospitals and the like across London. (Sadly all this has now gone)

One of the most notable features of the Victorian parish was situated where Trelick

Tower now stands. It was an establishment called Canine Castle which belonged to the dog fighter and breeder, Bill George. He was such a character in Victorian London that a particular author visited him and captured his likeness in a character for his forthcoming novel - none other than the great Charles Dickens looking for inspiration for the character Bill Sykes in Oliver. When the dog fighting law changed Bill George changed his breeding practice and 'invented' a smaller breed of dog which he successfully marketed to the ladies of Paris - thus the French Bulldog was born.

The parish has always been one of poverty and when the Edwardian slums were cleared they were replaced with large prefabricated social housing estates which still stand today. The population was and remains made up of largely African Caribbean and Irish expats.



North of Notting Hill and nestled near the famous Portobello Road market it is a vibrant and active parish, and in August each year is the starting point for The Notting Hill Carnival, the largest street carnival in Europe and second largest in the world. Over bank holiday weekend the streets are amass of people in colourful costume dancing and celebrating the melting pot of Caribbean heritage found on the streets here.

At the far end of the parish sits Kensal Green Cemetery, one of the great cemeteries of London, home to such 'residents' as the tightrope walker Blondin, two of Queen Victoria's children (though in different places because of their animosity toward each other) and the uncle of Emperor Haile Selassie, who served as Ethiopian Ambassador.

The current church building was completed in 1967 to replace the large Victorian church which was damaged beyond repair in the Second World War. It was opened by the Lord Bishop of Stepney - and today is in the Kensington Episcopal Area.

On the outside of the church at the East End is a rather controversial image - at first glance Christ at the resurrection - but it is actually Saint Thomas in India, crushing the Hindu gods beneath his feet (depicted as the beast of The Book of Revelation) and offering a place in heaven for those who convert.

The church is involved in the local community running a weekly food bank for those in need and forging especially strong links with the local primary school. The whole of the area is sadly marred by gang violence and St Thomas have responded with a knife amnesty bin and working with young people in the area to provide an alternative community to be part of.

We would welcome your prayers for our ongoing work in this vibrant but often overlooked part of Kensington Borough.





A building set aside for church has stood on this site since 1884. A picture of the original building is visible on the right as you enter the church. During the second world war that building was hit by a bomb and the church met in a local school. The current building was opened in 1956.

If you came along on a Sunday you would expect to see roughly 60 people, most from within walking distance. We are a local church that reflects the diversity of our area: a real mix of ages, cultures, and personalities, but very much a family. Our aim is to help people grow to love God and love people, by helping people see the goodness of God's love for us that we can see in the Bible.

During the week we take time to meet in small groups to engage with God's word and pray for each other and have regular church prayer meetings.

Grenfell Tower is just to the south of our parish boundary. The tragedy of the fire in 2017 is still very much felt in the community, and St Helen's has been a part of the ongoing care for the community, in particular by hosting memorial services.



What to pray for us:

For opportunities with the school that uses our church halls, to help both the children and teachers engage with the truths of the Christian faith for themselves.

Praise God for the recently restarted monthly Friday club for secondary school aged children. Please pray that it would be a useful place for those who come to consider how faith applies in their daily life.

Please pray for the church whilst Steve, the vicar, is on a sabbatical either side of Easter. Pray this would be a time of developing leadership within church and a time of refreshment for Steve.

