



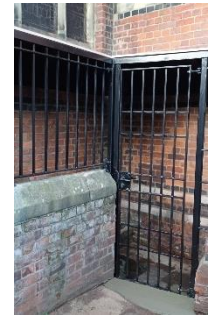
St James the Less Street Project Friends' Newsletter – Winter 2025

Surveys

Plan London conducted a Measured Survey for us at a cost of c. £6,000, which will be a great help to facilitate future planning. Lis is liaising with Johnny Cox, who is excited to help us with the project: his team will use the Survey plans to create a top-of-the-range set of computer aided graphic designs (CAD diagrams), which will provide a splendid 3-D image of our vision for the church.

Works

While we long to launch into the exciting renovation of the magnificent interior of St James the Less, there are essential works to be done first, and with a building of this age, new demands arise all the time, such as replacing the heating boilers and then fixing the fencing and canopy to the boiler-room staircase, re-lining an underground pipe, and securing the roof. We are delighted to report that the renovation of the boiler-room fencing (railings) and staircase-canopy at the back of the church is taking place and is almost complete as we write. The cost will be covered from the Monk Fund for building works, saving the Street Project funds for future plans.



In the new year, we hope to focus on the railings and the courtyard at the front of the church. This is a complex task with a combination of iron and stone-work restoration, alongside an aim to re-pave the courtyard. We're still on the hunt for a firm who could take on the whole project, which will need specific funding in due course.

Open House 2025

On Saturday 20th of September, the church was open for London Open House from 1pm – 5pm, with Lis giving two talks during the afternoon to explain Street's vision. We welcomed 86 visitors and raised about £30 in donations and through sale of merchandise.

Ways to support - Please contact Samantha at churchadmin@sjtl.org

Join the Committee: The Street Project Committee exists to support the church team with extra resources and time to focus on the restoration project. If you are enthusiastic about Street and his architecture, and/or the vision for St James the Less to extend its current community support and if you have a bit of spare time, we'd love to hear from you.

Social Media: we are particularly keen to recruit someone who enjoys using social media to promote a cause and achieve change. This could be a great opportunity for someone to build skills and experience for a career in influencing.

Visits: visits generate helpful donations and we would like to encourage more, with donations suggested @ £5 per head. If you or your friends know of a group who would enjoy a visit to St James the Less, with talks and (limited) refreshments, please contact Samantha.

Community Activities

While St James the Less is an important building architecturally and historically, the church is also at the heart of the community, offering activities that reach well beyond the regular congregation, to support families, schools, young people and the homeless community.

Carol is our new Fundraiser seeking grants for our two community roles, a Children + Families Worker and a Community Outreach Worker.



Our Christmas Nativity Trail for the local primary schools during the first week of December was a great success. With assistance from Isaac and Michelle (Outbreak), we set up on the Monday, and from Tuesday – Friday we had various classes come along. The children followed the Through the Keyhole interactive script that sent them on a discovery of clues from each area to find out

what happened during the Nativity. They started off in a modern living room where they were given a bag and sent off to Mary's house, Joseph's workshop, the shepherds, the Magi and ended in Bethlehem with baby Jesus. They really enjoyed themselves, especially decorating the bag with lots of stickers and glitter to carry their clues home in.



We also held our ladies Christmas Craft evening on the 3 December, when we had over 10 talented ladies who came along to make candles, candle holders, gift tags, pomanders and baubles. We enjoyed some festive nibbles and mulled wine. One lady made this beautiful hanging decoration for the church with items left over.



Community Events – see website for more details and for Zoom links: www.sjtl.org



Preparing for Christmas ODM –
Time to bring gifts:
gloves, scarves,
socks, hats,
chocolate (wrapped),
toothpaste,
hand sanitiser,
shaving foam,
antiperspirant,
Lip Balm,
shampoo.

Thank you



14 Dec - Christmas Carols by Candlelight 6pm (on Zoom)

15 Dec - 3.30pm Pause – then on break until 5 January 2026

18 Dec - Christmas gifts wrapping for the ODM meal from 10am. All volunteers welcome. We are collecting the items on the list (left) up until 17 Dec.

19 Dec - Christmas Open Door Meal 7pm (with Carol service at 8pm)

21 Dec - Carols on the Move 5pm – we come to you!

24 Dec - 3pm Unstaged Nativity (come dressed as a character from the Nativity) and 11pm Midnight Communion

25 Dec 9am Communion and 10.30am Family Christmas Celebration (on Zoom)

31 Dec - 11.30pm Watch Night Service

All other weekly events will commence the week of 5 January 2026



Church Centre with full catering facilities - available for events, conferences, rehearsals, classes etc.

For information on Services and all other activities, see our website at: www.sjtl.org

E-mail: churchadmin@sjtl.org Tel: 0207 630 6282