

01 March 2022



Greetings to everyone. It is difficult to know what more is to be said about the devastating news of Ukraine that hasn't already been covered by the media and among ourselves. Our anger, our grief, our feelings of helplessness to know how best to help them, our deep concerns for the people and their welfare; for Ukrainians fighting the enemy, street by street, with the kind of homemade weapons of the type seen in black and white pictures of our history books, ironically in the Russian revolutions of 1905 and 1917. It is totally shocking that this is happening to them, and deliberately instigated by the leader of another so-called Christian country. I suppose the one thing we can know is that a number of the Russian people, equally oppressed, are not at all happy about what is happening. One of my friends in Latvia, whose family knows what it is like to be occupied by both Russia and Germany in their past, said, "the only thing left now is to pray and pray unceasingly". And that is certainly what we can and must do and hope that internationally, countries together, will put an end to this unlooked for war against innocent people. Neither will we forget to pray for all the other countries that are suffering too from warlike groups and neighbours that bring them such misery. It was so good, that in his intercessions while our minds were preoccupied with Ukraine, that Tony acknowledged each by name - and what a number there are. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers". How badly we need them at this moment.

With love and good wishes - Sally



The Virgin Orans has been housed in Saint Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv since the 11th century. It is said that as long as her arms are extended over Kyiv, the city will be indestructible and the people of Ukraine will be defended. May it be so.

This Week's Edition Includes:

- ✚ Prayer for Ukraine from the Archbishops and Canterbury and York;
- ✚ Ukraine – Jenny;
- ✚ Lent;
- ✚ Reading for Lent? Sally;
- ✚ Fair Trade Fortnight part ii from Jenny;
- ✚ Toddler Group;
- ✚ Photo in the Storm;
- ✚ How we Are;
- ✚ Church Bulletin;
- ✚ Church Rota;
- ✚ Links to Services, Prayers, Songs, Chants;



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell



Jenny writes

In last week's newsletter you'll have seen a prayer for peace in Ukraine. Given the dreadful developments in the country since then, I thought it was worth featuring the prayer again, but this time with a bit more context as to its source, and with the link to the sung version. I

have a friend, Nicola, who's a Methodist minister, and who spent some years as a missionary in Russia. More recently she's visited Ukraine through the church, and has shared this link to a recording of a group of Ukrainian Methodists singing a prayer for Ukraine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzfTzRtzDj8>. The words of the prayer are simple:

God, I pray for Ukraine
I pray for the people
Forgive them, save them
and show them your grace.

God, I know you will be with us
in your heavenly temple
You have given us joy and peace
and written our names
in the book of life.

If you're able to watch the video, you'll see pictures of some of our sisters and brothers, followers of Jesus in a very different context. You'll also see pictures of Ukraine, and of the church building where the group of singers worship. I always find it helpful to see pictures of people and places that I'm praying for - it makes them, to me, much more real, and easier to relate to, as does their style of music - so this short film is a wonderful reminder of the diversity of the Body of Christ, including within Europe.

As tension and threat levels continue, tragically, to rise in that region, let's pray for peace and stability, for the success of diplomacy over war, and for love to prevail.



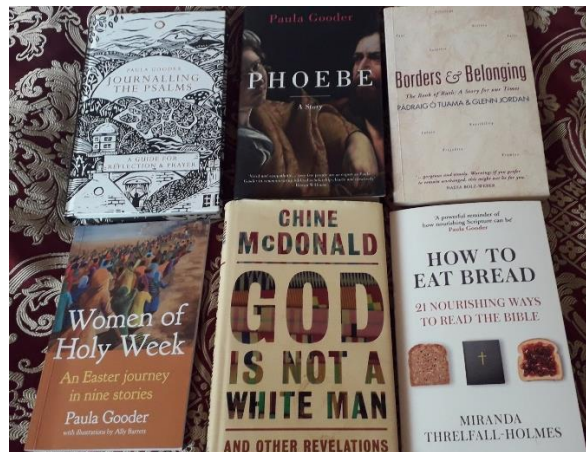
Lent

Now it is the beginning of Lent; a time of deep thought, reflection, perhaps more reading, going deeper into biblical passages and asking ourselves, what do they mean for us today in our context. Perhaps in doing so we make a discovery about ourselves and how we want to develop on our journey as Christians. It is not easy at the best of times is it but, during Lent, we are given time to think more about our lives, to recollect how we might have been, what

we might have done that could have been better, to think how we would like to be and aim for it, but, to know that, no matter what, at the very heart of God is forgiveness knowing that we are unconditionally loved and redeemed by God's Grace. Redemption runs throughout the New Testament in the example of Jesus's life and teaching, for us and for others too, with all that that implies. We always have hope.

Starting from Ash Wednesday at 7.00pm, throughout Lent, there will be a service in church to focus on that journey.

Reading During Lent

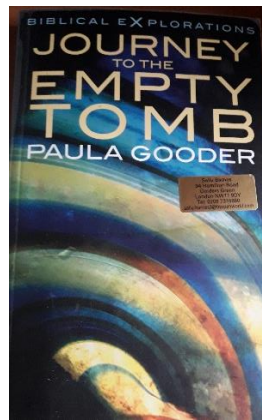


I know many of us keep all kinds of disciplines during Lent. We may give up different foods or drink, adopt specific charities and donate to them, become more disciplined in prayer and/or meditation. Many adopt a particular book to focus on and think deeply on the meaning and significance of what it is disclosing to us. We all have a wide range of experiences, cultures, knowledge and interests so we can and do all read the same book but draw different meanings. Reading is such a two-way encounter because it is what we bring to it that makes such a difference. In many ways it is a two-way exchange between author and reader which makes it such an adventure. When I read a book that I enjoy, or find challenging, I really want to discuss it with a friend to see what they feel. Sometimes their view is so different I am led to see what I have read in a different way. I was wondering, for those of you who choose a book to read in Lent, what you have chosen and if you would like to share the title with us.

There are so many books written specifically for Lent and Easter, as well as others with wider insights that help our thinking on many levels, it can be difficult to choose. At the moment I am reading Paula Gooder's book on "Journalling the Psalms". Paula, who I have written about before, is a Lay Canon at St Paul's Cathedral, the first Lay woman to be appointed as Canon to a Cathedral. She is a theologian, lecturer and church historian who has written many books. The great thing about her writing is that she is very readable. I realised when I looked through my books that I have collected a number of hers over the years. For Lent, "Journeying to the Empty Tomb" and "The Women of Holy Week", are good to read. Her book on Phoebe, is another. Phoebe is the messenger Paul sent to take his letter to Rome. It is a narrative story based on Paula's deep knowledge of Paul and the context in which the early church lived.

I was wondering if anyone would like to borrow any of my books. I have a large library, collected over the years and you would be very welcome. They are sitting on my shelves not doing very much. I would really enjoy sharing any of them with you, to see what you think

and maybe discuss your insights together some time. Books need to be talked about, argued over and enjoyed! Do let me know and I could bring some to church to see what you think.



Worship Songs of the Week :

So Much Grace | Kama Hased(Live) [Hebrew Worship] @SOLU Israel

<https://youtu.be/-XfJNbKrLqU>

None But Jesus (Live) | The Worship Initiative feat. Davy Flowers and Aa...

<https://youtu.be/RBI76EFidKo>

Fair Trade Fortnight part ii from Jenny



Panda Flower Farm Kenya

As we continue through Fairtrade Fortnight, here is a reflection which you may find helpful, or challenging, or both! It's followed by a prayer.

Imagine yourself in a supermarket:

It starts with a change

So outwardly insignificant that no one would notice except the person behind you in the aisle.

Just a moment

When instead of seeing rows of labels on a supermarket shelf

You imagine the people behind them,

Tilling the earth, sowing the seed, gathering the crops.

And you pause,

Wondering what their names are, where they live,

What difference it will make if your hand picks up

This box instead of that,

Wondering:

how do I love these neighbours?

Can I help change this child's long journey for water,

Her mother's lack of healthcare,

The prospect her father faces of another year unable to feed his family well?

Just a moment.

And the person behind you, her impatient baby squirming in the trolley,

May never realise that in that brief hesitation, a life hung in the balance.

(with thanks to the Fairtrade Foundation)

Jesus, life is so not fair, including for many of the people we've just been thinking about, the human beings behind the labels. We acknowledge that most of us do really well out of the way international trade works, and that it's easy for us to ignore the injustice and the devastation it causes to people who are already struggling to survive.

Please forgive our selfishness and indifference and complacency, and our failure to challenge life-denying and exploitative systems and structures. Show us how to be like Jesus as we go round the supermarket

browse through a catalogue, or shop online:

Show us what being like Jesus means, in what we buy, where we buy from, and the price we pay..... Help us to think about, and care about, what our shopping choices do to other people. May your will be done in our shopping, as it is in heaven. Amen

Photo in the Storm

I thought this would amuse you. It was taken by a priest friend of mine who is a really good photographer. Her parish is near to the sea. She uses her wide range of photographs to enhance her worship and those of her parishioners for meditation, prayer and during services. On the Friday of storm Eunice, she walked along the coast line photographing the eruption of the sea. One of the photographs that came out, we thought, was quite extraordinary and a bit frightening. The Beast from the Deep! What do you think?



How We Are

Naila is away in Pakistan caring for her mother, Maryam, who is ill. She is likely to be away for a few weeks. We send her and her mother lots of good wishes and prayers hoping that Maryam will make a good recovery. We will miss Naila and hope she is back with us as soon as her mother is well again.

Songs of Praise for Dorothy: A “Service of Songs” will be held in memory of Dorothy on **Friday 18th March starting at 6.30pm sharp . Further details , please contact the office.** Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jenny’s mum: How lovely to see Jenny’s mum, Beryl, in church on a visit and looking so well after all she went through last year. Keep strong and hope to see you again soon.

Prayers with Kamran

- ❖ from Mondays to Thursdays, Kamran will be in church at 9.00am for a short time of prayer with anyone who would like to join him. This does not have to be compulsory; you are welcome to stay home and pray for the church and the parish each day for 15-20 minutes;
- ❖ he will also be in church each day for those who would like to visit and talk with him. Please consider making an appointment to ensure that he will be available to meet with you;
- ❖ Wednesday evening prayer time takes place at 7.00pm both in person and via Zoom. Please see the link below.

Topic: Church Wardens' Personal Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8585545365?pwd=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhIY2paUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: J4FbKf

One tap mobile

+442034815240,,8585545365#,,,,*400416# United Kingdom

+442039017895,,8585545365#,,,,*400416# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

+44 208 080 6591 United Kingdom

+44 208 080 6592 United Kingdom

+44 330 088 5830 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: 400416

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aemYT2p1YY>

Links to Services, Prayers, Songs, Chants;

This is a Blessing sung by Ukrainian Christians. It is 14 minutes long and very beautiful.
: <https://youtu.be/Uf8D7R-3q6c>.

The Parish of Golders Green
Parish Notices: 27/02/2022

Sunday Service: 10 am - After the service, Prayer ministry is available for anyone who wishes to receive prayers.

Ash Wednesday Service 2 March at 7 pm – with imposition of ashes

Annual Church Parochial Meeting (APCM) will be held on 22 May 2022 at 12 pm after the Sunday Service.

Toddler Group

We are planning to start back Martha's Toddler group on 8 March, and we need Volunteers to assist with this. If you can help, please let Kamran know. Please keep in your prayers.

Pictures Board is here

Please send your pictures to Kamran or Jennifer via WhatsApp/ email if you would like to put your picture on the prayer board.

For your prayers:

Please continue to prayer for Simon, Margaret for God's healing. Please also prayer for all those who are grieving for their loved ones, especially for Festus, Fiona, Kelechi and entire family, and for Sally (and her family) whose nephew in law Lord recently passed away.

Rota for Sunday:

Reader: Tim

Intercession: Nehar

Hospitality: Nehar/Nwando

Contact details:

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

Mobile: 07883355351

Website: www.gg-pc.co.uk

Church Rota from March to May 2022

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality/Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk
06/03/2022	Romans 10.8b–13 Luke 4.1–13	Tim	Nehar	Nehar/Nwando	Tony
13/03/2022	Philippians 3.17–4.1 Luke 14.27–33	Keith	Rose	Alexis/Naila	Shaniv
20/03/2022	1 Corinthians 10.1–13 Luke 13.1–9	Elizbeth	Sally	Anne & Bernard	Thomas
27/03/2022	2 Corinthians 5.16–end Luke 15.1–3,11b–end	Silvia	Jenny	Shaniv/Silvia	Tony
03/04/2022	Philippians 3.4b–14 John 12.1–8	Tatyanna	Anne	Sally/Sheila	Shaniv
10/04/2022	Luke 22.14—end of 23 or Luke 23.1–49	Alexis	Tony	Nehar/Nwando	Thomas
14/04/2022 Maundy Thursday	1 Corinthians 11.23–26 John 13.1–17, 31b–35	Sam	Nwadi	Alexis/Naila	Tony
15/04/2022 Good Friday	Hebrews 10.16–25 John 18.1—end of 19	Sheila	Nehar	Shaniv/Silvia	Shaniv
17/04/2022 Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34–43 John 20.1–18	Abi	Rose	Anne & Bernard	Thomas
24/04/2022	Acts 5.27–32 John 20.19–end	Thomas	Sally	Sally/Sheila	Tony
01/05/2022	Revelation 5.11–end John 21.1–19		Jenny	Nehar/Nwando	Shaniv
08/05/2022	Revelation 7.9–end John 10.22–30		Anne	Alexis/Naila	Thomas

TODDLER GROUP

@ GOLDERS GREEN CHURCH



**Meet weekly on
Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am**

£3 1st child/£2 2nd child

Held in the church

More details contact the office

020 8455 1873

Golders Green Church

West Heath Drive NW11 7QG

Starting Tuesday 8 March 2022

Daily Hope - The Church of England Phone line church service - is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

We at Golders Green Church will continue to offer a number of ways we can and will keep in contact though emailing and phoning each other, the use of Facebook and the website, sending out updates by supporting those who need shopping, prescriptions fetched, letters posted and anything else you may need if you are isolated at home, whether you are in the over 70-year-old age group, or, have underlying health conditions. The important thing is, PLEASE LET US KNOW by emailing churchwardens@ggpc.co.uk

Radio, Television and Online Worship

You may wish to join in worship during this time through television and radio.

Check online, in the Radio Times and elsewhere for details:

Songs of Praise BBC 1, Sunday afternoon, variable times

Sunday Worship BBC Radio 4, Sunday, 8.10am Choral Evensong BBC

Radio 3, Wednesday Daily Service

BBC Radio 4 (Longwave only), weekdays, 9.45am

Big Sunday Service Premier Christian Radio, Sunday, 7am, 8am, 10am Easter Sunday

Eucharist A service is usually broadcast on the BBC on Easter morning

Free 24 hour telephone church service 0800 804 8044

Online resources Church of England Daily Prayer <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-dailyprayer>

<https://mailchi.mp/b9d86a4acdc7/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-1274047?e=377e26b1db>

St Paul's Cathedral have a number of resources available for us to use.

Church of England Online Resources during this time

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronaviruscovid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

Go On-line to " [ps://www.achurchnearyou.com](https://www.achurchnearyou.com)", put in Area or post code and find a local church that broadcasts Worship.

Prayers from Christian Aid <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/churches/coronavirus-prayers>

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/> Pray as you Go (a short service each day in the Jesuit Tradition)

LICC have some great resources on their website <https://www.licc.org.uk/>

Especially on Covid-19 <https://www.licc.org.uk/ourresources/prayer-journeys/presence-pressure-purpose/>