

09 March 2022



*Painting by Chris Numan*

**Greetings to everyone.** As last week, it is hard to know what to say about the situation that has arisen in Ukraine; one that has led to death and a flight of biblical proportions by so many. We also recognise the fear of people living in the Baltic States remembering what those countries went through not so very long ago. We think too of the Russian people who do not want or support what their leader is doing and bravely demonstrate at great cost to their own safety. We think too of Russians who live over here who are facing hostility. I am not good at platitudes and never find them helpful but rather prefer to look a bad situation in the face and recognise the harm and danger it is causing and then, as so many of you are doing too, ask, what can be done to help however small. While we may feel helpless on so many levels, we can do something. We have seen in the media such moving and amazing acts of kindness and generosity by whole groups of people, many of whom who have opened their homes, set up collection points for food and vital goods. They have shown to the world in great numbers the essential goodness and compassion of humankind that brings such hope and, ultimately, will defeat the evil that is in our midst. To help us with our prayers and guide our thoughts I have included at the very end of the newsletter the “Coventry Litany of Reconciliation” (slightly adapted) composed at the end of WW2 to help us pray for forgiveness and peace. It is more than relevant now, especially as we are in Lent. I hope it helps. We always have hope.

In this newsletter are two suggestions for support, one from Jenny and one from Ruth that you may like but, of course, you will have your own too. As this situation is likely to go on for some time perhaps you would like to let us have other ideas.

Also, in the newsletter is, a short appreciation of the World Day of Prayer Service to which a number of us came, plus some ideas from Sheila for our church that we can incorporate into our action plan. It would be good if we had some feedback from some of you to see what you think. This is your newsletter, and your views and comments are more than welcome.

In spite of the world situation let us have the best week we can, do the good things we can support each other and those we meet. We Pray unceasingly with Hope that things improve!

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

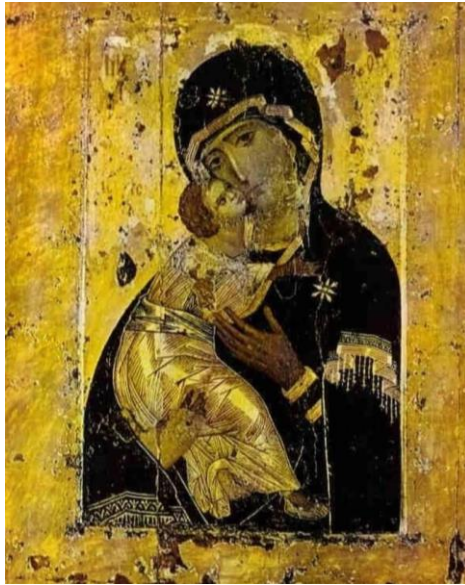


### **This Week's Edition Includes:**

- ✚ Prayer for Ukraine;
- ✚ Appeals for Ukraine;
- ✚ Psalm 3;
- ✚ World Day of Prayer;
- ✚ Parish Activity Suggestions – Sheila;
- ✚ Icons – by Jenny;
- ✚ Toddler Group;
- ✚ How we Are;
- ✚ Church Bulletin;
- ✚ Church Rota;
- ✚ Links to Services, Prayers, Songs, Chants;
- ✚ Liturgy of Reconciliation;

### **Prayer for Ukraine**

Holy God, we hold before you all who live close to war and conflict; and all who live close to the threat of war and violence. We remember especially at this time, people in Ukraine and Russia. We pray for nonviolence and peaceful resolutions of conflict. Give us hearts of hospitality and sanctuary, forgive us all our hostility and hatred. Bring all people to the humanity you give us, and to the reconciliation and healing for which you gave your life. Strengthen us all to work with you to build justice and peace, reconciliation, and healing, in our hearts and homes, in our streets, in all communities, neighbourhoods and nations. Bless all who live lives for the peace and wellbeing of others and make their service fruitful. In the name of Christ. **Amen**



*Mother of God of Tenderness 13<sup>th</sup> Century*

### **Psalm 3**

O Lord, how many are my foes!  
Many are rising against me;  
<sup>2</sup> many are saying to me,  
“There is no help for you in God.”  
<sup>3</sup> But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,  
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.  
<sup>4</sup> I cry aloud to the Lord,  
and he answers me from his holy hill.  
<sup>5</sup> I lie down and sleep;  
I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.  
<sup>6</sup> I am not afraid of ten thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.  
<sup>7</sup> Rise up, O Lord!  
Deliver me, O my God!  
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;  
you break the teeth of the wicked.  
<sup>8</sup> Deliverance belongs to the Lord;  
may your blessing be on your people!

### **Appeals for Ukraine from Jenny and Ruth**

Jenny writes, “With Ukraine permanently on our minds and pictures of people trying to escape in their thousands it is particularly harrowing to see mothers with their children desperate to get away. There are so many ways of donating funds to support them, to provide for what they most need, it can sometimes be confusing to know which one to choose. Mercifully, a group of 14 well-known and reputable charities have joined forces under one banner to help children and families in Ukraine survive the war. They are called the **Disasters Emergency Committee(DEC)**. If this is something you would like to do you can donate to the appeal on: <http://www.dec.org.uk/>”

Ruth sent this message with another suggestion:

I'm supporting "**Packed With Hope**", which is a fantastic project run by two independent publishers, Little Toller and Blue Moose Books. They are raising money to send backpacks to children fleeing from Ukraine. The backpacks will contain storybooks, colouring pencils, marbles, headtorches, sweets, notebooks, puzzle books, hot water bottles - things that might help at bedtime when these traumatised children are far away from home and family.

You can find out more, and support the project

at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/packedwithhopecampaign>

## World Day of Prayer



The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement dating back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century starting from the USA and Canada devised by Christian women. Over the decades it has become a world-wide means of connecting and praying together at the beginning of Lent, originally aimed at women but now, rightly, including men too. Each year the Service is organised by an international committee which focusses on a different country organised by the women of that particular country in which all countries participate. It is always a Service that brings richness and variety, showing the different cultural and religious ways we all worship, emphasizing how we are linked and are indeed, "One Body in Christ". This year it was the turn of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. In our area it was held at Trinity Church, Hodford Road, on Friday March 4<sup>th</sup>. A good number of people attended from neighbouring churches and was beautifully delivered by Sheila and the local committee.

The service was based on the letter the prophet Jeremiah wrote to the exiles in Babylonia. The exiles were in a context of suffering, uncertainty, and opposing views on how to respond to the moment. In the midst of all the uncertainties we are living under due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and other areas the WDP 2022 theme is a balm of confidence and an invitation to place our trust in God in times of suffering. Entitled, "*I know the plans I have for you*". It was also so good in its inclusivity to hear God talked of as "God our Mother and Father" in the prayers, "*God, our Mother and Father, we light a candle of Hope to celebrate with your people as we watch and wait for your plans and promises to be fulfilled*". In the introduction to the service a theological explanation was given that God is beyond our understanding, far bigger than we can possibly comprehend, that the Bible contains many images of the feminine aspects of God and how we need a wider perspective and language beyond Gender. I, along with many others, so welcomed this and, to think the prayers were being used and shared across the world was an important part of the Service. A special thanks to the local committee of which Sheila is part for the hospitality and welcome of Trinity Church.

## Parish Activity Suggestions – Sheila

We are fortunate in being encouraged to take part in our services and at present have 10 volunteers each for the readings and hospitality/steward, 7 for intercessions and 3 for the audio-visual desk, however there are some 'behind the scenes' things to be done. We would welcome help with any of the following:

- ❖ The altar linen and purificators need washing and ironing and the brass to be cleaned (there are over 20 items) so maybe two or three people are happy to do this together with a hot drink and time to chat;
- ❖ In a few weeks' time, on Mothering Sunday (27<sup>th</sup> March), we will be giving out bunches of daffodils to the ladies in our congregation followed at Easter by the Garden of Gethsemane, the Easter Garden and Easter flower arrangements as well as other times when flowers brighten the church;
- ❖ Although we have members on the hospitality rota it would be good to have a couple of people responsible for ensuring that coffee, tea, biscuits, and items for washing up are available.
- ❖ The Toddler Group started on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. Extra help would be welcome, not necessarily every week but as suits. This is set up on Mondays and toys, etc. must be cleaned during the breaks following the school terms;
- ❖ It is hoped that the Senior Circle will start before too long and two people should run this;
- ❖ We hope that families will join us, and children's church can start again then help will be appreciated with this. These last three require the persons helping to be DBS checked but this is easily done.

**If you are interested in helping with any of the above please put your name, telephone number and interest on the sheet left on the table where we sign in on Sunday mornings, speak to Sheila or leave a message with Jennifer on the office number: 020 8455 1873.** With many thanks - Sheila

## Icons - Jenny

Having spent all my life being an extreme example of a left-brain operator, I've been trying to activate my right brain. One way in which I'm learning is through the experience of icons. I've come to icons relatively late in life, and claim no expertise or special understanding, simply an enthusiasm to explore what they offer. Icons are more than paintings and have been described as 'windows into the divine'; images created through prayer, with which you sit, to which you respond, and through which the Spirit can speak. Words are optional. Some of you will probably be far more experienced in icons than I am, and if you are I'd love to know more, and learn from you, please.

I meet periodically with a wise spiritual guide who happens to be a plain clothes Roman Catholic nun. It's she who introduced me to icons, and I found myself getting hooked (not sure if that's entirely appropriate terminology!). We spent some time discussing our respective reactions to one of the greatest Russian icons, Roublev's Trinity, written (you write, not paint, icons) in around 1420. I'd like to share this with you as I've found myself drawn deeper and deeper into it and it's become very special to me. I've found it a wonderful way to become still, and just be with the Lord and see what happens. Here it is:



In my very limited experience, these are some of the themes that have occurred to me as I've sat with this icon, which I share with some diffidence as others will undoubtedly, and appropriately, find themselves responding differently, and hearing differently from the Lord.: circle of love.....dance of life.....welcome.....hospitality.....communion.....invitation. ...sharing.....

For me, the act of simply sitting, focusing on this visual prayer, learning to be attentive, is incredibly liberating, though it takes discipline and I confess sometimes that's easier than at other times. Right brain is nevertheless good!

To finish, may I offer a prayer written by Janet Morley, who used to work for Christian Aid as a theologian and writer, which seems to fit:

O God our mystery  
you bring us to life,  
call us to freedom,  
and move between us with love.  
May we so participate  
in the dance of your Trinity,  
that our lives may resonate with you,  
now and forever. Amen

May all of us this week dance with the Trinity

*Of the lost and starving.*



**Songs of Praise for Dorothy:** A “Service of Songs” will be held in memory of Dorothy on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March starting at 6.30pm sharp. For further information please contact the office.**

**Please also note that Dorothy’s funeral will take place at Golders Green Parish Church on, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The time is subject to confirmation. Rev Kamran will keep you all informed. All are welcome to come and support Festus and family.**

### **How We Are**

**Naila** is away in Pakistan caring for her mother, Maryam, and is likely to be away for a few weeks. We send her and her mother lots of good wishes and prayers hoping that Maryam is enjoying Naila’s visit. We will miss Naila and hope she is back with us 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 will now take place in church at 7.00pm (please note the change in time). The prayer meeting will take place 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=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhY2paUT09>

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>

## **The Parish of Golders Green**

**Parish Notices: 08/03/2022**

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

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

### **Toddler Group**

We started Martha's Toddler group on 8 March. We need and welcome Volunteers to assist with this. If you can help, please let Kamran know. Please keep the Toddler Group, Jennifer, and helpers 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 pray 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

Parish Priest: Revd. Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

Mobile: 07883355351

Website: [www.gg-pc.co.uk](http://www.gg-pc.co.uk)



## **Litany of Reconciliation**

### **All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.**

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,  
God of Peace FORGIVE

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,  
God of Generosity FORGIVE

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,  
God of Mercy FORGIVE

Our envy of welfare and happiness of others,  
God of Tenderness FORGIVE

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,  
God of Compassion FORGIVE

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,  
God of Honour FORGIVE

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God  
God of Love FORGIVE

**Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**

## **Worship Songs of the week :**

We Cry Holy | Music Video | Paul Wilbur

[https://youtu.be/hQ\\_FpnZggGs](https://youtu.be/hQ_FpnZggGs)

King Forevermore (Live) | The Worship Initiative feat. Aaron Williams an...

<https://youtu.be/yDYKd8lfQYo>

## Church Rota from March to April 2022

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Intercession</b>	<b>Hospitality/Ste ward</b>	<b>AV (Audio Visual) Desk</b>
13/03/2022	Philippians 3.17- 4.1 Luke 14.27–33	Silvia	Rose	Alexis	Shaniv
20/03/2022	1 Corinthians 10.1–13 Luke 13.1–9	Elizabeth	Sally	Anne/ Bernard	Thomas
27/03/2022	2 Corinthians 5.16–end Luke 15.1– 3,11b–end	Keith	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	Ifeyinwe	Nwadi	Alexis/Naila	Tony
15/04/2022 Good Friday	Hebrews 10.16– 25 John 18.1—end of 19	Sheila	Nehar	Shaniv/Silvia	Shaniv

# **TODDLER GROUP**

## **@ GOLDERS GREEN CHURCH**



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

**£3.00 Entrance Fee**

**Held in the church**

**More details contact the office**

**020 8455 1873**

**Golders Green Church**

**West Heath Drive NW11 7QG**

**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](mailto: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/coronavirus-covid-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/>