

30 March 2022



Greetings to everyone. What a joyous Mothering Sunday service we had. It was so good to see Festus and family back with us and the beautiful Arielle who was all smiles. How good too to have special prayers for Ify, Ezim and family for Teresa, and, Festus, Fiona, Ernest and Kelechi, for Dorothy, in memory of both mothers who were much loved and a valued part of our congregation. We know that all the fine qualities they had will live on in their families and always be remembered by us.

Talking of Mothers, on 25th March, the Church celebrated the Annunciation of Mary; a very young woman who gave her willing consent saying “Yes” to God and gave birth to Jesus. The picture Mary gives us is of a strong, determined, independent, enduring in suffering, faithfully caring role model for women. When you read of her life, the conditions in which she lived as a woman of that time, and think of all that she went through holding much in her heart and knowing what would happen to her son, there is no way she can be considered the meek and mild, rather vapid person so often portrayed in a number of hymns, statues, paintings and centuries of writing that have been damaging to women. Looking at the mothers in countries such as Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan and so many others, women identify with the suffering that she went through, recognised her great strength, and draw their courage from her.

I couldn't help including below one of my favourite icons of “The Annunciation” by a Ukrainian iconographer, a print of which I have in my study. I just love the thought of Mary sitting there, all unsuspecting about what is about to happen, with the Angel peeping round the opening to her room ready to deliver God's great request.

Last week Ruth and I attended a webinar session on “The Sanctuary Foundation”, which is a collaborative project led by Dr Krish Kandiah to find Humanitarian Sponsors from families, individuals, churches, community groups and individuals, to sponsor Ukrainian refugees coming to the UK, following his successful campaigns to support Syrian and Afghan refugees and newcomers from Hong Kong. We will be writing up an account of this meeting for the

next week's edition telling us more about it with possible ways we as a church could be involved.

I have written a final piece on the Anglican-Lutheran Society's AGM Day on "Climate Emergency: Connecting Faith and Community", which is an account of the Revd Helen Burnett's activism as a member of "Christian Climate Action" and "Extinction Rebellion".

Jenny has contributed some new prayers from different sources for Ukraine and we have an article on the difference between Mothering Sunday and Mother's Day by Mrs. Angela Ndukuba, Provincial President, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) sent in by Abi.

Next week, after church, we will be having a discussion about our action plan which is nearly completed. Kamran will be taking us through it and asking if you agree that this is the way forward for our church. We will be meeting immediately after the service and also having a light lunch. Do make a point of coming. It is so important to hear your views as you are an important member of our church family.

Thank you all for your contributions. It is so good to receive them; as I so often remind you, this is your newsletter where your views and articles are more than welcome. Please don't hesitate to send them in to Jennifer on: jennifer@gg-pc.co.uk who will pass them on to me.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally



Annunciation
by Ukrainian iconographer Ivanka Demchuk

This Week's Edition Includes:

- ✚ **Climate Emergency: Connecting Faith and Community part ii – Sally;**
- ✚ **Prayers for Ukraine - Jenny;**
- ✚ **Mothering Sunday: Mother's Day – Abi;**
- ✚ **Updated Links to Services;**
- ✚ **Prayers with Kamran;**
- ✚ **Photo's from Dorothy's Funeral;**

- ✚ Church Bulletin;
- ✚ Church Rota;
- ✚ Links to Prayers, Hymns and Songs;
- ✚ Litany of Reconciliation;



Sunflower by Georgia O'Keeffe

Climate Emergency: Connecting Faith and Community part ii - Sally The Revd Helen Burnett



The Revd Helen Burnett is vicar of Chaldon, Surrey, who believes in the importance of combining action with prayer, as in the Letter of James (James2:14-26). Helen gave a talk on the Climate Emergency and why she takes part with a large number of others in a more dramatic way than many to draw attention to the real issue this holds for all of us. Helen came to be a member of Xtinction rebellion after demonstrating with her parishioners and surrounding community members to prevent drilling taking place in the hills around them for fossil fuel. There was much unity and strength among them that fuelled their protest. Apart from writing to their MPs and getting no-where, a large number decided to take direct action

and undertake a sit-in in front of the machinery lined up to drill into the hillside. They gained a great deal of publicity and some success. From this beginning and with her growing awareness of the danger to the world as a result of the Climate emergency, she joined “Christian Climate Action”, a group endorsed by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams. Helen made it clear that her vocation as a priest, as well as being a teacher before ordination as well as a mother, committed her to act not only for her children and parishioners but, by extension, to the children of the world who will be more affected in their lifetimes than we are in ours. She told us that as a priest in the Anglican Communion, her vocation brings a commitment to the “Fifth Mark of Mission”, which is: “to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth”. She holds this duty in common with Christians across the globe, linked by a faith that demands love for neighbour and, where necessary, demands personal sacrifice; mindful that care for creation, extends to the soil, the trees, and all that lies within our parishes.



A driving force of social justice informs all she does, based on love, but also arising from a strong sense of righteous anger which drives her and others. Her increased action was strongly influenced by a 2018 report on the climate informing us that we have only 12 years left - our window of opportunity- until we face climate breakdown. She felt strongly, in line with those of many other faiths, that there is a spiritual dimension to what we are experiencing and any action that is taken together is based on Hope and the “solemn intention” to do something about it. As a result, Helen joined in the marches and demonstrations of Xinction rebellion, knowing there was a likelihood of being arrested, which she was, but also knowing that until something drastic took place to make people take this issue seriously nothing much would happen. “What I am doing” she said, “is nothing compared to what indigenous groups, who are suffering from climate change far greater than we are, who, when demonstrate against the vested interest of the companies who are responsible for what they are suffering, are arrested, imprisoned, tortured and often face death”.

Before COP26, Helen and others of Christian Climate Action went on a march from London to Glasgow to meet up with all the delegates assembling there (including Jenny). They walked in stages staying in church and community halls and being joined by other groups. They were well received by those who came to support them in towns and villages. One thing Helen pointed out, was that the community spirit, friendship, and love that developed by those on the march was like nothing she has ever experienced. Everything was shared, deep conversations were held between people and many questions asked about why she and others were there and what it was in their Christian faith that led them to do this. This she felt was Christian witness and was far more aware of doing something with Evangelisation than anything she had been able to do in her own parish. While walking on Good Friday, they handed out palm crosses, many people came up to them and asked if they might have one, asking questions and talking. Walking in a shared community of purpose, solidarity and Hope was the most important thing she had done. Helen and others will continue with her direct action facing arrest and fines to bring this key issue to the public’s attention whether they

wanted to hear it or not, for in the end our future and that of our children's depend on it. Giles, who I wrote about last week, will carry on with his climate action. Both have the same aim but approach it in different ways and how important it is that we need both.

***So good to meet up with Helen again
and be inspired by her life of action.***

Prayers for Ukraine - from Jenny



Picasso - Dove of Peace

If you want to pray about the heartbreaking and devastating situation in Ukraine, but like many of us struggle to find the words, you might find some of these prayers helpful.

Borders, barricades, bewilderment...
When the bargaining begins,
God please protect peace.
Sanctions, security measured in minutes and it's scary...
When safety scatters,
God please protect peace.
War dresses up in peace-keeper's clothes,
Troops amass, the ground trembles and so do people...
When the future feels fragile,
God please protect peace.
The littlest, the least likely to have a say,
Those whose lives are sanctioned and bargained over –
Violence always finds them first.
And the 'oh-so-important' political manoeuvres mean nothing to them.
They just want to live.
When the winners want to wipe them out of the way,
God please protect peace.
We will not turn away. We will stand together –
God give us the strength to protect peace.
Amen
(Christian Aid)

God of love, we are disconcerted by the violence in our world,

and especially now by the acts of war in Ukraine.
Enable us to stand in solidarity with those who suffer, and who live today in fear and anxiety.
Sustain the hope of all those, in this beloved part of the world, who seek justice and peace.
Send the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of peace, to inspire the leaders of nations and all human beings.
(Taize Community)

God of peace, your prophet Isaiah promised swords would be turned into ploughshares, and your son's mother Mary proclaimed the mighty would be put down and the humble exalted: visit the people of Ukraine; deliver them from fear, violence, attack, injury, destruction, death; and give them courage, solidarity, and allies in their hour of vulnerability and sorrow.

Turn the hearts of those bent on war and invasion. Strengthen the hand of all seeking to halt conflict, restore order, and pursue justice. And make this moment of peril an occasion for your Holy Spirit to show your world the cost of conflict, and our dependence on one another.

In Christ our Lord, who went to his death because of our hatred, and rose again because our hatred is never stronger than your indomitable love. Amen
(St Martin in the Fields)

Mothering Sunday: Mother's Day - from Abi

Thinking of Mothering Sunday that we celebrated last Sunday, Abi helpfully sent us an article, **attributed to Mrs. Angela Ndukuba, Provincial President, Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)** clarifying the difference that exists between how Mothering Sunday is understood and that of Mother's Day. The two are so often confused, one being a celebration across the Anglican churches in different ways, according to different Church customs; the other being far more commercial and not really related to Church but never-the-less an appreciation of mothers. This is part of the article.

"Mothering Sunday" is a celebration of the Anglican Church from the early Church. It was originally a day to honour and give thanks to the Virgin Mary, also known as "Mother Mary", for her agony as recorded in Luke 2:35. The Celebrations required people to visit their mother Church – the main Church or Cathedral in the family area. As Christianity spread through Europe in the 16th Century, the celebration increased and was included in the Church Calendar as Mothering Sunday; an occasion to thank and appreciate all mothers as well as a family honoured reunion. It also became a celebration when children, especially girls who had been away from home as domestic helps or apprentices had a day off to join their family and see their mothers. Mothering Sunday is celebrated in the Anglican Church every Fourth Sunday in Lent, which is also three Sundays before Easter. Since it is celebrated mid Lent, it is also known as *Refreshing Sunday, a time when fasting can be eased for the day and people can enjoy a delicious meal together as family amidst the Lent.

Mothering Sunday is the only Sunday women are given a free hand to officiate in Sunday worship, taking charge of all the functions. *(This is different from the practice in UK churches where women take a full participation in all services)*

- One of the days the family takes the centre stage in worship and special prayers are offered on behalf of families.

- The less privileged and vulnerable members of the society are visited and given gifts.

Mother's Day is an American social celebration in honour of mothers, which started on 12th May 1908 by Anna Jarvis. It is celebrated every second Sunday of May. It is not connected to the Mothering Sunday, which is a church event.

The Significance Of Mothering Sunday In The Anglican Church Today:

- It is a day of honouring all married women in the Anglican Church.

- It is a day to show love, gratitude and appreciation to all Mothers through acts of kindness and giving.

- It is a day when all women/Mothers are expectant of receiving gifts and goodwill from their Husbands and Children.

A Message for All Mothers at This Year's Mothering Sunday

Mothers are called upon to be Lois and Eunice of our time (2Tim. 1:5; Act 16:1). Lois and Eunice were the mother and grandmother of Timothy. Apostle Paul met these two women while he was on one of his missionary journeys. He was impressed by their sincere faith in our Lord Jesus— a faith without hypocrisy or fake exaggeration. Despite living in Lystra, a Gentile city, they were committed Christians and passed this faith to Timothy. Their lives had great influence on the young Timothy, which helped him to grow spiritually and became one to whom Paul could entrust the Church's leadership.

As women and mothers, we have the greatest influence to impact our present generation and generations to come. Our lives speak volumes and people around us learn a lot from them.

Let us be Lois and Eunice of our time to bring up godly children and grandchildren, the moral vices and evils of our present age notwithstanding.

Updated Links to Services from Jenny

If you're looking for online prayer and worship opportunities, here are some suggestions:

Daily worship:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online>: including

- Prayer for the day
- Services of daily prayer
- Time to pray app and podcast

<https://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/whats-on/?category=204> livestreamed daily services and some one-off services on particular themes and issues.

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

The following links take you to prayers and reflections on particular themes:

Covid: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

Mental health: some short reflections to support good mental health:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/mental-health-resources/supporting-good-mental-health>

Ukraine: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

Climate justice: www.climatesunday.org

Environmental issues: <https://arocha.org.uk/prayer-diary/>

The world's poorest communities and those affected by emergencies and conflict: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/faith-resources/prayer-library>

The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC) offers a series of prayer journeys which you can sign up to here: <https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/prayer-journeys/>

Daily Bible readings:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/daily-bible-readings>

LICC also offer e-mailed '**Word for the Week**' each Monday. You can sign up here:

<https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/word-for-the-week/>

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 is in church at 7.00pm 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/aemYT2pIYY>

Worship Song of the week :

Kadosh Shimcha La'ad | Israeli Worship

<https://youtu.be/CAhk6dniCbl>

Golders Green Church Rota March to April

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality/Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk	Preacher
03/04/2022	Philippians 3.4b–14 John 12.1–8	Tatyanna	Anne	Sally/Silvia	Shaniv	RKB
10/04/2022	Psalm 118:19-24 Luke 19:28-40	Alexis	Tony	Nehar/Nwando	Thomas	RKB
14/04/2022 Maundy Thursday	1 Corinthians 11.23– 26 John 13.1–17, 31b– 35	Ifeyinwe	Nwadi	Alexis/Naila	Tony	RKB
15/04/2022 Good Friday	Hebrews 10.16-25 John 18.1-end of 19	Sheila	Nehar	Shaniv/Silvia	Shaniv	RKB
17/04/2022 Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43 John 20.1-18	Abi	Rose	Anne/Bernard	Thomas	RKB
24/04/2022	Acts 5.27-32 John 20.19-end	Thomas	Sally	Sally/Sheila	Tony	Fr John

**The Parish of Golders Green
Parish Notices: 27/03/2022**

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

Weekday Events - Wednesday 7 pm prayer group in church and by zoom.

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

Mission Action Plan Meeting – Sunday 3 April 2022. A meeting in the church to discuss the Mission Action Plan. A light lunch will be served before the meeting. All are welcome

Walk of Witness – 10/04/2022 at 12:30 – The Churches together inviting everyone for the Walk of Witness procession starting from outside Golders green library, opposite the Greek Orthodox Cathedral. People are encouraged to bring palm branches or crosses with which to process.

Toddler Group

The Church Toddler group started back on 8 March. We do however need Volunteers to assist with this. Please let Kamran know.

Pictures Board is here

Please send your pictures via WhatsApp/email to Kamran or Jennifer 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, Sally & family.

Rota for Sunday 3rd April :

Reader: Tatyanna

Intercession: Anne

Hospitality: Sally/Silvia

AV Desk- Shaniv

Contact details: Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873 **Mobile:** 07883355351

Website: www.gg-pc.co.uk

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

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/>