

06 April 2022



***Etching of the Woman Washing the Feet of Jesus***

**Greetings to everyone.** We are now approaching the most important time in the Christian Calendar remembering Jesus telling his disciples they must go to Jerusalem together, undergo great suffering and for Jesus to face death. It is not surprising they all had a negative reaction, with Peter turning on him in his predictable way, saying, “*God forbid it Lord, this must not ever happen to you*” (Matthew 16.21-28). A real dilemma for them as it would be for us too. How would we have reacted I wonder. This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy week/Passion week, it has several names, in which we daily think about his journey towards the Cross and ultimately the Resurrection which brings such hope to us all. On Palm Sunday after the service at 12.00 we will be processing from the Golders Green Library in the high street to the Clock Tower with members of other churches. Please do come and bring your palms which you will be given in church at the beginning of the Service. It will be so good to see everyone there.

I do hope everyone is keeping well, and warm too. It sounds depressing to start on a low note knowing that Covid figures are rising steeply, as are our heating bills. Regarding Covid, please don't imagine this is behind us as the media and politicians keep telling us. The increasingly high figures are evidence that this is not so. One wonders if safeguarding protections had been maintained the rise in numbers, that many of us predicted, would not be as high as they are now. Please do take care, continue to wear your masks, and keep a safe distance. Listening to people finding ways of keeping warm when the weather has become so cold again is a real dilemma for everyone with the steep rise in prices, we are all facing. To hear the other day, a mother talking about the choice she has between keeping her children warm and feeding them made me wonder if we are really living in 2022 and not 1922. While there are other churches round us with foodbanks, it may be that we will have to think of joining them with one of our own as the numbers who depend on them are rising.

Listening to that and seeing the pictures of terrified mothers fleeing with their children in Ukraine, the verse from Matthew 23 v 37, flashed into my mind of Jesus responding in his time of a war, saying, “How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wing”. Using the metaphor of himself as the mother hen literally using her body to protect her chick's life.



We discussed on Sunday our “Golders Green Mission Action Plan”, which you have already had to mull over and contribute towards. It ranges from “Ministry and Discipleship” with many sub-sections to, “Mission and Outreach”, covering all those areas that include expanding our work in church and in the community. It was, I hope you thought, a very good meeting with groups working and feeding back to make the Plan complete. It is a well laid-out plan but will need volunteers to take part in the areas that you feel most interested in and for which you have particular gifts. No one person can do it all, or will be expected to, but working collaboratively together is by far and away the best way of achieving our aims. If you didn't have a chance to discuss it and have some idea of what you would like to do, please discuss it with Kamran and the Churchwardens who will be so pleased to hear from you.

As was mentioned 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. An account of this meeting is written up by Ruth telling us more about it with possible ways we as a church could be involved. This will fit in well with our action plan. Please go to the website of the Sanctuary Foundation and read it for yourself and also the [www.Baby-basics.orguk](http://www.Baby-basics.orguk) who do such helpful things for mothers in-need which includes Ukrainian mothers/carers and babies. There is much we can do in different ways to support the families.

Jenny has sent us some more prayers for Ukraine and also other beleaguered countries that we do not forget plus a piece about the Prayer Vigil for Ukraine organized by Churches Together that took place last Sunday to which Jenny and her mother Beryl attended.

I have written a piece on the woman who washed Jesus's feet with her hair, that Kamran preached about on Sunday.

I hope you enjoy the Spring flowers in their beautiful colours and are cheered by them.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally



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

- + Sanctuary Foundation: What can UK Churches do to help Refugees? – Ruth;**
- + More Prayers for Ukraine and Other Suffering Countries - Jenny;**
- + Vigil for Ukraine – Jenny;**
- + The Woman Washing the Feet of Jesus;**
- + Prayers with Kamran;**
- + Prayer List;**
- + Church Bulletin;**
- + Church Rota;**
- + Prayer List;**
- + Links to Services with Updates;**

### **Sanctuary Foundation: What can UK Churches do to help Refugees? – Ruth**

The Sanctuary Foundation is a charity led by Krish Kandiah and works to support refugees.

Over 2000 churches and over 26,000 individuals have signed the foundation's pledge to welcome Ukrainian refugees. Support can range from offering homes via the Government's schemes, to providing practical assistance to families who are hosting refugees. Sanctuary Foundation has joined with the Baby Basics charity to provide things like car seats and nappies to mothers who have fled the war with their children.

Sally and I attended a webinar where Krish (who is an amazing communicator, and I urge you to look at some of his videos on the Sanctuary Foundation website) and others talked about the impact a church can make. We were urged to lament and mourn, and of course pray, before offering practical help. This could include welcoming refugees into church, helping children get involved with Brownies and Cubs, helping families negotiate the benefits system, supporting host families with food and fellowship.

It's quite likely that Ukrainian refugees will be hosted by families near our church. Garden

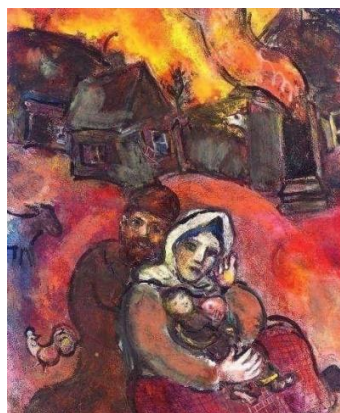
Suburb Schools have amongst the highest concentration of Ukrainian pupils in Barnet already (and many others have Polish/Ukrainian family connections) and it's probable that Ukrainian children will be placed in the schools.

As a church, we should decide whether to pledge to support the Sanctuary Foundation, and what practical support we could offer refugees and/or their host families. We could also decide to do a collection for Baby Basics.

Please talk to Sally, Jenny, or me if you'd like to get involved. In the meantime, please do visit [www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk](http://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk) and look at some of the videos.



**More Prayers for Ukraine and Other Suffering Countries - from Jenny**



***Marc Chagall and Ukrainian Family 1941 -1943***

**Loving God**, your Son Jesus Christ, wept over Jerusalem.

Today, we weep over Ukraine.

We weep for those uprooted from their homes and lives.

We weep for those cowering in basements.

We weep for those who have witnessed death and destruction on their streets.

We weep for those separated from parents, from children, from spouses and siblings.

We are amazed at the resilience of people seeking to comfort those in need and so we pray for Governments opening up borders so that Ukrainians can have safe passage.

We pray for churches and individuals providing food, clothing and shelter.

We pray for medical workers ensuring that shattered bodies are put back together again.

We pray for ordinary Russians demonstrating and voicing their disapproval of the military actions in Ukraine.

May the Holy Spirit give us the willpower to turn our tears into action also.

May we, through our words, prayers and example pursue the things that make for a just peace in the world today and especially in Ukraine.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

### **(Methodist Church)**

**We pray for the Church:** that in this time of crisis, she may speak words of truth and justice, act with compassion and be a sign of Christ's love for all those who are suffering. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders, that guided by integrity and wisdom, they may work together so that peace may flourish. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those caught up in violence, remembering especially the people of Ukraine; that in this time of fear and conflict, they may know God's presence and peace. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those suffering from hunger as a result of conflict and injustice, in countries such as Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Ethiopia. Lord in your mercy....

We pray for our parish and our local community: that in this time of Lent, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. Lord in your mercy...

### **(CAFOD)**

**In this holy season of Lent** across our Churches and Traditions, let us raise our hearts in prayer for an end to this war and conflict with the least possible loss of life, and for a restoration of peace and healing.

"We pray protection upon the people and the armed forces of Ukraine and Russia. We pray wisdom upon leaders and policy makers, that regardless of geopolitical considerations, the preservation of sacred life always stands paramount. We pray peace for a world that is still recovering from a global pandemic that has affected so many and has had an immense toll on us all.

"May the Prince of Peace, our sovereign God, answer the prayers of millions around the world for an end to this war and further loss of life.

### **(Coptic Orthodox Church UK)**

**If you have internet access, you might also like to listen to this recording of ‘the Blessing’ recorded by Christians in Ukraine: <https://youtu.be/Uf8D7R-3q6c..>**



### **Vigil for Ukraine – Jenny**

This weekend saw Christians across the UK and Ireland come together in an act of witness to pray for the people of Ukraine and for an end to the conflict.

Hundreds of congregations took part, including at national events across the country. In London, almost 100 people came together for a prayer vigil outside the Ukrainian embassy. We used words from that act of witness in our intercessions on Sunday, united in doing so with churches all over the country.

Jenny and her Mum were at the Ukrainian embassy, and she says, ‘it was very special to be there, and particularly moving to stand in silence, holding our yellow and blue hearts facing east towards Ukraine, and holding the people of Ukraine in our prayers.’

You may like to see the introductory words from the vigil:

‘On this day, during this hour, in this moment,  
We gather together while bombs fall and lives are lost,  
We gather as families flee in fear, unsure of their future,  
Communities are cut off and isolated,  
Cities are shattered into pieces,  
Children are forced from their homes,  
Babies are born in bomb shelters,  
And a country is left reeling and devastated.

We too are shocked and confused,  
Distressed that hate and violence can destroy so quickly,  
Heartbroken that, once again, war has come.

We gather with hearts of blue and yellow, the colours of the Ukrainian flag,  
To stand in solidarity with those suffering,  
To lament and grieve  
But also in faith, to hold hope for Ukraine

We also gather to remember the people of Russia,  
Knowing God's heart and love reaches to each and every person.  
We long for truth to prevail in the confusion, silencing and disinformation.

We gather together to commit ourselves to lives of justice and reconciliation,  
To pray for peace where conflict rages.

We gather with hearts full of God's expansive love and compassion,  
Which stretches beyond borders and division,  
God's love which can heal and restore, renew and rebuild.

To the people of Ukraine, to everyone caught up in the brutalities of conflict and war, in  
faith, in hope, in love, we hold out our hearts to you.'

John Sentamu, former Archbishop of York and Chair of Christian Aid (who co-organised the event) was at the vigil and was interviewed by the BBC, Sky news and the Press Association. He said:

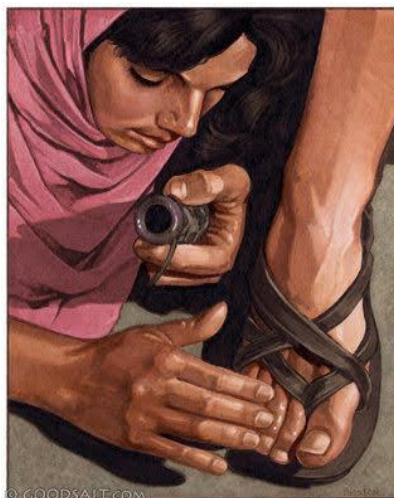
"Like the people of Ukraine looking out for their neighbours or the charity workers delivering emergency food to people seeking refuge, we must bring hope.

"That is why Christians from across the UK and Ireland - recognising the God-given human dignity and rights of every human being - united in an act of witness to pray for Ukraine and an end to the conflict.

"With one voice, we are calling for an immediate ceasefire and an unequivocal commitment to protect civilians and key services.

"Every prayer, every gift, every action brings hope to the people of Ukraine. My thanks to the thousands who showed their support for Ukraine this weekend."

### **The Woman Washing the Feet of Jesus (Luke 7. v36-50)**



On Sunday we heard the story of a woman (unnamed) who bathed Jesus's feet with her tears, drying them with her hair and anointing them with expensive ointment. The host and others present were predictably outraged (a) because she was a woman, possibly a gentile, and (b) because she was a known sinner; both breaking the many taboos that were rules in the time of Jesus's society, especially regarding women. Jesus aware of their shock and horror, as they thought he must have known the type of woman she was, asked them a question about two debtors who owed different amounts but both forgiven. He asked, "which of the one who was forgiven the most would love him most?". When they replied, "I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt", Jesus said, "You have judged rightly". He then, after rebuking Simon the host for not having carried out the customary acts of hospitality towards him as a guest, said, "I tell you her sins which were many have been forgiven ....." and then directly to the women, "Your sins are forgiven; Your faith has saved you, Go in peace". There are so many other stories in the New Testament of women anointing Jesus with oil, recognising who he was as Messiah, receiving healing from him, talking, even arguing with him, supporting and caring for him, being sent by him to spread the good news about him and following him faithfully to the end and beyond. Some named but many not and there are far more unnamed. If you are given no name it shows how little you are valued. In John (Ch 12, v1-8) Jesus having a meal at Martha, Mary's and Lazarus's house, Mary took an expensive perfume and poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. It was Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages" "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." In Matthew (26 v12) this story is extended when Jesus says, "Truly I tell you wherever this Gospel is preached throughout the world what she has done will also be told in memory of her". We also remember Mary Madeleine, Jesus faithful friend and disciple who, after his resurrection was told by Jesus to go and tell the others that he had risen. The point being that whenever we read about Jesus's actions, his healing and miracles we need to be mindful of who it is he is doing them to. They are usually those who are regarded by conventional society as unclean who contaminate those with whom they come into contact. Taboos make those who consider themselves to be on the "inside" unclean if they touch those considered to be on the "outside"; for example, the dead, the hemorrhaging, the insane, disabled, blind, crippled, women, gentiles, healing their children. In doing so Jesus breaks all of them, signaling to us in our time, as it was in his, that no-one is beyond his love – all are included as part of his kingdom. By his overturning of social, class, religious, gender barriers he abolishes the taboos that were made then, and we make now which damage and demeans so many. He is telling us something important about acceptance; an acceptance of those groups or individuals against which we might have some taboos and, I think, if we are to be honest there are times when it is very hard isn't it. What are the taboos we make in our society I wonder? What is asked of us in Jesus's terms regarding them? When I think about it, I sometimes call it my, "Ouch factor". But in the end what he is really telling us is that no one, but no-one, is outside his love, or forgiveness and that can, in moments of stress, help.



## **Song of Worship:**

Foundations — Gas Street Music, Luke Hellebronth

<https://youtu.be/sSHU-bS-SBY>

### **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 in church at 7.00pm 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/aemYT2pIYY>



### Links to Services with Updates

**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](http://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/>

## **The Parish of Golders Green**

### **Parish Notices: 03/04/2022**

**Sunday Service:** 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. All welcome.

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

**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. It was a success and children enjoyed play, songs, reading & fruit. We do however need Volunteers to assist with this. If you can help, please let Kamran know.

### **Pictures Board is here**

Please send your pictures to Kamran or Jennifer via WhatsApp/email 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.

### **Rota for Sunday 10th April:**

**Reader:** Alexis

**Hospitality:** Nehar/Nwando

**Intercession:** Tony

**AV Desk-** Thomas

### **Contact details:**

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

Mobile: 07883355351

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

## Golders Green Church Rota April 2022

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality/Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk	Preacher
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	tbc	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

## Martha's Toddler Group

Please Note:

Martha's Toddler Group will be closed for two weeks over the Easter Period:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

We will reopen on Tuesday 26 April 2022. We look forward to seeing you then.

**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/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/>