

05 May 2022



***John 21:1-14***

**Greetings to everyone.**

Now we are coming through the Pandemic (but we still have to take care as it is not fully behind us) we can resume some of our activities that we were taking part in before the lockdowns when so much came to a halt. One of those starting again will be the “Bring and Share” monthly parish lunch, when we can enjoy sharing food and have time to eat and talk to each other. Please see the poster below from Sylvia.

We keep in our thoughts and prayers Ukraine and all the terrible acts being taken against the country and its people. We pray continuously that the suffering they are experiencing may come to an end and ways may be found to reconstruct their cities, homes and most importantly their lives after such dreadful traumas. At the moment it seems impossible to see a way out of all the carnage and, as my Latvian friend who I spent some time with this week, says, “all we have left are our prayers”. We also keep in our prayers the many other countries who are suffering from war, acts of terrorism and misgovernment, that they may receive peace and justice for all their people.

Myfanwy reminded me that this week is the 80<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the bombing of Exeter, where she lived with her parents at the time it took place. If you remember, she wrote in the newsletter some time ago, about her memories of when it happened and of the two young officers in the Polish Airforce who were billeted with her family. They all became friends but sadly both died later in the war. Myfanwy asked for a candle to be lit in church in their memory and that of the bombing.

In this week’s edition there is a piece from Nehar updating us on proposals regarding the Night Shelter and a Soup Kitchen; one about the provisions for the local food banks; a piece from the Eco Churches Newsletter and one I have called “Wonderings”.

Please, too, don’t forget to pray for all those in our congregation who are unwell and are mentioned in the “How We Are” section.

It was so good to welcome the Revd Mavis Crispin who came to us this week and preached a fine sermon on. **John 21:1-14**, telling of the disciples who, fishing all night, had caught nothing. In the morning Jesus appeared to them and told them to cast their nets in the sea again on the other side of the boat. They did so and this time their nets became heavy with fish. When they landed their catch, they saw that Jesus had prepared breakfast for them on the beach and they sat and ate. We were asked to think how we interpreted this story. As an illustration to her sermon Mavis showed us a pottery model presented to her, as a gift for her ordination in Peru where she was ordained, of the “Breakfast on the Shore.” A truly beautiful gift.



“Breakfast on the Shore”  
presented to Mavis on the occasion of her ordination.

It is important to remember the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which takes place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 12pm after the Sunday Service. There will be a light lunch followed by the meeting. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend.

### **Electoral Role Membership**

**Please** if you think you are not on the Electoral Role would you sign up and become a registered church member before the APCM. Forms will be available in church on Sundays, or you could email Jennifer (0208 455 1873) who will send one to you.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

### **This Week’s Edition Includes:**

- ✚ Bring and Share Lunch – Nehar and Sylvia;**
- ✚ Update on Night Shelter and Soup Kitchen - Nehar;**
- ✚ Local Food Banks;**
- ✚ News and Invitation from Eco Church:**
- ✚ “Wonderings” – Sally;**
- ✚ How We Are;**
- ✚ Prayers with Kamran;**
- ✚ Church Bulletin;**
- ✚ Church Rota to follow next week;**
- ✚ Prayer List;**
- ✚ Links to Services;**



## Update on Night Shelter and Soup Kitchen – Nehar

### Night Shelter

We have been involved in the work of the Night shelter for some time now. With the pandemic the nature of this work has changed. In the past our church was able to host the homeless who registered with Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) once a week. We partnered with Alyth Synagogue to provide an evening meal and breakfast for the people who slept in our church overnight.

With the lockdown the nature of this work changed. Together in Barnet (TiB) the charity which runs the Night Shelter work with HAB was given a grant by the government to provide shelter for the Homeless. TiB booked 17 rooms at a local hotel where the Homeless were accommodated. GGPC provided food every other week in partnership with Alyth.

Following the end of the Night shelter project this year, it was thought that some fundraising was necessary to raise funds for this project to add to any government grant which fell short of the needs this year.

A fundraising event is being organised for **Sunday 3 July 12.30 – 4.00** which will be hosted by our church. This will bring our church family and the local community together and raise the profile of TiB and work they do.

We hope to have stalls selling food, face-painting, magicians, raffle, people doing a mini talent show. The money raised will go towards supporting the work of the Night Shelter. If you feel able to help in any way, please email Jennifer in the church office or talk to me on Sunday.

### Soup Kitchen

Coming from our church's involvement in the Night Shelter work is our hope - as part of our Mission Action Plan - to set up a soup kitchen. This will provide soup and bread to the Homeless in our community throughout the year. We hope to give food parcels for the Homeless who attend to take away with them depending on what their needs are.

Please let us pray together to see how God wants us to move forward in this work. Please be praying to see how God wants you to respond. We will need volunteers to set up and serve the soup as well as to make it. We hope to start with one night a week – every **Tuesday at 6.30**. It is our hope to start this work after the APCM.

In our Church's Mission Action Plan, we have been discussing how as a church family we can make ourselves available to God to share His love and blessing with those in need in our local community. It is my prayer that by this work we can feed those who are hungry not only physically but also spiritually.

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to me on Sunday.

With love in Jesus - Nehar

## Local Food Banks - Sally

Just to say a very big thank you for the generous donations you made in money and provisions for the local food banks. While we do not yet have one of our own, it is right that we support those around us in our wider neighbourhood. So far, we have delivered provisions to Colindale and All Saints Food banks and will take the next batch to Emmanuel Church in West Hampstead. Please leave any goods you would like to donate in the Parish Office on either Sunday, Wednesday, or Thursday when Jennifer is there.

We know from feedback that increasing numbers of families are making use of them and, when the heating bills go up in the way they will, there will be more family poverty. Along with churches and other organisations, “The Trussel Trust” is an organisation that supports a nationwide network of food banks and together provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty. They also campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK. Here is some information taken from the Trussel Trust website, [www.trusseltrust.org](http://www.trusseltrust.org) :

“In the UK, more than 14 million people are living in poverty – including 4.5 million children. The Trust supports more than 1,200 food bank centres in the UK to provide a minimum of three days’ nutritionally balanced emergency food to people who have been referred in crisis, as well as support to help people resolve the crises they face. Between April 2019 and March 2020, food banks in our network provided a record 1.9 million food supplies to people in crisis, **an 18% increase on the previous year** and during the coronavirus pandemic food banks have seen need rise even further.

We know it takes more than food to end hunger and have a 5-year goal to end the need for food banks. We know it is ambitious, but by working “Together for Change,” we believe it is achievable.

Our latest STATS show that between the **1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022**, food banks in the Trussel Trust’s UK wide network distributed over 2.1 million emergency food parcels to people in crisis. **This is an increase of 14% compared to the same period in 2019/20. 832,000 of these parcels went to children.**

**COMPARED TO THIS TIME FIVE YEARS AGO, THE NEED FOR FOOD BANKS IN THE NETWORK HAS INCREASED BY 81%”.**

### SONGS OF WORSHIP:

**Great Is The Lord (Gadol Adonai) |**

<https://youtu.be/XcKUs0NWCu8>

## News and invitation from Eco Church

As we are signed up members of Eco Church, we receive their monthly newsletter telling us of all the activities and events in which they are involved and the progress of Eco Church in helping churches develop conservation work. If you are interested in reading it all you can go to their website and catch up with their news (<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk> )

You might be interested to know that from **4-12<sup>th</sup> June** they are holding a “Churches Count of Nature” encouraging all of us with areas of green land to record the nature we see and feed back to them. The details are below. Maybe it is something we could join-in. There are one of two other events they have invited us to. The Conservation of our building and land are part of our action plan so it would be good if a couple of us signed up for them and fed back to us on the ideas and suggestions they share with us.

### Churches and Nature

*“Churches Count on Nature is a unique opportunity for those who love their churchyards and church spaces to take part in the largest ever nature count. With nature still in decline nationwide, this count will provide valuable data on what is happening to wildlife. In turn, which will help us to collectively work to take targeted action for nature’s recovery.”*

Andy Lester, A Rocha UK’s Head of Conservation.



### Churches Count on Nature 4-12 June

We’re encouraging churches of all denominations to take part in ‘Churches Count on Nature’ (4-12 June) by recording nature in their churchyards, green spaces, and burial grounds.

During Churches Count on Nature, the Church of England is running a complementary **series of webinars** for anyone interested in different aspects of nature, ecology, churchyard management, and outdoor worship.

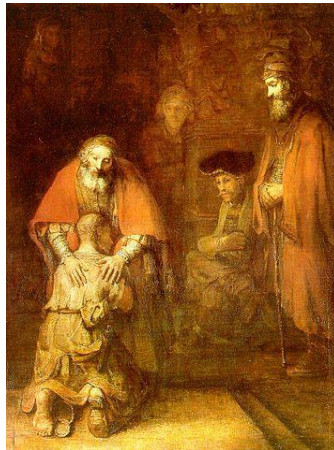
Helen Stephens and Andy Lester from A Rocha UK will be speaking as part of this online programme. In particular, Andy will be speaking on **‘Urban Hope - how to create space for nature in a small space’** which will take a creative look at how to make the best use of small areas.

View the **webinar programme** and **book your free place** [here](#).

**Register** to take part in **Churches Count on Nature** [here](#).

## “Wonderings” – Sally

When you read stories in the New Testament, do you ever think beyond the main context about other characters who are not mentioned but whose lives must have been profoundly affected by what happened? Thinking of them, which one might spring to mind for you? I often think of the mother of the Prodigal son. She is never mentioned. She is one of the invisible women of the Bible. What must she have felt? Did anyone ask her about her feelings? What might she have said to her husband and her other son? How did she react when he returned? Was she pleased or angry with him or did she wrap her arms around him in relief and embrace him? What would any of us have done, or may have done if we have experienced something similar in our lives? In the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, there is the most exquisite painting by Rembrandt called, “The Return of the Prodigal Son.” In the forefront of the painting is the father with his hands resting in forgiveness on his wayward son’s shoulders. Beside him are two other men. The light, Rembrandt was so brilliant at painting, draws you to them and we are led to focus on the father and son. More shadowy, is another character looking round a pillar. Is it the older brother? I doubt it- he looks curious not angry as we are told he was. But, in the far top left corner of the painting, very much in the deeper shadows, is another figure, one that is so easily missed (and it may not be easy for you to see it because of the poor quality of this print). Who might that be I wonder? Looking at it with a group of friends on a retreat many of us asked, was this his mother? Did Rembrandt paint her into the scene to make her part of the story so we could think of her feelings too? What do you think? We could all be wrong, but I like to think she was there, like so many women of the Bible, watching from a distance, absorbing it all, watching and waiting to be with her son to welcome him home. I couldn’t help wondering what she said later to her older son to pacify him!



What made me think of that particular story and pondering on the whole issue of forgiveness, was the painting below. It was sent to me by a friend and took me aback when I realized what the subject was. If you glimpsed at it quickly, as I did when I first saw it, I thought it was Mary, Jesus’s mother, and Mary Magdalene, holding each other in shared grief and consolation. If you just glance at it, what passes through your mind? Who are these two women?





But then I looked at the title the artist, Nicholas Mynheer, has given his painting and saw he had named it, “Mary, the mother of Jesus, embracing the mother of Judas”. It stopped me in my tracks with real poignancy. I had never given a thought to Judas having a mother, with her terrible grief, the shame and isolation she must have felt, and, wondered who, if anyone, was likely to be there to console her? Of course, Mary, the obvious one, who knew so much of pain and grief in her life would be the one to show such compassion. I have never seen a portrait on this topic before. The very subject made me think of the power of forgiveness and consolation, especially for those unconsciously caught up in terrible events beyond their control; events that we see today in our streets that cause such trauma to families unwittingly caught up in them. Thinking of the mother of Judas, with Mary beside her, this painting reminds us there is always the offer of Hope and Consolation to help heal pain and hurt even in the most dire of circumstances - if we are there to offer it.

### **How We Are**

How good it is to hear that **Eunice** who was taken ill on Sunday is much better now. We all hope she keeps strong and is back with us fit and well.

Many condolences were sent to Ann on the loss of her brother Rufus in Nigeria. We send prayers to you and your family at this sad time.

We do hope David A who was in Church last Sunday with his wife, Uche, continues to grow in strength and hope of a good recovery. Lots of prayers.

We continue to wish Archbishop Emmanuel C strength and prayers for a good recovery.

Think also of **Margaret** and of **Marlies** and hope that her ankle is getting stronger.

**Anita** has let us know that **Simon** has not been at all well with a chest infection over the past couple of weeks and is having to take care - at least that is what we are all telling him! His father is not too well either which increases the families worry. Please think of them and send many prayers for them all.

How glad we were to see **Tony** back in church and feeling better. Please take care Tony.

Please continue to pray for all those who have been unwell that they may gain in strength and good health.

It would be so good if you could let us know either by **WhatsApp, the newsletter, phone, or email** about anyone who is not well, bereaved or would appreciate our prayers.





### ***The Causeway to Holy Island Lindisfarne***

#### **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. 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=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhlY2paUT09>

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>

**The Parish of Golders Green**  
**Parish Notices: 01/05/2022**

**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. All welcome.

**Pictures Board is here**

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

**For your prayers:**

Please continue to prayer for Eunice, Simon, Margaret for God's healing.

Please also prayer for all those who are grieving for their loved ones, especially for Ann and Gideon, and for Festus, Fiona, Kelechi, and entire family.

**Rota for Sunday 8th May:**

**Reader:** Friday

**Hospitality:** Naila/Alexis

**Intercession:** Anne

**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)

# **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**

**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/>

**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/>