

06 July 2022



Cross in St Paul's Cathedral

Greetings to everyone. Last week we had an active time in church. On Wednesday we hosted the Service for the, “Celebration of Ministry in the London Borough of Barnet with Admission of Churchwardens and the Commissioning of the Creative-Care Champion”, taken by Archdeacon John. It was so good to be with friends old and new from churches across our Area and to support Tony in his next year as churchwarden. It was a great pity that Nehar could not be there to be sworn-in as she was unwell - we wish her a speedy recovery. Unfortunately, Kamran was also unable to be with us as he had been taken into the Royal Free with a severe chest infection and high temperature. He has been kept in for a few days until his temperature goes back to normal and the infection improves. This is so hard for him and Naila. We miss him and send lots of prayers and hope that those who are caring for him will nurse him back to full health.

We thank the Revd Nigel T for stepping in again at very short notice in Kamran’s absence to take our Sunday Service We are always pleased to see him.

On Sunday we were hosts to, “Together in Barnet” (TiB) for a summer event in church and grounds. This was arranged by members of TiB to raise funds for the running of the emergency night shelter for people experiencing homelessness. We, along with neighbouring churches and synagogues, have been involved in this project for a number of years. We value our links with them all and the friendships made. The volunteers of TiB are amazing in their determination and tirelessness to fund-raise and apply for grants to keep this and other projects going. Some pictures are below. It was good too, to be supported by Councillor Nigel Y, to have a chance to chat with him and so many others from neighbouring churches and synagogues.

We have a short piece on the London Ordinations to that took place at St Paul’s Cathedral with much rejoicing on Saturday 2nd July. We thank Michael M from St Martin-in-the-Fields for sending some of the photographs.

Jenny has written on the challenges Churches face regarding Climate Crisis. This arose out of the commissioning service on Wednesday when Father John’s emphatic sermon highlighted those things we need to do to make the National targets become achievable. At Golders

Green we started well before Covid and reached the Eco Church Bronze award. Now we can go forward and take the next steps to Silver.












Jenny also gave us Bishop Rachel T's prayer on the Justice and Healing that underpins it all. Rachel speaks frequently on this and other issues in the House of Lords.

Monday was the feast day of St Thomas, one of the disciples of Jesus, who is best known for doubting Jesus's appearance to the Apostles but he was so much more. A short piece on him is below.

Just a quick note of caution. Covid is very much on the rise again, a number of our family members and friends have caught it and are unwell to a greater or lesser degree. There is no knowing how it affects us as it is a very random virus. We all need to take care of ourselves and each other.

With love and good wishes - Sally

This Week's Edition Includes:

-  **The Climate Crisis: Challenge for Churches– Jenny;**
-  **Consecrations at St Pauls;**
-  **St Thomas – Disciple;**
-  **“Together in Barnet”;**
-  **Toddlers Club;**
-  **How We Are;**
-  **Prayers with Kamran;**
-  **Church Bulletin;**
-  **Church Rota;**
-  **Prayer List;**
-  **Links to Service;**

The Climate Crisis: Challenge for Churches – Jenny

If you were in church on Wednesday evening for the commissioning of church wardens in parishes in Barnet (including our very own Tony and Nehar) you'll have heard references to the climate crisis and how churches need to be responding. Father John, our Archdeacon, reminded us about the commitment by the Church of England to reach 'net zero' by 2030. It's a very challenging target and means that by 2030 the Church of England has in effect to be carbon neutral, in all aspects of its life and witness, including its land and buildings.

Father John encouraged all the churches represented to think about how we can help move towards the target. One way he suggested is to sign up to the Eco Church scheme, and we had a presentation from St Mary at Hendon who already have their bronze award. As you know, so do we!! Their representative described the sorts of things they did in order to reach bronze. These cover all the different areas of a church's life, from the prayer and worship to buildings, energy, how we use our outside spaces, our catering and domestic purchases and how we engage with the wider world, for instance through campaigns to change government

policy and by only buying fairtrade tea and coffee. At GGPC we've not been able to do much towards our silver award that during the last two years but now we don't have that excuse anymore, so the PCC will be asked to support our recommitment to Eco Church. If you want to know more about the scheme do have a look at the website: <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>, and admire our certificate (below)!!

We also heard from Father John that from the beginning of this year the Diocese of London is asking every church to appoint a creation care champion (or a small group of creation care champions) whose role would be to support and encourage their church in working towards becoming net zero by 2030.

Now that our building is being used more, including mid-week, than it has been for a while, it's a good time to review all the ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint. Being part of the Eco Church scheme will give us a really helpful checklist, and there's a lot of very helpful information and advice on the Diocese website: <https://www.london.anglican.org/mission/environment/>.

This is all very relevant to GGPC, partly because we're part of the London Diocese and therefore need to be part of its net zero project, and also because we've agreed a specific section on climate change in our Mission Action Plan. It's there because we believe that we're called to be good stewards of God's creation, and that he's trusted us and all human beings with the wellbeing of the world he's put us in. It fits beautifully with all the elements of the Mission Action Plan, both ministry and discipleship and mission and outreach.

Having said all of that, and it's all really important, there's one thing missing from the Archdeacon's talk and from the Diocese's website, which is the principal underpinning everything they talk about - justice. Creation care, and addressing the climate crisis, are not just about the natural environment, crucial though that is. It's ultimately about the impact of global heating on human beings, mostly in the poorest parts of the world, who've done nothing to cause the problem. They're the ones who are feeling the impact worst, and catastrophically – think about the floods in Bangladesh, and the drought in the Horn of Africa, for instance. However, we in the rich industrialised countries are the ones who've caused the crisis through our dependence on fossil fuels – gas, oil, and coal. We therefore have the biggest responsibility to stop it getting worse. That's the challenge, to us at home, to GGPC, and to the Church of England with its commitment to become net zero by 2030. It's possible, but we all need to do our bit!

Please get in touch with Jenny if you'd like to have a chat about any of this or if you'd like to be part of a GGPC 'creation care' group.



Golders Green Bronze Award

You may like to pray these words, which were used at the service on Wednesday:

Creator God, giver of life,
You sustain the earth and direct the nations.
In this time of climate and ecological crisis
Grant us clarity to hear
The groaning of creation and the cries of the poor;
Challenge us to change our lifestyles;
Guide our leaders to take courageous action;
Enable your church to be a beacon of hope;
And foster within us a renewed vision
Of your purposes for the world;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, by and for whom all things were made.
Amen

Prayer for Justice, Reconciliation, Healing and Hope
The Bishop of Gloucester, Rt Revd Rachel T

This was written by Bishop Rachel for Christian Aid. This is her introduction:

“It’s too easy to say that we are lovers of justice, reconciliation, healing, and hope and then to pray for people and all of creation in a way which simply names and expects God to act. Yet ‘lovers’ can spell ‘resolve’ if it includes a bit of ‘me’. And resolve implies action.”

Prayer

Gracious God whose name is hallowed,
When I am faced with the horrors of headlines and news pointing to places of disaster,
displacement, poverty, abuse, hatred, and disease,
I am moved to pray the words ‘your kingdom come on earth as in heaven.’
Yet lead us from the temptation of simply praying the papers, here today and gone
tomorrow.

May our daily bread give us minds to search, and eyes to see and ears to hear the groaning
of all creation. People and places broken and diminished
hidden, barely mentioned, forgotten, unnoticed.
And give us courage to point, not silently or privately but in words and actions heard and
seen.

Let us rage with your passion.
How long will hatred, greed and self-interest fuel suffering, injustice, and destruction?
And when people point the finger back to you, compassionate God, and cry ‘How long O
Lord?’ let the finger point back to us, to me.

Let us rage with compassion and dare to be part of an answer to prayer for people and
places, not mere statistics but your precious creation, named and known.
For I too am created in your image and known by name. Called.
Called to be a sign to your kingdom coming on earth as in heaven. Called to be a response
to that prayer.

Creator God, work in me so that I am moved to join in with your transforming work of reconciliation.

Crucified Christ, give us mercy and tears,
Risen Christ, give us hope to bring life in all its fullness,
Ascended Christ, give us glimpses of your glory and shine your light on our shrivelled hearts.

Spirit of truth, may your holy fire burn our complacency.
Lead us to mourn, to be meek, to yearn for righteousness with the same yearning as those who are starving and dying from lack of water.

Spirit of life, fan the embers of our hearts into blazing flames of love and resolve.

Here I stand God, yet knowing the standing is not enough – I need to act.

So in my Amen is my 'yes'.

Amen

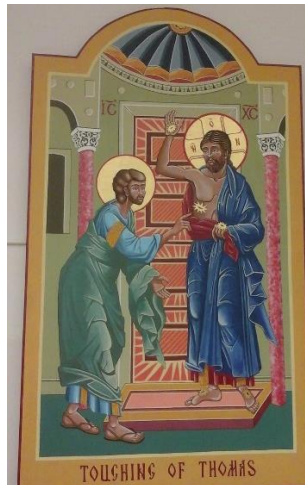
Extracted from "Rage and Hope, 75 Prayers for a Better World", a Christian Aid publication edited by Chine McDonald and Wendy Lloyd, copyright 2021, by SPCK Publishing and reproduced in this newsletter with permission

Consecrations at St Paul's Cathedral

On Saturday, 2nd July at St Paul's Cathedral, fifty-four ordinations took place of women and men to the diaconate, amidst much rejoicing. A larger number than usual. At the same time, in other dioceses up and down the country, ordinations and commitment were taking place by many candidates having completed their training. We wish them much joy and fulfilment as deacons in their future parishes. Ordinations to the priesthood (those who have completed a year serving as deacons) took place round about the same time in local churches in their particular Areas. All are ordained by their suffragan bishop. In our Area, nine deacons were ordained priests at Hampstead Parish Church by Bishop Rob. Among them was Helen S-W, who is serving as a curate at Emmanuel Church in West Hampstead. Helen is married to Robin S-W, vicar of All Saints, Childs Hill. Many congratulations to Helen and Robin. May the Church be enriched by the faith and ministries of so many and may they be supported by the Church to whom they bring so much. Some pictures were taken at St Paul's by Michael M from St Martin-in-the-Fields. My thanks to him



St Thomas - the Disciple Who Doubted – Sally



**Icon depiction of St Thomas with Jesus
from St Thomas the Apostle , Hyde Park, Chicago USA**

The feast day of St Thomas the Apostle takes place on Monday 3rd July, when he is remembered and prayed for in many churches. Thomas was one of Jesus's twelve main disciples most famously known as the 'Doubting Apostle' (and the "Twin") as recorded in the Gospel of John. He was not present when Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection. When he returned and heard Jesus has been with them he did not believe them. He told the other disciples, *"Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe"* (John 20:25). Jesus then appeared and offered to let him do just that. On seeing Jesus with his own eyes he said, *"My Lord and my God!"* (John 20:28). Jesus then replied to him saying, *"Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed"* (John 20:29). Thomas is often condemned for his lack of belief but I wonder how many of us would have reacted as he did? But, his commonly held nick-name hid so much more about his life. He was courageous. He is recorded in the Gospel of John as being willing to stand by Jesus in dangerous times. When Jesus announced His intention of visiting the recently deceased Lazarus in Judea—a few miles from Jerusalem and dangerously close for someone as unpopular as he was, he said to his fellow disciples: *"Let us also go, that we may die with him"* (John 11:16). When the worried disciples wanted to keep Jesus from going for fear He would be stoned, Thomas, in a moment of bravery not often expressed by the Apostles before Pentecost, rallied the others to stay by their Master come what may. There are many stories that grew up about Thomas, Apocryphal or not but interesting reading.* It is recorded that he travelled to India to spread the Good News of Christianity. To this day, he is venerated as the Apostle of India. There exists a population of Christians living along the Malabar Coast, on the western coast of India, who lay claim to conversion by St. Thomas. He is said to have been martyred, dying in India. His body was then brought into the city of Mylapore and buried inside a church he had already had built there. In the 16th century, Portuguese explorers built the San Thome Basilica over the church and his tomb. Later it is said his relics were transported to Ortona in Italy. An interesting and underrated Saint with many human qualities of doubt, faithfulness, and courage. Perhaps we have those too.

Sources: Catholic Encyclopedia, by Herbert Thurston; For All The Saints, by Katherine Rabenstein; Alternate titles: Judas Thomas, Thomas the Twin; Encyclopedia Britannica.

“Together in Barnet”



Songs of Worship:

Angels From The Realms of Glory / Emmanuel - REVERE, Thrive Worship (Off...

<https://youtu.be/czWmPoxKvuU>

I Exalt Thee | Neromem Otcha(Live) [Hebrew Worship] @SOLU Israel

<https://youtu.be/zjhYY-10Qg4>



*“Evening in the South Downs”
Photograph by the Revd Jane Willis*

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>

How We Are

Please offer lots of prayers for **Kamran** who, at the time of writing, is still in hospital. We pray he is being well looked-after and will soon return to fullness of health.

We continue to pray for Mfanwy's sister **Yvone S**, for **Simon, his father and for Anita** recovering from covid and also for **Nehar**. We send them all our love and many prayers.

Please continue to pray, too, for all those who have been unwell that they may gain in strength and good health as well as those who are grieving because of a loss of a loved one; we think especially of Festus and family, Ann, Gideon, and family.

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. It is so important we remember and pray for them.

The Toddler Group Update :

We had another great session yesterday at the Toddler Group and ten children & families came. There was lots of play, reading , singing and noise!

Once again, we were slim on volunteers and would appreciate any help on a Tuesday morning from 9.30am to 11.30am.

We will close for the school summer holiday on Tuesday 26 July and reopen on Tuesday 6 September.

We look forward to seeing you all return then.

Golders Green Church Rota July 2022

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk
10/07/2022	Colossians 1.1–14 Luke 10.25–37	Thomas	Sally	Nwando	Tony
17/07/2022	Colossians 1.15–28 Luke 10.38–end	Sam	Nwando	Silvia	Shaniv
24/07/2022	Colossians 2.6–15 [16–19] Luke 11.1–13	Cynthia	Nehar	Naila	Thomas
31/07/2022	Colossians 3.1–11 Luke 12.13–21	Friday	Nwadi	Sally	tbc

The Parish of Golders Green
Parish Notices: 03/07/2022

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

Weekday Events – Mid-week Communion Service. We are hoping to restart the midweek Communion Service and Bible study soon. Please keep this in your prayers.

The Toddler Group takes place, every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am during term time. It will close for the summer holiday from Tuesday 26 July & reopen on Tuesday 6 September.

The Soup Kitchen will start on 12 July. Please keep in your prayers.

PCC Meeting on Sunday 17 July. Pray for all PCC Members.

Together in Barnet Summer Social - 3 July 12:30 – 4pm. We are hosting Together in Barnet Summer Social to raise fund for the Night Shelter project. All welcome.

Prayers for the Church ministry and mission:

Please pray for the Senior Circle about to start soon. The Soup Kitchen starting in July. For the ongoing Church Maintenance issues. Pray for the Church Choir, Children Ministry & The Toddler Group and for the Mission of the Church.

For your prayers:

Please continue to prayer for Mike H, Eunice, 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 the entire family.

Rota for Sunday 10 July:

Reader: Thomas

Hospitality: Nwando

Intercession: Sally

AV Desk: Tony

Contact details:

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

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

Links to Services

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/>

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/>