

Golders Green Parish Church – Newsletter

07 September 2022



*Christ overcoming the forces of chaos.
Created by Pete Clarke & Dall.e*

Dear Everyone – What another joyous Sunday we had celebrating the birthdays of Abi and Onyeka with enjoyable food and being together in our community with much pleasure (a selection of pictures below). It is so good to be able to have respite from the troubles and chaos of the world and at least find time to enjoy each other's company. Happy Birthday to both and to all those whose birthdays are to come. Kamran has put a paper at the side of the church for all of us, if we wish, to put the month and date of our birthdays (without the year!!!) so we can celebrate together when they come.



Last week's newsletter focused on "Hope" and "Hospitality." This week's will be a continuation of the "Hope" theme, in the light of the news that is daily coming upon us; news that leaves us with little but Hope. We pray, combined with what action we can take, that situations and disasters may change. We may think that what we do is only a little, but lots of little acts combine to create very big ones. Many know this through the individual donations that are made to the charities and appeals we support that combine to bring relief and help to suffering people.

Pakistan: The flood disaster in Pakistan, has been called, "the worst in the Country's history. At least 33 million have been affected by the floods, thousands have been killed and millions made homeless; the water sources are contaminated, and latrines are unusable. Health-officials warn of major outbreaks of disease. Families are living on the banks of overflowed canals and rivers in ramshackle huts made of bamboo and plastic and even been drinking flood water because there is no other option – a recipe for large-scale disease outbreaks. The welfare organizations are doing all they can to reach them. The pictures we see are distressing. What is particularly sad is that the carbon footprint of Pakistan is around 1% while the Industrialized countries plus others account for the rest. This article from the BBC confirms the '1%' in fact saying it's less than 1%, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-62758811>. So, this country along with those of Africa and elsewhere are paying a high price for our over-use. Jenny has sent us the Christian Aid link to information regarding the tragedy and the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) who have launched an emergency appeal. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/support-dec-pakistan-floods-appeal> - <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/pakistan-floods-appeal>. As a church perhaps we can consider what help we can bring to them in solidarity and to provide practical help; perhaps a project we can help with. What do you think?

Lambeth Conference: In this edition there are some pictures of Jenny at the Lambeth Conference which show some of the people and activities that took place. I know from having attended the conference in 2008 what an amazing event it was. It provided an opportunity to meet, learn and talk with many delegates from across the Anglican world. Listening to their stories and experiences. Jenny felt the same when she attended this time. I have never forgotten the Mothers Union reps from different parts of Africa. The most wonderfully strong women, telling of the work they did in their communities to support families, especially children, as a result of Aids and other illnesses, the miles they covered to bring food, medical help, and education to so many. They opened my eyes and broadened my thinking. Their optimism, music, songs, hymns, and humour stay with me still. There may be lots of differences of opinion among delegates at the gathering, over-egged by our media, but in fact a lot of it dissipated from the lasting friendships made and chances to get to know each other face-to-face.

Address by the Revd Canon Hilda Kabir, Principal of Msalato Theological College: Also included in the newsletter is a talk given at an Anglican-Lutheran Conference that was held in July in Tondheim, Norway, which unfortunately I was unable to attend. The theme, as mentioned last week, was on "Hope and Pilgrimage." One of those invited to speak was the Revd Canon Hilda Kabir, Principal of Msalato Theological College, Anglican Church of Tanzania. A number of you met her when she stayed with me several years ago. We have kept in touch. I was sent the talk she gave at the conference on *'Where is Hope for the People of Africa? What part does the Church play in bringing that Hope about?'* In it she provides a definition of

what is meant by “Hope.” Hilda has never forgotten the friendship and hospitality many of you showed, especially the meal, hosted by Rose just before she went home. She sends her good wishes.

“**How We Are**”: Under this section below there is an update on Rose Och who was a faithful member of our congregation for several years and some will remember her. Rose returned to Kenya a few years ago.



Rose is seriously ill and receiving hospital treatment. Please read the information below regarding her health.

Photos: During the celebratory Nigerian lunch, I took a lot of pictures but got too ambitious trying to put them all in the newsletter. There were far too many for my computer to send so I had to select just a few - which was a hard choice! Jennifer as usual came to the rescue and managed to get a number in. I am sorry if your picture wasn't among them, but I did put more on our “WhatsApp.” Perhaps we should have a sheet of photos mounted of all our celebratory events to put on our notice board which will show our welcome, enjoyment and hospitality. What do you think??

In our prayers this week could we remember all children and students who are back at school, that they may have their Terms and schoolwork uninterrupted illness and especially by any bullying and violence in-and-out of school in our streets. We hear so much about violence between gangs of young ones. School staff, parents, grandparents, and relatives are aware of this and are increasingly concerned. Let us pray that our children are well taken care of, that they are in an environment increasingly directed to maintaining peace and friendship, so they are able to go about their lives without fear and in safety.

Finally, as we now have a new Prime Minister, may we wish her well and pray for her, her Cabinet and Government that they will govern in the interests of all people and abide by the 7 Nolan Principles of good governance introduced in 1995 by the UK government's Committee on Standards in Public Life. These are:

- **Selflessness:** Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.
- **Integrity:** Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.
- **Objectivity:** Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
- **Accountability:** Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

- **Openness:** *Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.*
- **Honesty:** *Holders of public office should be truthful.*
- **Leadership:** *Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.*

Wishing you all a week in which we have courage and hope in whatever is to come and support each other in the many ways we can.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

Prayer for Pakistan - Christian Aid

Compassionate God
 Hear our prayer for the people of Pakistan;
 For those who have lost their lives in the floods
 And for those forced from their homes.
 Yet again, God, it is the poorest who are hit hardest
 And those with least who lose most.
 Our hearts are heavy with the
 Death, distress and destruction we see.
 But we are not helpless to act.
 God of love and justice:
 Call us to generous giving for those in need
 And urgent action to combat climate chaos.
 Let those in need today know they are not alone,
 And unite us in hope for a world where all can live in safety and security.

Also included in this week's edition is:

-  **'Where is Hope for the People of Africa? – Revd Canon Hilda Kabir Toddlers Club;**
-  **How We Are;**
-  **Prayers with Kamran;**
-  **Donald Barnes' Memorial Lecture ;**
-  **Church Bulletin;**
-  **Church Rota;**
-  **Prayer List;**
-  **Links to Service**

‘Where is Hope for the People of Africa? What part does the Church play in bringing that Hope about?’

Revd Canon Hilda Kabir



INTRODUCING MYSELF

Before defining the terms ‘HOPE’ and ‘PIRGRIMAGE’ kindly allow me to introduce myself to you. I am the Rev Canon Hilda K. Kabia, an Anglican Priest ordained as deacon in 2003 and priest in 2004, and in 2015 made a Canon. I am working with the Anglican Church of Tanzania, Diocese of Central Tanganyika, since 2015 I have been Principal or Dean of Msalato Theological College. I am the first African Woman to hold that position after 54 years since the college was established in 1961 as a Bible School. Prior to that, I worked as a Bible College Tutor, Dean of Students, Assistant Lecturer of St John's University of Tanzania (SJUT) and its Msalato Centre, and as Chairperson of the House of Clergy in the Diocesan Synod. For the last two Synods I was Secretary to the Diocesan Synod of the Diocese of Central Tanganyika, the first woman to hold that position.

The African Church is part of the World-Wide Church including the world-wide Anglican Communion. Therefore we as a Church of Africa share most of the beliefs and practices of other members of the Church world-wide. The African Church plays a very important role in the mission of the Church from the grassroots level to national level. We also play significant roles in fostering relations with other members of the Church world-wide. However specific cultural and cross-cultural awareness is always at the heart of the African Church. What I am trying to explain here is that specific cultural needs are taken seriously according to the place and situation.

WHAT DOES THE WORD “HOPE” MEAN?

Hope can be explained in many simple or ordinary ways including: Expectations for something good in the future, the positive change in the future that we want e.g. we want a holistic improvement in Tanzanian life, development, growth, progress or transformed life in the church and community. It is the opposite of despair, loss of interest in life, giving up etc. A life without hope can be very distressing. Therefore, hope is to trust, to rely on or to wish for and expect something. Isaiah 40:31 says “those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.”

WHAT DOES THE WORD “PILGRIMAGE” MEAN?

A pilgrimage is a journey in life. The Christian Dictionary defines pilgrimage as a journey a person makes to holy place or a long journey or search. In our context here we can say is a long journey in life. Our task today is to look at where hope is found in Africa and what part is the Church is playing in bringing that hope about. Let us briefly look at Africa and its people and what word hope means to them. We will not go into details but just glance a little bit at where the African places his or her hope in life.

THE STORY OF AFRICA

Africa is one among the seven continents of the World, the others being Asia, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia. Each of the 54 countries of Africa comprises various ethnic groups. This means that Africa has a big diversity culturally and traditionally. Geographically God located Africa on a part of the World that is full of potential. Thus, Africa is known as a continent of hope and promise for a good future, sustainability, and transformation. Religiously Africa is recognized as a religious continent. The African is a religious person.

Africa has families where Christians, Muslims, and followers of African Traditional Religions live together irrespective of their religious differences.

WHAT HOPE MEANS FOR PEOPLES OF AFRICA

Hope, as we have already defined it, is expectation of something good or better in the future, a positive change in the future that we want, a holistic improvement, development, growth, progress and a transformed life in church and community. The African person is a God-fearing person who puts his or her hope on God for provision, protection, and sustenance. The African believes that God is the answer to all human problems. God is the answer to climatic, social, cultural, and economic needs. The African also believes in life after death so for the Africans there is no dichotomy between the physical and spiritual or supernatural. This view of a God-centred hope is commonly found across many African Cultures. Many Traditional Africans want to live a good and fulfilled life here on earth, doing good to both humans and God so that when they die, they may be accepted in the ancestral realm and live eternally. However, there many weaknesses in their theology and these can only be addressed by Christ through His mission in the world. Poverty, poor health and ignorance remain the biggest threats to the African to date. The coming of Christian Missionaries and Christianity provided an answer in partially addressing these weaknesses and problems.

WHAT THE CHURCH HAS DONE AND IS DOING TO BRING THIS “HOPE” ABOUT

The African Traditional Religions and other religions do not take into consideration the effects of the Fall and the loss of hope for humanity that followed it. Only the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the saving work of the Cross can do that. So, when the Missionaries came preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the saving work of the Cross the change towards the true hope was made. The Missionaries brought with them the Gospel in a holistic way, addressing educational needs as a response to the problem of ignorance, bringing hospitals and dispensaries as a response to the challenge of poor health, teaching trade and commerce as a response to the challenge of poverty, as well as improved farming tools and techniques. Proper spiritual transformation was experienced, for example, in the East African Revival of the 1930s and its impact had far reaching results in East Africa and outside. Close relationships between believers were formed to include relationships outside family blood relationships. So, hope of eternal life focused on the work of Christ, and that transformed many lives. When gradually African countries became independent many of their leaders and government workers were the product of the missionary schools, so a shift was made from the traditional religions to the creator God of Christianity and the redeeming work of Jesus Christ.

WHAT THE CHURCH IS DOING NOW

The African Church is part of the World-Wide Church. Despite of some doctrinal differences we all focus our hope on Christ Jesus. The reason we are here today is part of that unity across denominations for both the Northern and the Southern Church.

The involvement of the African Church in advocacy for environmental protection and conservation, concern for the poor and marginalized, gender-based violence and the child protection, and a concern for HIV/AIDS victims are all part of the Mission of the African Church in collaboration with our Northern Church Partners. Speaking as one voice, the African Church has stood up against oppressive world economic systems alongside our brothers and sisters across the world.

AN ACTIVE PILGRIM WITHIN THE CONTINENT

The African Churches are Holy Places for all people of all ages regardless their gender and origin. It is where people meet for worship, prayers, scripture study, mutual support, and community organisation according to their particular country within the continent. The African Church believes that all Christians, regardless of their age and gender, are given authority by virtue of their baptism to be ministers of the Church. Thus, secular education and theological training are important to men and women called either to the ministry of laity or to the ministry of the ordained, so that they are well equipped servant leaders of God in their particular countries in the continent. The African Church is also involved in holistic ministry. For instance, the Anglican Church of Tanzania, Diocese of Central Tanganyika, has introduced a Church and Community Mobilization Process (CCMP) as one of the subjects taught at Msalato Theological College. In April 2016 the college started to offer a Diploma in CCMP with the aim of empowering lay and ordained ministers and leaders of church groups, women and men, children, and young people, to provide holistic ministry to church groups, church members and their surrounding community so that they can sustain themselves using their own locally available resources.

CHALLENGES TO THE CHURCH OF AFRICA FACING OUR PILGRIMAGE TOWARDS HOPE

There are many challenges facing the Churches in Africa as we make our pilgrimage towards Hope. Many cults and false prophecy are undermining the unity of the Church. Poverty is still a problem, and the decline of world economy has led to donor fatigue and a decline in support for the African Church. Gender based violence and child abuse influenced by technology is a serious problem. Property ownership and inheritance issues are two of many others issues. In Africa technology is good when used appropriately but it is harmful when not used appropriately. Globalization, technological advancement, corruption and bribery, the use of the Smartphone and internet are slowly destroying the African community. Chatting throughout the night by young people is also destroying community and family interactions in African Continent and probably world-wide. War situations and conflicts in Africa and other parts of the world have dampened the spirit of unity in the Church worldwide, and right now there is the Russia-Ukraine war.

WHAT IS THE WAY FORWARD?

Our presence means a lot as we move together in this 'Pilgrimage towards HOPE' in line with our various definitions of the phrase. Let us both, the Churches of Africa, and the Churches across the rest of the world, focus our hopes on Christ Jesus as we pilgrim towards the hope of eternal life in the Kingdom to come.

Jenny at the 2022 Lambeth Conference



*Bishops (including the Archbishop of Canterbury)
at a prayer vigil Christian Aid organised for the East Africa hunger crisis.*



The Christian Aid team



Closing service in Canterbury Cathedral

Toddlers Club

The Toddler Group started back this week , Tuesday 6 September. It was so lovely to see the children with their parent/carers enjoying messy play and fruit. If you can volunteer during the 9.30am to 11.30am session , please contact the office.



*The Magnificat
by American Artist Christopher Santer*

How We Are

Rose Och: As mentioned above, was a faithful member of our congregation and went back to Kenya. She is now very ill and receiving treatment for stage4 breast cancer. When she first contracted it a while ago her family set up an appeal for funding to continue her treatment as there is no NHS in Kenya and the kind she needed was very expensive. She seemed to make good progress and was in remission. Unfortunately, it has returned, and she is now back in hospital. Our Rose and I spoke to Kamran, and he agreed we could have a special collection this coming Sunday towards the cost of her treatment. It would be much appreciated by her family and friends and if you would like to donate, we will do this on Sunday. Many thanks

Please continue to pray for Simon, Anita and Michael, Simon's father; for Yvone, Myfanwy's sister and all those who have been unwell that they may gain in strength and good health. We continue to pray for those who are grieving because of a loss of a loved one; we think especially of Festus and family, Ann, Gideon and family and Edmund O 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. Church office - 020 8455 1873.

Songs of Worship:

Behold Him

<https://youtu.be/EVhL6vOvhiM>

Matt Redman - Never Once Lyrics

<https://youtu.be/xuSmA50m6rE>

THE DONALD BARNES MEMORIAL LECTURE

St Peter's Belsize Park

Belsize Square, London NW3 4HY

Wednesday 7 September, 8.00pm

Revd Jonathan Aitken

will speak on

Prison Life and Ministry and the challenges of Offender Rehabilitation

Jonathan Aitken is a Prison Chaplain at HMP Pentonville. He is a former Cabinet Minister and served as a Member of Parliament for 24 years. His books include political biographies, two volumes of autobiography (*Pride and Perjury; Porridge and Passion*) and several books of Christian writing. His most recent book, co-authored with Edward Smyth, is *Doing Time: A Spiritual Survival Guide*. **Free admission – retiring collection**

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/j/8585545365?pwd=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhY2paUT09>

GGPC Rota for September to October 2022

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality/ Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk
11/09/2022	1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10	Silvia	Naila	tbc	Shaniv
18/09/2022	1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	tbc	Nehar	Nwando	Thomas
25/09/2022	1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	Abi	Nwadi	Sally	Tony
02/10/2022	2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	Thomas	Rose	Naila	Shaniv
09/10/2022	2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	Sam	Annie	Silvia	Thomas
16/10/2022	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8	Cynthia	Sally	tbc	Tony
23/10/2022	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14	Friday	Jenny	Nwando	Shaniv
30/10/2022	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10		Nwando	Silvia	

The Parish of Golders Green

Parish Notices: 04/09/2022

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 Donald Barnes Memorial Lecture will be held on Wednesday 7 September 8 pm. For further details please speak with Sally.

The Coffee Morning will be starting soon. Please keep in your prayers.

The Toddler Group – Returned on Tuesday 6 September. It was great to see children with their families / carers. Volunteers wishing to help should contact the office.

Prayers for the Church ministry and mission:

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

For your prayers:

Please continue to prayer for Mike Houghton, Eunice, Margaret & Sally for God's healing.

Please also prayer for all those who are grieving for their loved ones.

Rota for Sunday 11 September:

Reader: Silvia

Hospitality: tbc

Intercession: Naila

AV Desk: Shaniv

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/Term Time Only

£3.00 Entrance Fee

Held in the church

More details contact the office

020 8455 1873

Golders Green Church

West Heath Drive NW11 7QG

It has now reopened. Please join us.

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/>