

14 September 2022



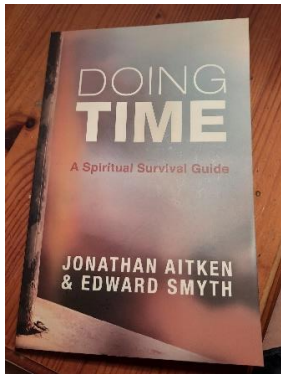
Dear Everyone - It is hard to know what more can be said about our late Queen Elizabeth that hasn't been said many times over in the media and among ourselves. She was a remarkable Queen and woman, the longest reigning monarch in British history, who lived up to and kept such high standards of loyalty, faithfulness, stability and love for this country, the Commonwealth and us too. She was always unstinting in her service showing a real interest in the many aspects in which she was involved. We all have our own private memories of her that we shall remember, and treasure gleaned from the seven decades of her reign. The qualities she showed, from the time of her accession to the throne, to the time she died remained constant, her Faith strong, her stamina unwavering. It is hard to imagine that she is no longer with us as her life is imprinted on our memories and, for a number of people, have only known her for all of their lives. We both admired and loved her. She was a great role model for everyone to aspire to and we shall never forget her. All we can say now is, "Thank you", for all you did for us as a people and as a country. May, how you lived your life and the example you set, inspire us all to follow in your footsteps. To quote our new King Charles III, "May Flights of Angels sing you to your rest" – a rest so richly deserved.

To remember and honour the Queen's passing the church was kept open for two days, Friday and Saturday, so that those who wished to were welcome to come in, remember her life, mourn her death, leave a message of condolence, and light a candle. Thank you to those who kept watch and greeted those who came. It was good to see councilors Nigel Young (pictured with Keith, Nwando, Kamran, Rose, and Connie) and Anne C, who came by and signed their messages of condolence. Thanks to Nehar and Shaniv who came on Saturday. How good to keep the church open and available for anyone to come in and pray or just sit quietly.



On Wednesday, before we knew what was going to happen, several of us went to St Peter's Church, Belsize Square to hear the Revd Jonathan Aitken give the Donald Barnes's 11th memorial address. He talked about, "Prison Life and Ministry and the challenges of Offender Rehabilitation". It was fascinating hearing about his experiences of prison life from "both

sides of the bar”, as it were, the support he gave to prisoners and his transformation which ended in his getting ordained and becoming a prison chaplain. A short piece on his talk is below.



**Rose Och:** In the last newsletter there was information about Rose Och and her treatment for cancer in Kenya. It was agreed that, to assist, we would hold a collection for her to help pay for her treatment, as most of you know there is no NHS in Kenya. Rose sent an update saying, she is trying to manage the side-effects of her treatment and medication, especially the fatigue which is overwhelming. She also sent a picture of her (in black and white dress) at Golders Green which she found when going through her albums. My goodness how it brings back some memories. Thanks to all of you who contributed to the collection for her. Rose and her family will be very grateful.



There seems to be no end to our feasting. Last week was Rose birthday, Happy Birthday Rose. Before she goes off to the US for a holiday, we had a celebration after the Service plus a delicious birthday cake and a variety of snacks that were very welcome. Here are some pictures. Have a good journey, Rose.





**Kamran's Anniversary:** Finally, as time seems to go so fast and so much happens, it is important to remember and celebrate that it is a year, on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, since Kamran became our Priest-in-Charge. What a joy he and Naila have been to us and how much we are beginning to go forward with our plans and being together as a church family. It must have been a huge change and adjustment for both of them, to come from Preston and the life they were living there to make their home in Golders Green. However, we are glad that they did. Thank you, Kamran, and Naila for all you have brought to the church, parish and community and may you go from strength to strength.



With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

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Queen Elizabeth II  
1926-2022



©Illustration Times Free Press **BOWEN**










**Being a dog lover, I couldn't resist this.**

## **Prayer for the Queen from Christian Aid**

Faithful God

We remember with thanksgiving and gratitude,  
the life and service of Her Majesty the Queen.  
We have been inspired by her dedication and faith,  
Her commitment to the welfare of our nation  
And her lifelong devotion to the peoples of the Commonwealth.  
As we pray for her family and with our nation,  
May the integrity of her public service,  
Her concern for the common good  
And her steadfast commitment to good governance  
Inspire all those in public office,  
In our country and across the world,  
To uphold the rights of all peoples  
In the pursuit of justice  
And the interests of peace.  
Amen.

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

-  **Prayer for the Queen from Christian Aid – from Jenny;**
-  **Johnathan Aitken's Story: Prison and Redemption;**
-  **Toddlers Club;**
-  **How We Are;**
-  **Prayers with Kamran;**
-  **Church Bulletin;**
-  **Church Rota;**
-  **Prayer List;**
-  **Links to Service**

### **Johnathan Aitken's Story: Prisoner and Redemption - Sally**

The Revd Jonathan Aitken was invited to give the “Donald Barnes Memorial Lecture” last Wednesday at, St Peter's Church, Belsize Square, where Donald was vicar for 17 years. A good number of people came, and it was lovely to be able to greet them. I am not sure what any of us expected, many of us having been old enough to remember this event in his life in 1999 and what took place.

In fact, it was a remarkable story told with clarity, honesty, and humility, with sometimes self-deprecating humour, of the journey from being a high-profile cabinet minister, who goes to jail in disgrace, to finding redemption through service while he was in prison helping prisoners

and developing a deepening Faith through prayer. He described the slow, painful acceptance of his situation, to transformation through the friendship and support he gave to the prisoners as well as receiving the same from them. It was a kind of a reciprocal action that made a deep impression on all involved in different ways. After his initial fear was overcome about what they might do to him, the inmates found he would willingly support them by reading and replying to their letters as well as listening to their stories. He stressed the importance of listening. At the beginning of his sentence, he was approached by one inmate who asked him to help with a letter he had received but could not read or reply as he could not write. Jonathan did both, calling on his many years of experience as an MP to contact the right people over a technical issue. Having done this, his fame spread, and many inmates came to him for help to write all kinds of letters. At the same time, he was praying a great deal and reflecting about his developing Faith with an awareness of how he had lived his life. Going into prison someone had handed him a copy of psalm 130 which is often called the prisoners prayer (*Out of the depths I cry to you oh Lord; Hear my my voice; Let you ears be attentive to my cry for mercy*) and that, with other psalms particularly psalm 139, had a deep effect on him. One or two inmates were intrigued about his praying and questioned him about it. Without being heavy, he invited them to pray with him which some did quite regularly in his tiny cell and numbers grew.

His made the point that transformation actually began with his acceptance of his guilt and the justness of his sentence. Then, by looking forward to a better future based on his deepening faith he was helped through his difficult early days in prison. He did not look backwards but forwards with hope and through the support he gave to his in-mate friends and, I also think listening to him, by the way they helped him and his changing views. He found much consolation in prayer as well as the often-amusing conversations he had with one of his particular cell mates who offered him a gift of pornographic magazines as a thanks from the other inmates! When he declined them and explained why, they were intrigued but interested and they listened. He told us that one third of prisoners are illiterate so he provided what help he could by reading their letters and helping them with the responses, which he also wrote in reply.

The help he provided was clearly an uplifting experience for him and the other prisoners who had many needs. It was clear that his faith was working on him in ways I do not think he fully understood at the time. When he completed his sentence and was released, he followed up his reflections and the experiences he had had in prison by taking a theology degree. He had no intention of becoming a priest - the thought of which he kept rejecting. When it became clear to him that he really did have a calling, which he had to accept, he started by becoming a voluntary worker in prisons and, after ordination, became a chaplain. (I have many friends, now priests, who struggled with the idea of becoming ordained and rejected it for many years, but in the end just gave in because the struggle to turn their backs became too much) This clearly happened to Jonathan.

His story was engrossing. There was no hint of anger and resentment about his own past misdeeds and actions. Instead, he started with acceptance of his guilt and the sentence he was given. One message that came through clearly was not to dwell on the past, if you do it drags you and everyone down; the important thing is what matters to you today and how you look forward with hope and Faith to the future. It struck those listening of the power of faith, prayer, and forgiveness to change lives; that the redemption we are offered, if we accept it, brings about change and, can, as his life has, help us to embark on a remarkable and unplanned journey leading to fresh ways of being.



Several people have said they would have liked to have heard his lecture. Below are two videos made telling his story.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I dtpjNDaDPg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkkwlpWNEUQ>

## How We Are

Please pray for **Alice, Alex's mother**, who has been ill for some time and is now very frail. She is at home with her family who are caring for her. We think of Alice who was a regular attender at church. We miss her and pray that God's love may be upon her.

**Tony** has not been too well and resting for a while. We have missed him. So, it wasn't the best news we had from him this week that he has contracted Chicken Pox!! Poor Tony. We send our love, good wishes and prayers and hope you are not too uncomfortable with it, and you get well soon.

**Eunice and her daughter** have both been extremely unwell, but we hope on the mend soon. We pray for both of them that they are restored to good health.

We continue to pray for **Myfanwy's sister, Yvone** who is very frail and wonderfully cared for by Florence who is with her all the time.

We pray also for **Simon and his father, Michael**. We send them our love.

Please continue to pray 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 members of our church family who have lost dearly loved ones, that they find consolation and hope for themselves in the future.

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.

## 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>

## Songs of Worship:

**Holy Forever (+ Hymn of Heaven) LIVE | Chris Tomlin Brian Johnson Phil W...**

<https://youtu.be/hiD5mzfM900>

**Holy Is Your Name Forever | Kadosh Shimcha Laad | Sarah Liberman**

<https://youtu.be/bRHAZAA485o>

# The Parish of Golders Green

## Parish Notices: 11/09/2022

**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.

**Asian Service** – will be held on 18 September at 4 pm

**The Soup Kitchen** started on 19 July and will continue every Tuesday from 6.30pm to 8.00pm for the time being. Please keep in your prayers.

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

**The Toddler Group** – Returned on Tuesday 6 September. It was good to see all having fun. 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. The Soup Kitchen which started in July. 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 18 September:**

**Reader:** Keith

**Hospitality:** Nwando

**Eucharist Minister:** Nwadi

**Intercession:** Nehar

**AV Desk:** Thomas

### **Contact details:**

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

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



## GGPC Rota September to October 2022

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

### Toddler Group

We had a busy session on Tuesday 13 September with eight children with their parents/carers. There was lots of messy play, fruits/ breadsticks & some of Rose's cake enjoyed by all. At the end of the session, we all sang nursery rhymes and then paused to remember Queen Elizabeth II. Connie joined us as a volunteer, and it was lovely to see her. If you can volunteer, let us know.

# **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.**

**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/>