

22 September 2022



*We see tears and celebration, for this life so dignified,
Bearing thanks and hearts of sadness, To the God of death and life.
As he takes her to his promise, Of an audience with the King,
We remember all she gave us, Wreaths of gratitude we bring.**

Dear Everyone

I wonder how many of us watched the late Queen Elizabeth II's funeral on Monday and what feelings were running through our minds during the day. Whether Monarchist or not, it touched the hearts of millions through the use of every kind of symbolism and ritual, through the recognised need to be together in our thousands, cathartic for so many. It showed the kind of unity we were capable of, while, at the same time, one likely to evoke different memories, feelings and griefs for each person watching.

The uplifting qualities of pageantry, ceremony, colour, grief, with the somber music of the bands, the marching to the drumbeat, the solemnity and order of those taking part, would have made its mark on each of us. Most striking, the silence of the crowds as the coffin passed by, with her children and grandchildren marching behind carrying the poignancy of their own deep loss, that, being public, they were not permitted to hide away. The lying-in state with thousands filing quietly by standing together prepared to queue for hours to file by her coffin showed the strength of feeling felt by so many. What did it/does it, all mean about such a public display of grief in such quiet order?

Perhaps, for us too, the rituals we were seeing, whether we were there in person or watching the broadcast at home, brought an awareness of our own personal memories. Well-planned rituals do that - that is their importance. They evoke in us far more than the event itself by giving us permission to grieve for our own losses, our own sadnesses and regrets. Rituals give us the opportunity to recognise those episodes in our lives that, maybe, we have not had a chance to acknowledge that lie deep within us. That is their strength. Psychologically and emotionally, they bring an opportunity for their release. The church services at Balmoral, Westminster Abbey and Windsor showed the importance of well-organised ritual, full of Faith and prayer, carefully prepared for all to experience in their own way. Not only were they heart-stopping with their praise and thanksgiving, showing Faith in word, music and colour for a life well lived, they were public expression of Faith to lift us out of the everyday and think

of, “Otherness”, in ways perhaps we have not thought of before. They give rise to questions we may not want to ask or, even knew we wanted to ask, or, have no answer for anyway, but may want to reflect on when all this has passed, on our own, or, with others.

The key qualities of the Queen have been emphasised time and time again, her loyalty, faithfulness, stability, love, and a very strong sense of Service for others, and, of course, her Christian Faith. But they are not just qualities for a Queen, they are ours too, to live by and try to keep, as hard as it so often is. The Archbishop of Canterbury recognised all this in his sermon given at Westminster Abbey, which is printed in full below. So, whether monarchist or not, what took place on Monday was a time that will be etched on our memories, for the late Queen and for ourselves. It will not be easily forgotten.



A parishioner sent us a picture of her visiting Green Park where she went to see the flowers in tribute to the Queen

* The full text of the hymn that we sung on Sunday “Tears and Celebration” is a new hymn for the UK and Commonwealth. It is a song of remembrance, assurance, and thanksgiving, giving voice to the hearts and minds of people all over the world following the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Released by LICC and Bible Society. It can be found on the link below.
<https://licc.org.uk/resources/tears-and-celebration/>

Kamran and Naila have been with us for one year. In celebration of their anniversary Nehar and Alex presented them both with flowers and many thanks for all they have brought to the parish and our community. We look forward to many more years of Kamran’s ministry.



A 12th birthday was celebrated on Sunday. We celebrated with her and watched while she blew out all her candles on her delicious chocolate cake. Also, she is to be congratulated for working the Audio-Visual desk on her own, making sure everything flowed exactly as it should and we could follow the service without any problems. Thank you, you are a very good technician.



St Hildegard of Bingen (1098- 1179) was one of the great women saints of the church. Her feast day was celebrated on the 17th of September. Hildegard was a writer, musician, philosopher, Mystic, physician and visionary, whose music is still played today often as a means of helping meditation. She preached awareness of the need to care for the environment. She practiced medicine, recognizing the healing properties of plants and flowers, as well as music. A truly remarkable woman. An article about her life is below.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

- ✚ **This Week's Edition Includes;**
- ✚ **The Archbishop's Sermon at the Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II;**
- ✚ **Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Benedictine Abbess;**
- ✚ **Toddlers Club;**
- ✚ **How We Are;**
- ✚ **Prayers with Kamran;**
- ✚ **Church Bulletin;**
- ✚ **Church Rota;**
- ✚ **Prayer List;**
- ✚ **Links to Service**

Archbishop of Canterbury: Sermon at Queen Elizabeth's Funeral



Come Holy Spirit, fill us with the balm of your healing love. Amen.

The pattern for many leaders is to be exalted in life and forgotten after death. The pattern for all who serve God - famous or obscure, respected or ignored - is that death is the door to glory.

Her Late Majesty famously declared on a 21st birthday broadcast that her whole life would be dedicated to serving the Nation and Commonwealth.

Rarely has such a promise been so well kept! Few leaders receive the outpouring of love that we have seen.

Jesus - who in our reading does not tell his disciples how to follow, but who to follow - said: "I am the way, the truth and the life". Her Late Majesty's example was not set through her position or her ambition, but through whom she followed. I know His Majesty shares the same faith and hope in Jesus Christ as his mother; the same sense of service and duty.

In 1953 the Queen began her Coronation with silent prayer, just there at the High Altar. Her allegiance to God was given before any person gave allegiance to her. Her service to so many people in this nation, the Commonwealth, and the world, had its foundation in her following Christ - God himself - who said that he "came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

People of loving service are rare in any walk of life. Leaders of loving service are still rarer. But in all cases, those who serve will be loved and remembered when those who cling to power, and privileges are long forgotten.

The grief of this day - felt not only by the late Queen's family but all round the nation, Commonwealth, and the world - arises from her abundant life and loving service, now gone from us.

She was joyful, present to so many, touching a multitude of lives.

We pray especially for all her family, grieving as every family at a funeral - including so many families round the world who have themselves lost someone recently - but in this family's case doing so in the brightest spotlight.

May God heal their sorrow, may the gap left in their lives be marked with memories of joy and life.

Her Late Majesty's broadcast during Covid lockdown ended with: "We will meet again", words of hope from a song of Vera Lynn. Christian hope means certain expectation of something not yet seen.

Christ rose from the dead and offers life to all, abundant life now and life with God in eternity. As the Christmas carol says "where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in."

We will all face the merciful judgement of God: we can all share the Queen's hope which in life and death inspired her servant leadership.

Service in life, hope in death. All who follow the Queen's example, and inspiration of trust and faith in God, can with her say: "We will meet again."

Saint Hildegard of Bingen, 1098 -1179
Benedictine Abbess, Visionary, and Writer



Hilgard was born to a noble family in Mainz, Germany, in the year that Urban II announced the First Crusade. Medieval Europe had undergone spiritual renewal the previous century, and spiritual enthusiasm hung in the air. Hildegard, the youngest of 10 children, was 8 years old when she was given by her parents as a tithe to God. They entrusted her to Jutta, an anchoress, to be her maid and apprentice. Even at that young age, Hildegard experienced visions of light, but she could not understand what they meant.

When other women joined Jutta and Hildegard, they formed a Benedictine convent, and when Jutta died in 1136, Hildegard became abbess and later moved the community near Bingen, by the Rhine River. For her last 43 years, she cared for these women.

Prophetic Patterns

In one of the earliest manuscripts of Hildegard's works, an illustration shows the abbess seated, tablet in hand; above her head, fiery light streams down, penetrating her mind, bringing visions that illumined her life from childhood. She believed that not only her visions but also her interpretation of them were from God, and so she announced them with vigor and authority. Though commonly called a mystic, she did not think of these as private illuminations but as prophetic words of God for the church.

A Fiery Light

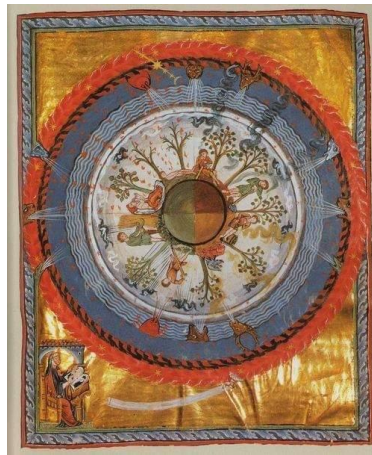
Hildegard received a remarkable vision at age 42: "A fiery light, flashing intensely, came from the open vault of heaven and poured through my whole brain. Like a flame that is hot without burning, it kindled all my heart and all my breast. ... Suddenly I could understand." Hildegard's ministry exploded after that. In addition to recording her visions and their interpretations in books, Hildegard wrote works on medicine and natural science. She composed music and wrote plays. "Scivias", her best-known work, contains 26 visions with their interpretations. Its name is an abbreviation for Scito vias Domini, "Know the ways of the Lord." In it she spoke with a prophet's voice, using the first person, speaking as it were for God. "I spoke and wrote these things not by the invention of my heart or that of any other person," she said, "but as by the secret mysteries of God; I heard and received them

in the heavenly places. And again, I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Cry out therefore, and write thus!'"

Spiritual Abuses

The most controversial part of her ministry was her several preaching tours around the Rhineland, during which she rebuked church leaders for spiritual abuses. (*Needless to say, she was punished for her outspoken rebukes for this, not just for saying them out loud but because she was a woman saying them out loud and criticizing men*). Still, though both Bernard of Clairvaux and Pope Eugenius III recognized her spiritual authenticity, she encountered fierce opposition from other church leaders. During her last year, her superiors, unhappy with her opposition to local church policies, placed her community under interdict for six months. During that time, she and her daughters were denied both the Eucharist and music. However, Hildegard believed that her "new song must float like a feather on the breath of God" and, In spite of the harsh denunciations she received she pursued her ministry until she died: "By a just measure I mark out the ways of good and bad people and weigh their wills according to what my eye sees of their desires."

Text provided by Richard Cattley with thanks.



Hildegard of Bingen – Malcolm Guite

A feather on the breath of God at play,
You saw the play of God in all creation.
You drew eternal light into each day,
And every living breath was inspiration.
You made a play with every virtue playing,
Made music for each sister-soul to sing,
Listened for what each herb and stone was saying,
And heard the Word of God in everything.

Mother from mother earth and Magistra,
Your song revealed God's hidden gift to us;
The verdant fire, his holy harbinger
The greening glory of *viriditas*.
'Cherish this earth that keeps us all alive'
Either we hear you, or we don't survive.

How We Are

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 hold all of them in our hearts.

We pray for **Tony** who has not been well and recovering from Chicken Pox. We have missed him and hope he will be back with us soon. 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 continue to pray for Myfanwy's sister, **Yvone**, who is very frail and wonderfully cared for by Florence and for **Simon and his father, Michael** that both may be given strength.

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.

Songs of Worship:

Faithful One - Graham Kendrick - Worship at Home

<https://youtu.be/9YzDUlqotFM>

Meekness And Majesty - Graham Kendrick Lyric Video

https://youtu.be/Gtt52JEW_Zo

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>



The Parish of Golders Green
Parish Notices: 18/09/2022

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.

Sunday School – will be starting on 16 October. More info to follow soon.

Bring & Share – will take place on 25 September after Sunday Service. All welcome to bring a dish to share. Contact the office for more info.

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.

Baptism & Confirmation – If you want your child to be baptised or young person to be Confirmed, please speak with Rev Kamran after the service.

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

Rota for Sunday 25 September:

Reader: Abi

Intercession: Nwadi

Hospitality: Sally

Eucharist Minister: Ezim

AV Desk: Thomas

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.

GGPC Rota September to October 2022

Date	Reading	Readers	Intercession	Hospitality/ Steward	AV (Audio Visual) Desk	Eucharistic Minister
25/09/2022	1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	Abi	Nwadi	Sally	Thomas	Ezim
02/10/2022	2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	Elizabeth	tbc	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	Nwando	Nwando	Shaniv	Tony
30/10/2022	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10	Onyenka	Jenny	Silvia	Thomas	Nehar

Toddler Group

We had a busy session on Tuesday 20 September with eight children with their parents/carers. Lots of new people as well as familiar faces. At the end of the session, we all sang nursery rhymes and shared our views on the late Queen's funeral. Connie joined us again as a volunteer, and it was lovely to see her. If you can volunteer, let us know.

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/>