

Golders Green Parish Church – Newsletter

25 October 2022



Dear Everyone

Well! What a week it has been. By the time you read the newsletter there will be yet another Prime Minister. I shall be away by the time it is announced at a retreat house in Northumberland, so I won't be able to update this letter. Let us hope and pray that this time the right choice will have been made and we have a person of integrity and care for all in the country, that whoever it is shows real concern for how people are going to pay their mortgages, their rents, feed their families and save their pensions. All worldly stuff - true - but important to ensure a Just and Equitable Society and quality of life for everyone, governed by people we can trust. Both parts of the Bible are full of questions of Justice and Care for the poor and those on the edge of society in this life. Jesus's many parables, stories, Sermon on the Mount demonstrate that, as well as Mary's Magnificat for those who feel uncared for and lost. In the midst of the chaos and unsettling events, here in the UK and terrible happenings in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iran and so many other places, it is hard to know what to think and not to fall into a council of despair. Many of the psalms reflect what we feel today. The psalmists are not afraid to let God know; three psalms spring to mind, but there are many more, Psalm 10, for example, whose cry we must often echo, "*Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?*" Psalm 6. "*My soul is in deep anguish. How long, Lord, how long?*", or Psalm 130, "*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!*". They cry out in no uncertain terms what they think, but having said all they want to say, they end up with showing their Hope in God, that all will be well, something we can do hoping that Peace and Reconciliation will come to all places where there is little or none. We can hold onto a sense of God's love and faithfulness for all humankind, that God is alongside with the suffering. We pray for the peacemakers and those working in dire situations to show love and care for them and do all we can in our many individual ways to make a difference remembering that all together what we can do will collectively make a big difference. Below are Nwando's so apt intercessions from Sunday for us to read over and pray with.

Perhaps what we all need are periods of silence and meditation to help us focus on being still and developing peace within ourselves and for the world in general. Below is a poem by R S Thomas on just such a thought, "But the silence in the mind".

Jenny has given notice of Christian Aid's Annual Lecture that will be taking place on Tuesday 22nd November at ST Martin-in-the-Fields.

I have written a short piece on St Ethelburga, who was the first leader of a monastic order for women in England. She is an example of a strong, determined, redoubtable woman who did much to spread the Christian faith and influenced many generations down the centuries.

Just to remind you of a few on-going happenings to which you are all invited to support in whichever way you feel you can:

Foodbank collection: we are collecting goods and/or donations for the foodbanks near to us. We have some goods which were displayed in church as our Harvest contribution to those that need them. All donations will be very welcome, especially tinned, dried foods and toiletries such as, shampoo, shower gel, soap, nappies, toothpaste, deodorants, period products. Thank you in advance.

Night Shelter appeal: Nehar reminded us that we are part of hosting the Night shelter project, which we have been involved in for a number of years. We are partnered with Alyth Synagogue who provide the food and we provide the accommodation. For the last few years, because of the pandemic, guests have been accommodated in a local hotel now we are reverting to pre pandemic arrangements. While our turn doesn't start until the New Year Nehar would be very grateful, if anyone who would like to help with this, could contact her, learn more about what is involved and offer to volunteer. Please speak to her after the Sunday Service.

Floods in Nigeria: What terrible news reaching us about the floods in Nigeria that have caused so much devastation, death, and destruction. They have been called an "overwhelming disaster" which they clearly are. So many houses have been swept away, families killed and many left homeless, crop destroyed and all that means for food production. We mustn't forget, too, the floods in Pakistan that have reeked such havoc. Yet another example of Climate Change that is causing so much tragedy across the world. We send our prayers to those who are caught up in it, bereaved and without help. If you have relatives and friends in these dreadful disasters, we send our prayers to you and them. If there is any way, we can help please let us know on Sunday or by WhatsApp.

Coffee mornings will be starting in Church on Wednesday Mornings from 10.00am to 12noon. The date is to come. If you would like more information and would like to help to help with this, please let Kamran know.

Finally, thank you for all the good wishes you have been sending to Max, my oldest grandson, and Rachel on the birth of their gorgeous little daughter last week. I am getting used to thinking of myself as a great grandmother and my daughter Rebecca, on being a grandmother. But we so totally love this tiny new creation in the world. I cannot give you her names at the moment as, what they want to call her is under discussion. We know one of them will be Akosua, which is Ghanaian for Sunday, the day in which she was born, also meaning an association with the sun deity. There will be others, as I understand it is an African tradition to give newborns many names.

As I will be away for this week there will not be a newsletter next week.

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

This Week's Edition Includes:

- ✚ Ethelburga;
- ✚ Intercessions – Nwando;
- ✚ But the silence in the mind ^{SEP} R. S. Thomas;
- ✚ Christian Aid's Annual Lecture – David Lammy MP;
- ✚ Toddlers Club;
- ✚ How We Are;
- ✚ Prayers with Kamran;
- ✚ Church Bulletin;
- ✚ Church Rota;
- ✚ Prayer List;
- ✚ Links to Service

Ethelburga



Ethelburga was the first leader of a monastic order for women in England. In the Anglican calendar her feast day is October 11th. She is an example of a strong, determined woman who showed the virtues of leadership and commitment to social action even to the point of self-sacrifice.

Like many Christian women of that time, she was expected to make a good marriage but, having refused an arranged marriage to a pagan prince, she was banished to a nunnery by her brother, Erkonwald. But this was often a preferred option by Christian women where they had more freedom to be themselves, actively give their gifts and insights and follow their Faith. Her brother, Erkonwald, later became Bishop of London and endowed land to her on which she builds a convent.

Ethelburga proved to be a natural leader and became the first Abbess of the great Benedictine Abbey at Barking in Essex, one of the first religious houses for women in the country. Remnants of the Abbey still stands and the church beside them has an exhibition of the story of her life.

She is especially noted for her heroic conduct in caring for the sick during an outbreak of the plague in 664 which eventually killed her and most of her community. During this time, she is said to have had a vision of a light “brighter than the sun at noonday” which inspired her and her community to carry out works of great compassion in caring for others.

The Venerable Bede wrote of her: “Her life is known to have been such that no person who knew her ought to question but that the heavenly kingdom was opened to her, when she departed this world.”

In the City of London, Bishopsgate, St Ethelburga’s Centre now stands. The church has had an incredible history, having been built in Saxon times it survived much over the centuries and served many people. In April 1993, the IRA detonated a huge bomb which wrecked the building and many others surrounding it. Funds were collected to rebuild it and in 2002 it became a centre for peace and reconciliation. It is here where much good work takes place inspiring and equipping people from all backgrounds to become peacebuilders in their own communities and lives. So Ethelburga’s influence extends down the centuries. If you ever visit St Ethelburga’s you will see a stunning stained-glass window of her. This was created from the shards of glass that were picked out of the rubble after the IRA bomb had severely damaged the church and painstakingly put together to create her image.

Songs of Worship:

Elle Limebear - Lord You Have My Heart (Official Lyric Video) ft. Martin...

<https://youtu.be/qoQ5rjw5uN8>

Great Are You Lord - Dante Bowe (LIVE)

<https://youtu.be/Uo7N7rcplj8>

Intercessions – Nwando
October 23rd

Let us pray.

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are full of praise.

Thank you loving Father for your faithful provisions for your children and for taking care of us this past week. May we always trust you for our future.

A lot of people are experiencing hardship because of financial difficulties around the globe. Poverty is increasing and we are part of the system that has produced destitution, Poverty, & contributed to injustices in societies welfare.

Father, we pray for help for those who are discouraged & disappointed, & those who try & seemingly have failed. We pray for all who are fearful for the difficult times ahead. Dear Lord, comfort them & increase their faith.

Jesus said that the poor are always with us. He is not just saying the obvious, but He wants us personally to do something about the injustices.

Dear Lord fill us with compassion for the poor, the needy & the vulnerable. Use us to offer practical help, financial assistance, or whatever is necessary to alleviate suffering. The Word of God challenged us & says that "he who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, & God will reward him for what he has done."

Let us be thankful for the privilege to lend to the Lord, & witness to His loving kindness. Let us also be grateful for other people's good works & generosity that God has used to provoke us to do good & give hope to others.

Let us thank God for the Church's outreach ministries, for the care of those who are unable to cope without help. We pray for the good work of 'the Night shelter', for the homeless in the Winter seasons.

We pray for increase commitment to help & to give and offer more provisions to various Food Banks that work for the alleviation of food poverty.

We pray for the implementation of the Church's plans for the Soup Kitchen or the Wednesday Coffee mornings.

We pray Lord, that you give wisdom to all who are involved in arranging for the implementation of these plans. Use us O Lord to be your blessings to others.

Lord in your Mercy hear our Prayer



But the silence in the mind - R. S. Thomas

But the silence in the mind
is when we live best, within
listening distance of the silence
we call God. This is the deep
calling to deep
of the psalm-
writer, the bottomless ocean.

We launch the armada of
our thoughts on, never arriving.

It is a presence, then,
whose margins are our margins;
that calls us out over our
own fathoms. What to do
but draw a little nearer to
such ubiquity by remaining still

Christian Aid's Next Annual Lecture - Jenny



Christian Aid's next annual lecture will take place on **Tuesday 22nd November at 19.00 – 20.30**, in **St Martin in the Field** (nearest tube station Charing Cross). Doors will open at 18.30. We're delighted that David Lammy MP, the UK shadow Foreign Secretary, will give the lecture, 'A Force for Good: Co-operating Across Borders in an Age of Authoritarians'. He will use it to argue that the UK has a moral duty to return to multilateral engagement to tackle the three greatest challenges the world is facing: climate, conflict, and hunger.

This is a public event, and everyone is welcome. If you would like to attend then please sign up via [Eventbrite](#). If you'd like to know more, please contact Jenny Brown.

Jenny Brown
Senior Church Advocacy Adviser
Christian Aid
jbrown@christian-aid.org

How We Are

Please continue to pray for **Myfanwy's sister, Yvone S**, who is very frail and facing many difficulties at this moment that are of concern to Myfanwy.

Please continue to pray for **Alice** who is being cared for at home by **Alex**. We pray that she is surrounded by God's loving Care.

We pray as we always do for **Simon and his father** and wish for strength for them and their family. We pray for **Tony** and hope he is making a good recovery and for **Nwando** that she is much recovered after her fall.

We send all those who are sick 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

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>

Music at All Saints' Child's Hill

Concert/ Hadley Orpheus Male Voice Choir

Saturday 29 October 2022 at 7.30pm

Free Entry

Donation towards "Music at All Saints"

**The Parish of Golders Green
Parish Notices: 23/10/2022**

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 – Sunday 30 October after Sunday Service. All Welcome.

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

The Toddler Group – We will be closed on Tuesday 25 October for half term & reopen on 1st November. All 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.
Please also pray for all those who are grieving for their loved ones.

Rota for Sunday 30 October:

Reader: Onyenka

Intercession: Jenny

Hospitality: Silvia

Eucharist Minister: Nehar

AV Desk: Shaniv

Contact details:

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

Website: www.gg-pc.co.uk

GGPC Rota November – January 2023

Date	Bible Passage	Readers	Intercessor	Refreshments	Eucharistic Minister (Chalic)	AV Desk	Service leader
06/11/22	Ephesians 1:11-23	Tatyanna	Nwadi	Nwando	Nwadi	tbc	Nehar
	Luke 6:20-31						
13/11/22	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Keith	Rose	Sally	Ezim	Elizabeth	
	Luke 20:27-38						
20/11/22	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Dozie	Annie	Rose	Nwando	Onyenka	Jenny
	Luke 21:5-19						
27/11/22	Colossians 1:11-20	Abi	Nwando	Nehar	Ifeyinwe	Tony	
	Luke 23:33-43						
04/12/22	Philippians 4:4-9	Elizabeth	Jenny	Silvia	Daniel	Thomas	Ify
	John 6:25-35						
11/12/22	Romans 12:9-16b	Sam	Sally	Sheila	Nehar	Shaniv	
	Luke 1:39-57						
18/12/22	1 Corinthians 15:51-58	Friday	Nehar	Nwando	Ify	Elizabeth	Alexis
	Luke 6:39-49						
24/12/22	Galatians 1:1-12	Onyenka	Nwadi	Sally	Sally	Onyenka	
	Luke 7:1-10						
25/12/22		Ifeyinwe	Rose	Rose	Sheila	Tony	
01/01/23		Cynthia	Annie	Nehar	Nwadi	Thomas	

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

**We are closed on Tuesday 25 October for half term.
Reopening on Tuesday 1 November.**

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/>