

30 November 2022



Dear Everyone

**Greetings to you all on this first week of Advent-** a time of preparation for Christmas and the birth of Christ. For Churches in Western Christianity, it is the beginning of the Liturgical year. On Sunday, Sam lit the purple candle on our Advent wreath. This is the first of four candles, each one representing an advent theme for the following Sundays. The first is the candle of Hope - a light shining in the dark places. It traditionally represents Isaiah and the prophets of the Bible who predicted the coming of Jesus. The second, a candle of Peace, will be lit next week and represents the Bible; the third of Joy, represents Mary the mother of Jesus. On this Sunday, traditionally called “Gaudete Sunday” meaning “Rejoice”, priests often wear Rose-coloured vestments, signifying the colour Joy, to remind us of the joy the world experienced at the birth of Jesus. In many churches the anthem, “Rejoice in the Lord Always” is sung at the beginning of the Service. The fourth, the candle of Love, is for John the Baptist, Jesus’ cousin, who told the people to get ready for his teaching. Advent is a season of deep symbolism practiced in different ways in many countries but recognized by all as a season of great importance that also heralds the second coming. Kamran has asked us to offer two of our favourite Advent hymns to be sung each Sunday. Please write their titles on a list at the back of the church and be ready to tell us why they are your favourites. We started off with Rose’s request of, “Brightest and Best”, followed by Thomas’s request for, “Ding Dong Merrily on High”. Please let us have some more.

**Birthday:** Sunday was Thomas’s 16<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrated with a chocolate cake and lots of gusty singing of Happy Birthday. Congratulations Thomas with many good wishes for the future and thanks for all your help and participation in church life - and - with Elizabeth of course.



**Christmas Services:** This is a very busy season for all of us. Below is a list of our Christmas services. Please put them in your diaries and support them if you can. Help would be welcomed for getting the church ready and for preparing refreshments when needed. Let Kamran know if you are able to help. Do come to the **Christmas cheer at Golders Green Tube Station on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.** The commuters always welcome having coffee and croissants on their way to work. It starts their day off well.

**Energy and Water Help numbers:** You will see below quite a few contacts that can be made for anyone who is struggling with their Energy and Water bills. Please pass them on. There will be many who will find times hard over the winter and would perhaps welcome knowing who they can contact for advice and help.

#### **Golders Green Church Coffee Morning**

We held our first coffee morning last Wednesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm. It was good to sit and chat with those who came. Especially good to meet a member of “Churches Together” who represented the Quakers in the Garden Suburb. Rose had a particularly unexpected and interesting time and has written an enjoyable and humorous piece for us proving you never know what is going to happen when you get together and start reminiscing! Please invite your friends and neighbours to come for a time of getting to know each other. Neighbouring churches and synagogues have been invited. We hope people passing by will pop in too and anyone who enjoys a warm drink, and some cake will join us. Looking forward to seeing you. All are welcome.

#### **Message from Kamran re Jennifer:**

“Dear Church family

I am writing to inform you that Jennifer E has resigned from her position as Church Administrator, and that her last day of work will be 31 December 2022. Jennifer still wishes to continue in her temporary role as team leader of Toddler Group until further notice. During the notices on Sunday, I will share more details about this announcement, and you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

We, as a church, are immensely grateful for all the contributions that Jennifer has made during her time here in the Golders Green Church and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours. With prayers Rev Kamran Bhatti”

With Love and Good Wishes – Sally

**This Week's Edition Includes:**

- ✚ 2022 Christmas Services;**
- ✚ Church Coffee Morning;**
- ✚ Rose and Reunion;**
- ✚ Information re Energy and Water Bills;**
- ✚ Rough Sleepers Information;**
- ✚ How We Are;**
- ✚ Toddlers Club;**
- ✚ Prayers with Kamran;**
- ✚ Church Bulletin;**
- ✚ Church Rota;**
- ✚ Prayer List;**
- ✚ Links to Service**



*"Scottish artist Michael Felix Gilfedder portrays the life growing inside Mary in his painting Blue Madonna (Mary, Mother of God). Mary supports her pregnant belly with her hand, contemplating the Christ child within, who is visible as a warmly nestled fetus, cradled by a sweep of gold."*

**2022 Christmas Services**

The dates of the Christmas services are as follows:

- **Sunday 11th December - Crib Service at 10.00am**
- **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December time - Spreading Christmas Cheer at Golders Green Tube Station**
- **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Nine Lessons and Carols at 10.00am**
- **Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December- singing Carols outside the church 4-5.00pm**
- **Midnight Communion at 11.00pm**
- **Christmas Day communion Service at 10.00am.**

## Community Coffee Morning

Starting 23 November  
All welcome



Come Join us for coffee, cakes and socialising  
at Golders Green Parish Church  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Every Wednesday  
Address - West Heath Drive, London NW11 7QG  
Eucharist Service to follow straight after



## Rose and Reunion

### **SURPRISE, SURPRISE -at our WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING**



What a lovely spread of delicious cakes, assorted pastry and fruits we had at our first Community Coffee Morning last Wednesday 23 November! But that was not the surprise! Seven of us turned up-Kamran, Sally, Keith, Florence, Naila, a lovely lady from Hampstead Surburb, and me-[Rose].

We were all seated together and chatting happily over coffee/tea, when it suddenly emerged, through casual conversation, that Florence was my student, nearly 60 years ago, at the Methodist Girls High School, Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria, where I was a teacher at the time! What a pleasant surprise for both of us, mixed with a tinge of guilt for our inability to recognise each other after several years of worshipping together and interacting in this church!

The reaction that followed this revelation was dramatic, emotional and hilarious! Florence jumped to her feet, threw her arms, indeed her entire weight, round me and we hugged each other repeatedly. "Mrs Omu! I cannot believe this!" she screamed repeatedly as we stared at each other in utter disbelief while everyone present watched in amazement with smiles on their faces! She said that she only knew me as Auntie Rose when she joined the church and I, too, only knew her as Florence.

As we gazed at each other, we excitedly began to walk down memory lane together, recalling names of other teachers and students as well as some wonderful moments we shared at the school many years ago. Then, I vividly recalled the dark, pleasant face of a lively, bright, little girl, Tolani Randle, [also known as Florence] who, along with other lovely girls, it was such a delight and joy to teach! And it was so flattering to hear Florence describe her recollection of Mrs Omu as "a nice, tall, elegant teacher whom everyone wanted to emulate."

To save my embarrassment, Sally [bless her] quickly added, reassuringly “And she’s still elegant!”

Florence reached for her phone and immediately announced her new discovery on their school WhatsApp platform and soon, heartwarming responses began to pop up. And, to my great delight, two of my former students came with Florence to church last Sunday in order to see me what a wonderful reunion we all had after nearly 60year! Quite frankly, I could easily have walked past any of them on the streets, anywhere all these years! It is indeed a small world.

I thank God for the beautiful opportunity our Community Coffee Morning has provided that enabled this wonderful Surprise Revelation and Reunion. That was surely GOD working His purpose out through this group. Something changed suddenly and quite unexpectedly in the lives of two people on that day .Five others were witnesses and shared in their joy. Hopefully they each had something to take away from that simple, relaxed gathering.

Why not join us and if possible, bring your friends on Wednesdays anytime from 10.30 am for coffee, a little refreshment and a chat in the warmth of our lovely church? You can even stay back for HOLY COMMUNION afterwards at 12.30pm. if you so desire.

A surprise might await you, who knows? And it’s nice to come together informally and get to know each other better as some of us certainly did last Wednesday, to the glory of God.

GOD BLESS YOU. From  
Rose Omu[Aunty Rose]

### **Helpful information re Energy and Water Bill and Free Broadband**

#### **Energy bills**

- **Warm home discount voucher** - if you receive the guaranteed element of pension Credit or are on a low income you can get a yearly £140 energy voucher - 0800 731 0214
- **Cold Weather Payments** - If you receive pension credit, ESA or UC and have a disability of child 5 you will receive £25 a week if the temperature is zero degrees or below for 7 days straight
- **British Gas Hardship grant** - 0121 348 7797 / [www.bget.org.uk](http://www.bget.org.uk)
- **E.O.N Energy Fund** - 03303 80 10 90
- **EDF Energy Support Fund** - 01752 507703
- **OVO Energy Fund** - 01752 507703
- **Scottish Power Hardship Fund** - 0808 169 8780

#### **Water bills**

- **Thames water** can provide discounted bills through their **Waterhelp scheme** where you can get a 50% discount if you have an income of less than £19,747 per year - 0800 009 3652

**Free Broadband** If you are on Universal Credit, you can get free 6 months broadband from TalkTalk - please speak with your work coach to get a referral code to give to TalkTalk who will arrange installation. You do not have to continue with TalkTalk after the 6 months is over.

### **AND**

I repeat the numbers given last week that connect with **Streetlink** to help those who are sleeping rough.

**StreetLink** exists to help end **rough sleeping** by enabling members of the public to connect people sleeping rough with the local **services** that could supply support

( <https://www.streetlink.org.uk>)

If you are concerned about someone over the age of 18 that you have seen sleeping rough in London, you can use this website to send an alert to StreetLink. The details you provide will be reviewed by the StreetLink team who will look at the information you provide and make a judgement as to whether the alert is suitable to be sent to the local street outreach for the area in which you have seen the person. To help them find the individual and connect them to support they will need, 1) an exact location of where the person is rough sleeping. 2) The time that you saw the person sleeping rough at the location.

**It is important to note that if you think the person you are concerned about is under 18, please do not contact StreetLink but instead call the police.**

We ask you to provide the following information:

**No Second Night Out - St Mungo's** [info@mungos.org](mailto:info@mungos.org) 0300 500 0914

<https://www.mungos.org> No Second Night Out in **London** operates as a rapid response service to make sure that, a **rough sleeper's** first night on the streets is also their last.

- Address: 3 Thomas More Square

**Homeless Action in Barnet Ltd** [Phone: 020 8446 8400](tel:02084468400)

Non-profit organization in London, England

**Address:** 36B Woodhouse Rd, London N12 0RG

**Hours:** Centre for **homeless** people and those in insecure housing. Drop-in with lunch served 12 noon-1.30pm. Rough sleepers' free breakfast 9am-10.30 Mon-Fri. Closes 3PM

### **How We Are**

We send our prayers, love and sympathy to **Katherine K** at present in Uganda for her sister, **Sarah's** burial.

On Thursday 1st December, the **funeral of Myfanwy's sister, Yvone**, will take place at Frome in Somerset. We will think of **Myfanwy** as it is hard for her not to be able to attend in person but hope she is able to watch it on zoom and finds consolation in thinking of Yvone's long and fruitful life.

Please pray for **David A, Gideon O** and **Rose O**. We hold them in our hearts that they may be filled with God's healing love.

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 Michael** and wish for strength for them and their family.

We pray for **Tony** and hope he is back with us soon.

We send all those who are sick our love. Please continue to pray for all who have been unwell that they may gain in strength and good health as well as those who are grieving because of 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.



***“La Salutation” (“The Greeting”)***  
***A bronze sculpture by Parisian artist François Brochet (1925-2001).***

## **Songs of Worship:**

***Spirit Song - arr. Tom Fettke***

<https://youtu.be/XSkK2BlxNiQ>

***Holy Forever - Chris Tomlin | WordShip***

<https://youtu.be/dcbZaF1-BKk>



## 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/aemYT2p1YY>



## Golders Green Rota December 2022 to January 2023

Date	Bible Passage	Readers	Intercessor	Refreshments	Eucharistic Minister (Chalice)	AV Desk	Service leader
04/12/22	Romans 15:4-9	Sam	Jenny	Silvia	Daniel	Shaniv	Jenny
	Matthew 3:1-12						
11/12/22 Crib Service	James 5:7-10	Elizabeth	Sally	Sheila	Nehar	Thomas	
	Matthew 11:2-11						
18/12/22 Carol Service	Isaiah 7:10-14	Tatyana	Nehar	tbc	Ify	Elizabeth	Alexis
	Matthew 1:18-24						
24/12/22	Isaiah 9:2-7	Onyeka	Sally	Sally	Sally	Onyeka	
	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)						
25/12/22	Isaiah 52:7-10	Ifeyinwe	Rose	Rose	Sheila	Tony	
	John 1:1-5, 9-14						
01/01/23	Galations 4:4-7	Cynthia	Annie	Nehar	tbc	Thomas	
	Luke 2:16-21						

### Toddler Group:

Another fun session at the Toddler Group. We had ten children with carers & parents. Some carers even came without the child and just wanted to chat with others. Some parents helped to monitor the fruits & water enabling all to have equally. Lots of singing at the end and announcements including a reminder to all of the 2022 Christmas Services at Golders Green Church. Our last session of the year will be on Tuesday 13 December. We will resume on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

**The Parish of Golders Green**  
**Parish Notices: 27/11/2022**

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

**Sunday School** – please continuously keep our children and team in your prayer.

**The Community Coffee Morning** – Started on Wednesday 23 November from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Communion Service will follow straight after.

**The Toddler Group** – Every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am. Please note our last session is on Tuesday 13 December. We will resume after the Christmas Holiday on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

**Advent Season Services** – You are welcome to share the Advent programme with your friends and family.

**Christmas Cheer** – 13 & 14 December. Golders Green Churches & District together will be holding the Christmas Cheer.

**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 remember Myfanwy in your prayers as she is grieving the loss of her sister. Please continue to pray for Tony & Mike H. Please also prayer for all those who are grieving for their loved ones.

**Rota for Sunday 4 December:**

**Reader:** Sam

**Intercession:** Jenny

**Hospitality:** Silvia

**Eucharist Minister:** Daniel

**AV Desk:** Shaniv

**Contact details:**

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873,

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

## 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](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/>

# **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**

Please note our last session will be on Tuesday 13 December. We will resume on Tuesday 3 January 2023.