

# NEWSLETTER



## Newsletter 25th May 2023

Dear Everyone – Greetings, hoping you are all well.

**Ascension:** Last Thursday was Ascensiontide, an important date in the Christian calendar when Christ was taken into Heaven and, as the poet-priest Malcolm Guite says in his piece below, “He is given to us and to the world in a new and more universal way”. Malcolm has written a sonnet for this event (Below) in his usual sensitive and reflective way to help us ponder on what happened and its significance for us.

**APCM:** What an excellent and participatory APCM we had after the Service on Sunday. The APCM document containing all the reports was full and detailed showing how much we have achieved as a church over the last year under Kamran’s faith, care and guidance. It made such interesting reading with plenty of optimism about how we could go forward. Many expressions of thanks were given to all those who have made so much possible. Below are some of the highlights of the past year and Kamran’s thoughts for the future which he talked us through and hoped they are ours too. Kamran asks, “How do you feel about where we are now?”. After looking at the points below and reading the reports that you have on email or WhatsApp, it would be so great if you could consider all that was outlined and let him know what you think. Is there anything you would like to add? Any group you would like to join? Anything you would like to volunteer to give support to? It is important that you make your thoughts and ideas heard.

**Sunday School:** All the different reports were interesting and good to read, but one, struck me as written from the heart so it is included below. Ifey, on the progress of the developing Sunday School, wrote with clarity and feeling about how she felt starting it up, with, as she said, no experience and some trepidation. But, as we witness each Sunday, from the way the children have grown in confidence telling us about what they have learnt, we can see that she is a natural teacher. With Ifey and Modupe we know the children are in safe hands and enjoy their learning. Thank you to both.

**Onyeka’s 100KM London to Brighton Ultra Challenge Walk:** We will, I am sure, all think of Onyeka walking from London to Brighton in aid of “Prostate Cancer Research” next Saturday. He is walking non-stop throughout the night too. Good luck and hope the feet don’t get too sore! It is not too late to sponsor him, so if you would like to donate, go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/hezzb>



**Food Bank:** Just a gentle reminder about our support for All Saint’s foodbank. There is a steep rise in families who need provisions, so, what is donated to them goes quickly. You have been very generous with

your donations which are delivered as soon as they are left on our table in church. If you have any more non-perishable goods to give they will be gratefully received. Thank you.

**Wednesday Coffee and Cake time:** Please remember that each Wednesday from 10.30am-12.30pm the church is open for coffee/tea and cake. Do come, even if you have only a few minutes to pop in and chat. It would be so good to see you. At 12.30pm we have a short communion service.

Love and Good Wishes - Sally

### GGPC Sunday School Report - Ifey



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Mathew 9:14

**These Little Lights of God, we are going to let them shine!**

It's with great pleasure that I write to give you all a progress report of our Sunday School. When our vicar asked me to led the Sunday school, I was filled with trepidation....what if I don't have any children turning up – I only had Sam and Elizabeth confirmed, where am I going to find kids to join us – I'm not a parent after all, I've never taught before other than deliver presentations in corporate environments and had done only 2 projects in a Primary School to bring awareness to young kids about building a good financial foundation. I was so worried I didn't have the skill sets to teach anyone! Moreover, my intimate spiritual growth was in itself infancy to say the least. I was still trying to find myself and my purpose as a Christian. I had just suffered a devastating loss that tested my faith to the core & I felt lacking or wanting in my Christian faith. Nevertheless, I reluctantly accepted. My very personality is such that whatever I find worthy to do, I strive to do it passionately well.

I was very glad to have Modupe who had previously ran Sunday Schools by my side.

Our first task was to get more children to join us. My nephews – Guy, Kool & Khan needed guidance in their faith so I thought..yes, I found my first 3 recruits. Then our delightful Nwanneka – my family friend's daughter, who was baptised in a Roman Catholic Church however her parents are not practicing Roman Catholics. Next, I set about convincing their parents without much difficulty, of the need/importance of them having early Christian guidance/foundation through Sunday School as they continue on their growing life journey.

The next challenge was how to bring and take them back home each Sunday: Guy, Khan and Kool lives in Barnet & Nwanneka lives in Camden. When there's a will, there's a way. Our first class is formed! Guy and Elizabeth – our 2 older kids, Khan, Kool and Sam and finally Nwanneka the youngest. Total of 6 children. I had no idea what to say and how to lead these children. I prayed to God to show me the way. I prepared our 1st lesson worried it may not land well with the kids but fortunately it did! They were happy to return next Sunday and the next and the next! The rest is history.

After the first few lessons, my cousin the teacher, said to me .. "Ifey you are just natural in this, you don't need me". Besides commuting from Watford can be a bit tricky for her at times. So I carried on with just

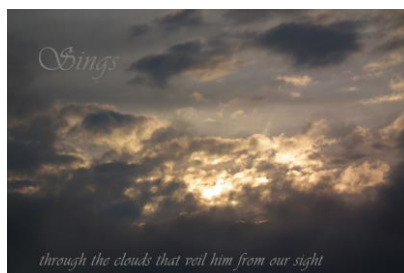
Modupe by my side. I am happy to report that since then we have achieved some worthy milestones with the kids: Elizabeth, Guy, Kool and Khan were confirmed in February. Guy, Kool and Khan were also baptised same day too. For Christmas, they children designed Christmas cards and we produced a commemorative Christmas mug with their designs. · We have increased in number to include Maia – who comes occasionally, but Eloise and Poppy being our two lovely newcomers.

We've since grown from 6 to 9 (8 active members) from our first class in October 2022 to now. To God be the glory! · And many more to follow.

I am happy that as the children continue to learn, I am also learning and growing with them. Modupe and myself are grateful to our Almighty God for being our guide and guardian in this Children's ministry. We also appreciate and thank everyone (our church family) for their support especially Sally for supplying us with Arts and Crafts material and for featuring the kids in the church's newsletter. Remain Blessed **Ifey Onochie (Deputy Warden)**

### Malcolm Guite - Reflecting on the Ascension


"In the mystery of the Ascension we reflect on the way in which, one sense Christ 'leaves' us and is taken away into Heaven, but in another sense he is given to us and to the world in a new and more universal way. He is no longer located only in one physical space to the exclusion of all others. He is in the Heaven which is at the heart of all things now and is universally accessible to all who call upon Him. And since His humanity is taken into Heaven, our humanity belongs there too, and is in a sense already there with him. "For you have died", says St. Paul, "and your life is hidden with Christ in God". In the Ascension Christ's glory is at once revealed and concealed, and so is ours. The sonnet form seemed to me one way to begin to tease these things out".




#### Sonnet for Ascension

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory  
 Whilst we were rooted still in time and place  
 As earth became a part of Heaven's story  
 And heaven opened to his human face.  
 We saw him go and yet we were not parted  
 He took us with him to the heart of things  
 The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted  
 Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,  
 Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,  
 Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,  
 Whilst we ourselves become his clouds of witness  
 And sing the waning darkness into light,  
 His light in us, and ours in him concealed,  
 Which all creation waits to see revealed .

## APCM Headlines




**Golders Green Parish Church  
APCM 2023**




**APCM 2023**

Since last year MAP,  
how do you feel about where we are now?



**APCM 2023**

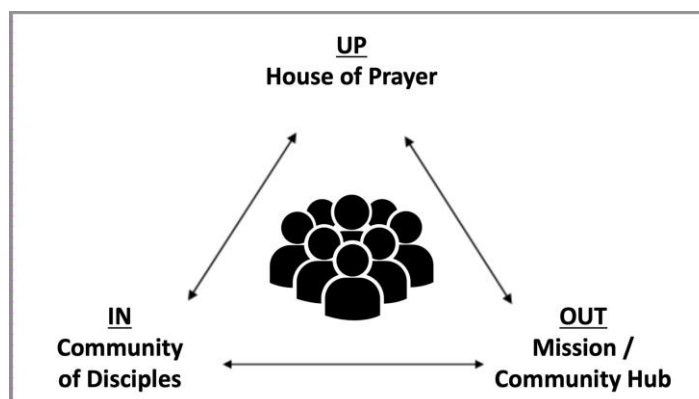
<sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,<sup>18</sup> may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,<sup>19</sup> and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



**APCM 2023**

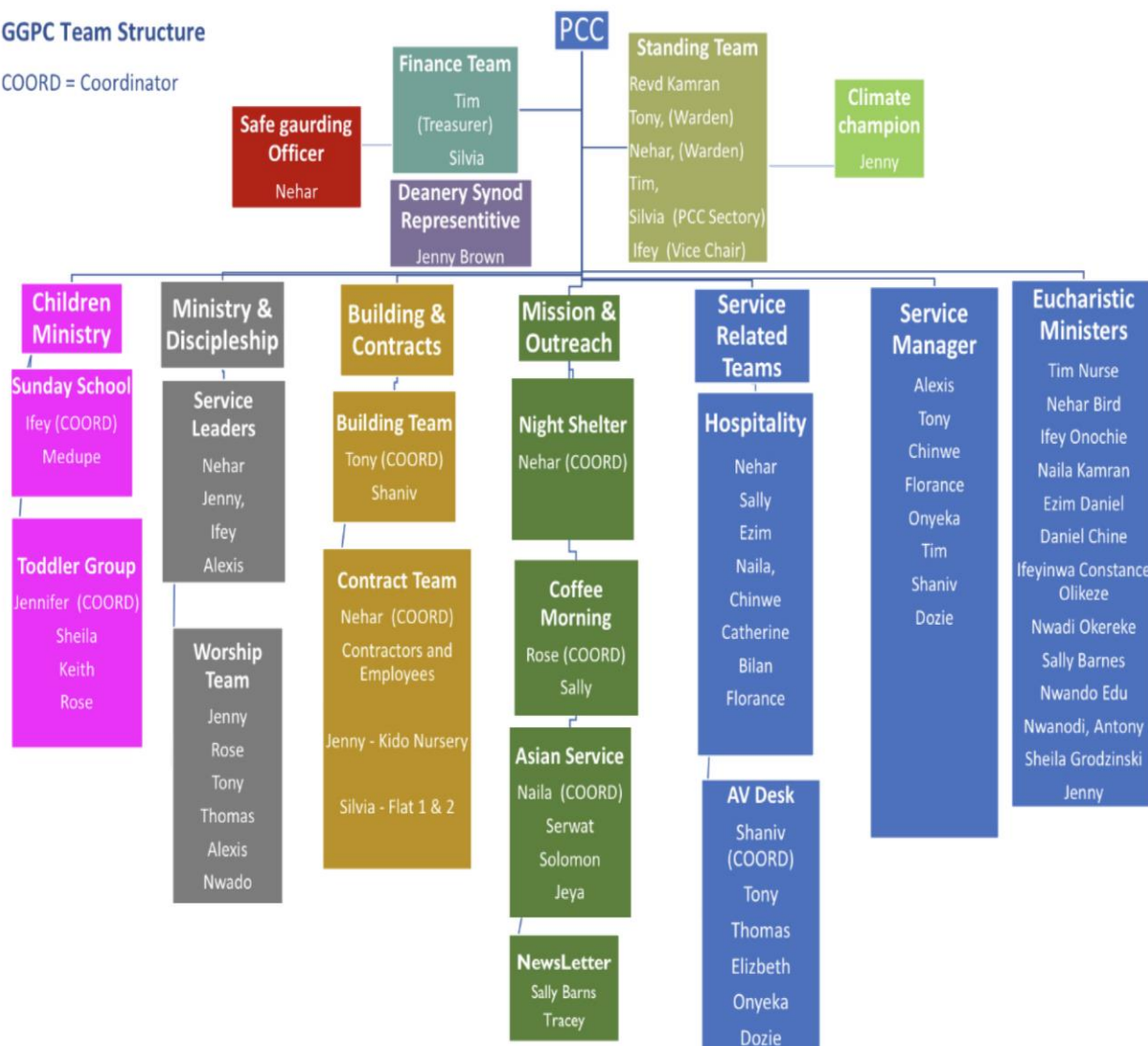
Paul in Ephesians envision a church which seeks

- WIDE EMBRACE
- LONG OUTREACH
- HIGH EXPECTANCY
- DEEP TRANSFORMATION



## GGPC Team Structure

COORD = Coordinator



## Toddlers Club

The Toddlers club, that is held in church every Tuesday from 9.30-11.30am. There is a £3.00 entrance fee. For further details contact: 0208 455 1873. Thank you to those who regularly help with the club. If anyone would like to volunteer a couple of hours on a Tuesday morning, please let us know on Sunday after the Service or by calling on the above number.

## How We Are

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.

**Sisi:** has been in hospital in Darlington and is now home recovering. Please pray that she may make a full recovery.

Please continue to pray for **Sheila, David Agbim, Chuba Agbim, Gideon Onwutalu and Rose Ochwada.** We hold them in our hearts that they may be filled with God's healing love.

Please continue to let us know of family members and friends who are sick and would welcome our prayers, either by WhatsApp, email, [Kamran@gg-pc.co.uk](mailto:Kamran@gg-pc.co.uk) or by phone, **020 8455 1873**

## 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;

Kamran 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;

### Topic: Church Wardens' Personal Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8585545365?pwd=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhY2paUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: J4FbKf

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: 400416

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aemYT2p1YY>

## Church Bulletin

### The Parish of Golders Green Parish Notices: 12/02/2023

**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** – All welcome. Every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Communion Service will follow straight after.

**The Toddler Group** – Every Tuesday from 9.30am to 11.30am. Please join us for song, laughter, play, reading, crafts, tea & coffee, biscuits & fruit.

### For your prayers:

Please continue to pray for Sheila, Sisi, Tony, Mike Houghton, Eunice and Naila for God's healing.

### 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 April - May 2023

Date	Bible Passage	Readers	Intercessor	Refreshments	Eucharistic Minister	Av Desk	Service leader
16/04/23	Acts 2:42-47	Tim	Sally	Catherine	Nehar	Elizabeth	Nehar
	Luke 9:57-62						
23/04/23	Act 1:1-11;	Alexis	Rose	Ezim	Tim	Thomas	
	Luke 10:1-20						
30/04/23	I Peter 2:20-25	Elizabeth	Sally	Nehar/Chinwe	Ezim	Tony	Jenny
	John 10:1-10						
7/05/2023	I Peter 2:4-9	Nwennaka	Nehar	Bilan	Nwadi	Onyeka	
	John 14:1-12						
14/05/2023	I Peter 3:15-18	Guy	Nwadi	Naila	Tony	Ruth/Guy	Alexis
	John 14:15-21						
21/05/2023 Ascension	I Peter 4:13-16	Dozie	Rose	Silvia	Naila	Shaniv	
	John 17:1-11:						
28/05/2023 Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11	Sam	Jenny	Nehar/Chinwe	Ifey	Tony	Ifey
	John 20:19-23:						
<b>05/06/2023</b> Trinity Sunday	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Synthia	Alexis	Sally	Ifeyinwe	Thomas	
	John 3:16-18						