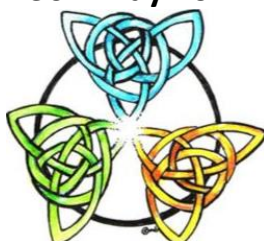


NEWSLETTER

30th May 2024



Dear Everyone – Greetings to you all.

Trinity Sunday: It struck me on Sunday, looking at our increasing congregation, the warmth and friendship that exists among us. We are indeed a widely diverse congregation. We come from many different parts of the world, we share our views, thoughts, ideas, show care for each other, learn from each other, and, especially, enjoy eating together - which we are rather good at. I have often felt that the communion we take part in after the service, with time to mix and talk together, is a very important extension to the main service and biblical too. Jesus is so often shown being with others, at parties, dinners, weddings, eating cooked breakfast by the lake side, sharing the catch of fish. They are important times of freedom to mix, share news, talk about issues we might not necessarily agree on and develop friendships. I value this time as I know do others. We show the diversity in friendship and communion of, “Although we are many, we are one Body”. Being the “Body of Christ” is our task, and, looking at the state of the world it is no easy one but, it can be developed step-by-step in small and practical ways with groups of people determined to live it among the communities in which we find ourselves. What do you think? It would be so good to hear from you with the views you hold. Pictures below.

Our Church Community





Birthdays: Happy Birthday Agnes, Lots of prayers for you and may you have a good year ahead.

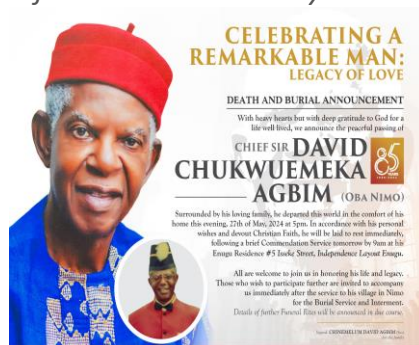


Birthday Party Invitation: We have all been invited by Zehra Alliana’s family to her Christening which will be held at our church on Saturday 29th June, followed by a birthday party at Holy Cross and St Michaels Hall (as on the invitation below). It would be so good if many of us could come to welcome her into the Christian community on that day and rejoice with her family afterwards.



David Agbim: We heard on Tuesday that David Agbim passed away peacefully at his home. This is sad news. He was such a lovely, kind and gentle man who will be missed by our Golders Green family. We send our love and many prayers to his wife Uche and all their family. Here are Kamran words:

Dear Church Family. It is with great sadness that I share this news with you. David Agbim passed away peacefully yesterday. In accordance with his wishes, he will be buried today (Tuesday). Please keep the family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of both David and Okey.



Daniel: The Dennis Memorial Grammar School Reunion: The service for the re-dedication for the “Dennis Memorial Grammar School Old Boys”, to which Daniel belonged took place last Sunday. Daniel has written a piece below.

Cancellation of the Invitation from, our local MP: The “Freer Advice and Information Fayre” that we had been invited to on Friday the 7th June by Mike Free, has now been cancelled. This is due to the fact that as a General Election has been called he is now no longer our MP and all events organised by him will not now take place.

The New Met for London: Our local police have sent us an invitation to a community event that is being held on **11th June 2024 from 6.00-8.00pm at North London Grammar School**, 40 Colindeep Lane Hendon, NW9 6HB. This is a meeting for the General Public to discuss continuing efforts of the Metropolitan Police to improve relationships with the Barnet Community. This is in keeping with the Commissioner’s new Metropolitan Plan for London. If you are interested in attending please email: jules.grant@met.police.uk

Icons: As Easter, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday are all the key occasions of the Church Year and because of this there is a rich iconic representation of each one. Icons are not quite the same as religious paintings, they are created by the iconographer who prays them into being as she or he writes them. They are intended to be a window into Heaven, there to guide us and support our prayers and meditations; many use them for this purpose when they are praying. I have written a short piece about them below which contains some more modern interpretations of the Trinity that have developed on from the old.

Church of North India’s First Woman Bishop. There is an article below about the election of “Right Revd Violet Nayak” on becoming the Church of North India’s first woman Bishop. Congratulations to her and the Church of North India.

Baptism and Confirmation Service Date: Bishop Jeremiah will be visiting us on **Sunday 22 September 2024**, when he will be baptising and confirming our candidates at the 10.00am service. **Please put this date in your diaries** so you can all come and join in the celebration of our family members and meet our bishop. It will be a morning of great celebration.

Bible study: Our Bible study group continues on **Thursday 6th June** from 6.30pm. We are reading our way through Paul’s letter to the Romans and discussing our thoughts on his message, considering what he has to say to us and the context of the time in which it was written. Please do join us, the discussions are always interesting and illuminating. Sandwiches and coffee/tea are available.

Wednesday Morning Coffee: from 10.30am-12noon. Our time of gentle exercise is going well (you can do exercises sitting down!) followed by coffee, cake and a chat – and it is fun - so do come and join in.

Food Bank: Thank you to those who have contributed so generously to the food bank. Please keep the donations coming as food and other resources are in great demand. They are much appreciated by the volunteers at All Saints who run it and especially by the families who make good use of all they provide.

Much love and good wishes - Sally

GGPC HOSTED DMGS OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION OF UK & IRISH REPUBLIC! – Daniel Onochie



Our dear Golders Green Parish Church (GGPC) provided a memorable liturgical Shelter for a population eager for spiritual rededication once more, as they always do every year.

This special worship which took place after the main church service last Sunday, 26th May 2024, turned out spiritually fulfilling and well enjoyed- according to the general feedback, and one of the most spiritually uplifting service- in the exact word of a regular worshipper who also participated in the special service.

This service was provided for the Dennis Memorial Grammar School (DMGS) Old Boys Assc, of the United Kingdom & Ireland Chapter, courtesy of Reverend Kamran's full support, guidance & host-execution.

DMGS was founded by the Church Missionary Society (CMS) of England in 1925 in a town called Onitsha, situated along the banks of the River Niger, in the East part of Nigeria. DMGS was named after one of the foremost missionaries, Archdeacon Dennis of Bournemouth who did exceptional missionary works within the area and died in shipwreck on his way back to England. Archdeacon Dennis was credited with the translation of the English Bible into IBO, a language spoken by about 45million Igbo people in Nigeria. DMGS would hold the Centenary Celebration by next year, 2025, for 100 years of existence!

DMGS is a foremost Grammar School & Centre of Academic Excellence in the East of Nigeria. Due to her hallmarks & anchor in scholarship, discipline, good citizenship, dignity in labour and overall human excellence, the founding of this school turned out to be True Light within the Eastern Region & Nigeria Nation in general, producing notable leaders of society in the various spheres of life, including Religion, Education, Medicine, Engineering, Law, Sciences & Arts, as well as other spheres of human endeavours. There is no doubt at all that the school's performance & influence within the environment & society has most admirably followed its founding "Motto" in the Latin word, "Lux Fiat" meaning "Show The Light".

The DMGS Old Boys Association (DOBA) holds Annual Rededication Event; it is a two-tier event that feature firstly, being a Mission School, a Church Service for rededication of the school & its ideals, as well as its human products-the old Boys & families, to the Almighty God for protection & providence for another one(1) year; and secondly, a Get-Together/Social Interactive time of good food, drinks, speeches, jokes, etc. For both events, Old Boys & Old Girls Association of credible & respectable Schools around the DMGS Geography are equally invited as Guests. This characterization is replicated across the Globe (Nigeria, USA, Canada, Australia/New Zealand, etc) where Old Boys of DMGS always thrive & "Show the Light" with similar 'drumbeat' and even more sometimes!

The Rededication Event is rotated/hosted yearly across the entire UK & Ireland and this year it happened in London, with hosting responsibility on Daniel and that was how our church supportively got involved to host the special service (the event took place in Birmingham last year).

Daniel & dear wife Ezim, are eternally grateful to the church for the exemplary spiritual guidance & conduct of Host Priest, Reverend Kamran and the general/congregation's goodwill & prayers, which undoubtedly led to the hugely successful event (Organist Geoffery was simply wonderful!).

May God's Grace & Blessings remain with you All, as always.



Collect for Trinity Sunday

by Steven Shakespeare –
Liturgist, Theologian and Writer

Enfolding God, Trinity of love,
you are our source, our goal, our life:
may we be born again in you no more to live alone and unconnected,
but sharing in the Spirit's breath and carried to your heart:
through Jesus Christ, who lifts us up.
Amen.

Icons



Andrei Rublev 15th C Russian



Icon by Kelly Latimore USA



Icon by Ivanska Demchik
Ukrain

Easter. Pentecost and Trinity are festivals full of iconic images, and have been for centuries. The most famous being the Icon drawn by Rublev which used to be seen specifically in Orthodox churches across the world but, over the decades became more familiarly placed in Roman Catholic and Anglican churches. Recently, as illustrated by the two Trinitarian Icons above, Kelly Latimore and Ivanska Demchik, more and more iconographers have been inspired to draw icons and interpret their subject in today's terms and thought.

They are deeply influenced by the old, but in keeping with present times and how saintly images are seen or can be seen in ways that can support and inspire our prayer lives and meditations giving us more or deeper insights. There are some stunning Icons in St Paul’s Cathedral, for example, drawn by gifted artists inspired by the Iconic schools but created for the present day. There is a disciplined technique of drawing Icons, with specific materials, and prayers said while being drawn. An icon is not a painting in the sense we normally think of pieces of art, although it is an image that is painted. An icon is meant to be a window into heaven, transporting us out of our everyday lives into the realm of God. When an artist is drawing an Icon, she or he knows they are doing so by using line of strokes that have meaning hallowed by centuries of prayer. *“Icons are religious images that hover between two worlds, putting into colors and shapes what cannot be grasped by the intellect. Rendering the invisible visible. Icons are the visual equivalents of the Divine Scriptures”*. They are religious pictures meant to convey the inner spiritual meaning of their subject matter. *“Iconography is the graphic witness to the fact that the Son of God came to restore the divine image in human form. They speak wordlessly to many hearts and minds of a truth that often cannot be express in words”*, like the Trinity, for example, which is the hardest concept to understand verbally but can be, and often is, understood by instincts and feelings through the images they convey. We don’t always need words to describe deep spiritual or religious feelings in our over-wordy society. Sitting and mediating in front of an Icon can give us so much more.

The Church of North India’s First Woman Bishop



It is so important that we know what is taking place in other parts of the world, especially for us in the Anglican Communion to which we all belong. So, to hear of the election of the “Right Revd Violet Nayak, the first woman bishop in North India, was a cause for rejoicing. We join the greetings sent by The Anglican Communion through their world- wide message expressing joy at this good news and join them in sending our prayers of support and congratulations to the Church in North India and to Bishop Violet. She was elected during the Full Episcopal Meeting for the Diocese of Phulbani on 20 May and consecrated 21 May at the Cathedral Church of Redemption, New Delhi. Bishop Violet was born on 21 March, 1969, was ordained as a Presbyter in the Diocese of Phulbani, CNI, on 22 September 2001. She holds a Bachelor of Divinity (B.D) degree from the Senate of Serampore College (University).

How We Are

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

We remember at this time **David Agbim** who died on Monday. We pray that he is now in the loving arms of God. We send our condolences and prayers to Uche, his wife, and his family. He will be so missed.

We continue to pray for a return to health to those who are sick, that God’s healing hands may be upon them.

We keep in our prayers: **Myfanwy Khan, Anita and Simon Houghton, Chuba Agbim, Eunice Adiele, Gideon Onwutalu, Annie Bwanaope, Sir Edmund Onochie and Rose Ochwada.**

Please pray for a full return to health for **Tony**. We pray that God's healing spirit may come upon him and help him make a good recovery.

Our deepest condolences and prayers to the grieving family of **Sir David Agbim** and **Okechukwu Nwandu**.

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 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. 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=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0x0DaDhY2paUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: J4FbKf

Rota for coming Sunday

Reader: **Andrew**
Hospitality: **Silvia**
AV Desk: **Shavi**

Intercession: **Nwando**
Eucharist Minister: **Ifeyinwa/Onyeka**
Duty Manager **Alexis**

Contact details:

Parish Priest: **Revd Kamran Bhatti**

Office Tel: 020 8455 1873, Website: www.gg-pc.co.uk