

News and Notices for this week

Lent

The Season of Lent is characterised by self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, almsgiving and preparation for Easter. During Lent there is a 'sparse' feeling to the church, with banner removed, no flowers etc. All these return on Easter Day, creating a great contrast as the church is flooded with colour and a sense of joy as we celebrate 'The Queen of Feasts'. Liturgically, we do not sing the Gloria during Lent, and we use different acclamations before the reading of the Gospel. The liturgical colour for Lent (vestments, altar frontals) is purple.

Lent appeal

Donating to charity is one of the characteristics of the Season of Lent. This year we are collecting money to support Bishop Guli's Lent Appeal supporting the Diocese of Jerusalem's Healthcare Ministry. The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is home to about 7,000 Anglicans worshipping in 28 congregations across five separate countries or territories: Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Israel. Inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan, the ministry of healthcare is an important and growing ministry in the Diocese, one offered to those in need regardless of race, religion, or ability to pay. The diocese's healthcare institutions range from homes for the elderly, to therapeutic residential facilities for special needs students, to clinics, rehabilitation centres and hospitals. The need for support for the Diocese of Jerusalem's healthcare ministry is particularly pressing at this time of war in the Holy Land. Commenting on this year's Appeal, Bishop Guli said: *The funds raised through the 8680 Bishop's Lent Appeal will help the Diocese of Jerusalem continue to offer essential health care to those in need, regardless of race, religion, or ability to pay. I am pleased that we are able to contribute to this important ministry at a time when it is needed more than ever.*

Donations for the Lent Appeal can be left in the jar at the back of church. You can read more about the Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Ministry here:
<https://j-diocese.org/wordpress/healthcare-3/>

iKnowChurch

This is software recommended by the Church of England to store details of members of the congregation (name, email address etc.) to be GDPR compliant, and make communication easier. Several people from St Margaret's congregation have submitted their details, but to help those who have found the process difficult, or do not have access to a computer, Vijin Paulraj will help people add their details after the Eucharist on Sundays in February.

Big Brew : Saturday 2 March

To mark Fairtrade Fortnight there is going to be a Big Brew in church from 1pm to 4pm. Come along to enjoy tea or coffee and home made cakes. There will also be Fairtrade groceries and goods for sale. Donations going to Transform Trade to help farmers, workers and artisans in South Asia and East Africa to benefit from more sustainable and equitable trade. Thanks Sharon 07555 144255

St Margaret of Antioch, Ilford

Weekly News Sheet

Sunday 18 February 2024

First Sunday of Lent



Welcome to St Margaret's Church

We hope you enjoy worshipping with us or visiting us. If you are here for the first time or visiting from another church, please introduce yourself.

Keep in touch with us by visiting our web site: stmargaretilford.org.uk

X : @StMargaretIG1

Facebook: facebook.com/StMargaretIG1/

Instagram : [@stmargaret_ilford_ig1](https://instagram.com/stmargaret_ilford_ig1).

Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Pugh stmargaretig1@gmail.com 07762 163849

Churchwardens: Charles Acolatse 07946 221813 Helen Cansick 07903 813131

Worship & Intercessions

THIS MORNING

Welcome Team:

Jannis Abley and Barbara Haler

Mass setting:

St Anne's Mass - James Macmillan

Cantor: Ann Marney and Janet Potter

Readers:

Ludvig Isen-Edwards and Anrea Kiso

Intercessions

led by Vijin Paulraj

Eucharistic minister: Vijin Paulraj

NEXT SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Lent

10.30am Parish Eucharist

4.00pm Stations of the Cross

WE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR:

The sick and those in need:

Delrose Berry, Francis Chitolie, Archdeacon Elwin Cockett, Fizza and her family, Anne Fox, Lenore Hinds, Pat Kennedy, Sister Mary John, Sister Mary Owen, Jennifer Motley, Margaret Quinney, Keethan Ranjan Ponuthurai, Janet Potter, Amol Rego, Rosa Suspiro

The recently departed:

Carol Cansick

Those whose anniversaries of death fall this week:

19th: Cecil LeVoi, Irene Hills,

Robert Cropper

20th: Hugh Whitten, Lily Rose,

Norah Fish

22nd: Edith Jeacock, Marjorie Green

24th: Joseph Tanter,

Alan Jaggard (*Priest*)

Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 9: 8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Psalm: 25

R: Remember, remember your mercy, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me;
for you are God my Saviour. **R**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory

Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory

Gospel Reading: St Mark 1: 9-15

Prayer over the Gifts

Creator God,
we pray you to fashion our lives
in the likeness of Christ,
whose table we share
and of whose life we partake.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Communion Song:

We walk by faith

Words by Henry Alford; music by Marty Haugen

We walk by faith and not by sight
No gracious words we hear
Of Him who as none e'er spoke
Yet we believe Him near

We may not touch His hands and side
Or follow where He trod
Yet in His promise we rejoice
And cry "My Lord and God"

Help then, oh Lord, our unbelief
And our faith abound
To call on you when you are near
And seek where you are found

That when our life of faith is done
In realms of clearer light
We may behold you as you are
In full and endless sight

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him
who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Recessional:

Les Barricades Mystérieuses
- François Couperin
(arr Wallace for 'Meaning of Life')