

News and Notices for this week

Passiontide

Although integral to the season of Lent, the last two weeks of Lent, beginning today, are also known as Passiontide. The focus of these two weeks is on the Cross, and on the passion (suffering) of Christ. The statue of our Lady is veiled in purple cloth until Easter Day, to remove colour and 'distraction' from the church building, so we concentrate on the Cross.

Tea's Company

Our monthly coffee, tea, cake and chat afternoon this month will be on Thursday 21 March, from 2pm to 3.30pm in the church. It's wonderful to see numbers increasing, including people from outside our congregation. Do come along, and invite your friends. And thanks to Sharon and her team for organising this every month.

Parochial Church Council Meeting

The PCC met on Thursday last week. Much of the meeting was taken up with discussions and plans for the impending vacancy.

The meeting also heard a progress report on plans to refurbish the church hall toilets. Some preparatory investigations were done in February, and the work will begin mid-July.

The APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held on Sunday 19 May, after the Sung Eucharist. The meeting elects two Churchwardens and members to serve on the PCC for the coming year. It also hears a report on the financial affairs and activities of the parish for 2023.

Lent appeal

Donations for our Lent Appeal can be left in the jar at the back of church. This year we are collecting money for Bishop Guli's Lent Appeal supporting the Diocese of Jerusalem's Healthcare Ministry. 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. You can read more about the Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Ministry here: <https://j-diocese.org/wordpress/healthcare-3/>

Holy Saturday - 30 March

We will be looking for people to help get the church ready for Easter Day on Holy Saturday morning, between 10am and 12noon. Jobs include building the Easter Garden, polishing brass and silverware, bring items back into church that are removed during Lent and Holy Week. If you can spare some time, please come and help.

A reminder - **British Summer Time begins on 31 March**, and clocks go **forward** one hour on Saturday evening (30 March). Don't get caught out and arrive late at church on Easter Day!

St Margaret of Antioch, Ilford

Weekly News Sheet

Sunday 17 March 2024

Fifth 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:

 Terry English

Readers:

Stephen Romaniuk and Jannis Abley

Intercessions

 led by Yvonne Thomas

Eucharistic minister:

Stephen Romaniuk

NEXT SUNDAY

Palm Sunday

10.30am Blessing of palms
and Sung Eucharist

4.00pm Stations of the Cross

WE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR:

The sick and those in need:

Geoff Allen, Delrose Berry, Francis Chitolie, Archdeacon Elwin Cockett, Fizza and her family, Anne Fox, Lenore Hinds,, Sister Mary John, Jenifer Motley, Margaret Quinney, Keethan Ranjan Ponnuthurai, Janet Potter, Amol Rego, Rosa Suspiro

The recently departed:

Those whose anniversaries of death fall this week:

17th: George MacDonald, Albert Masters
18th: Maisey Evans
19th: Gertrude Buckland, Ethel Priest
20th: Stuart Brown
21st: Peter Shannon, Polly Whittingham
22nd: Doris Bruce
23rd: Amy Bennett, Jacira Mendes

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
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: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm: 51

R: A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. **R**

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R**

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **R**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5: 5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory

If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory

Gospel Reading: St John 12: 20-33

Prayer over the Gifts

God, our teacher in faith,
welcome us as we approach your table,
and by the sacrifice of praise
unite us in the body of Christ,
who is alive, now and for ever.

Amen.

Communion Song:

Unless a grain of wheat shall fall
Words and music by Bernadette Farrell

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.
Amen.

Recessional:

Erbarm Dich Mein O Herre Gott BWV 721
by J S Bach