



Wanstead Parish
St Mary with Christ Church

www.wansteadparish.org

Sunday 28th April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Services today:

- 8am Holy Communion BCP (CC)**
9.30am All Age Eucharist (CC)
11am Sung Eucharist (STM's)
6.30pm Jazz Vespers (CC)

Eucharist Readings & Hymns:

Acts 8. 26-end; Ps.22. 25-end; John 15. 1-8

667 – I danced in the morning

197 – Alleluia alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord.

721 – Love divine all loves excelling

The Collect for the Week:

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PRAYERS:

Those who are in need of prayer: Kay Kingham, Kay Sheikh, Martin Wheatley, Martin Julie Black, Sally Hurd, Christine Harrison, Charlotte, Ted Taylor, Ann Cheetham, Chris Cummins, Denis Keeling, Patricia Head, Richard Francis, Martin, Mary Wales, Barbara Ridley, Simon Tierney.

Year's Mind Fred Eaton (28th,17); Charles Hathaway (29th,87); Abraham Titus (29th,06); Pauline Walker (1st 19); Jean Shepherd (3rd,09); John Weaver (4th,07)

Wanstead Prayer Diary: Woodbury Close, Florence Court, Foxglove Gardens, Merino Close, Wanstead Youth Centre, Longcourt Mews, Elderfield Walk, Melmead House NELFT NHS (community mental health), Sultan Road, Bal Beauty, Essex Engineering and Coin Co-op Controls

HOME & HOSPITAL VISITS: Please let the Parish Office know if you would appreciate a visit by a member of the clergy, or if you know of someone who would. Mthr Anne can offer one-off visits for prayer and discussion (perhaps concerning a specific issue), in addition to on-going visits in the case of the elderly, sick and

NOTICES:

JAZZ VESPERS – THIS SUNDAY

This popular service will take place at 6 p.m. this Sunday (28 April). Everyone is welcome, and admission is free. Refreshments provided.

MENTAL WELLBEING SUPPORT GROUP

Are you struggling? We warmly invite you to **A Place**, a mental wellbeing support group open to adults who wish to improve their mental wellbeing, irrespective of outlook on faith. Please join us in the Vestry at Christ Church at 5.30pm on the First Sunday of each month.

MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL AT ST MARY'S

Saturday 25th to Monday 27th May. For more information, please pick up a flyer in either church.

JOIN THE CHOIR?

A lot of people enjoyed the contribution the Parish choir made to the Holy Week Easter Services, and we always welcome new members, of any voice part to join the Choir. If you'd like to know more about joining, contact Alison Wells alisongwells@me.com

CONFIRMATION AT CHRIST CHURCH ON 19 MAY

'Confirmation' is a word that basically means 'making firm or strong.' In the Church it refers to a service in which people after a time of discernment solemnly commit themselves to follow Christ. It's a time when the seeds of faith implanted by God at our baptism come, so to speak, to fruition. If you feel that God is calling you to make this commitment, please contact Fr. Charles at chbrown1816@gmail.com

RETREAT AT AYLESFORD PRIORY

This will take place over the weekend of 19-20 October 2024 at Aylesford Priory in Kent. It will be led by members of the ministry teams in our local mission area, which includes our parish, Aldersbrook, and Woodford. The cost will be £230 for a single room and £200 for a shared room. For more information please see Fr. James or Fr. Charles.

LOUGHTON OPERATIC SOCIETY

Presents Sweet Charity telling the story of Charity Hope Valentine's musical and romantic adventures. 8th-11th May 2024. All evening shows at 7.30pm; Saturday matinee at 2pm. At Lopping Hall High Road, Loughton IG10 4LF (5 min walk from Loughton station, on the Central Line). Tickets £15 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/los

EAST LONDON CHORUS

Presents Mozart's 'Piccolomini' and Musical gems from Monteverdi to Mvula. 6.30pm Saturday 29th June 2024 at Christ Church Tickets £15 (under 25s £5) from www.eastlondonchorus.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING: For safeguarding concerns please contact Gary Vickers at wansteadparishsafeguarding@gmail.com or on 07551 680536.

In an emergency, contact the relevant authority such as the Police.

A reflection on this week's readings

From the readings for Sunday 28th April

John 15:1-5

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye *are* the branches.

AV (King James Version)

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.

RSV

I am the real vine, and my Father is the gardener. He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will be clean and bear more fruit. You have been made clean already by the teaching I have given you. Remain united to me, and I will remain united to you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it can do so only if it remains in the vine. In the same way you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine, and you are the branches.

Good News Bible

I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken. Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me. I am the Vine, you are the branches.

The Message

One major difference between John and the other three gospels is his treatment of the Last Supper. Most of chapters 13-17 consists of a series of discourses by Jesus, addressed to his disciples and to posterity about himself, his relationship to the Father, and their role once he has gone. The tone is solemn, stressing the importance of the occasion and the content. Today's reading, of which this extract is the first part only, uses the technique of repetition with significant variation to reinforce and develop the message. The half-verse with which this extract concludes is the hinge linking the two sections.

St Paul in his letters often speaks of the importance of living "in Christ"; today's reading offers an extended meditation on what this might mean in terms of *letting Christ live in us*, as the only way in which we can be our best selves and fulfil our true potential.

These chapters from John lend themselves particularly well to the traditional technique of prayerful reading known as *lectio divina* – the repeated reading of, and meditation on, a short passage, letting the words slowly sink in, noting what associations they bring up for us (like watching the ripples spreading in a pond when a stone has dropped in), and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit in discerning what their meaning and application might be in our own lives.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Tuesdays:	9am	Morning Prayer (CC)
	10am	Prayer Group (CC)
Wednesdays:	9am	Morning Prayer (CC)
	10am	Little Angels Playgroup (CC) <i>Term time only</i>
	4pm	Forget-Me-Nots Choir (St M's)
	8pm	Compline (St M's)
Thursdays:	9.45am	Morning Prayer (CC)
	10.30am	Holy Communion, coffee and chat (CC)
Fridays:	9am	Morning Prayer (St M's)
	7pm	The Bridge Youth Club for all age 10+ (Parish Hall)
	7pm	Parish Choir Practice (CC Vestry)

Bereavement Cafe: For all who have lost a loved one. Meets in CC vestry, 7-8pm on the second Tuesday and 10.30 - 11.30am on the third Tuesday of the month.

A Place: A group for spiritual wellbeing. We warmly welcome you to join us in the Vestry at Christ Church at 5.30pm on the first Sunday of each month.

LOOKING AHEAD: Sunday 5th May 2024 – The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
9.30am	Sung Eucharist with Nursery and Junior Church (CC)
11am	Morning Prayer (STM's)
5.30pm	A Place, mental health support group
6.30pm	Healing Service (CC)

PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

Rector: Revd James Gilder
(Day off: Mondays)

Assoc. Priest: Revd Charles Brown
(Works: Thurs, Fri, Sun)

Assistant Priests:
Revd Olive Thursby (High Street Chaplain)
Revd Richard Wyber
Revd Chris Mackenna
Revd Anne Mackenna (Parish Deacon)

Parish Office: 020 8530 8743
wansteadparishadmin@uwclub.net
Mon-Weds, Fri during term time

GIVING:

It costs £4,000 per week to keep our parish running. Please consider making a regular donation.

Online: –
www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/wanstead-london/

Phone:
0333 002 1260, Parish code: 080608162

Email:
info@parishgiving.org.uk, Parish code:
080608162

Contact Jill Steggle (via Parish Office) for more details.