

21 December 2022



Dear Everyone

Last Sunday was the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent when our purple candle was lit.



Last Sunday, traditionally marked the final week of Advent prayer and anticipation of Christ's birth. We also think of his Mother Mary, Strong and Faithful, saying "Yes", to God's call to her. The final candle also symbolizes peace and Love, something we pray for ardently at this moment. In many traditions it is called the "Angel's Candle," as it reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward All". So, we have our circle of light and thoughts of Christmas to come. May everyone have a Happy Christmas where personal and public worries and concerns are put away and we rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ. We continue to pray with Faith and Hope that this coming year will be one in which the many National problems we face and violence in other countries are resolved, and we come together in countries of Peace, Justice and Equity and we keep together as a united church family.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December we held a joyous, "Nine Lessons and Carols", Service in which many of the congregation played their part, reading the lessons, saying prayers and lighting the Advent candles as well as singing carols, lustily. Our Children's church members made their contributions, and all read so well. They are getting more and more confident at taking their part in the service. They designed their own Christmas cards but also a splendid mug with pictures of their Christmas cards and "Golders Green Sunday School Children" on it. Again, many thanks to Ifey and Modupe for leading them so well.



In between lessons being read, our carols were sung Naila sung the third verse of “Oh Come All ye Faithful” in Urdu, with Kamran accompanying her on the Indian drums. How melodic and beautiful that was.



After the service, a very welcomed lunch was provided by Nehar which was delicious and - thank you Nehar. Marlies organised a “Secret Santa” which we all enjoyed and, as the Dodo said in, “Alice's Adventures in Wonderland”, “*Everybody has won, and all must have prizes.*” That was us. We all went home with something. Thank you Marlies - it was fun.

**Monthly Asian Service:** In the afternoon Kamran hosted the monthly Asian Service, which brings together Asian families from the surrounding area. This time it was a Carol Service which was joined in with pleasure and joy by those attending. Pictures below.



**Spreading Christmas Cheer:** On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> last week there was “Spreading Christmas Cheer” at Golder’s Green Tube Station. This is when members of local churches packed goody bags at our church and went to Golders Green Station from 7.00am for two hours, to provide coffee, chocolate, and croissants for the commuters to cheer them on their way work. Commuters knew it was about Christmas and from the comments from those receiving it was much welcomed. What stoicism from those who got up so early to pack the bags and prepare the drinks in that freezing weather. You are all stars. Pictures below.



**Wednesday coffee mornings** continue. Apart from coffee and croissants, it is also a place in which to be warm for a few hours. Please invite your friends and neighbours, so they enjoy the company and chat. We are meeting this Wednesday but are having a rest for the 28<sup>th</sup> and resuming on 4<sup>th</sup> January

**Christmas services: please note that on Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00 - 5.00pm** we will be singing Carols outside the church with members from other churches.

**Midnight Communion will be at 11.00pm**

**Christmas Day communion Service will be at 10.00am.**

**Food Bank:** We have a table in church for collections of resources for the foodbank at All Saints Childs Hill. On the table is a list of resources that are needed. Thank you to those of you who have already donated and to those of you who will be bringing goods into us.










**Rough sleepers phone number:** in past editions of the newsletter the phone number for Rough sleepers plus full details of St Mungo's, **(0300 500 0914 <https://www.mungos.org>)** have been published. If you see someone who may need help do ring this number. There is also helpful information re Energy, Water Bills and Free Broadband. Please keep them to hand and let others have them as you never know when they might be needed - It has been so terribly cold, and people have been suffering.

Just to let you know the next newsletter will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> January. I would welcome any articles, stories, remembrances, drawings or poems you would like to contribute. The newsletter is yours. Thank you to those who contribute from time-to time and make it so interesting. What you send is always so welcome for everyone to enjoy.

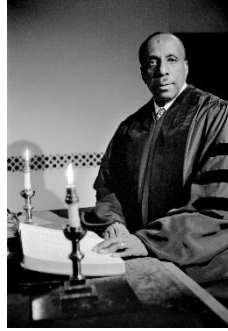
With much love and many good wishes

Sally

**Other notices Include;**

-  **Poem for Christmas - Howard Thurman;**
-  **Food Bank Reminders;**
-  **Toddlers Club;**
-  **How We Are;**
-  **Prayers with Kamran;**
-  **Church Bulletin;**
-  **Church Rota;**
-  **Prayer List;**
-  **Links to Service**

## Poem for Christmas - Howard Thurman



Howard Thurman was a theologian, philosopher, civil rights leader and writer, born in Florida, California in 1899. One of his most famous books was, "Jesus and the Disinherited". This poem was sent to me by a friend in a Christmas card. It struck me as so very contemporary and apt for this time. I hope you find it so too.

When the song of angels is stilled  
When the star in the sky is gone  
When the Kings and princes are home  
when the shepherds are back with their flocks  
the work of Christmas begins;  
To find the lost  
To heal the broken  
To feed the hungry  
To release the prisoner  
To rebuild nations  
To bring peace among the people  
To make music in the hearts.

### 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.

It would be so good if you could let us know either by **WhatsApp, the newsletter, phone or email** about anyone who is not well, bereaved or would appreciate our prayers. It is so important we remember, pray for them and do not leave anyone out.

Please pray for a recovery for **Naila's** shoulder that has been causing her a lot of pain and discomfort for some time. Let us hope the medication she is now receiving will ease it.

Please pray for **David A, Gideon O** and **Rose O**. We hold them in our hearts that they may be filled with God's healing love.

Please continue to pray for **Alice** who is being cared for at home by **Alex**. We pray that she is surrounded by God's loving Care.

We pray as we always do for **Simon and his father Michael** and wish for strength for them and their family.

We pray for **Tony** and hope he is back with us soon.



## **Food Bank Requirements**

The following items make up a typical food parcel. They are the best items to donate:

### **Non Perishable food items**

Cereal

Soup

Pasta

Rice

Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce

Lentils, beans and pulses

Tinned meat

Tinned vegetables

Tea/coffee

Tinned fruit

Biscuits

UHT milk

### **Non-food donations**

#### **Toiletries**

Deodorant

Toilet paper

Shower gel

Shaving gel

Shampoo

Soap

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Hand wipes

Tissues

#### **Household items**

Laundry liquid detergent

Laundry powder

Washing up liquid

Kitchen roll

Sink scourers

#### **Feminine products**

Sanitary towels

Tampons

#### **Baby supplies**

Nappies

Baby wipes

Baby cream

**Please leave donations in church or ring to have them collected. 020 8455 1873. Thank you in advance**

### **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;
- ❖ he 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;
- ❖ Wednesday evening prayer time takes place in church at 7.00pm The prayer meeting will take place both in person and via Zoom. Please see the link below.

### **Topic: Church Wardens' Personal Meeting Room**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8585545365?pwd=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0x0aDhY2paUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: J4FbKf

One tap mobile

+442034815240,,8585545365#,,,,\*400416# United Kingdom

+442039017895,,8585545365#,,,,\*400416# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

+44 208 080 6591 United Kingdom

+44 208 080 6592 United Kingdom

+44 330 088 5830 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: 400416

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

**The Parish of Golders Green**  
**Parish Notices: 18/12/2022**

**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** – Started on Wednesday 23 November from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Communion Service will follow straight after.

**The Toddler Group** – We are now closed for the Christmas Holiday & will return on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

**Advent Season Services** – You are welcome to share the Advent program with you friends and family

**Christmas Cheer** – 13 & 14 December starting 7:30 – 9:30. Golders Green Churches & District together will be holding the Christmas Cheer at Station.

**Volunteers List** – Christmas Cheer, Hospitality, Readers for 18 December 9 Carols and Lessons

**Prayers for the Church ministry and mission:**

Please pray for the Senior Circle hoping to start soon. The Soup Kitchen which started in July. For the ongoing Church Maintenance issues. Pray for the Church Choir, Children Ministry, The Toddler Group, and the Mission of the Church.

**For your prayers:**

Please remember Myfanwy in your prayers as she is grieving the loss of her sister. Please continue to pray for Tony, Mike Houghton, Eunice and Naila for God's healing.

**Rota for Sunday 25 December:**

**Reader:** Ifeyinwe

**Intercession:** Rose

**Hospitality:** Rose

**Eucharist Minister:** tbc

**AV Desk:** Tony

**Contact details:**

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti

Website: [www.gg-pc.co.uk](http://www.gg-pc.co.uk)

Office Tel: 020 8455



## Golders Green Church Rota December 2022 to January 2023

Date	Bible Passage	Readers	Intercessor	Refreshments	Eucharistic Minister (Chalice)	AV Desk	Service leader
<b>24/12/22</b>	Isaiah 9:2-7	Onyeka	Sally	Sally	Sally	Onyeka	
	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)						
<b>25/12/22</b>	Isaiah 52:7-10	Ifeyinwe	Rose	Rose	tbc	Tony	
	John 1:1-5, 9-14						
<b>01/01/23</b>	Galations 4:4-7	Cynthia	Annie	Nehar	tbc	Thomas	
	Luke 2:16-21						

### The Toddler Group

The Toddler Group has now closed for the Christmas Break but will resume on Tuesday 3 January 2023. We look forward to welcoming parents / carers and children in the new year. We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year 2023.

# **TODDLER GROUP**

## **@ GOLDERS GREEN CHURCH**



**Meet weekly on**  
**Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am/Term Time Only**

**£3.00 Entrance Fee**

**Held in the church**

**More details contact the office**

**020 8455 1873**

**Golders Green Church**

**West Heath Drive NW11 7QG**

Please note our last session was on Tuesday 13 December. We will then close for Christmas and return on Tuesday 3 January 2023.

## Links to Services

If you're looking for online prayer and worship opportunities, here are some suggestions:

### Daily worship:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/church-online>: including

- Prayer for the day
- Services of daily prayer
- Time to pray app and podcast

<https://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/whats-on/?category=204> livestreamed daily services and some one-off services on particular themes and issues.

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/> Pray as you Go (a short service each day in the Jesuit Tradition)

The following links take you to prayers and reflections on particular themes:

**Covid:** <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

**Mental health: some short reflections to support good mental health:**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/mental-health-resources/supporting-good-mental-health>

**Ukraine:** <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/ukraine-crisis-appeal>

**Climate justice:** [www.climatesunday.org](http://www.climatesunday.org)

**Environmental issues:** <https://arocha.org.uk/prayer-diary/>

**The world's poorest communities and those affected by emergencies and conflict:**

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/faith-resources/prayer-library>

**The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC)** offers a series of prayer journeys which you can sign up to here: <https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/prayer-journeys/>

**Daily Bible readings:**

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/daily-bible-readings>

LICC also offer e-mailed '**Word for the Week**' each Monday. You can sign up here:

<https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/word-for-the-week/>