

NEWSLETTER

3rd April 2025

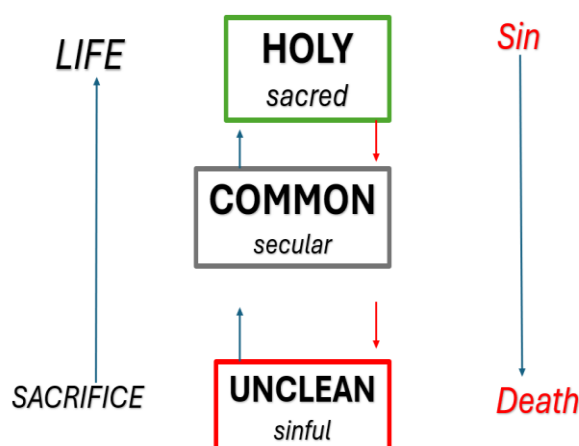


*Jesus hugs his mother.
Kelly Latimore Icon*

Dear Everyone

Lent: Old Testament Week 4: This Sunday, the focus, remembering **Creation, Redemption and Restoration**, the three themes running through the bible, was on God giving Moses the Covenant with rules to live by and guide the Israelites, who often rebelled. The book of Leviticus is about how God graciously provides a way for sinful, corrupt people to live in his holy presence. The Law given in Leviticus includes many rules and is thought of as the first teaching book, It includes teaching regarding moral purity, the feasts and festivals that foretell Jesus, pointing to the “Lamb of God” showing links with John and 1 Peter 1; 15-16, Hebrews 12. Leviticus is an interesting book to read which gives insight into the many laws that still can remain in place today although the cultural context in which we live is so very different. So, the main text for Leviticus is Lev 19:2 “Be Holy as I you God is Holy”, the heart of Torah. Kamran used the following chart to explain the importance of Holiness.

BE HOLY AS I YOUR GOD IS HOLY



Happy Mother's Day from St Paul's Cathedral: “👑 On Sunday, we celebrate mothers, mother figures, and all who nurture and care for us. Did you know that Mothering Sunday was once a day to return to your ‘mother church’: the church of your baptism, marriage, or confirmation? Cathedrals, too, are mother churches. Here at St Paul's, we are honoured to be the mother church of the Diocese of London, offering a place of faith, reflection, and community for all”.



Mother and Child- by Henry Moore
Photograph 📷 Graham Lacdao

Bring and Share Mothering Sunday Lunch: took place on Sunday. We had such an enjoyable time, remembering all mothers and those who have been and are mothers to many who give support throughout their lives. At the end of the service the children distributed white roses to the women in the congregation. We had two delicious cakes with coffee followed by a Bring and Share lunch, which, on this special occasion, was served by the men in the congregation.





Mothering Sunday ...for those who loved and laboured... Malcolm Guite has written, with his usual sensitivity, a poem for all mothers, recognizing the many aspect of motherhood in all its senses. Below.

"I Worried" – Mary Oliver: is one of my most favourite poets, who I turn to a great deal. Her writing and reflections make me feel peaceful and less stressed. Mary was an American poet who won many awards for her insight and poetry on nature and life generally. She was quite solitary, who found inspiration from nature, gleaned from her life-long habit of taking long, lone walks in the countryside wilderness near her home reflecting on all she saw, often in minute detail. In so many ways she was a philosopher who touches on the feelings we have about so any aspects of life that concern us. Her poems show love, sensitivity and feeling about nature and the human state. In these days of tension and worry that we are all experiencing, at so many levels, I turn to her poems. I have printed a short poem of hers, called, "I Worried", that puts much in perspective. I hope you like it and feel it says something to you too. Poem below.

A Christian Presence in Each Community: is sent to us each week during Lent by the Church of England. It contains three aspects for us to reflect on, **Reading**, **Reflection** and a **Challenge**. This is week 4, (below) which focuses on Love and staying close to Jesus.

Diana's Funeral: Just to remind you that Diana's service will take place on **Tuesday 8th April in church at 12.30pm**; followed by a cremation at 'Golder's Green Crematorium at 2.00pm. It is hoped as many of our church family will be able to attend to remember one of our oldest, loved and most faithful friends.

FUNERAL SERVICE
For
Ms Diana Turpie
27th December 1931 - 04th March 2025



All are welcome
Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 12:30
at
Golders Green Parish Church
Followed by a short service at Golders Green Crematorium

"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)



Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM): Just to remind you that the date for the APCM is **Sunday 11th May after the Service**. Please make sure you get a form from Alexis or the table at the side of the church so you can be on our Electoral Role. It is important everyone in our church family is on the role. Ring Tracey at 020 8455 1873 or email her on, tracey@gg-pc.co.uk.

Wednesday Morning Coffee: from 10.30am-12noon; coffee, cake and a chat. Afterwards there is communion at 12noon Do come and join in.

Listening and Learning, Bible Study: This date of this next session is April 3rd. We spend time reading through Romans and discussing what really speaks to us.

Toddler Group: This group meets in church every Tuesday from 9.30 – 11.30am.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help during his time please talk to Ifey or Kamran.

Earthquake Appeal: Jenny thanked everyone who made donations in church after her appeal which she sent off to Christian Aid. The suffering of the people of Myanmar cannot be fully comprehended after all the past issues they have faced; below is a poster and an article with further details. We pray that all countries will come to their aid to help as many as possible.

With love and good wishes – Sally



Mothering Sunday: ...for those who loved and laboured... Malcolm Guite

“Mothering Sunday can be both a joyful and a painfully poignant day. For many it is a day to grieve the loss of a mother, for others a time to yearn for absent children. Nevertheless we can love and be thankful and remember that our very existence in the world is testimony to the love and labour of our mothers. So once more I post my poem of thanksgiving for all parents, especially for those who bore the fruitful pain of labour. And more particularly in this poem I have singled out for praise those heroic single parents who, for whatever reason, have found themselves bearing alone the burdens, and sharing with no-one the joys of their parenthood”.

Mothering Sunday

At last, in spite of all, a recognition,
For those who loved and laboured for so long,
Who brought us, through that labour, to fruition
To flourish in the place where we belong.
A thanks to those who stayed and did the raising,
Who buckled down and did the work of two,
Whom governments have mocked instead of praising,
Who hid their heart-break and still struggled through,
The single mothers forced onto the edge
Whose work the world has overlooked, neglected,
Invisible to wealth and privilege,
But in whose lives the kingdom is reflected.
Now into Christ our mother church we bring them,
Who shares with them the birth-pangs of His Kingdom.



Earthquake Appeal

MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

URGENT APPEAL

Families and communities are in fear of their lives after a deadly 7.7 magnitude earthquake devastated Myanmar on Friday 28 March. A second 6.4 magnitude quake followed soon after, making the destruction even more widespread.

Women, men and children are without drinking water, food, shelter and power. Homes have been destroyed, and access roads torn up.

With your support, we can provide water treatment kits, food parcels, shelters, and cash for vital supplies, such as medicines, to families who are fighting for their very survival. **Please give today.**

How to donate:
Give your donation to your church representative.
Visit caid.org.uk/HelpMyanmar or scan the QR code to donate online.
Call 08080 005 005 to donate by phone.

Scan me

Thank you

christian aid

Christian Aid is a registered charity in the UK and other countries. It is a member of the Christian Aid International network. It is a member of the UK's largest fundraising charity, Christian Aid International. It is a member of the UK's largest fundraising charity, Christian Aid International. It is a member of the UK's largest fundraising charity, Christian Aid International.

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Jenny has written about the terrible earthquake in Myanmar, taking many lives, buildings and leaving the country bereft. She says:

*"Many of you will have seen and been distressed by reports of the catastrophic earthquake in Myanmar. Even before this disaster, Myanmar was one of the poorest countries in the world and millions of people were dependent on aid and had lost their homes because of the civil war. The earthquake has made things even worse. **Christian Aid** has just launched an appeal to support their local partners (which include some church-based organisations) to help with the disaster response. They've had these partnerships for decades so have been able immediately to send them emergency funds to provide food parcels, water kits and shelters. I visited some of the partners when I worked for Christian Aid and can vouch for their professionalism and positive impact. The recovery will need far more than food, water and shelters, but they're a necessary start. Christian Aid's local partners are already beginning to help, and are advising on what sort of aid is most needed. If you would like to contribute to the appeal and help make a difference to people whose lives have been disrupted in unimaginable ways, you can do so through this link. If you prefer not to give online I'll be in church tomorrow and will be happy to receive and pass on your donation. Thank you for anything you feel able to give in this heart-breaking situation.*

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/myanmar-earthquake-appeal>

I Worried

Mary Oliver

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall
I correct it?

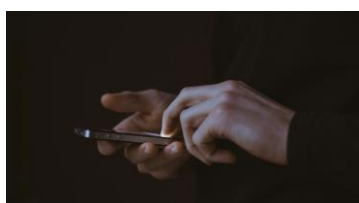
Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.

A CHRISTIAN PRESENCE
IN EVERY COMMUNITY



Week 4: Love One Another

Reading

John 15.12-17

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Reflection

Our reading today reminds us that, if we are going to be people of hope, we need to stay close to Jesus. Reflecting on this passage, the writer Debie Thomas notes that 'branches that refuse to cling to the vine die'. When we remain connected to Christ, we are filled with life and purpose. This is true individually and collectively.

Staying close to Christ means staying close to the one who sought to serve, rather than be served. The purpose of Christian communities is to serve as instruments of God's work in the world. As we gather, we must work to encourage belonging and solidarity, especially as we seek to transform unjust structures in society.

Our challenge is to become communities of hope in spaces where hope seems absent. Jesus commanded us to bear fruit that lasts. So, what kind of fruit are we producing in our communities today?

Challenge

This weekend, pray to God for a renewal of the Holy Spirit in your community. Pray that God would equip you to be agents of hope within and across borders.



How We Are

As always, we send our love and prayers to all those who are sick. Please continue to pray for them that they gain in strength and good health; that God's healing hands may be upon them. Pray also for those who are grieving because of the loss of a loved one.

We continue to pray for the passing of Ifey, Onyeka and Ezims' nephew, Junior Junior Okechukwu Onochie, at 21 years old. We send our condolences to Sir Edmund, his grandfather, and all his family.

Please continue to pray for Keith, Sheila and Myfanwy and her former carer, Janet, who is seriously ill in hospital. Myfanwy is at home being cared for by Florence. Myfanwy grieves for Diana who was her friend, who used to ring her up every Sunday afternoon for a chat. Myfanwy said how much she will miss that. Keith is back with us; how good it is to see him back in church. Sheila is still in the Royal Free being well looked after. We send our love and prayers to Tony who we miss very much and hope that soon he will well and able to be back with us.

We pray for Anita Houghton, Chuba Agbim, Eunice Adiele, Gideon Onwutalu, Sir Edmund Onochie, Rose Ochwada, and Sheila Grodzinsky.

We hold all the above in our hearts that they may be filled with God's healing love.

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

Topic: Church Wardens' Personal Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8585545365?pwd=em85aDF5ZmJ5ZkVlb0xDaDhY2paUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 554 5365

Passcode: J4FbKf

Reader:

Intercession:

Hospitality:

Eucharist Minister:

AV Desk:

Contact details:

Parish Priest: Revd Kamran Bhatti Office Tel: 020 8455 1873 Website: www.gg-pc.co.uk

GPPC Rota

Date	Bible Passage	Reader s	Interces sor	Refreshm ents	Eucharistic Minister	AV Desk	Duty Manager s	Servi ce leade r
06/04/25	John 3:9–15	Guy	Nehar	Bilan	Nehar/ Nwadi	Dozie	Shaniv	
13/04/25 Palm Sunday	Philippians 2:5- 11 Luke 19:28-40	Nwenna ka	Jenny	Naila	Daniel/Ezim	Ruth	Synthia	Nehar
18/04/25 Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13- 53:12 John 18:1-19:42	TBC	TBC	Nora	Sally/			
20/04/25 Easter Sunday	Isaiah 65:17-25 John 20:1-18	Andrew	Alexis	Cynthia/Ch inwe	Tim/Naila	Onyeka	Chinwe	
27/04/25	TBC	Elizbeth	Kai	Rose Dean/ Veronica	Ifeyinwe/Ony eka	Shaniv	Tim	
04/05/25	TBC	Sohail	Nwando	Bilan	Nehar/ Nwadi	Daniel	Florence	