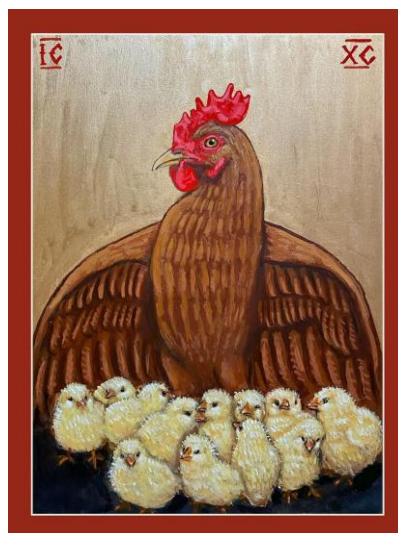


NEWSLETTER

10th April 2025



Matthew 23:37
“as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings”

Dear Everyone

Lent: Old Testament Week 5: This Sunday, the focus, (remembering **Creation, Redemption and Restoration**, the three themes running through the bible), was about the fourth book of the Bible, **Numbers**. Numbers records the exodus from oppression in Egypt towards the land God promised to Abraham and his children. The people were numbered, hence the name of the book, and divided into 12 Tribes. The Israelites, having been given the Covenant by God, with many rules to live by, did not keep to them. They were sent to wander in the Wilderness for 40 years with the Tabernacle containing the Laws surrounded by priests and Levites. The 12 Tribes were arranged around it with Judah at its head. Grumble though they did and wanting to go back to Egypt because of the hardship they experienced, God, God provided them with bread and water, showing unwavering faithfulness even when the people were rebellious and breaking the Laws. In Numbers, a prophesy by Ballaam told about a star that would come out of Israel pointing to the coming of the Messiah, (Numbers 24:17). This book is one long adventure of a people's discontent, rebelling against Moses, but really God, and the consequences. Well worth reading!

Diana's Funeral:



Diana's funeral was held in Church on Tuesday 08 April 2025. Diana was surrounded by her friends who loved her and will miss her. Members of her family were present, as was Brenda, her long-term friend, who had cared for her so faithfully especially towards the end of her life and was with her when she died. Kamran gave a sermon of appreciation of Diana's life of Faith and Friendship, highlighting how she was the longest term member of the church and much loved. Rose, Alexis and Nwando, accompanied by Geoffrey, led the singing of the hymns that Diana had enjoyed singing. The whole service was an affirmation and appreciation of her long life - a life well lived. In the Eulogies, Keith mentioned her retentive mind and the amount of knowledge she had, which was clearly seen in the games that were played in the over 60's club, which she usually won. She was, without a doubt, the most faithful, loving and long-term member of the congregation who took an interest in everything. Mention was made of the history she had of this church as well as that of the development of the Cricklewood area. She was so full of detail about her life interests and activities. An appreciation was given by members of the congregation, of her friendship, resilience, determination, independence and the interest in and love she had for everyone; but especially her Faith which kept her going with such fortitude. It was so heartening to see so many of the congregation who came to remember her, attend the crematorium and then return to church for refreshments and reminisce about Diana's life.

We will remember all she brought to the church and us, and the qualities she showed. We will remember, above all, what an amazing woman and role model she was. Thank you Diana.



Nearing Easter: Below is a poster of all the Services up to Easter Day starting next Sunday, Palm Sunday and the Walk of Witness. Please note the service of Tenebrae on Wednesday 16th April at 6.00pm.

Welcome back Tony and Nehar: How good to see Tony back with us after a prolonged absence through illness. It was a real delight to see him and looking well again. We missed him and have been praying for him each week. We give thanks that our prayers have been answered. Nehar was back too, after her visit to Australia for a holiday but most importantly to see her son, Luke, ordained in Sydney. What a joyous occasion for her and her family. Many congratulations hoping his ministry will be a fulfilling and happy one.

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. This week we have started, under the watchful eye of Ifey, some gentle exercises to keep us fit and flexible. Do come and join in – exercises first – followed by cake and coffee!

Listening and Learning, Bible Study: This date of this next session is April 24th at 6.30pm. We are reading through Romans and discussing what really speaks to us.

Toddler Group: There will be no Toddler Group for the next two weeks as it is the Easter holiday.

Earthquake Appeal: The people of Myanmar and surrounding countries are suffering terribly from the devastation caused by the earthquake. It would be much appreciated if donations could be sent to Christian Aid to support the work taking place there.

Psalm 46 and comment by Malcolm Guite: This is such an apt psalm for our time (Below). Malcolm Guite always finds the right words.

A Christian Presence in Each Community from the Church of England: We continue with the message sent to us each week, to **Read, Reflect** on and be **Challenged** by. This week it is on “Noticing in the Present”.

Pilgrimage: Just to let you know that immediately after Easter I am going on a Peace Pilgrimage to follow in the steps of St Frances. I shall be going to Florence and Assisi plus other places where St Frances left his mark. So for two weeks I will not be producing the newsletter. I am looking forward to this pilgrimage very much and shall obviously be taking lots of photographs and keeping a record of my travels to include you in my adventure when I get back.

With love and good wishes – Sally

URGENT APPEAL

MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE 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.

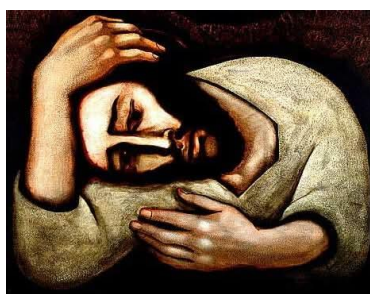
Christian aid

Scan me
Thank you

FINANCIAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY
FINANCIAL REGULATOR

Earthquake Appeal

"Refugee Madonna"
by American artist Tracy Council



Psalm 46 and comment by Malcolm Guite

Malcolm Guite, one of my favourite Christian poets, says about this psalm, “It is in the context of that reassuring strength and confidence that we can face our fears and deal with what the prayer book calls ‘all the changes and chances of this fleeting world’, and the times we are in are certainly years in which we

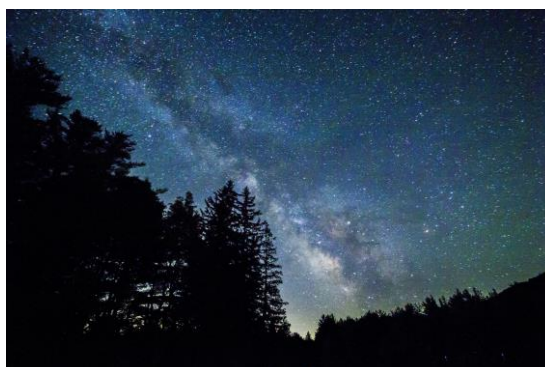
have seen more than our fair share of those “changes and chances”.

It is a psalm that can be added to those we have been collecting and maybe saying each day. How appropriate it is. He then points out, as so often happens in many psalms, that towards the end comes a wonderful prophecy, the vision of God as peacemaker.

Here is Malcolm Guites version.

*GOD is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble;
Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved:
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;
Though the waters thereof rage and swell:
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God:
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed:
God shall help her, and that right early.
He maketh wars to cease in all the world:
he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder,
and burneth the chariots in the fire”.*

A CHRISTIAN PRESENCE
IN EVERY COMMUNITY



Noticing in the Present

Reading

Psalm 19.1-6

The heavens are telling the glory of God
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

One day pours out its song to another
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

They have neither speech nor language
and their voices are not heard,
Yet their sound has gone out into all lands
and their words to the ends of the world.
In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun,

that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.
It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

Reflection

There's a quote by the poet, Ingrid Goff-Maidoff, that simply says 'God spoke today in flowers, and I, who was waiting on words, almost missed the conversation'.

Creation, the natural world, even the tiniest little pockets of it – that's one of our best resources for remembering the hugeness, the joy, the creativity and the beauty of the One who made it all.

If you want to be reminded of the sovereignty of God, look to the skies and remind yourself that every star is there by his command. If you need reminding of his creativity, take a walk and spend five minutes studying the first flower you come across. If you need to trust his ability to provide, go in search of some sparrows.

It's all there, telling the glory of God. Let's not overlook it, let's allow it to fill us with hope.

Challenge

Why not go outside, or look out of a window, and simply notice? All that you see is telling you something about the God that made it, and about you.

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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 Junior Junior Okechukwu Onochie, at 21 years old, Ifey, Onyeka and Ezims' nephew . 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.

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



✝ Holy Week Program

Palm Sunday Service

13 April 10 am at the Church

✝ Walk of the Witness (Church Together Procession)

13 April 1 pm meeting outside Golders Green Library

✝ Tenebrae service

16 April 6 pm at the Church

✝ South Asian Service (Fisah ki Sham)

17 April 6:30 pm at the Church

✝ The Good Friday

The Passion Service - 18 April 11 am at the Church

14 Stations of the Cross – 18 April 2:30 pm at the Church

✝ Easter Celebration

20 April 10 am at the Church

For any further information, feel free to contact: The Office 020 8455 1873.

Church website <https://www.gg-pc.co.uk/> -

Twitter <https://x.com/home?lang=en>

Golders Green Parish Church - St Albans Vestry, W Heath Dr, London NW11 7QG

GGPC ROTA

| Date | Bible Passage | Readers | Intercessor | Refreshments | Eucharistic Minister | AV Desk | Duty Managers | Service leader |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------|----------------|
| 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/Chinwe | Tim/Naila | Onyeka | Chinwe | |
| 27/04/25 | TBC | Elizbeth | Kai | Rose Dean/ Veronica | Ifeyinwe/Onyeka | Shaniv | Tim | |
| 04/05/25 | TBC | Sohail | Nwando | Bilan | Nehar/ Nwadi | Daniel | Florence | |