

## St Margaret of Antioch, Ilford

Welcoming, transforming and growing together in God's love

### Weekly News Sheet

Sunday 28 March 2021

Palm Sunday



## Welcome back!

It will be great to be back in St Margaret's again, and to worship together as we begin Holy Week.

The children at Discoverers have made some posters to welcome us back, which you'll see at the entrance doors when you arrive. Welcome posters by Josie and Paul are on the right.

Discoverers have continued to meet on zoom during the lockdown. Thank you to Helen and Jenny for organising the sessions.



## Services for Holy Week and Easter

Places of worship have to strictly adhere to government Covid guidelines, in particular worshippers must wear face coverings; seating has to be at 2 metre distance; use hand sanitiser; no gatherings of groups of people inside the church. Congregational singing is still not permitted. Please do not arrive more than 15 minutes before the start of any service.

Covid restrictions in place mean that some of our usual pattern of services will have to be altered for this year.

**Palm Sunday.** 10.30am Blessing of Palms, Reading of the Passion Gospel and Eucharist

Our normal practice is to begin our worship on Palm Sunday in the church hall with the blessing of palms and reading of the Palm Sunday Gospel, before processing into church. None of that will be possible this year, and the whole service will take place in the church. You will be able to collect a palm cross when you arrive, and they will be blessed at the beginning of the Eucharist.

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in Holy Week.** 7.30pm Night Prayer (Compline) on zoom. This is a short act of worship (about 10 minutes) for the end of the day, to reflect on the day and commend ourselves to God's safe keeping through the night. Joining details: Meeting ID 296 467 9306; Password 176040

**Maundy Thursday.** 7.30pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper and Watch of Prayer  
This year the Eucharist will not include the washing of feet.

**Good Friday.** 2.00pm The Good Friday Liturgy  
At the Veneration of the Cross, it will not be permitted to touch the cross.

**Easter Day.** 10.30am Easter Ceremonies and Festival Eucharist

## Notices & News for this week

### Bishop of Barking to retire

Bishop Peter, our Area Bishop of Barking has announced his retirement. Over the past year Bishop Peter has also been Acting Diocesan Bishop of Chelmsford, following Bishop Stephen's move to become Archbishop of York last April. He will officially retire on 4 August, but as he has overdue study leave his public ministry will end before that date. He writes:



*"Now that Bishop Guli has been confirmed as Bishop of Chelmsford, the time has come for me to announce my retirement as Bishop of Barking. It will be tough to leave an Area, a Diocese and so many people we have grown to love and appreciate, especially at such a demanding and exciting time for the Gospel. It was a real Godly surprise and privilege to be called to East London and Essex and it has been a great discipleship adventure. The Barking Episcopal Area and the Diocese of Chelmsford will always be in my heart and prayers."*

### Help needed!

To get ready for Easter we need people to:

**Help with church cleaning on Wednesday this week.** It involves the usual dusting, vacuuming, polishing brass and silver so the church is looking at its best to celebrate Easter. If you could spare some time on Wednesday 31 March from 10:00 that would be great. Just turn up!

**Offer to read on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.** Sign the list on the table at the back of church if you would like to read at one of these services on 1 and 2 April.

**Help make our Easter Garden.** Come along to church from 10.30am on Holy Saturday (3 April) if you can spare some time to help.

### Celebrate Spring!

From Eco Church: In a season signifying new beginnings and as restrictions slowly ease, we pray that you can find peace and refreshment in God, and in signs of His love and splendour in creation. Make sure you're giving yourself quality time enjoying creation; smelling the blossom, tapping catkins, copying bird song, finding a footprint or identifying spring flowers with the Pl@ntNet app. Nature can boost our happiness so take time to observe nature in your gardens, on your balconies, and in your local green spaces.



### Church Photos

The photos of the congregation at the back of church have been taken down and will be replaced with a new display in the coming weeks. One of our post-lockdown projects! Peter Haler will be taking fresh photos of people to put in the display as soon as hairdressers reopen and our hair looks more tidy again!

## FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

### The sick and those in need:

Loraine Arnold, Fizza and her family, Anne Fox, Matilda, Jennifer Mottley and her family, Joergen Nielsen, Ade Onuaguluchi, Christobel Trumpet

### The recently departed,

### Those whose anniversary of death falls this week

28<sup>th</sup>: Margaret Cooper

31<sup>st</sup>: Marie Stockwell

1<sup>st</sup>: George Stiff, Alice Pharoah,  
Donald Sommerville

3<sup>rd</sup>: John Crofton, Manuel de Mello,  
Henry Stratton, Leonard Simper

### Collect for this week:

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.  
Amen.

## From 29 March



Rule of 6 or two households **outdoors**  
No household mixing indoors



Outdoor sports and leisure facilities allowed  
Organised outdoor sports allowed (children and adults)



Outdoor parent and child groups (up to 15 parents)



Minimise travel  
No holidays

In addition to government changes that took place from 8 March

**HANDS FACE SPACE**

**Let's Keep Going**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Stephen Pugh [stmargaretig1@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretig1@gmail.com) 020 8554 7542

**Churchwardens:** Charles Acolatse 07946 221813 Vijin Paulraj 07424 595436

**Keep in touch with us by visiting our web site:** [stmargaretilford.org.uk](http://stmargaretilford.org.uk)

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