



Wanstead Parish  
St Mary with Christ Church

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
Third Sunday of Easter

[www.wansteadparish.org](http://www.wansteadparish.org)

### Services today:

- 8am Holy Communion BCP (CC)  
9.30am Sung Eucharist with Nursery & Junior Church (CC)  
11am Sung Eucharist (STM's)

### Eucharist Readings & Hymns:

Acts 3. 12-19; Ps.4; Luke 24. 36b-48

- 209 – Love's redeeming work is done  
666 – I cannot tell  
747 – O God, you search me and you know me (CC)  
217 – The strife is o'er

### The Collect for the Week:

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our 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:** Arthur Lister Pr. (14<sup>th</sup>,62); Margaret Marshall-Jones (14<sup>th</sup>,05); Jane Hamilton-Hunting (14<sup>th</sup>,19); Grace Thomas (18<sup>th</sup>,11); Eileen Doherty (19<sup>th</sup>,81)

**Wanstead Prayer Diary:** Hermon Hill, Sylvan Close, Snaresbrook Newsagent, Wanstead Driving Centre, Jolliffe Ltd, Lillies of Wanstead, Phones Fix, Tool Box, Makepeace Road, Heronwood and Galleon Unit, Victory Road, Trafalgar Road, Sukkat Shalom Reform Synagogue, Forest Dene Care Home, Little Diamonds Nursery, Wanstead Methodist Church

**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 housebound.

## **NOTICES:**

### **NEW KNEELERS PROJECT FOR CHRIST CHURCH**

Join our new community project to make new kneelers for the Lady Chapel at Christ Church. Please pick up a leaflet in both churches for more information and join us on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 1.45-2.45pm or 7-8pm at Christ Church to hear more about the project.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to the 'Forget Me Nots' for sponsoring the pascal candle at St Mary's where they meet to sing each week.

### **NEXT PARISH TEA & FELLOWSHIP AFTERNOON – 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL**

The Parish Tea & Fellowship afternoon will take place at 3pm-4.30pm on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April in the Vestry at Christ Church. There will be refreshments and conversation with fellow parishioners. You will be sure of a warm welcome.

### **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](mailto:alisongwells@me.com)

### **CHRIST CHURCH GARDENING CLUB**

The Saturday gardening club at Christ Church are looking for more volunteers. The group meets fortnightly **9am – 12.30pm** and the next time they will meet is on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**. If you can spare some time, even if it is for an hour, please just turn up. No skills required and tools are provided. If you would like more information, please speak to Father James, Father Charles or contact the Parish Office.

### **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](mailto:chbrown1816@gmail.com)

### **JAZZ VESPERS**

This popular service will take place at 6 p.m. on Sunday, 28 April. Everyone is welcome, and admission is free. Refreshments will follow the service.

### **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.

**SAFEGUARDING:** For safeguarding concerns please contact Gary Vickers at [wansteadparishsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> April

Acts 3:13,16

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus .... And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

**AV (King James Bible)**

The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus ... And his name, by faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

**RSV**

It is the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, who has done this thing to honour his servant Jesus.... It is the name of this same Jesus, it is faith in that name, which has cured this man whom you see and recognise. Yes, it was faith in Christ which gave this man perfect health and strength in full view of you all.

**J B Phillips**

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has given divine glory to his Servant Jesus... It was the power of his name that gave strength to this lame man. What you see and know was done by faith in his name; it was faith in Jesus that has made him well, as you can all see.

**Good News Bible**

The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his Son Jesus.... Faith in Jesus' name put this man, whose condition you know so well, on his feet—yes, faith and nothing but faith put this man healed and whole right before your eyes.

**The Message**

This week I want to share with you what may seem a rather strange reflection, because it's based on a misreading of the text. When I first glanced at v.16: "It was the power of his name that gave strength to this lame man" (in the Good News translation) **I thought Peter was referring to himself as the "lame man"**, to the Peter who fled, alone and terrified, after Gethsemane, who was then drawn to follow Jesus but denied him three times, and wept bitterly at cock-crow. Then I realised my mistake, that in fact Peter, channelling the power of the risen Christ, had just performed the Christ-like miracle of healing a lame man. But the misreading stayed with me...

William Empson, a brilliant if often obscure poet and critic of the 1930s-1950s, wrote a book called "Seven Types of Ambiguity". In it, though himself a committed atheist, he produced some of the most sensitive and insightful readings of 17<sup>th</sup> century religious poetry, particularly of George Herbert. He argued that in poetic writing the language often permitted more than one reading, and this produced a complex and satisfying meaning which, so to speak, hovered above the text and could be grasped if we allow ourselves to hold the various readings in creative tension.

So maybe this misreading is more than just a silly mistake. It allows us to think of how, in spite of our weaknesses, we can channel the power of the risen Christ in our own lives. St Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain" (1 Cor 15:14). We may not have the gift of performing healing miracles, but let us pray that a living faith in the risen Christ can overcome our fears of death and emptiness, and that we can build on this faith to live well and hopefully.

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	<b>9am</b>	Morning Prayer (CC)
	<b>10am</b>	Prayer Group (CC)
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	<b>9am</b>	Morning Prayer (CC)
	<b>10am</b>	Little Angels Playgroup (CC) <i>Term time only</i>
	<b>4pm</b>	Forget-Me-Nots Choir (St M's)
	<b>8pm</b>	Compline (St M's)
<b>Thursdays:</b>	<b>9.45am</b>	Morning Prayer (CC)
	<b>10.30am</b>	Holy Communion, coffee and chat (CC)
<b>Fridays:</b>	<b>9am</b>	Morning Prayer (St M's)
	<b>7pm</b>	The Bridge Youth Club for all age 10+ (Parish Hall)
	<b>7pm</b>	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 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion BCP (CC)</b>
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist with Nursery &amp; Junior Church (CC)</b>
<b>11am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer (STM's)</b>
<b>3pm</b>	<b>Tea and Fellowship (CC vestry)</b>

## 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](mailto: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/](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/wanstead-london/)

**Phone:**  
0333 002 1260, Parish code: 080608162

**Email:**  
[info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk), Parish code:  
080608162

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