



Wanstead Parish

St Mary with Christ Church

www.wansteadparish.org

Sunday 1st December 2024

Advent Sunday – Toy Sunday

Services today:

- 8am Holy Communion BCP (CC)**
9.30am Sung Eucharist with Nursery & Junior Church (CC & Parish Halls)
11am Morning Prayer CW (STM's)
5.30pm A Place – Mental Wellbeing Support Group (CC vestry)
6.30pm Advent Carol Service (CC)

Eucharist Readings & Hymns:

**Jeremiah 33. 14-16; Ps 25. 1-9;
Luke 21. 25-36**

54 – Wake o wake

52 – The people that in
darkness sat

452 – Let all mortal flesh keep
silence

41 – Lo he comes with clouds
descending

The Collect for the Week:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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: Pam Messum, Kay Kingham, Kay Sheikh, Julie Black, Sally Hurd, Christine Harrison, Charlotte, Ted Taylor, Ann Cheetham, Chris Cummins, Denis Keeling, Patricia Head, Richard Francis, Barbara Ridley, Simon Tierney.

RIP: Rev Megan Wylie-Smith

Year's Mind: Geoff Allison (1st, 14); Beryl Green (4th, 88); Jack Davenport (4th, 08); Anne Wiggins (7th, 14)

Wanstead Prayer Diary: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Dangan Road, Chaucer Road, Addison Road, Chestnut Drive, Highstone Avenue, Cambridge Park Road, Gordon Road, St Joseph's Convent, Chestnut Manor Care home, Cambridge Park Nursing home, Lonsdale Road, Bungalow Café, Wanstead Library, Cherry Tree Café

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.

SAFEGUARDING: For safeguarding concerns please contact Gary Vickers at wansteadparishsafeguarding@gmail.com or on 07551 680536. In an emergency, contact the relevant authority such as the Police.

NOTICES

MENTAL WELLBEING SUPPORT – THIS SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER

Are you struggling? We warmly invite you to **A Place**, a mental wellbeing support group open to adults who wish to improve their mental wellbeing, irrespective of outlook on faith. Please join us in the Vestry at Christ Church at 5.30pm on the **First** Sunday of each month.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

The Christingle service will take place at 6pm on Wednesday 4th December at Christ Church. All welcome.

CLEANING AT CHRIST CHURCH

Volunteers are needed to help with pre- Christmas cleaning at Christ Church on the morning of 6th December from 10.00 to 12.00. Please come along if you are able to offer any help during that time.

MERRY QUIZMAS

The Friends' of the Parish of Wanstead are back with their annual Christmas Quiz, set by our very own Andy Richardson! This year's quiz ticket includes a hotdog and table snacks, and as always there will be a licensed bar and a raffle. £15 per ticket. Max of eight per team. No entry on the door. Sat 7th Dec, 7.30pm at the Parish Halls. Please see Lauren Johnson for tickets or copy the link <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/ECUV>

EAST LONDON CHORUS FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The concert will take place at 4pm on Saturday 7th December 2024 at Christ church. Admission free.

UPBEAT COMMUNITY CHOIR-CAROLS AND SEASONAL SONGS

The Upbeat Community Choir presents Carols and Seasonal Songs at 4pm on Sunday 8th December at St Mary's. Suggested donation of £10 in aid of Cancer Research UK.

ALDERSBROOK COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT – A CHILD IS BORN

The concert will be held at 7.30pm on Sunday 8th December in St Gabriel's Church. Tickets are £7/£1 in advance and £8/£1 on the door. For tickets please contact Aldersbrookcommunitychoir@gmail.com

KNEELERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH MEETING DATES

The next community sew-ins will take place at Christ Church on: Thu 12th Dec 13.30-15.00; Mon 23rd Dec 19.00-20.30. See you there!

SING NOEL

A concert of Christmas music by John Garner will take place on Saturday 14th December 2024 at 7.30pm in Christ Church. Tickets £10/£5 to include refreshments. To purchase tickets, go to <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/singnoel>

CHRISTMAS COMPLINE – ANGELS AND SONGS

Will take place at 8pm on Wednesday 18th December at St Mary's. The service will include poems, readings and music inspired by the first two chapters of St Luke's gospel. All welcome.

TEA & FELLOWSHIP

The next Tea & Fellowship afternoon will be at 3pm on Sunday 15th December in the vestry at Christ Church. Please join us for chat and tea & cake. We look forward to welcoming you.

FUNERAL OF REV MEGAN WYLIE-SMITH

Megan's funeral will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 12pm at City of London Crematorium followed by a 1.30pm Service of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Church, South Woodford.

A reflection on this week's readings

From the readings for Sunday 1st December

Luke 21:25-28, 34, 36

There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations ... men's hearts failing them for fear ... for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh... Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares... Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

AV (King James Bible)

There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations ... men fainting with fear ... for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near... Take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare... But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man.

RSV

There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars, and on the earth there will be dismay among the nations... Men's courage will fail completely ... for the very powers of heaven will be shaken. Then men will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with great power and splendour! But when these things begin to happen, look up, hold your heads high, for you will soon be free... Be on your guard—see to it that your minds are never clouded by dissipation or drunkenness or the worries of this life, or else that day may catch you like the springing of a trap... You must be vigilant at all times, praying that you may be strong enough to come safely through all that is going to happen, and stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

J B Phillips

It will seem like all hell has broken loose—sun, moon, stars, earth, in an uproar and everyone all over the world in a panic ... the powers-that-be quaking. And then they'll see the Son of Man welcomed in grand style—a glorious welcome! When all this starts to happen, up on your feet. Stand tall with your heads high. Help is on the way! ... But be on your guard. Don't let the sharp edge of your expectation get dulled by parties and drinking and shopping. Otherwise, that Day is going to take you by complete surprise, spring on you suddenly like a trap... So, whatever you do, don't fall asleep at the wheel. Pray constantly that you will have the strength and wits to make it through everything that's coming and end up on your feet before the Son of Man.

The Message

Two weeks ago, on 17 November, we had an extract from Mark's version of the "gospel apocalypse", so I won't repeat the general points I made there about these stirring and terrifying visions of the future. Today's reading is taken from Luke's longer and more elaborated version. You may well be wondering "Why now? How is this a text setting the tone for Advent?" At many times over the past 2,000 years people must have felt that their world was going to rack and ruin, that surely the end could not be long delayed, but we know that the end did not come. And somehow the world staggers on. These texts speak to our deepest fears for ourselves and for the coming generations – fears of nuclear war, of utter climate catastrophe, of social and political breakdown on a global scale – but they also challenge us on a personal level. How would we measure up to the scale of these events? Could we find the reserves of faith and trust to deal with them? It's no coincidence that both this and the text from Mark we looked at two weeks ago stress the need to "stay awake", to keep our heads and look clearly at what's going on, not to be fooled by false prophets. On the deepest level these texts remind us of our desperate need for the salvation that Jesus offers, and that we should live every moment of our lives in awareness of his presence in our lives. And that is perhaps a suitable prayer for Advent.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

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

8am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
9.30am	Sung Eucharist with Nursery & Junior Church (CC & Parish Halls)
11am	Sung Eucharist (STM's)
1.30pm	Baptism (CC)

PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

Rector:	Revd James Gilder (<i>Day off: Mondays</i>)
Assoc. Priest:	Revd Charles Brown (<i>Works: Thurs, Fri, Sun</i>)
Curate:	Revd David Lappano
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
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/

Phone:

0333 002 1260, Parish code: 080608162

Email:

info@parishgiving.org.uk, Parish code: 080608162

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