

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**



**Wanstead Parish**  
St Mary with Christ Church

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

**Services today:**

**8am** **CANCELLED** (CC)  
**9.30am** **Sung Eucharist with Junior Church** (CC & Halls)  
**9.45am** **Nursery Church** (Halls)  
**11am** **Morning Prayer CW** (STM's)  
**5.30pm** **A Place** (CC Vestry)  
**6.30pm** **Healing Service** (CC)

**Eucharist Readings & Hymns:**

**Psalm 37. 1-9**  
**2 Timothy 1. 1-14**  
**Luke 17. 5-10**

**507** – We have a gospel to  
proclaim  
**634** – Firmly I believe and truly  
**358** – Be still, for the presence  
of the Lord  
**505** – Tell all the world of Jesus

**The Collect for the Week:**

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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:** Margaret Watts, Pam Messum, Kay Kingham, Kay Sheikh, Julie Black, Sally Hurd, Charlotte, Ted Taylor, Ann Cheetham, Chris Cummins, Patricia Head, Richard Francis, Barbara Ridley, Tina Veldi, Eli, Liz Hickson, Debbie Binns, Molly Liok, Divel Veldi, Jackie Wilkins, Mark Taylor and Sue Williams

**RIP:** Michael Toner, Christine Harrison

**Year's Mind:** Elizabeth Lister (5<sup>th</sup>, 76); Henrietta Ryan (6<sup>th</sup>, 91); Bob Gould (9<sup>th</sup>, 94); Greta Moore (10<sup>th</sup>, 99)

**Wanstead Prayer Diary:** Woodbury Close, Florence Court, Foxglove Gardens, Merino Close, Wanstead Youth Centre, Longcourt Mews, Elderfield Walk, Melmead House NELFT NHS (community mental health), Sultan Road, Bal Beauty, Essex Engineering and Coin Co-op Controls

## NOTICES

**NO 8AM BCP HOLY COMMUNION THIS SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** We are short-staffed this week due to the Engelskirchen church exchange, and as a result, we are sorry to say that we do not have someone to take 8am BCP Holy Communion. Normal service will resume next Sunday.

**A PLACE:** A support group open to adults who wish to improve their mental wellbeing, meets in the Vestry at Christ Church **today**, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 5.30pm. All welcome.

**KNEELER PRESENTATION EVENT - REMINDER:** To all those involved with the kneeler project, the day has come when your generous donations, creations and efforts will be celebrated at the end of Phase I of the Kneelers for Christ Church project with the presentation of the kneelers in the Lady Chapel. This will take place in Christ Church on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October** at **3pm**. The presentation will be followed by Fizz & Cakes and an opportunity to buy the guidebook. We will provide the fizz (& still; alcoholic and non-) but **PLEASE BRING A DONATION OF CAKES IF YOU ARE ABLE** - bought or home-made and pre-sliced if a large cake. Please confirm that you will be there to present the kneeler you donated/sewed and let Su know how many people will be in your party for catering purposes: [kneelers4cc@gmail.com](mailto:kneelers4cc@gmail.com)

**HARVEST FESTIVAL:** The parish's harvest festival is coming up soon! We will be celebrating harvest on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** in both churches so please do bring with you offerings of tinned food as well as toiletries, for distribution to those in need. If you cannot be there on the day but would still like to contribute, please bring offerings to either church during their opening hours.

**CHRISTINE HARRISON:** Many of you will remember fondly Christine Harrison, who was a member of the parish for many years. Christine contributed hugely to the life of Christ Church for several decades. A stalwart of the church flower arrangers and gardening club, she was always on hand to help and it was a great shame when she found that she could no longer manage to assist in church. Christine died peacefully in the old people's home in Forest Gate where she had spent the last year of her life, and where she was regularly visited by Mthr Anne. There will be a Requiem Mass for Christine at Christ Church on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** at **2pm**, immediately followed by interment of ashes in the Christ Church Gardens. All who knew Christine are very welcome to attend.

**PET BLESSING:** The annual pet blessing service will take place at St Mary's on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at **4pm**. Please do bring along your pets of all kinds (or a photo), for a blessing and to meet other animal lovers from the parish! Children are particularly welcome at this service.

**HOME AND 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 Avril Carnelley on 07905 764343 or at [wansteadparishsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:wansteadparishsafeguarding@gmail.com). In an emergency, contact the relevant authority such as the Police.

## A reflection on this week's readings

From the readings for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Luke 17:7-10

Which of you, having a servant ploughing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

**AV (King James Bible)**

Will any one of you, who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep, say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and gird yourself and serve me, till I eat and drink; and afterward you shall eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'

**RSV**

If any of you has a servant ploughing or looking after the sheep, are you likely to say to him when he comes in from the fields, 'Come straight in and sit down to your meal'? Aren't you more likely to say, 'Get my supper ready: change your coat, and wait until I eat and drink; and then, when I've finished, you can have your meal'? Do you feel particularly grateful to your servant for doing what you tell him? I don't think so. It is the same with yourselves—when you have done everything that you are told to do, you can say, 'We are not much good as servants, for we have only done what we ought to do.'

**J B Phillips**

Suppose one of you has a servant who is ploughing or looking after the sheep. When he comes in from the field, do you tell him to hurry along and eat his meal? Of course not! Instead, you say to him, 'Get my supper ready, then put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may have your meal.' The servant does not deserve thanks for obeying orders, does he? It is the same with you; when you have done all you have been told to do, say, 'We are ordinary servants; we have only done our duty.'

**Good News Bible**

It grates on many people that, so soon after the parable of "Dives and Lazarus" (last week's reading) with its stinging critique of injustice and complacency, we find Jesus making his point to the disciples by apparently identifying with the slave-owner making the slave know his place. (The word translated "servant" in all these versions is *doulos*; its normal dictionary definition is "slave". There wasn't a separate word for servant in Greek; virtually all servants were legally slaves.) Ancient slavery at one extreme could be every bit as horrible as the violent racialized slavery of the Caribbean or the American South, but some slaves could be in positions of wealth and power, though never really secure. Many of the corrupt overseers and stewards we keep meeting in the parables would themselves have been slaves. Slavery was so much part of the texture of everyday life, of the air that people breathed, that Jesus could assume that the disciples (and Luke assume that his readers) would instantly get the point of the rhetorical question "Which of you would ..?" – "None of us would, that would be ridiculous!" In a small single-person or family farm, with maybe just one slave to work in the fields and in the house, it would be crucial to maintain that social and psychological distance.

*The Interpreter's Bible* points out that, although this is "probably no-one's favourite parable", casting God "in the unappealing role of a slave driver", it "makes a significant point about discipleship and humility before God". It's part of a rather tense exchange between Jesus and the disciples about the demands of the life of faith. We may find the recommended attitude ("we are unworthy servants") unappealing, but as Tom Wright puts it, it reminds us that we can never put God in our debt, that our service to him needs to be in a spirit of sheer gratitude for his grace, for all he's done for us.

Lord, may we never forget the enormity of the debt we owe you; please help us as we try to live up to the life of faith that you have opened up for us.

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

<b>Tuesdays:</b>	<b>9am</b>	Morning Prayer (CC)
	<b>10.30am</b>	Prayer Group (CC)
<b>Wednesdays:</b>	<b>9am</b>	Morning Prayer (CC)
	<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>10.30am</b>	Forget-Me-Nots Choir (St M's)
	<b>7pm</b>	The Bridge Youth Club (Parish Halls) <i>Term time only</i>
	<b>7pm</b>	Parish Choir Practice (CC Vestry)

**Bereavement Cafe:** For all who have lost a loved one. Meets in CC vestry, 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 12<sup>th</sup> October – HARVEST FESTIVAL

<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion BCP (CC)</b>
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (CC &amp; Halls)</b>
<b>9.45am</b>	<b>Nursery Church (Halls)</b>
<b>11am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist (STM's)</b>
<b>2pm</b>	<b>Baptism (CC)</b>
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Choral Evensong (STM's)</b>

## PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

**Rector:** Revd James Gilder  
[jbgilder@hotmail.com](mailto:jbgilder@hotmail.com) / 07729 109638  
(Day off: Mondays)

**Assoc. Priest:** Revd Charles Brown  
(Works: Thurs, Fri, Sun)

**Curate:** Revd David Lappano

**Assistant Priests:**  
Revd Olive Thursby (High Street Chaplain)  
Revd Richard Wyber  
Revd Chris Mackenna  
Revd Anne Mackenna (Parish Deacon)  
Revd Liz Horwell

**Parish Office:** 020 8530 8743  
[office@parishofwanstead.org](mailto:office@parishofwanstead.org)  
Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm

## 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 for more details by email:**  
[giving.wanstead@gmail.com](mailto:giving.wanstead@gmail.com)