

Sunday 10th May 2026
6th Sunday of Easter



Wanstead Parish
St Mary with Christ Church

www.wansteadparish.org

Services today:

- 8am Holy Communion BCP (CC)**
9.30am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (CC & Halls)
9.45am Nursery Church (Halls)
11am Sung Eucharist (STM)
1.30pm Baptisms (CC)
6.30pm Choral Evensong with visiting preacher The Right Revd Lynne Cullens, Bishop of Barking (CC) - followed by drinks

Eucharist Readings & Hymns:

1 Peter 3. 13-end
Acts 17. 22-31

- 208** Light's glittering morn
487 Christ is the one who calls
650 Great is thy faithfulness
218 Thine be the glory

The Collect for the Week:

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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, Molly Liok, Richard Coy, Liz Hickson, Jackie Wilkins, Jane Heath, Thomas

RIP: Nellie Watson, Andrew Bass, Gillian Hornsey, Terry Warren

Year's Mind: Eva Fells (11th, 78); James Adams Bp (11th, 99); Eric Coote (13th, 98); Ian Don (13th, 15)

Wanstead Prayer Diary: Wanstead Post Office and Pharmacy, Superdrug, Jojo Maman Bebe, Greggs, Oxfam Bookshop330, Harveys Grocers, City Place Coffee Shop, The Ginger Pig, Caesars Palace Café, Elegance Dry Cleaners, The Co-op, Images in Frames, Costa Coffee

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.*

NOTICES

BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY: The church welcomes with great joy today the family and friends of Leonardo and Lilyaana Bailey whose Baptisms will take place at Christ Church. Please keep Leonardo and Lilyaana and their family and Godparents in your prayers.

CHORAL EVENSONG WITH THE RIGHT REVEREND LYNNE CULLENS, BISHOP OF BARKING, TODAY, SUNDAY 10TH MAY, 6:30PM, CHRIST CHURCH: Bishop Lynne will be preaching at our service of Choral Evensong. The choir will sing Responses: Rose, Canticles: Stanford in C, Anthem: Nesbit, Confortamini in Domino. Do join us for this lovely service followed by drinks.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE: an MMU group service will take place at **St Peter's in the Forest, Thursday 14th May, at 7.30pm** – Fr Charles Brown will be preaching. There is a bring and share supper before the service at 6.30pm to which all are welcome.

ST MARY'S SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL 23rd – 25th MAY: Tickets on sale now!

Saturday 23rd May: 5.30pm - Lewis Kingsley Peart, Piano Recital – a short informal recital playing Schubert, Chopin, Sibelius and Grieg. **Saturday 23rd May: 8pm - The Ageing Balladeer** - a relaxed performance of their own songs. Led by Wanstead's own Joe Walters (outside, weather permitting) **Sunday 24th May: 6pm - Gilbert & Sullivan sing-along** – join in the choruses as we explore excerpts from Trial by Jury and HMS Pinafore with soloists Fru Chilvers, Peter Davoren & Alexander Semple. **Monday 25th May: 5pm – Rune Medieval Music Present: Saints and Miracles** – exploring the lives of four saints through music of the Middle Ages using instruments of the period, as well as singing beautiful music. Tickets: Adults £15, Concessions £10 or buy a Season Ticket for the whole festival: £45/£35 Please see the Parish website or the posters and leaflets at both churches for more details or click here: [What's On - Parish of Wanstead](#)

WALK TO WALTHAM ABBEY on Saturday 30th May: The walk is along the Lea River, starting at Tottenham Hale and lasting roughly 3 hours over 7.5 miles. For further details please see or email Fr. Charles at chbrown1816@gmail.com

INSPIRE WANSTEAD LAUNCH PARTY, TUESDAY 2ND JUNE 6.30PM, CHRIST CHURCH: Please join us for a drinks and canapés reception to mark the official launch of *Inspire Wanstead*. This major project, aided by the **National Lottery Heritage Fund**, aims to restore and renew Christ Church's built and social heritage, and to connect with the wider community of Wanstead. The architects and project managers will be present at the reception and will make short presentations as to the details of this exciting scheme. RSVP to Ann in the Parish office: office@parishofwanstead.org or book here: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GJYQ> or sign up on the sheets at either church.

PARISH DAY OUT TO SAFFRON WALDEN & THAXTED, SATURDAY 6TH JUNE: Join us for our Parish day out exploring a beautiful part of north-west Essex and culminating with our parish choir singing Choral Evensong at Thaxted Parish Church. There will be opportunities for fun, food, relaxation, a bit of history and art, and for meditation and worship, as well as getting to know each other better. All are very welcome! There is a small charge of £5 per person, which will be donated to the Parish of Thaxted as a thank you for letting us use their church. Meals etc to be paid for individually. The Fry Art Gallery is free. We are not intending to hire a coach as it is very expensive to do so. However, we are looking for offers of lifts. Ways to sign up: look out for the flyers in both churches with the QR code, or type in this link: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GIIZ> or, email Ann in the Parish office: office@parishofwanstead.org **Booking deadline – Friday 22nd May.**

SAFEGUARDING: For safeguarding concerns please contact Avril Carnelley on 07905 764343 or at 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 10 May

Acts 17:23-31

I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein ... dwelleth not in temples made with hands ... seeing he ... hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth ... that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: for in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring... God now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

AV (King James Bible)

I found an altar with this inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it does not live in shrines made by man ... since he ... made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth ... that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being', as even some of your poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.' ... God now commands all men everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead.

RSV

I found an altar on which is written, 'To an Unknown God.' That which you worship, then, even though you do not know it, is what I now proclaim to you. God, who made the world and everything in it ... does not live in temples made by human hands ... since it is he himself who ... from one human being created all races of people and made them live throughout the whole earth... so that they would look for him, and perhaps find him as they felt around for him. Yet God is actually not far from any one of us. 'In him we live and move and exist', as some of your poets have said, 'We too are his children'. God now commands all of [us] everywhere to turn away from [our] evil ways. For he has fixed a day in which he will judge the whole world with justice by means of a man he has chosen. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising that man from death!

Good News Bible

Paul's encounter with the Athenian intellectuals raises a number of questions. Some have speculated that it was simply made up by Luke, but this seems unlikely. There's nothing out of character about the main thrust of Paul's speech, and we'd expect a highly educated Jew of the diaspora to have at least a nodding acquaintance with Greek culture. It's not entirely clear whether Paul is in some sense on trial in the Areopagus, or whether this is simply a highly charged formal debate. I suspect the latter, because Luke stresses the Athenians' thirst for intellectual novelty and the key philosophical debate between Stoics and Epicureans, (though he does also include some subtle hints suggesting a parallel with the trial of Socrates). Maybe Luke had his own reasons for wanting to emphasise that Christianity was at ease in the culture of the classical world, even while challenging, as Paul does here, its fundamental views of religion, worship and deity. There's no suggestion that Paul founded a church at Athens. His stay there was forced and temporary; although his speech won him a further hearing, and he made a couple of named converts, Athens was very different from places like Thessalonica or Corinth – crowded, multicultural, prosperous but full of extremes of wealth and poverty – which were fertile grounds for the early church. It was already becoming a university town, living on past glories, a "home of lost causes" until the schools of pagan philosophy were closed by Justinian in 529AD.

Today's other reading (1 Peter 3:13-22) also talks about defending the Christian faith to non-believers, though at a very different social and intellectual level, reminding us to do so with "gentleness and reverence". Lord, help us in all these conversations to find the right words and arguments, seeking for common ground, understanding and respecting the other person's point of view but – like St Paul – never compromising the essential basis of the Christian message.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Tuesdays:	9am	Morning Prayer (CC)
	10.30am	Prayer Group (CC)
Wednesdays:	9am	Morning Prayer (CC)
	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)
	10.30am	Forget-Me-Nots Choir (St M's)
	7pm	The Bridge Youth Club (Parish Halls) <i>Term time only</i>
	7pm	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 mental 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 17th May – 7th Sunday of Easter

8am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
9.30am	Sung Eucharist with Junior Church (CC & Halls)
9.45am	Nursery Church (Halls)
11am	Morning Prayer BCP (STM)
1.30pm	Baptism (CC)
3pm	Tea & Fellowship (CC Vestry)

PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

Rector: Revd James Gilder
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
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/

Phone: 0333 002 1260

Parish code: 080608162

Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk

Parish code: 080608162

Contact Jill Steggle for more details by email:
giving.wanstead@gmail.com