

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Pentecost



Wanstead Parish  
St Mary with Christ Church

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

**Services today:**

8am           **Holy Communion BCP (CC)**  
9.30am       **Family Eucharist (CC)**  
11am          **Sung Eucharist (STM)**

**Eucharist Readings & Hymns:**

**I Corinthians 12. 3b-13**  
**Acts 2. 1-21**

**238** Come down, O Love divine  
**243** Come, thou Holy Spirit, come  
**236** Breathe on me, Breath of God  
**242** Come, Holy Spirit, come!

**The Collect for the Week:**

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, 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, Amelia Nash

**RIP:** Gillian Hornsey, Terry Warren

**Year's Mind:** Daisy Wise (24<sup>th</sup>, 23); Rose Doyle (25<sup>th</sup>, 98); May Phillips (27<sup>th</sup>, 84); Jean Matthews (27<sup>th</sup>, 84); Dorothy Bates (28<sup>th</sup>, 95); Leslie Thomas Hughes (28<sup>th</sup>, 20)

**Wanstead Prayer Diary:** Wanstead High School, Rectory Crescent, River Close, River Court, Corbett Road, Wanstead Leisure centre, Strides Badminton Club, St Mary's Avenue, Langley Drive, Langley Crescent, Warren Road, Well Cottage Close, Raynes Avenue, Overton Drive, Colebrook Drive, The Warren Drive

**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

**FUNERALS:** The funeral of **Gill Hornsey** will take place at Christ Church on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 1.30pm. A memorial service to celebrate the life of **Terry Warren** will take place in Christ Church on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 12noon. Please remember the family and friends of Gill and Terry in your prayers.

**ST MARY'S SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL – THIS WEEKEND! 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> MAY:** Tickets on sale now or on the door. See the Parish website or the posters and leaflets at both churches for more details.

**WALK TO WALTHAM ABBEY on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:chbrown1816@gmail.com)

**PARISH BREAKFAST & SERVICE IN WANSTEAD PARK – SUNDAY 31ST MAY**  
**10am Breakfast at St Mary's, followed by a walk down to Wanstead Park for a service at 11am.** We invite everyone in the parish to join us for a fantastic breakfast including home-cooked bacon, eggs and sausages, fruit, coffee and tea - all served in the church yard at St Mary's - with donations to **Christian Aid**. At 10.45am, we will leave St Mary's and make our way down to Wanstead Park for a service of prayer, suitable for all ages. There will be a **said Eucharist at 11am at St Mary's** for those who wish to join for breakfast, but who cannot manage the walk.  
**\*Please note there will be NO Nursery Church, Junior Church or 9.30am Eucharist at Christ Church on Sunday 31st May.**

**INSPIRE WANSTEAD LAUNCH PARTY, TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> 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](mailto:office@parishofwanstead.org) or book here: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GJYQ> or sign up on the sheets at either church.

**LOVE YOUR BURIAL GROUNDS WALK – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 12.45pm starting at Christ Church:** Visit three Wanstead & Leytonstone burial grounds/gardens and discover nature on your doorstep finishing with tea & cake at Wanstead Quaker Meeting House. See the flyers and posters in church or ask Fr David for more information.

**FOREST SCHOOL SUMMER CONCERT AT CHRIST CHURCH, WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1.30PM:** The choristers of Forest School perform music by Stanford, Fauré and others. Admission Free – All welcome!

**WANSTEAD VILLAGE FETE – SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 11-3PM, ST MARY'S:** Do come along and support our Village Fete. There will be a bouncy castle, classic car show, BBQ & licenced bar, crazy golf, live music, stalls and lots more family fun! The fly past is expected at 1pm. Free entry!

**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 Pentecost (24 May)

Acts 2:16-21

This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: and on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy ... before that great and notable day of the Lord come: and it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**AV (King James Bible)**

This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; yea, and on my menservants and my maidservants in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy ... before the day of the Lord comes, the great and manifest day. And it shall be that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

**RSV**

This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen: "In the Last Days," God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams. When the time comes, I'll pour out my Spirit on those who serve me, men and women both, and they'll prophesy ... before the Day of the Lord arrives, the Day tremendous and marvellous; and whoever calls out for help to me, God, will be saved."

**The Message**

Today's reading from Acts, describing the miraculous descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, is one of the best-known and most loved passages in all of Scripture – except perhaps for the unfortunate reader who has to deal with the tongue-twisting list of the groups who heard the inspired word *each in their own language*. Incidentally, the "miracle of tongues" at Pentecost seems to be quite different from the *glossolalia* or "speaking in tongues" that St Paul refers to in I Corinthians (chaps 12-14) – at Pentecost everyone could hear and understand the Holy Word, whereas *glossolalia* could not be understood except by the person who had the Spirit-given "gift of interpreting".

The extract above is the opening of a superbly inspired speech by Peter to an initially sceptical crowd – it's articulate, passionate and challenging, fulfilling Jesus' promise that "the Spirit will find words for you to say". The point of the quotation from Joel is that Jesus is the absolute fulfilment of all OT prophecy, and the "days of miracle and wonder" are already here. Yes, the Jews have rejected and crucified Jesus, but the path to repentance and salvation is always open, and open to all – men and women, slaves and free – for "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved". We're told that after the speech 3,000 came forward to be baptised, the nucleus of the original Christian church. You may recall that a few weeks ago we had a reading from later in this chapter (vv.42-47) describing the amazing energy, harmony and grace which marked the life of that early church. Of course Peter, like Luke, Paul and all the early Christians, believed that the Second Coming was imminent, so they expected that the days of miracle and wonder would be brief and intense.

2,000 years on, we sometimes struggle to feel in our individual lives, and in our experience of the church, the true enormous significance of the Pentecost miracle. Even within the Acts of the Apostles, and in Paul's letters, we see that problems and conflicts got in the way of the initial idealism – which is one of the reasons why we accept these texts as a broadly true and honest account of the early church. Paul had to remind his converts that in the arid moments of their prayer life, the Holy Spirit was at work within them, interceding "with sighs too deep for words" (Romans 8:26).

*Lord, may we never forget or take for granted the miraculous presence of your Holy Spirit in our lives; help us to keep the ability to "see visions and dream dreams"; save us when we call on you.*

## 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 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 31<sup>st</sup> May – Trinity Sunday & Christian Aid

<b>8am</b>	<b>Holy Communion BCP (CC)</b>
<b>10am</b>	<b>Christian Aid Breakfast (STM)</b>
<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Walk from St Mary's to the Service in the Park (STM)</b>
<b>11am</b>	<b>Service in the Park (Wanstead Park)</b>
<b>11am</b>	<b>Said Eucharist (STM)</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)