



Wanstead Parish

St Mary with Christ Church

www.wansteadparish.org

Sunday 24th November 2024

Christ the King

Services today:

- 8am **Holy Communion BCP (CC)**
9.30am **Family Eucharist (CC)**
11am **Sung Eucharist (STM's)**
3pm **Tea and Fellowship (CC vestry)**

Eucharist Readings & Hymns:

Daniel 7. 9-10, 13-14; Ps 93;

John 18. 33-37

769 – Rejoice! The Lord is King

691 – Jesus shall reign

462 – Soul of my Saviour

223 – All Hail the Power of Jesu's
name

The Collect for the Week:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; 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: Joseph Philippe (26th,15); Henry Pead (27th,90); Helena Lindsay (28th,99); Marjorie Renwick (29th,09); Helen Wyber (29th,13); Elizabeth Wilkinson (30th,02)

Wanstead Prayer Diary: The Green Café, Evergreen Surgery, Wanstead Osteopaths, Wanstead Village Dental and Health centre, Public Sector Recruitment, New Wanstead Road, Homesdale Retirement Homes, Trent Court, Selworthy Close, Weavers' House (almshouses and retirement), Our Lady of Our Lourdes Primary School, Cambridge Road, Spratt Hall Road, Greenstone Mews, Voluntary Place

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

TOY SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER – COLLECTIONG FOR THE CHARITIES HESTIA & REDBRIDGE YOUNG CARERS

We will be collecting **NEW TOYS** (*sorry the charities are unable to accept second hand toys*) for children aged from 12 months to young teenagers. Also they would appreciate Gift Vouchers for popular stores, **NEW TOILETRIES**, scarfs, gloves etc for women. (Hestia is a charity providing safe accommodation for women and children who have left their homes due to domestic violence.) Your gifts are always received with great excitement and pleasure.

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>

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.

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>

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD: COULD YOU HELP STUFF ENVELOPES OR DELIVER CARDS?

Last year we delivered 1000 Christmas Cards and many copies of Grapevine to streets in Wanstead. The cards included an invitation to our Christmas services as well as Christmas greetings to all, and the feedback we had was that this was well-received. It certainly seemed to have a positive effect on our Christmas Eve attendances, which were better than any for the last decade. This year we would like to deliver 2000 cards - but we need your help! Could you address, stuff and deliver to your street at some point between Weds 27th and Saturday 30th November? Or could you come to our special **delivery day** at the Rectory on Friday 29th November? On delivery day a team work at addressing the envelopes, and another team go out on delivery rounds. Last year it was a really fun day, and was much fortified by mince pies! If you are happy to help with either task, please contact the parish office. Please let us know what you are able to do (either delivery on your street - and which street(!) or helping out on the big day). Let's try to reach as much of Wanstead as we possibly can this Advent and Christmas!

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.

KNEELERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH MEETING DATES

The next community sew-ins will take place at Christ Church on: Fri 29th Nov 10.30-12.00; Thu 12th Dec 13.30-15.00; Mon 23rd Dec 19.00-20.30. See you there!

EAST LONDON CHORUS FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

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

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

A reflection on this week's readings

From the readings for Sunday 24th November

John 18: 33-37

[Pilate said to Jesus] Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

AV (King James Bible)

[Pilate said to Jesus] "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world." Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice."

RSV

"Are you the king of the Jews?" [Pilate] asked. "Are you asking this of your own accord," replied Jesus, "or have other people spoken to you about me?" "Do you think I am a Jew?" replied Pilate. "It's your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What have you done, anyway?" "My kingdom is not founded in this world—if it were, my servants would have fought to prevent my being handed over to the Jews. But in fact my kingdom is not founded on all this!" "So you are a king, are you?" returned Pilate. "Indeed I am a king," Jesus replied; "the reason for my birth and the reason for my coming into the world is to witness to the truth. Every man who loves truth recognises my voice."

J B Phillips

[Pilate] said, "Are you the 'King of the Jews?'" Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?" Pilate said, "Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?" "My kingdom," said Jesus, "doesn't consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. But I'm not that kind of king, not the world's kind of king." Then Pilate said, "So, are you a king or not?" Jesus answered, "You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice."

The Message

An advantage of having four gospels is that through their differences of emphasis we get a more nuanced view of Jesus than a single account could give us. John's Jesus, while fully human, has an indefinable air of *otherness*, of mystery, of inner calm and control. Back in 12:27, when predicting his death and admitting that "his soul was troubled", he had said: "Shall I say 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour" – a very different emphasis from the agony in the garden of Gethsemane as told in the other three gospels. While not for a moment denying the physical horror and agony of the crucifixion, John's gospel has Jesus throughout speak of it in terms of "going to meet the Father" and even of "being glorified". So in today's reading we aren't surprised when Jesus upstages Pilate at the beginning of the interrogation by turning the question on him, and retains the advantage throughout. This allows him to pose (for Pilate and for us) the question of what a kingdom "not of this world" would look like. Pilate blusters and stammers "So you are a king?" and Jesus replies with magnificent ambiguity "You say so", identifying himself with Truth. Pilate famously replies "What is truth?" – a question that can be interpreted on a number of levels from the profound to the cynical.

Lord, help us to be grateful for the insights of all the gospels and, above all, to hear the truth in the voice of Jesus as it comes to us through them.

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 1st December 2024 – Advent Sunday (Toy Sunday)

8am	Holy Communion BCP (CC)
9.30am	Sung Eucharist with Nursery & Junior Church (CC & Parish Halls)
11am	Morning Prayer CW (STM's)
6.30pm	Advent Carol Service (CC)

PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

Rector:	Revd James Gilder (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)

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.