

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**



**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's)**  
**3pm**            **Tea & Fellowship (CC Vestry)**

**Eucharist Readings & Hymns:**

**Acts 5.27-32**  
**John 20.19-end**

**206** – Jesus is risen, Alleluia!

**199** – Christ is alive! Let  
Christians sing

**678** – In Christ alone my hope is  
found

**The Collect for the Week:**

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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, Christine Harrison, Charlotte, Ted Taylor, Ann Cheetham, Chris Cummins, Denis Keeling, Patricia Head, Richard Francis, Barbara Ridley, Tina Veldi, Eli and Zohra Mann.

**RIP:**

**Year's Mind:** Harry Brown (27<sup>th</sup>, 75); James SurrIDGE (27<sup>th</sup>, 20); Fred Eaton (28<sup>th</sup>, 17); Charles Hathaway (29<sup>th</sup>, 87); Abraham Titus (29<sup>th</sup>, 06); Pauline Walker (1<sup>st</sup>, 19); Jean Shepherd (3<sup>rd</sup>, 09)

**Wanstead Prayer Diary:** Grosvenor Road, Stanstead Road, Eastway Road, Rutland Road, Leicester Road, Warwick Road, Hereford Road, Gloucester Road, Grove Park, The Avenue, Nutter Lane, Nutter field, Limes Avenue.

## NOTICES

**TEA & FELLOWSHIP** - will take place today, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April, at 3pm in the vestry at Christ Church. Please join us for chat and tea & cake. We look forward to welcoming you.

**KNEELERS FOR CHRIST CHURCH:** Our next sew-in will take place on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 7-8.30pm in Christ Church vestry.

**TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP** – The next meeting will be on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30am in Christ Church.

**FORGET-ME-NOTS** – The next session will be Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 10.30am at St Mary's.

**VE DAY 80 YEARS OF PEACE:** Join the celebrations in Wanstead – on **Bank Holiday Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** – see flyers in church or on the weekly email for more information.

**ST MARY'S MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May** – save the date and visit the Parish website for event details and ticket sales.

**PARISH OFFICE NOTICE:** Many of you will already know that our Parish Manager, Ann Corne, will be having knee surgery this week and will need to take time to recover. Christ Church will be open as much as possible at the usual times, but her absence will have an effect on when the office can be open. For all urgent matters, please contact Fr James otherwise please kindly wait for Ann's return.

**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM):** Will take place on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 11am** in the Parish Halls after the 9.30am joint Eucharist at Christ Church. Elections will take place for Church Wardens, A Deanery Synod Representative and PCC Members. Nomination forms will be available at the back of both churches to be returned to the PCC Secretary, Eleanor Taylor.

**RENEWAL OF THE PARISH ELECTORAL ROLL 2025:** Every six years the church must renew its electoral roll from scratch. Electoral Roll membership cannot carry over when a new roll is prepared so it is important that everyone who wants to re-apply, completes an electoral roll form. Being on the roll entitles you to vote in parish elections and whilst our parish doesn't officially have a 'membership' list, the roll essentially functions as an unofficial list of those who are linked with us in one way or another. It doesn't sign you up for anything in particular, and your details are never shared or made public, even within the parish. Forms will be available for the next few weeks in church or from the Parish Office. Completing the form is very simple and should only take a couple of minutes. Thank you.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES** – If you are an adult who would like to learn more about the basics of the Christian faith or would like to be confirmed, please see Fr Charles or email him: [chbrown1816@gmail.com](mailto:chbrown1816@gmail.com)

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

## A reflection on this week's readings

### From the readings for Sunday 27 April

**Acts 5:29-32**

Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

**AV (King James Bible)**

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

**RSV**

Then Peter and the apostles answered him, "It is our duty to obey the orders of God rather than the orders of men. It was the God of our fathers who raised up Jesus, whom you murdered by hanging him on a cross of wood. God has raised this man to his own right hand as prince and saviour, to bring repentance and the forgiveness of sins to Israel. What is more, we are witnesses to these matters, and so is the Holy Spirit which God gives to those who obey his commands."

**J B Phillips**

Peter and the apostles answered, "It's necessary to obey God rather than men. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, the One you killed by hanging him on a cross. God set him on high at his side, Prince and Savior, to give Israel the gift of a changed life and sins forgiven. And we are witnesses to these things. The Holy Spirit, whom God gives to those who obey him, corroborates every detail."

**The Message**

It has always seemed to me that one of the strongest reasons for believing in the historical reality of the Resurrection is the contrast between the way Jesus' disciples spoke and acted before and afterwards. The various gospel accounts have their inconsistencies, but they all agree that in the days leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion the disciples did not cover themselves with glory. They fled, they lied, they hid in locked rooms, and some like Thomas seemed reluctant to trust what they were told by others. These are not self-glorifying or self-justifying narratives; they have the ring of painful honest truth.

Yet as the impact of the resurrection appearances sank in, and especially after the Pentecostal vision of the Holy Spirit descending like a dove in tongues of fire, the disciples seemed transformed. They spoke out boldly and with authority, as we see in today's reading, defying the authority of the High Priest even in the very heart of the Temple. And for a time this very boldness – this *chutzpah* – seems to have thrown the authorities off balance, though soon enough the hostile reaction developed, and Stephen was the first of many to pay the ultimate price of martyrdom. No doubt the early Christians learned to be "as wise as serpents" (Matt 10:16) – when Saul the former persecutor threw himself on the mercy of the Damascus Christians, there was a safe house where he could be sheltered.

Acts can sometimes read like an official, almost a corporate, history of the early Church. There's a sense of messy conflicts being smoothed over, of a stately unstoppable progress towards the heart of the Roman world – e.g. in its extraordinary silence about the bloody end of Paul's mission to Rome. But the remarkable spread of Christianity around the Mediterranean world in the decades after Jesus' death is an undoubted historical fact, surely only to be explained by the blazing conviction of those who, like Peter, were witnesses of the risen Lord. May we never lose our sense of wonder at this miracle of transformation.

## 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>10am</b>	Refreshed (CC) <i>Term time only</i>
	<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 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

<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>Morning Prayer CW (STM's)</b>
<b>5pm</b>	<b>A Place (CC Vestry)</b>
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Healing Service (CC)</b>

## PARISH OF WANSTEAD:

<b>Rector:</b>	Revd James Gilder ( <i>Day off: Mondays</i> )
<b>Assoc. Priest:</b>	Revd Charles Brown ( <i>Works: Thurs, Fri, Sun</i> )
<b>Curate:</b>	Revd David Lappano
<b>Assistant Priests:</b>	
	Revd Olive Thursby (High Street Chaplain)
	Revd Richard Wyber
	Revd Chris Mackenna
	Revd Anne Mackenna (Parish Deacon)
	Revd Liz Horwell
<b>Parish Office:</b>	020 8530 8743 <a href="mailto:wansteadparishadmin@uwclub.net">wansteadparishadmin@uwclub.net</a> <i>Mon-Weds &amp; Fri, 9am-1pm during term time</i>

## 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)