

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST MARGARET ALL SAINTS

St Margaret's Church, Barking Road E16 4HB | St Margaret's Convent Chapel, Bethel Avenue E16 4JU

Tel: 0207 476 4129 | Email: canningtown@brcdt.org | Website: www.smct.church

Parish Priest: Monsignor John Armitage

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 17th AUGUST 2025 |

2025: THE HOLY YEAR OF HOPE

First reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days: The officials said to the king, 'Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.' King Zedekiah said, 'Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.' So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, 'My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.' Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, 'Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.'

Lord, make haste to help me!

I waited, I waited for the Lord, and he stooped down to me.

He heard my cry.

Lord, make haste to help me!

He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay.

He set my feet upon a rock, made my footsteps firm.

Lord, make haste to help me!

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God.

Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord.

Lord, make haste to help me!

Wretched and poor though I am, the Lord is mindful of me. You are my rescuer, my help; O my God, do not delay.

Lord, make haste to help me!

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Alleluia, alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me. **Alleluia.**

Gospel Luke 12:49-53

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS
Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 807|603|627|863

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday, 16 th St Stephen of Hungary	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Sebastian Ukegheson – RIP Seamus O’Sullivan-Darcy – RIP	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Sunday, 17 th Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Marie Hammond – RIP Martina, Josephine, Nicola & Yelande Bright – INT Taborda Family – INT People of the Parish	Convent Chapel St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Monday, 18 th Feria	09:30 am	Dr A K Molokwu – RIP	Chapel in Convent	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank NO PARISH SUGERY
Tuesday, 19 th St John Eudes, Pr	9.30 am 10-12	Mylie & Joan Walsh – INT Marie De Sousa – INT Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	Nifty 50s – 12.30-2.30
Wednesday, 20 th St Bernard, Ab, D	9.30 am	Bertheline Williams – INT	St Margaret’s	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 – AA Meeting
Thursday, 21 st St Pius X, P	7.00 pm 7.30-8.00	Mr & Mrs F A Onwuemene – RIP Seamus O’Sullivan-Darcy – RIP Confessions & Adoration	St Margaret’s St Margarets	11- 1 Coffee Morning 18.00 – 21.00 West Ham Sea Cadets
Friday, 22 nd The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15 am	Flora Salazar – RIP Souls in Purgatory	Convent Chapel	18.00 Legion of Mary
Saturday, 23 rd St Rose of Lima, V	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Joseph Reginold Thevarajah – RIP James & Esther Afolabi – RIP	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Sunday, 24 th Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Margery & Patrick Beddier – RIP Maximillan Nwaokolo – INT People of the Parish Elaine & Peter McWilliams – RIP Marlon Balba – RIP	Convent Chapel St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Other Sunday Masses	09.00 am 12.00 pm 5.00 pm	Romanian Mass (Latin Rite)1 Romanian Mass (Greek Catholic) Latin Mass (Extraordinary Rite)	St Margaret’s Convent Chapel Convent Chapel	

MEDITATION

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection. Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: “Master, now you may let your servant go in peace.” Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters. The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships. We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus

himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

WEEKLY NOTICES

THE PARISH 150 ANNIVERSARY 50/50 DRAW – Third Prize ticket number 6656 still hasn't been collected. Check your tickets, and if you have ticket number 6656, please contact the parish office, **Tickets** will be on sale after Mass. If you don't have any cash, you can use the Card Machine and scroll to Parish Fundraising to pay there. The next draw will take place on Sunday, 30th August, after the 6 pm Mass. Week two total amount for August 50/50 currently stands at £265.00

CANON STEWART FOSTER will be supplying in the parish when I am away. I am very grateful to Canon Stewart for his help. I shall be back the weekend of the 6th of September.

PARISH OFFICE – The office will be closed for August. If you have any urgent needs, please contact the priest on 0207 476 4712 or email canningtown@brcdt.org or see the priest after mass.

PARISH PRIEST SURGERY – There will be no parish surgery until Monday, 15th September 2025.

PARISH YOUTH CLUB A group of people are getting together to set up a new parish project for our young people between the ages of 13 and 17. If you might be interested in helping set this up please email the parish office cannningtown@brcht.org

URGENTLY CONTACTING THE PARISH If you need to contact Fr John about someone who is ill or in hospital and wishes to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of the Sick, please make sure you speak to him directly or call the Parish Office, which is open Monday to Friday 09.00 13.00. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND AN EMAIL FOR URGENT MATTERS**

PASSPORT IDENTIFICATION - Please be advised that any requests involving passport identification or related documentation must first be discussed directly with the Parish Priest. This step is necessary to ensure proper verification and pastoral oversight. Please attend the parish priest's surgery on a Monday.

BAPTISMAL AND CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES These certificates are issued by the Parish are an important document please make sure you keep them safe. We are experiencing a high demand of requests for Copies of the original certificates. This presents a great demand on a very small Parish Office. So, in future if you wish to have a copy, there will be an Administrative fee of £5.00

150th CELEBRATION In October 2026, the parish will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of St Margaret's Church by Cardinal Manning on 26th October 1876, and the 70th anniversary of the re-opening of the Church in 1956 by Bishop Beck after the damage incurred by the bombing of the Second World War in 1941. This will truly be a great celebration! The Church will be completely redecorated, and I would like to place a bell in the bell tower that has been empty since the church was built! There will be many ideas and events to be organised, so we will be setting up an Anniversary Committee later in the year.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? There is growing interest in the Catholic Church, and already we have 5 people who have asked to be received into the Church next Easter. If you are attending Mass but not a Catholic, you will be most welcome to join this group. If you would like to speak to Fr. John before making a decision, then please see him after Mass.

ST MARGARET'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP. This group is for young adults between the ages of 18 and 40. It meets every other week on a Friday night upstairs in the Parish Centre. **The next meeting will take place on Friday, 29th August, from 7 pm**

GIFT AID - Some issued boxes of Gift Aid envelopes remain uncollected. Please contact the Parish Office during office hours to arrange collection. If the envelopes are no longer required for any reason, please let the Parish Gift Aid Organiser know as soon as possible. Please note that if your name or address has changed, it is important to let us know immediately. If you are a taxpayer and not a member of the Gift Aid scheme, please consider joining as it is a valuable source of income for the parish at no extra cost to yourself. Ask for a Gift Aid Declaration at the back of the church. The person using envelope number 17 should please contact the Gift Aid organiser as a matter of urgency! Thank you for your continued generosity.

LECTIO DIVINA led by Sister Agnes (FMM) – The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 20th August at 7.00 pm in the Convent

CELEBRATING VATICAN II - As the sixtieth anniversary of the conclusion of Vatican II approaches Fr Adrian Graffy will lead a study day entitled 'Vatican II and its Popes'.

The event will take place at the Catholic parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) on Saturday 20th September from 10.30. Entrance is free, and a recording of the talk will be available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE – YOUTH GATHER, 25TH – 26TH OCTOBER

Youth Gather is a weekend of faith, fun and friendship – with speakers, workshops, prayer and outdoor activities, meeting friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith. There will be coaches offering transport from around the Diocese included in the cost, as well as all meals, cabin accommodation and activities. This event is for year 9 and above. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine

Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria
TO MAKE A DONATION PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Plate Collection £698.80 | Envelopes £402.96 | Digital Plates £250.00 | Total £1351.76

Thank you for your generous support of the Parish

WEEKLY PARISH SURGERY	If you wish to speak to Fr John about Baptism, Marriage, the signing of forms or any other matters, please come to the Parish Surgery each Monday between 5.30 and 6.30 in the Parish Centre
PARISH OFFICE	THE PARISH OFFICE is open 5 days a week from 9am until 1pm. All normal enquiries can be made by phone 0207 476 4129 or email, canningtown@brcdt.org . All enquires made after 1pm will be answered the next working day.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?	If you are considering becoming a Catholic or would like to know more about the Catholic faith then please have a word with Fr John. You may like to go online and have a look at the following websites. www.catholic.com/tract/how-to-become-a-catholic https://mycatholic.life/rcia/
REPOSITORY	The Repository Shop for the sale of religious articles is open from 10.00 – 12.00 Noon, seven days a week, and after the 12 Noon Mass on Sundays.
BAPTISM	Baptisms are celebrated on the First and Third Saturday of the month at 12.00, apart from August. Registration for Baptism can be made on any Monday at the Parish Surgery between 5.30 and 6.30 pm in the Parish Centre behind St Margaret's Church. Baptism Preparation usually takes place on the second Saturday of the month, at 10.00 in the Parish Centre, when the date of the baptism will be confirmed.
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	The preparation for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion take place each year. There are two Groups: St Helens Group, for children attending the Parish School, and the Parish Group for children attending Catholic schools outside of the Parish and children attending Non-Catholic Schools. Registration for both groups take place in October each year. The next First Communion registration will take place in October 2025. The minimum age is 7 years old.
CONFIRMATON	TO BE CONFIRMED FOR 2026
MARRIAGE	Couples who wish to get Married must give at least SIX MONTHS' notice. This is vitally important for those who are getting married abroad. Please see Fr. John
ANOINTING OF THE SICK	People wishing to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, who are housebound or in hospital, should contact one of the priests. If you are in hospital, ask the nursing staff to call for the Duty Catholic Chaplain or call the Parish phone number 0207 476 4129
FUNERALS	If a family member or friend has died, please let us know so that we may remember them at Mass. In regard to the Funeral arrangements, please contact a local Undertaker who will liaise with the Parish to arrange your requirements for the funeral. If you need to find an Undertaker, please speak to one of the priests.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Secretary: Marie O’Hanlon

Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM)

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFR)

St Helen’s School

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Parish Sister:

St Bonaventure’s Boys School;

St Angela’s Girls School

Youth Representative

Monday – Friday 9am – 1pm 020 7476 4129

Sister Agnes, St Margaret’s Convent Bethell Avenue, E16 4JU 020 7511 3463

Father Tansi, St Fidelis Friary Killip Close E16 1LX 020 7474 0766

Headteacher: Claire Doherty Chargeable Lane, E13 8DW 020 7476 1785

Mary West 0207 476 4129 – canningtown@brcdt.org

Sister Barbara 020 8525 4229

Headteacher: Chris McCormack Boleyn Rd, Forest Gate, E7 9QD 0208472 2749

Headteacher: Mark Johnson, St George’s Rd, Forest Gate E7 8HX 020 8472

smctyouthcouncil@gmail.com