

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 24th AUGUST 2025 |

2025: THE HOLY YEAR OF HOPE

First reading

Isaiah 66:18-21

Thus says the Lord 'For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem,' says the Lord, 'just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites,' says the Lord.

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

O praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him, all you peoples!

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

For his mercy has prevailed over us; and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.

Second reading

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Brothers and Sisters: Have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? 'My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.' It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me. **Alleluia.**

Gospel Luke 13:22-30

At that time: Jesus went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying towards Jerusalem. And someone said to him, 'Lord, will those who are saved be few?' And he said to them, 'Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, "Lord, open to us", then he will answer you, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will begin to say, "We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets." But he will say, "I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!" In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.'

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS
Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 960|846|967|849

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
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	
Monday, 25 th St Louis	09:30 am	Oscar Edward Lobo – TG	Chapel in Convent	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank NO PARISH SUGERY
Tuesday, 26 th Bl Dominic of the Mother of God, Pr	9.30 am 10-12	Deborah Akanji – TG Maria Emilia De Sousa – INT Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	Nifty 50s – 12.30-2.30
Wednesday, 27 th St Monica	9.30 am	Steven Rodrigues – RIP Wanda Wanrzynczak – RIP	St Margaret’s	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 – AA Meeting
Thursday, 28 th St Augustine Bp, D	7.00 pm 7.30-8.00	Seamus O’Sullivan-Darcy – RIP Souls in Purgatory Confessions & Adoration	St Margaret’s St Margarets	11- 1 Coffee Morning 18.00 – 21.00 West Ham Sea Cadets
Friday, 29 th The Passion of St John the Baptist	9.15 am	Rosaline Williams – RIP Maria De Leon – RIP	Convent Chapel	18.00 Legion of Mary
Saturday, 30 th St Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward. Mm	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Pawla Farrugia – RIP Emiliana Catalino Tabula – RIP	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Sunday, 31 st Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Salih Erden – RIP Wanda Wanrzynczak – RIP Claudia Osei-Acheampong – RIP People of the Parish Irley Barreto & Wagner Vaz & Family – INT	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

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God. As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees. Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says “gate” then “door,” but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth. The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendants back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

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, 31st August, after the 6 pm Mass. Week three total amount for August 50/50 was £265.80.

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 atcanningtown@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, 3rd September 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

SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS' SCHOOL - Science (Physics) Technician required for September 2025, Closing date for applications - Friday 29th August 2025 Telephone: 01708 222660 e-mail: admin@mary.havering.sch.uk

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 £744.38 Envelopes £494.00 | Digital Plates £386.00 | Total £1624.38

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	<p>Baptisms are celebrated on the First and Third Saturday of the month at 12.00, apart from August.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		
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		Monday – Friday 9am – 1pm 020 7476 4129	
Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM)		Sister Agnes, St Margaret’s Convent Bethell Avenue, E16 4JU 020 7511 3463	
Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFR)		Father Tansi, St Fidelis Friary Killip Close E16 1LX 020 7474 0766	
St Helen’s School		Headteacher: Claire Doherty Chargeable Lane, E13 8DW 020 7476 1785	
Parish Safeguarding Officer		Mary West 0207 476 4129 – canningtown@brcdt.org	
Parish Sister:		Sister Barbara 020 8525 4229	
St Bonaventure’s Boys School;		Headteacher: Chris McCormack Boleyn Rd, Forest Gate, E7 9QD 0208472 2749	
St Angela’s Girls School		Headteacher: Mark Johnson, St George’s Rd, Forest Gate E7 8HX 020 8472	
Youth Representative		smctyouthcouncil@gmail.com	