

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

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS | 14TH September 2025 |

2025: THE HOLY YEAR OF HOPE

First reading

Numbers 21:4b-9

In those days: The people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.' Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.' So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Give ear, my people, to my teaching; incline your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable and utter hidden lessons of the past.

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

When he slew them, then they sought him, repented and earnestly sought God. They would remember that God was their rock, God the Most High their redeemer.

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Yet they deceived him with their mouths; they lied to him with their tongues. For their hearts were not steadfast towards him; they were not faithful to his covenant.

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Yet he who is full of compassion forgave them their sin and spared them. So often he held back his anger, and did not stir up all his rage.

Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Second reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia, alleluia. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. **Alleluia.**

Gospel John 3:13-17

At that time: Jesus said to Nicodemus, 'No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS
Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 798|752|647|886

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday, 13 th St John Chrysostom, Bp, D	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Sebastian Ukegheson – RIP	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Sunday, 14 th The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	People of the Parish Jose Luis & Luis Maximilian – TG Catriona Tighe – INT	Convent Chapel St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Monday, 15 th Our Lady of Sorrows	09:30 am	The Community of the FMM – INT	Chapel in Convent	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank 5.30 – 6.30 pm – Parish Surgery
Tuesday, 16 th Ss Cornelius, P & Cyprian Bp, M	9.30 am 10-12	Cosme Curz Leitao – RIP Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	NO NIFTY 50’S
Wednesday, 17 th Feria	9.30 am	Theresa Bedier – RIP	St Margaret’s	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 – AA Meeting
Thursday, 18 th Feria	7.00 pm 7.30-8.00	Martin Stanley – TG Confessions & Adoration	St Margaret’s St Margarets	11- 1 Coffee Morning 18.00 – 21.00 West Ham Sea Cadets
Friday, 19 th St Theodore of Canterbury	9.15 am	Tighe Family – INT	Convent Chapel	18.00 Legion of Mary
Saturday, 20 th St Andrew Kim Tae- gon, Pr, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions, Mm	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Carmenu Zerafa	St Margaret’s St Margaret’s	
Sunday, 21 st Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	John Rodrigues – RIP Joseph Reginald Thevarajah – RIP Mr & Mrs A Molokwu – RIP Holy Souls	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

In John’s Gospel, Jesus’ death on the cross as well as his resurrection and return to the Father are one event. For him, the cross isa sign of exaltation. The serpent that Moses lifted up in the desert to offer healing to those injured by snake bites prefigures Jesus’ being lifted up on the cross, bringing salvation.

The eternal life God offers through Jesus is not life without end but life lived in the unending presence of God. That is why it can begin now in this life. The world to which God sends the Son is not a place but those people who are at odds with Jesus and God. Jesus is sent to this world as a gift. Only believers accept the gift.

Finally, God’s judgment on the world is not a future cosmic event but a present reality. God sent the Son out of love for the world. However, the world has to decide to accept him. Those who accept him have eternal life at the moment of the decision. Those who reject him don’t.

WEEKLY NOTICES

BECOMING A CATHOLIC If you, or someone you know, are considering becoming a Catholic, or wants to know what it might entail, please come along to a meeting in the Parish Centre on Tuesday, 30th September at 18.30 to meet with Fr. John to discuss.

MARRIAGE 2026 If you are planning to get married in 2026, you must give **SIX MONTHS NOTICE, ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE GETTING MARRIED ABROAD.**

SECOND PARISH 50/50 DRAW RESULT AUGUST 2025

The total amount collected for August was £1388.00! Thank you so much for your generosity. £694.00 will go toward the maintenance of the Churches, and £694.00 will be prize money.

1st Prize £347.00 - Ticket Number 9079

2nd Prize £173.50 - Ticket Number 9601

3rd Prize £173.50 - Ticket Number 6679

If you have one of the winning tickets, please write your name and contact details on the back of the ticket, and please email the parish office to arrange a convenient time to discuss payment options. Congratulations to the winners!

The prize money for September week one currently stands at 249.00. Tickets will be available after Mass.

LECTIO DIVINA led by Sister Agnes (FMM) – The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 26th September at 7.00 pm in the Convent

PARENTS MEETING AND REGISTRATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 will take place on Saturday, 4th October 2025, in the parish centre.

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, 12th September, from 7 pm**

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**

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BAPTISMAL AND CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES. The Parish issues these certificates 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.

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

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN EVENING will be held at the school on Wednesday 1st October for September 2026 admissions. Visitors will receive a tour of our outstanding school (Ofsted 2024) and will have an opportunity to meet staff and pupils. Parents are invited to follow this QR code to book and choose a 4:30pm or 6pm time slot. See our school website for more details (allsaintsschool.co.uk). Please note booking is essential due to high demand and limited spaces.




'SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS' SCHOOL IS HOLDING ITS YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING (for entry to Year 7 in September 2026) on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at 6pm-8pm. Headteacher Welcome Talk is at 7.30pm. Please come along and see what this wonderful school - rated Outstanding by Ofsted in all 5 areas in October 2024 - has to offer your daughter. Further details about the school see www.sacredheartofmary.net.

SILENT WEEKEND RETREAT "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY" AT SION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, BRENTWOOD.

Dates: Friday 10th - Sunday 12th October 2025. Our theme focuses on the universal call to holiness. We are ALL called to be saints whatever rank or status. We may assume that this is a vocation reserved to the chosen few without understanding that each and every one of us is called to be holy and live a life of holiness. But what does living a life of holiness mean? How can we embrace this call and learn to live it as a reality?

Our guest speaker for the weekend is Fr Emmanuel Mansford, CFR (Franciscan Friars of the Renewal). This silent weekend retreat offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, guidance & ministry included. For more information or to book, visit <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/#SilentRetreat> or email admin@sioncommunity.org.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 £875.88 | Envelopes £898.25 | Digital Plates £432.00 | Total £2206.02

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 y 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 4 th October 2025 for both groups in the parish hall. The minimum age is 7 years old.
CONFIRMATON	REGISTRATION FRIDAY 28 TH NOVEMBER 18.30PM PARISH HALL
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 Francesco, 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