

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 25th JANUARY 2026|

First reading

In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Isaiah 9:1b-4

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; whom should I dread?

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the Lord, to enquire at his temple.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong; be stout-hearted, and wait for the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgement. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each one of you says, 'I follow Paul', or 'I follow Apollos', or 'I follow Cephas', or 'I follow Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Alleluia, alleluia, Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom and healed every affliction among the people.
Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 'The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.' From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 883 | 795 | 747 | 863

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday 24 th St Frances de Sales, Bp, D	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions The O'Callahan Family - INT	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday 25 th Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday of the Word of God	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Gillian McEvoy - RIP Rosa Maria Silva - RIP Ayodele's Birthday Intention Connolly & O'Neill Families - INT	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday 26 th St Timothy & Titus, Bpp	9.30 am	Sr Anne Miller FMM - RIP	Chapel in the Convent	10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank Parish Surgery 5.30pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday, 27 th St Angela Merici, V	9.30 am	Steven Rodrigues - RIP Frank Riley - RIP	St Margaret's	Nifty Fifties - 12 pm - 2 pm
Wednesday, 28 th St Thomas Aquinas, Pr	9.30 am 11.00 am	Intentions of Divine Love Requiem Mass Amy Rendell RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 - AA Meeting
Thursday 29 th Feria	7.00 pm 7.30-8.30	Maria Branca - RIP Confessions & Adoration	St Margaret's St Margaret's	18.00 - 21.00 West Ham Sea Cadets
Friday, 30 th Feria	9.15 am	John & Madeline Tan - RIP	Convent Chapel	18.00 Legion of Mary
Saturday, 31 st St John Bosco, Pr	5.00 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions John & Mary Ellue - RIP Jose Antonio Silva - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 01 st Feb Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Janet Hicks - INT Teresita Balba - TG Tracey Flynn - RIP Gillian McEvoy - RIP Ester Josef	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 describes the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke (called the Synoptic Gospels), Jesus' public ministry begins after his baptism by John the Baptist and after his retreat to the desert where he was tempted by the devil. When Jesus returns from the desert, he hears that John has been arrested.

The first part of today's Gospel places Jesus' ministry in the context of the writings of the prophet, Isaiah. Matthew wants to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies given to the people of Israel, and he refers to Isaiah to do so. Isaiah says that the Messiah will begin his ministry in Galilee, the land of the Gentiles. When Jesus begins to preach in Galilee, Matthew points to his ministry as a fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy, proof that Jesus is the Messiah.

When Jesus called his first disciples, the Gospel tells us that the fishermen (Peter and Andrew, James and John) dropped everything to follow Jesus immediately. Yet this Gospel tells us little about the prior experience that the fishermen had of Jesus. Did they know him? Had they heard him preach? What kind of person must Jesus have been to invoke such a response? We can imagine that Jesus was a powerful presence to elicit a response as immediate and complete as these first disciples gave.

The Gospel concludes with a description of the ministry that Jesus begins in Galilee. Jesus inaugurates the Kingdom of God with his work. He teaches in the synagogue and preaches the kingdom. His ability to cure people's diseases and illness is a sign of the kingdom. In Jesus' ministry, we already begin to see the Kingdom of God among us.

WEEKLY NOTICES

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF Maurice Oscar, Amy Rendell, Monsignor David Manson. May they rest in peace.

CONFIRMATION 2026 This year, the Bishop will be coming for Confirmation. We are awaiting a final date from the Bishop, and once we have this, we shall then be able to work out the timetable for the Confirmation programme for this year. The first meeting of the Confirmation Group will be on **Friday 6th February at 6.30 in the Parish Centre.**

THE PARISH SURGERY The Parish Surgery takes place on most Mondays between 5.30 and 6.30 in the Parish Centre. If it is not on a particular week, it will be notified in the Newsletter. So if you want to book a wedding, baptism, speak about a funeral, get a school form signed or have any issues you wish to discuss just come along, you will be most welcome. **Please check in the Newsletter if the Surgery is not open on a particular Monday.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARISH GROUP SESSIONS – February sessions for the children who have registered to make their First Holy Communion are: Saturday, 7th February & Saturday, 28th February, in the parish centre. (This is only for the parish group, not the children in St Helens. The mass for **ALL** children registered will take place on **Sunday, 8th February, in the Convent Chapel at 10 am. The Parents' meeting for all parent's will take Saturday, 7th February, 10 am in the Parish Hall.**

ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC If you, or someone you know, is considering becoming a Catholic, or wants to know what it might entail, the Parish Group meets each Tuesday at 6.30 pm in the Parish Centre, all are welcome. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 27th January at 18.30** in the Parish Centre

ROAD WORKS IN BETHEL AVENUE Please be aware of road works in Bethel Avenue by Thames Water starting from **Monday, 5th January**. Diversions will be in place!!!

THE PARISH 50/50 DRAW RESULT DECEMBER 25 - The January 50/50 Draw is now Open. Remember, if you're not in it, you can't win it!!! Tickets £1 on sale after Mass. **2nd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 02866. The total amount raised in December was £1102.00, £551.00 will be prize money, and £551.00 go towards the maintenance of the churches.** 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!

ARISE | THE PARISH GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS. 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, 30th January 2026, from 7 pm.** If you are new to the Parish, you would be very welcome to come along and meet some new local friends.

LECTIO DIVINA Will resume in February.

DBS – Can all catechists, eucharistic ministers who make home visits and anyone who works with children and vulnerable adults within the parish please confirm with the parish office that your DBS is up to date and supply the up-to-date DBS numbers and date of issue at your earliest convenience.

ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP – AN AMAZING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS SUMMER. If you are in school year 12 or student age (or any age over 17!) you are very welcome to apply at www.boscocamp.co.uk. The application process includes references and a DBS check, which we can help with, as well as training and support before and during Camp. The Camp provides over 100 children a week with a summer holiday – for many their only holiday. As a volunteer, you use your skills to assist with different sporting and fun activities, as well as the practical aspects of camp life. **Volunteer for 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th August.** The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, and also seeks financial donations – all information on the website.

The Ghanaian Chaplaincy will be holding a Mass on **Saturday, 8th February at 2:00 PM**. All are warmly invited to attend and join us.

Pilgrimage to Rome, March 2026 – St Bonaventure's School St Bonaventure's Catholic School, East London, is raising funds to support students taking part in a pilgrimage to Rome. This pilgrimage is a faith journey which will allow young people to visit important holy sites, walk in the footsteps of the saints, and deepen their relationship with Christ and one another.

We kindly ask for your prayers for our students as they prepare for this pilgrimage, and for any financial support you may be able to offer. Your generosity will help ensure that all students, regardless of circumstance, have the opportunity to take part in this life-changing experience of faith. Donations can be made online at:

<https://www.goodhub.com/go/stbonspilgrimage2026> Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

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 £827.67 | Envelopes £522.34 | Digital Plates £827.67 | **Total £1787.01**

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/ Meeting every Tuesday at 6.30pm
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 takes 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 takes place in October each year.
CONFIRMATION	REGISTRATION has now taken place anyone wishing to make their confirmation please see Fr John.
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.
CERTIFICATES	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 the future, if you wish to have a copy, there will be an administrative fee of £5.00

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 Francesco, 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 4229/07591016649

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