

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

DEVINE MERCY SUNDAY | SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER | 12th APRIL 2026 |

First reading

Acts 2:42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the Apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they shared their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Let the house of Israel say, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the Lord say, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

They pushed me, pushed me hard to knock me down, but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song;

he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and salvation in the tents of the righteous.

Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done, a marvel in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.

Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Second reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Alleluia, alleluia. You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. **Alleluia**

Gospel John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.' Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.' Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 267|761|278|465

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday, 11 th Saturday within the Octave of Easter	5.30 pm 06.30 pm	Confessions Anthony Ojefua - RIP Olive Towse - RIP	St Margaret's	10.00 am - Baptism Preparation
Sunday, 12 th Second Sunday of Easter	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Paddy & Kay Freeman - INT Da Silva Family - TG Peggy McGinn - INT Agostinho Lopes - RIP	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday, 13 th Monday of the Second Week of Easter	9.30 am	Nikki & John - INT	St Margaret's	10.30-12.00 - Parish Food Bank 5.30 -6.30 pm - Parish Surgery
Tuesday, 14 th Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter	9.30 am	Onwemene Family - INT Joan Delcarme	St Margaret's	12.00 - 2.00 - Nifty Fifties
Wednesday, 15 th Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter	09.30 am	Gloria Solomons - RIP Lilian Dorothy Boome	St Margaret's	10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 - AA Meeting
Thursday, 16 th Thursday of the Second Week of Easter	7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Desmond Stanley - RIP Batt Brosnan - RIP Confessions	St Margaret's	18.00 - 21.00 West Ham Sea Cadets
Friday, 17 th Friday of the Second Week of Easter	09.15 am	James Stanley - RIP	Convent Chapel	
Saturday, 18 th Saturday of the Second Week of Easter	05.00 pm 06.30 pm	Confessions Victoria Getty - INT	St Margaret's St Margaret's	12.00noon - Baptisms
Sunday, 19 th Third Sunday of Easter	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Danilo Morales - RIP Allan - RIP Ramos Family - INT Mike & Eleanor Ambrose - 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

The Gospels tell us that Jesus appeared to the disciples on several occasions after they discovered that his tomb was empty. Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit but in bodily form. The bodily form was not one that the disciples recognized though. In John's Gospel, Mary of Magdala does not recognize that the figure standing before her is Jesus until he speaks to her. In Luke's Gospel the disciples who meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus do not recognize him until he breaks bread with them. The resurrected Jesus had a physical presence, but the disciples couldn't recognize Jesus unless he allowed them to. His resurrected body, nonetheless, showed the marks of his crucifixion. From readings such as today's Gospel, we also see that in his resurrected body, Jesus seems to be free of physical constraints. He appears to the disciples despite the fact that the doors were locked.

Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In doing so, Jesus commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." During the meeting, Jesus also shows the integral connection between forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The story of Thomas illustrates our Christian experience today: We are called to believe without seeing. In fact, all Christians after the first witnesses have been called to believe without seeing. Thomas's doubt is hardly surprising; the news of Jesus' appearance was incredible to the disciples who had seen him crucified and buried. Thomas's human nature compelled him to want hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to the disciples after his death was indeed the same Jesus who had been crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to act on that desire. He is our witness that Jesus is really risen.

Our faith is based on the witness of the Church that has preceded us, beginning with Thomas and the first disciples. Through Baptism we receive the same Holy Spirit that Jesus brought to the first disciples. We are among those who are "blessed" because we believe without having seen.

WEEKLY NOTICES

A big thank you for the most generous Easter Collection. As I said last week, this goes towards the Priest's annual salary. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you

DUE TO THE FMM SISTERS AT THE CONVENT BEING ON RETREAT ON MONDAY 13TH APRIL, THE DAILY MASS AT 9.30 AM WILL BE HELD AT ST MARGARET'S.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARGARETS CHURCH. I would like to invite ONE representative of every group in the Parish to come to a meeting in the Parish Centre on Saturday, 18th April at 14.00 to discuss the arrangements. Please let Marie know who is representing your group, with phone number and email. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION 2026 The next Confirmation Group will meet on **Friday, 17th April at 18.30 in the Parish Centre.**

ADULT CONFIRMATION - The next meeting will be on **Monday, 20th April, in the Parish Centre at 6.30 pm.**

LECTIO DIVINA: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, 22nd April, at 7 pm in St Margaret's Convent.**

LAST WEDNESDAY CLUB - St George's Day celebration on **Wednesday, 29th April between 2pm-4pm.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION. The next parents' meeting for all parents will take place on **Saturday, 18th April, 10am in the parish hall.** The Mass for ALL children registered will take place on **Sunday, 19th April, in the Convent Chapel at 10 am.**

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM - 23RD MAY 2026: Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. Please sign up on the list that is at the back of the Church. Good news, the tickets are cheaper than last year!

GIFT AID: The new financial year has begun. Please discard all old envelopes and pick up your new ones if you have not done so already. Over 20 boxes of issued envelopes remain uncollected! If you do not find yours, please leave your name and envelope number, and the Gift Aid organiser will get back to you as soon as possible. Please note that some numbers have been reallocated, so it is important to only use envelopes marked for the 2026/27 financial year. Thank you very much for your continued generosity.

ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP, SUMMER 2026. Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 - 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25th July - 1st August or 1st - 8th August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly - early applications are encouraged.

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, 24th April 2026, from 7-9 pm** (arrive when you can) - You can join the WhatsApp group chat on the notice board at the back of the church via QR code .

ST HELEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - NURSERY APPLICATIONS - If you have a child born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, and would like to apply for a place at St Helen's Nursery, please visit our [website here](#) for application forms and more information or visit the school office. Posters with a QR Code are also displayed at the back of the Church. If you would like to visit the Nursery for a tour, please come along on a Wednesday at either 9am or 2:30pm.



St Helen's Catholic Primary School - 2 Year Old Provision (Preschool)

If you have a child born between between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024, and would like to apply for a place at St Helen's Preschool, please visit our [website here](#) for application forms and more information or visit the school office. Posters with a QR Code are also displayed at the back of the Church. We will be holding an Open Morning and Information Session on Thursday 23rd April at 9:30am or 5:00pm - come to the main entrance on Chargeable Lane.



NO PARISH DRAW THIS MONTH. 1 MARCH DRAW 1ST PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 04573, 2ND PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 06485, 3RD PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 06786.

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 £1647.49 | Envelopes £719.88 | Digital Plates £875.50 | QR Codes: 138.00 **Total £3380.87**

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