

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 26th APRIL 2026 |

First reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters, he leads me; he revives my soul.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name. Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil would I fear, for you are with me. Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading

1 Peter 2:20b-25

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep and my own know me. **Alleluia**

Gospel John 10:1-10

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 802|948|279|804

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday, 25 th St Mark, Ev	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Gregorio Lopes Da Silva- RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 26 th Fourth Sunday of Easter	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Steven Rodrigues - RIP Paul Kudahe - RIP Rosa Maria Silva - RIP	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday, 27 th Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter	9.30 am 12.00 pm	Juliette Chatellier - RIP Requiem Mass - Theresa Ainadawodu	Chapel in the Convent St Margaret's	10.30-12.00 - Parish Food Bank 5.30 - 6.30 Parish Surgery
Tuesday, 28 th Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter	9.30 am	Jose Antonio Silva - RIP	St Margaret's	12:00 - 2.00 - Nifty Fifties
Wednesday, 29 th St Catherine of Siena, V,D	09.30 am	Intentions of Devine Love	St Margaret's	10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 - AA Meeting
Thursday, 30 th St Pius V, P	7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Confessions Fernanda De Sousa - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Friday, 1 st St Joseph the Worker	09.15 am	Bessie Medina - RIP Emelie Agyei - RIP	Convent Chapel	
Saturday, 2 nd St Anthanasius, Bp, D	05.00 pm 06.30 pm	Confessions Julio Pedro Neves - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 3 rd Fifth Sunday of Easter	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Fola Shade Akanji - TG Isobel & Isadore - INT Theophilus Ackah - 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

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus.

Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his alleg9ory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus.

Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.

WEEKLY NOTICES

THANK YOU to all those who turned up for the Parish 150th Anniversary Meeting on Saturday. In the next few weeks, we will begin to announce the various events to celebrate this great milestone in the life of our Parish.

CLEARING THE COVENT GROUNDS – We will be clearing the ground on Saturday 16th May from 10am, if you have offered to help, please bring a pair of heavy duty gloves if you have them, If you also have any heavy duty garden equipment that would help please also bring along.

THE LEGACY OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI - As we mark 800 years since the death of St Francis (3rd October 1226), Fr Alban McCoy OFM Con will speak about how Francis changed the Church of his day and can help us to renew the Church in our own times. The event will take place in the hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) from 11 am until 1 pm on Saturday 2nd May. Refreshments available from 10.30. Everyone is welcome to this free event, which is also available by live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org No booking necessary.

CONFIRMATION 2026 The next Confirmation Group will meet on **Friday, 8th May at 18.30 in the Parish Centre.** The Confirmation date with Bishop Alan will be on **Sunday 31st May at 3pm in the Convent Chapel.** The rehearsal for the Mass will take place on **Saturday 30th May at 10.00 in the Convent Chapel**

ADULT CONFIRMATION – Fr John will be away for a few days this week on his post Easter break so the Adult Confirmation Group will now be on **Monday 27th April at 6.30 in the Parish Centre.** The Confirmation date with Bishop Alan will be on **Sunday 31st May at 3pm in the Convent Chapel.** The rehearsal for the Mass will take place on **Saturday 30th May at 10.00 in the Convent Chapel**

ARISE | THE PARISH GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS. This group is for young adults between the ages of 18 and 35. It meets every other week on a Friday night upstairs in the Parish Centre. The next meeting will take place on **Friday, 8th May 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 .

LECTIO DIVINA: The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, 6th May, at 7 pm in St Margaret's Convent.**

THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOR THERESA AINADAWODU will take place on **27th April at 12pm in St Margaret's Church.** We come together in faith to commend her into God's care and to give thanks for her life. Please remember her family in your prayers.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION – The last session for the children who have registered to make their First Holy Communion will be held on **Saturday 16th May 10am in the parish centre.** This is only for the parish group and **NOT** for the children from St Helen's.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 23RD MAY 2026: Please sign up after Mass, as the seats are going fast!! 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 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.



NO PARISH DRAW THIS MONTH. MARCH DRAW 1st PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 04573, 2nd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 06485, 3rd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 06786.

TICKETS FOR THE MAY DRAW WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM SATURDAY 2ND MAY – YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT

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 £926.02 | Envelopes £539.64 | Digital Plates £306 | Total £1771.66

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 on Tuesdays 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