

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 12th JULY 2026 |

SEA SUNDAY

First reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

You visit the earth, give it water; you fill it with riches. God's ever-flowing river brims over to prepare the grain.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

And thus you prepare it: you drench its furrows; you level it, soften it with showers; you bless its growth.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

You crown the year with your bounty. Abundance flows in your pathways; in pastures of the desert it flows. The hills are girded with joy.

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

The meadows clothed with flocks. The valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy; yes, they sing!

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

Second reading

Romans 8:18-23

Brothers and Sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption, and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Alleluia, alleluia. The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower; all who find him will live for ever. **Alleluia**

Gospel Matthew 13:1-23

At that time: Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.' Then the disciples came and said to him, 'Why do you speak to them in parables?' And he answered them, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it. 'Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 695 | 731 | 977 | 887

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday 11 th St Benedict, Ab	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Francesca Ojefua - INT	St Margaret's St Margaret's	10.00 Baptism Class
Sunday, 12 th Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time SEA SUNDAY	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Nina Go - TG Editha Floerndo - RIP The work of STELLA MARIS Holy Souls	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday 13 th Feria	9.30 am	Donald Mansfield - RIP	Chapel in the Convent	10.30-12.00 PARISH FOOD BANK 17.30-18.30 PARISH SURGERY
Tuesday, 14 th St Camillus of Lellis, Pr	9.30 am	Sergey & Family - INT	St Margaret's	12:00 - 2.00 - Nifty Fifties
Wednesday, 15 th St Bonaventure, Bp, D	09.30 am	St Joseph - INT		10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 - AA Meeting
Thursday 16 th Our Lady of Mount Carmel	7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Frederick Sheppard - RIP (F) Joan Delcarme - RIP Confessions	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Friday, 17 th Feria	09.15 am	Dominca B De Los Santos - RIP	Convent Chapel	
Saturday, 18 th Feria	05.00 pm 06.30 pm	Confessions Anita Rodrigo - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	12.00 PM Baptism
Sunday, 19 th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Catalino & Emiliana Tabula - RIP Maureen Fitzpatrick - RIP Isla O'Hanlon - INT	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	1pm-5pm - Parish Annual BBQ
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 marks the beginning of the third long discourse given by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew. Over the next few weeks, the Gospel readings will consist of the entire 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel, a lengthy teaching discourse.

Throughout this discourse, Jesus will offer several parables to illustrate for his listeners what he means by the kingdom of heaven. He begins with the parable of the sower, which appears rather straightforward—of course seeds grow best in good soil. Seeds that miss the soil, are sown on rocky ground, or are sown among other plants will not grow. The surprise in the parable is the enormous yield of the seed that is sown on good soil.

Jesus then explains his use of parables. Jesus seems to suggest that he uses parables to teach because the meanings of parables are not self-evident. The hearer must engage in some degree of reflection in order to comprehend the message of a parable. In this way, the medium—the parable—models the point of the parable of the sower. Those who are willing to engage themselves in the effort to understand will be rewarded by the discovery of the message and will bear fruit.

To bring home the point, Jesus interprets the parable of the sower to his disciples.

The different types of soil in which the seeds are sown are metaphors for the disposition with which each individual hears the teaching about the kingdom of heaven. Some will be easily swayed away from the kingdom of heaven. Some will receive it for a time but will lose it when faced with difficulties. Some will hear the word but will then permit other cares to choke it out. Yet some will receive it well, and the seed will produce abundant fruit.

WEEKLY NOTICES

SEA SUNDAY Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) is the maritime charity of the Catholic Church. Its chaplains and ship visitors provide practical help and pastoral care to seafarers and fishers in the UK and around the world. Today we stand alongside them, so they always have someone to turn to in times of need. We pray for all seafarers and the work of Stella Maris, and support their work through the collection at Mass.

WE WISH EVERY BLESSING TO OUR CHILDREN WHO WILL BE LEAVING ST HELEN'S SCHOOL THIS WEEK, as they move to their secondary schools. They have been at St Helen's since they were very young, and we should give thanks for the wonderful example of care and dedication of all the teachers, teaching assistants and all who work in St Helen's and create such an inspirational environment for the education of our children under the leadership of our Headteacher Clare Doherty, herself an old pupil of the school.

WE WELCOME FATHER LIAM HAYES TO THE PARISH THIS WEEKEND. Father John is preaching at the Padley Pilgrimage in Derbyshire, which commemorates the Padley martyrs who were martyred in 1588. Father Liam has a long attachment to the Parish and served here when he was a seminarian. He is currently teaching in Cambridge at the Margaret Beaufort Institute.

THE ANNUAL PARISH BAR B Q Sunday 19th July. Our annual Parish Barbeque will take place after the 12.00 noon Mass and ends at 5pm. All are welcome, music, dancing and a great atmosphere. All are welcome. I am grateful for the hospitality of the Afro - Caribbean Group for their hard work in setting this up and running the occasion.

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, 17th July 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.

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS - The establishment of the Catholic school system is one of the greatest achievements of the past 150 years. Before there was a Church in Canning Town, there was a Catholic school. St Margaret's was built on the foundations of the original school. We have been blessed with two wonderful Catholic schools, St. Margaret's, which was destroyed by bombing in 1941, and St Helens. **Great sacrifices were made** by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, parishioners and the priests over the years to give us the legacy of Catholic education in our Parish. We are fortunate that we have very good numbers in the school; this is not the case across the Borough. So please always consider sending your child to a Catholic school if that is possible.

LECTIO DIVINA: Lectio Divina is a prayerful practice of reading, meditation, and reflection on Holy Scripture, aimed at deepening our relationship with God. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, 22nd July, at 7 pm in St Margaret's Convent.** All welcome

150TH ANIVERSARY CELEBRATION. The Bishop will be able to join us for Mass on Saturday 26th September in the grounds of St Helens School. The Mass will be at 12.00 Noon followed by refreshments. **The Mass will be open to all, but there will be limited seats of 400. Tickets will be reserved for those who need to sit down. You may bring your own chair.**

PARISH PICNIC AND GAMES DAY On Sunday, 6th of September, we shall be holding our first Parish Picnic and Games Day at a local Park. It will start at 2pm. Bring your own food, and games will be organised. All welcome. One of our 150th Celebrations

GIFT AID: The Gift Aid Year-End Donation Statements for the year ended 5th April 2026 have been sent out. For those who have provided email addresses, please check your junk folder if you have not received it. All others have been sent by post. If you have not received your statement by next weekend, please contact Philip, the Parish Gift Aid organiser by the parish email address. Thank you for your continued generosity.

A Day With Mary is hosting an International Symposium from 29 July to 31 July 2026 at St Mary's Catholic Church, West Croydon. Further information is available at www adaywithmary.org/symposium

THE PARISH 50/50 JUNE DRAW RESULT- 1st PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 07107, 2nd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 08225, 3rd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 08111. TICKETS FOR THE JULY DRAW ARE AVAILABLE AFTER MASS - The total amount raised in June was £468; £234 will be prize money, and £234 will go towards the maintenance of the churches. Thank you for your support. If you have a winning ticket, please contact the parish office. **REMEMBER 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 £859.33 | Envelopes £776.11 | Digital Plates £425.00 | Total £2060.44

Thank you for your generous support of the Parish

THIS WEEKS SPECIAL COLLECTION

STELLA MARIS - SEA SUNDAY

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