

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 02nd AUGUST 2026 |

First reading

Isaiah 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord: 'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.'

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in mercy. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The Lord is just in all his ways, and holy in all his deeds. The Lord is close to all who call him, who call on him in truth.

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

Second reading

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. **Alleluia**

Gospel Matthew 14:13-21

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 725|603|627|849

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday 1 st St Alphonsus Mary de' Liguori, Bp, D	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Theresa Zerafa - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 2 nd Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Emily & Patrick McGahern - RIP Paddy & Kay Freeman - INT Liam McGuinness - RIP	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday, 3 rd Feria	9.30 am	Helen Bernadette Clarke - RIP (F)	Chapel in the Convent	10.30-12.00 PARISH FOOD BANK NO PARISH SURGERY
Tuesday, 4 th St John Vianney (Cure of Ars). Pr	9.30 am	Douglas Bedier - RIP John & Madeline Tan - RIP	St Margaret's	12-00 - 2.00 - Nifty Fifties
Wednesday, 5 th Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	09.30 am	Queenie & James Howgare - RIP		10.30 - 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 - AA Meeting
Thursday 6 th The Transfiguration of the Lord	7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Maria De Lourdes - RIP Andrade & Gregorio Da Silva - RIP Confessions	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Friday, 7 th Feria	09.15 am	Marie Hammond - RIP	Convent Chapel	
Saturday, 8 th St Dominic, Pr	05.00 pm 06.30 pm	Confessions Mumyangoga Dominique - RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 9 th Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Tony & Valsa Ellul - INT David's Birthday Intention Alora Birthday Intentions	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Other Sunday Masses	09.00 am 12.00 pm 5.00 pm	Romanian Mass (Latin Rite) Romanian Mass (Greek Catholic) Latin Mass (Extraordinary Rite)	St Margaret's Convent Chapel Convent Chapel	

MEDITATION

Today we jump ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel to Chapter 14. Last week we heard Jesus conclude his discourse with the crowds about the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew's narrative, Jesus then leaves the crowds and returns to Nazareth, where he is rejected. Matthew then recounts the story of John the Baptist's arrest and execution at the hands of Herod. Today's Gospel reading begins at this point. Upon hearing the news of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus seeks to withdraw, but the crowds follow him. Jesus reaches out to them in compassion and heals the sick. At the end of a long day, the disciples encourage Jesus to send the crowds away so that they might find provisions for themselves. Jesus again responds with compassion for the crowd. Jesus tells his disciples to provide food for the crowd. The disciples reply with a report of the meagerness of their own provisions—five loaves and two fish. The result is the very familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. Matthew's Gospel tells us that 5,000 men were fed, and this number does not even include the women and children. Jesus' blessing brought abundance from the meager provisions of the disciples. In this action, Jesus offers us a sign of the Kingdom of Heaven that he has been teaching about in the parables. A feast results from the smallest of portions—remember the mustard seed and the yeast. In this miracle we witness an example for Christian life and ministry. Even the smallest of offerings can produce abundant results when placed in the service of the Kingdom of Heaven. We find the story of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fish in each of the four Gospels. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus performs this same miracle on two separate occasions. The story of this miracle is an anticipation of the Eucharist in which we are fed by the abundant grace of God. The importance of the Eucharist has been a defining element of Christian life from the very beginning.

WEEKLY NOTICES

AUGUST: We would like to thank Fr Stewart and the Friars who will be celebrating Mass for us during August whilst Fr John is away. We look forward to welcoming Rev Johnathan in September.

The Parish office will be closed; however, the phone line will be available, and the emails will be picked up. We

CAR PARK GATE CODE CHANGE - Please note that the **car park gate access code will change from Friday, 1st August.**

If you regularly use the church car park, please email the parish and if deemed necessary the parish office will give the code.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continue to help keep our church premises safe and secure.

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, 14th August 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, 12th August, at 7 pm in St Margaret's Convent.** All welcome

150TH ANNIVERSARY 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.

THE PARISH 50/50 JULY DRAW RESULT- 1st PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 07714, 2nd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 07678, 3rd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER 07723. TICKETS FOR THE AUGUST DRAW ARE AVAILABLE AFTER MASS – The total amount raised in June was £418; £209 will be prize money, and £209 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 AND ENTER THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO DONATE



WEEKLY COLLECTION

Plate Collection £874.19 | Envelopes £600.79 | Digital Plates £292.00 **Total £1766.98**

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.
CONFIRMATON	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