

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 | Deacon: Rev. Jonathan Burden

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 20th September 2026 |

First reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day, and praise your name for ever and ever. The Lord is great and highly to be praised; his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

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.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

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.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second reading

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. **Alleluia**

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." 'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.

FEAST | MASS TIMES | INTENTIONS | EVENTS

Sunday Hymn Numbers 10am & 12pm Masses 725|609|794|880

Date & Feast	Time	Intention	Location	Parish Events in Parish Centre
Saturday, 19 th Feria	5.30 pm 6.30 pm	Confessions Patricio Gomes Barbosa – RIP Francisca Margues – RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	12.00 Baptisms
Sunday, 20 th Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Evangelii Gaudium Sunday	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Emma McKinnon – Get Well Int The Persecuted Nigerian Christians Carmenu Zerafa – RIP Mary Reem – RIP	Convent Chapel St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Monday, 21 st St Matthew, Ap, Ev	9.30 am	John Rodrigues – RIP Mr & Mrs A Molokwu – RIP	Chapel in the Convent	10.30-12.00 PARISH FOOD BANK 17.30-18.30 PARISH SURGERY
Tuesday, 22 nd Feria	9.30 am	Marie Rosetta Williams – RIP Benjamin & Margaret Joseph – RIP Reginold Thevarajah – RIP	St Margaret's	
Wednesday, 23 rd St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) Pr	09.30 am	St Joseph – INT	St Margaret's	10.30 – 12.00 Parish Food Bank 19.00 – AA Meeting
Thursday 24 th Our Lady of Walsingham	7.00 pm 7.30 pm	Boniface Pamgawe – RIP Patrick Luksi – RIP Confessions	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Friday, 25 th Feria	09.15 am	Kay Kelleher – 80 th Birthday INT	Convent Chapel	
Saturday, 26 th Feria	12.00 pm 06.30 pm	150 th Anniversary Mass St Helens <u>NO CONFESSIONS</u> Greg Dagum – RIP	St Margaret's St Margaret's	
Sunday, 27 th Twenty-Six Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am 12.00 pm 6.00 pm	Steven Rodrigues – RIP Brian John Poulton – RIP Romeo Arriesgado Aidani Adimin – RIP Letia Lukosi – 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

In today's Gospel, Jesus moves from Galilee to teach in Judea where he is sought out by great crowds and tested by the Pharisees on issues such as marriage and divorce. Jesus also encounters a rich young man who is unable to accept Jesus' demand that he leave his possessions to follow him. Jesus' response to the rich young man sounds very much like the conclusion we will find in today's Gospel: the first will be last and the last will be first.

On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who labored in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

WEEKLY NOTICES

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. I am very grateful for all the work so far to prepare for our Mass next Saturday. Please make a special effort to attend; we have many distinguished guests joining us, along with old parishioners, and we want to witness to the vibrancy of the Parish as we begin our next 150 Years!!

- Friday evening, 18.00, meet at the Convent Chapel to move the chairs and to help set up the staging.
Saturday at 9.00, meet at the school to help set out the chairs and do other work.

The Mass will be open to all, but there will be a limit of 400 seats. Tickets will be reserved for those who need to sit down. You may bring your own chair.

Chorus for Congregation to learn for 150th Anniversary

ANIMA Christi, sanctifica me.

Corpus Christi, salva me.

Sanguis Christi, inebria me.

Aqua lateris Christi, lava me.

ABC (About Becoming Catholic) – Tuesday 6th October at 6.30pm, we shall meet for our first gathering of those people who have asked to become members of the church, or those who are interested in knowing more about the church. All are welcome. Registration will also take place on this day.

ARISE | THE PARISH GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS. The 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, 25th September 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 - RECEPTION 2027 ADMISSIONS

If you have a child born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, please come along to our Reception Applications Meeting on Monday 5th Oct at 2:15pm or 6pm. Open Days and Tours, taking place Monday 5th October, Monday 12th October & Monday 19th October. Please arrive at the main entrance, where you will be collected to look around the school and see our grounds and provisions. You may contact the school office for more information on 0207 476 1785.



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, 23rd September, at 7 pm in St Margaret's Convent. All welcome**

THE PARISH 50/50 AUGUST DRAW RESULT- 1st PRIZE TICKET NUMBER **07616**, 2nd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER **08408**, 3rd PRIZE TICKET NUMBER **09237**. TICKETS FOR THE **AUGUST DRAW** ARE AVAILABLE AFTER MASS – The total amount raised in August was £457; £228.50 will be prize money, and £228.50 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!**

Freedom in Christ Conference on Saturday 3rd October from 1-3pm at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Square, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5JX. Discover five keys to genuine freedom in Christ and to experience His amazing love, joy, and peace. Many of us, despite our best efforts, struggle with the same sins and feel hopeless in our search for freedom. Come and discover how the Lord can bring healing and freedom from spiritual bondages such as addictions, fear, anger, envy, lust, greed, and unforgiveness

THE CALL TO BE HUMAN: *an introduction to Catholic morality.* Four talks to be given by Fr Martin Boland, parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead. For more information go to www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com All welcome.

TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE AND ENTER THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO DONATE



WEEKLY COLLECTION

Plate Collection £692.58 | Envelopes £757.34 | Digital Plates £512.00 | **Total £1961.92**

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 9 am until 1 pm. All normal enquiries can be made by phone 0207 476 4129 or email, canningtown@brcdt.org . All enquiries made after 1 pm 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/ . A meeting a registration will take place on Tuesday 6 th October at 6.30 pm
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

Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM)

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFR)

St Helen’s School

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Parish Sister:

St Bonaventure’s Boys School;

St Angela’s Girls School

Youth Representative

Monday – Friday 9am – 1pm 020 7476 4129

Sister Agnes, St Margaret’s Convent Bethell Avenue, E16 4JU 020 7511 3463

Father Francesco, St Fidelis Friary Killip Close E16 1LX 020 7474 0766

Headteacher: Claire Doherty Chargeable Lane, E13 8DW 020 7476 1785

Mary West 0207 476 4129 – canningtown@brcdt.org

Sister Barbara 020 8525 4229/07591016649

Headteacher: Chris McCormack Boleyn Rd, Forest Gate, E7 9QD 0208472 2749

Headteacher: Mark Johnson, St George’s Rd, Forest Gate E7 8HX 020 8472

smctyouthcouncil@gmail.com