



WE WELCOMED OUR NEW ASSISANT CURATE THE REVD DR LYANNE BECKERSON TO ST PAUL'S ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH (SEE PAGE 8)

**Parish Magazine** 

Price 50p April 2025

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#### Dear Friends

I am sometimes asked which is busier, Christmas or Easter. My answer usually depends on when the question is asked. Ask me on Christmas Eve, then I'm likely to say Christmas. Ask me on Maundy Thursday, then I'll probably say Easter.

The other, similar question I am asked is which I prefer. Or which is more important. The answer is that I love them both, and they are equally as important. The death and resurrection of Jesus mean nothing without the Incarnation. The Incarnation is pointless without death and resurrection.

But, if you really pushed me, I'd have to say that Holy Week and Easter is my highlight of the Church's year. That's partly because there is so much happening at Christmas which detracts from, or competes with, our liturgical celebration. But it's also because the liturgies of Holy Week help me – indeed, help us – to enter into the mystery of our salvation. The procession on Palm Sunday, the footwashing and Watch of the Passion on Maundy Thursday, the creeping to the cross on Good Friday, and the extraordinary ceremonial of the Easter Vigil: all of these help us to be drawn into the story.

Being drawn into the story is important. We are not simply spectators to the events of Holy Week. We don't sit on the sofa, or in an auditorium, and watch passively. The death and resurrection of Jesus *means* something to us, so these liturgies help us to make the story of Jesus *our* story. For it is by his death and resurrection that we are saved. By our baptism, we are participants in that death and resurrection.

As I do every year, I enjoin each and every one of you to come to church as much as possible during these holy days. As we celebrate the Lord's passion, death and resurrection, may we find ourselves transformed by him who is our Saviour and our God.

With my love and prayers, Fr Daniel

## Services in April 2025



Morning Prayer is said publically at **9.10am** and Evening Prayer at **5pm** Monday-Thursday.

The church is open for visitors and private prayer every day from 9am to 5pm

| Day | Date | Observance  | Time                                | Services   | Prayer Intention                             |
|-----|------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Т   | I    |   |                                     |  | Peace in Ukraine                             |
| W   | 2    |   | 12pm<br>12.30pm                     | Lectio Divina<br>Eucharist   | St Michael & All Angels,<br>Negage           |
| Т   | 3    |   |                                     |  | Those preparing for baptism and confirmation |
| F   | 4    |   |                                     |  | The unemployed                               |
| S   | 5    |   |                                     |  | Our children and young people                |
| S   | 6    | THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF<br>LENT<br>Passiontide begins | 8am<br>9.15am<br>10.30am<br>12pm    | Said Eucharist<br>Joyful Noise Eucharist<br>Sung Eucharist<br>Holy Baptism<br>Norfolk Pilgrimage until<br>Thursday | Our parish and its people                    |
| М   | 7    |   |                                     |  | Our pilgrims                                 |
| Т   | 8    |   |                                     |  | Racial justice                               |
| W   | 9    |   | 12pm<br>12.30pm                     | Lectio Divina<br>Eucharist   | Parish clergy                                |
| Т   | 10   |   |                                     |  | Local hospitals                              |
| F   | П    |   |                                     |  | Kate and Bambos, our MPs                     |
| S   | 12   |   |                                     |  | Peace in the Middle East                     |
| S   | 13   | PALM SUNDAY                                       | 8am<br>10am                         | Said Eucharist<br>All-Together Eucharist   | Our parish and its people                    |
| М   | 14   | Monday of Holy Week                               | 7pm                                 | Eucharist  | Our keeping of Holy Week                     |
| Т   | 15   | Tuesday of Holy Week                              | 7pm                                 | Eucharist  | The unity of the Church                      |
| W   | 16   | Wednesday of Holy Week                            | 12.30pm<br>7pm                      | Eucharist<br>Eucharist   | Those falsely imprisoned                     |
| Т   | 17   | MAUNDY THURSDAY                                   | 8pm                                 | Sung Eucharist followed by<br>Watch of the Passion until midnight  | Love for one another                         |
| F   | 18   | GOOD FRIDAY                                       | 10am<br>11.30am<br>2pm              | Children's Liturgy Walk of Witness Liturgy of Good Friday  | Devotion the Lord in his Passion             |
| S   | 19   | EASTER EVE  | 8.30pm                              | The Easter Vigil   | Those to be baptised                         |
| S   | 20   | EASTER DAY  | 8am<br>9.15am<br>10.30am            | Said Eucharist<br>Joyful Noise Eucharist<br>Sung Eucharist   | Our parish and its people                    |
| М   | 21   | Monday of Easter Week                             |                                     |  | Joy in the Risen Lord                        |
| Т   | 22   | Tuesday of Easter Week                            |                                     |  | The unity of Christ's Church                 |
| W   | 23   | Wednesday of Easter Week                          | 12.30pm                             | Eucharist  | The persecuted Church                        |
| Т   | 24   | Thursday of Easter Week                           |                                     |  | The mission of the Church                    |
| F   | 25   | Friday of Easter Week                             |                                     |  | Those baptised at Easter                     |
| S   | 26   | Saturday of Easter Week                           | 12.30pm                             | Burial of Ashes  | The faithful departed                        |
| S   | 27   |   | 8am<br>9.15am<br>10.30am<br>12.30pm | Said Eucharist<br>Joyful Noise<br>Sung Eucharist<br>Holy Baptism   | Our parish and its people                    |
| М   | 28   | St George   | 12.30pm                             | Eucharist  | The spiritual life of our nation             |
| Т   | 29   | St Mark   | 12.30pm                             | Eucharist  | Evangelists                                  |
| W   | 30   |   | 12.30pm                             | Eucharist  | St Paul's School                             |

Services times are subject to change. Please contact the Parish Office for details. Contact the clergy if you would like to speak to someone regarding your spiritual life, or to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession)

#### **APRIL 2025 FLOWER ROTA**

There will be no flowers in church until the end of Lent

19<sup>th</sup> April Group session to decorate the church for Easter Day

26<sup>th</sup> April Adele Houldsworth

Adele would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to join the flower arranging team. Both those who are experienced flower arrangers and those who would like to develop their skills would be most welcome. To contact Adele ring 020 8360 3676.

# FROM THE REGISTERS FEBRUARY 2025 BAPTISMS



9<sup>th</sup> February Elizabeth Ritchie

#### PRAYER BOARD

Holy God,
Our lives are laid open before you;
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death of you Son
bring us healing and make us whole
in Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

## ST. MARK (25<sup>TH</sup>APRIL)



St Mark the Evangelist is understood to be the author of the gospel that bears his name, and this is the earliest gospel, written around 65AD.

We are first introduced to Mark in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 12) where he is called John Mark (John being his Jewish name and Mark his Latin name). He came from a believing family – it is his mother's house in Jerusalem that Peter returns to when he is miraculously released from prison. He appears to have been a cousin of Barnabas, and accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey, although there seems to have been some trouble and he left them part way through – a move that Paul deeply disapproved of, and it caused the rift between Paul and Barnabas. Paul refused to have Mark accompany them on the next missionary journey and went to Asia minor, while Barnabas and Mark went to Cyprus. This falling out seems to have been short-lived, as when Paul is later a prisoner in Rome, Mark is there as a helper (Colossians 4).

Mark was not one of the twelve disciples and it is not clear whether he knew Jesus personally at all. Some scholars believe that the reference to a young man fleeing naked from the garden of Gethsemane in Mark 14:51-52, is Mark – Mark's gospel is the only one to note this detail. In Rome he is understood to have been a disciple of Peter (Peter describes him warmly as 'my son'), and it is believed that it is Peter's eye witness account that Mark writes up while in Rome, which becomes the gospel according to Mark.

Mark's gospel is the shortest of the four gospels and the action unfolds at a breathless pace – the narrative moves quickly from one

episode to another in the life of Jesus, often saying 'straight away' or 'immediately'. He focuses on the miracles and actions of Jesus, emphasizing faith in Jesus as the Son of God. St Mark is represented by the winged lion, derived from the opening of the gospel that describes John the Baptist as the 'voice of one calling in the desert' which artists compared to a roaring lion. The wings come from the description of the four winged creatures in the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

There is a strong tradition of St Mark being the first Bishop of Alexandria in Egypt, and being martyred there during the reign of the Emperor Nero. He is also linked to North Eastern Italy and it is understood that in 829 his relics were removed (stolen) from Alexandria and transferred to Venice where they reside in St Mark's Basilica. He is the patron saint of Venice, along with notaries, prisoners and lions.

It is good to reflect on the life of Mark – a young man fleeing from the scene of Jesus arrest, and then leaving Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journey. Perhaps he found following the way of Jesus very difficult sometimes. In this he is an example to us, as these failures do not define him. He has left an enduring legacy in the gospel that bears his name, and was willing in the end to pay the ultimate price for his service of Christ.

Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sarah Elkins

#### **HALL HIRE**

The main Church Hall can be hired for weekend birthday parties.

£52.50 per hour. 3 hour minimum for a party booking

Discounts available for regular use. For more information contact our
Facilities Manager, Ayse Eris, at <a href="mailto:facilities@spwh.org">facilities@spwh.org</a> or 07946 852 110

## Holy Week & Easter 2025



#### Palm Sunday 13 April

Said Eucharist 8am

10am Liturgy of Palms, Procession

and All-Together Eucharist

Said Eucharist and homily

starting on The Green

#### Good Friday 18 April

10am Children's Liturgy

11.30am Ecumenical Walk of Witness

Liturgy of Good Friday, 2pm with Holy Communion

#### Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Easter Eve 19 April

8.30pm The Easter Vigil

followed by champagne

## Maundy Thursday 17 April

**Sung Eucharist** 8pm

7pm

followed by Watch of the

Passion until midnight

www.spwh.org @spwh1828

#### Easter Day 20 April

8am Said Eucharist

Joyful Noise Eucharist 9.15am

Sung Eucharist 10.30am

#### WELCOME TO OUR NEW ASSISTANT CURATE THE REVD DR LYANNE BECKERSON

The choir stalls were crowded for Evening Prayer on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March to witness the Licensing of our new Assistant Curate by the Archdeacon of Hampstead, The Ven John Hawkins

After the service there was an opportunity for those present to welcome Mthr Lyanne to



our parish and begin to get to know her over drinks and nibbles at the back of church. We look forward to getting to know her even better in the next weeks as she settles into life at St Paul's.



# May Fair Help Needed

#### SATURDAY 10TH MAY

We need YOUR HELP for our May Fair!

Would you like to <u>sponsor</u> the May Fair?

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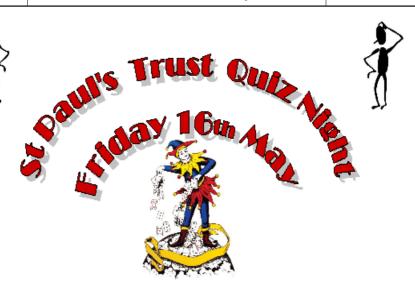
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Your Church needs you!



## in the Church Hall at 8 p.m (doors open 7.30 p.m.)

Tickets - £12 each or £80 for a table of 8.

Ploughman's Supper (French bread, cheese, etc.) included.

Please feel free to bring additional nibbles.

Drinks available from a licensed bar.

Please reserve tickets by I I th May at the latest by emailing Alan Davis(<u>a.davis I I4@btinternet.com</u>), calling the Parish Office (8886 4290), or speaking to a Trustee in the hall on a Sunday.

Payment can be made on-line to the Trust's CAF account (sort code 40-52-40, account number 00020539) – please include your name as a reference - or by cheque made payable to St Paul's Trust.



The Charity Curry Night on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February proved to be a very popular event. Caterers provided a wonderful range of curries and side dishes to start the meal and Dilani Dassenaike, a member of the Charity Sub-Committee, made some delicious mango mousses for the dessert.



Our thanks to Dilani for organising the food and also to Sue Jeffreys for the colourful Indianthemed decorations that transformed the Hall.

The event raised £555 for our annual charity, The Children's Society.



It was obvious that our seventy guests thoroughly enjoyed the meal as most of them came back for second helpings!

The money raised on the night was boosted by £60 with a game of 'Heads and tails' between the courses.



## NEWS FROM THE MOTHERS' UNION





At the Mothers' Union meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February, Fr Pete gave a fascinating talk on the global church. He started by showing a map of the global distribution of the world's religions, which showed that Christianity is the largest religious group globally, making up some 31%, a third of the world population. Second are Muslims at 25%, followed by Hindus at 15%.

The country with the highest number of

Christians is the USA, closely followed by Brazil and Mexico. Some 90% of people in Latin America and the Caribbean are Christian, and the percentage is also high in sub-Saharan Africa. Levels in Europe have fallen over the last century. Whilst numbers remain relatively high in southern European countries, they are below 30% in France and the UK. More people have been ordained in Africa and Asia than in Europe and North America and the traditional pattern of missionary work has now reversed, with missionaries flowing from those countries to Europe and North America.

The origins of Christian missionaries and theologians have changed significantly over the centuries. The first were from European and North African Mediterranean countries. In the Reformation, Europeans dominated, but more recently there has been an emphasis on liberation theology, developed in South and North America, and feminist and womanist theology, which focus on inequality.

In the UK, London's position is unique, as it is one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. 62% of Londoners say that they are religious, compared with 42% elsewhere. In London, 8.8% of London adults go to Church each week, compared with 5.6% elsewhere. This may be partly explained by the fact that, In London, there are more evangelical churches, many offering mid-week worship and activities.

The number of churches established to cater for particular groups (e.g. the Brazilian diaspora) was also growing fast, and many of these were keen to expand their reach beyond the groups for whom they were originally set up. Many of these Evangelical churches had achieved major success in attracting new people to Christianity. For example, the Australian Hillsong Church fills the Dominion Theatre many times each



Sunday. Pete suggested that some traditional churches could learn a great deal from these groups, particularly in terms of the welcome extended to new people.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks, followed by a delicious tea in the hall. Alan Davis

#### **MOTHERS' UNION AGM**

The Mothers' Union held their AGM on Thursday 20th March. It began with Fr Pete enrolling two new members, Thelma Ray and Doreen Lines. After this MU activities during the previous year were reviewed and the meeting received a report on our Action and



Outreach work. Will Sheldon presented the accounts for the last time before stepping down as Treasurer. He was warmly thanked for his work as the MU Treasurer for the last six years and presented with a gift. Theresa Davis was elected as MU leader and Hilary Crocker as Treasurer, plus six other committee members.

The meeting ended with afternoon tea in the Hall.

### A CARRICA RADICA RA **MOTHERS' UNION DIARY APRIL 2025**

THURSDAY IOTH APRIL AT 2 PM

THERESA DAVIS WILL GIVE A TALK ON HASSOCKS - A HISTORY OF CHURCH KNEELERS.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ALL OUR MOTHERS' UNION MEETINGS AND EVENTS SO DO COME ALONG AND JOIN US.

#### **LENT APPEAL 2025 - CLIMATE JUSTICE**

There is still time to support the Diocesan Lent Appeal. The money will be used in Angola and Mozambique to counteract the effects of climate change in these countries. You can use this QR code to donate or send cash/cheque via the Parish Office.



ofie

The Electoral Roll is the parish's register of electors who can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. It also provides us and the Diocese with an accurate 'membership list' of our church family.

Every six years, a new Electoral Roll is prepared. Everyone has to apply or re-apply to go on the Roll, even if you have been on it in the past. This applies **this year**.

There are two ways to apply to be on the Electoral Roll:

- + Electoral Roll Application Forms are available in church. Complete the form and leave it in the box at the back of church, or put through the Parish Office letterbox.
- + Download an editable PDF of the form from <a href="www.spwh.org">www.spwh.org</a>, complete it, and email it to the Electoral Roll Officer at <a href="electoralroll@spwh.org">electoralroll@spwh.org</a>

The new Electoral Roll is being prepared between **Sunday 16**<sup>th</sup> **March** and **Saturday 3**<sup>rd</sup> **May**. Please fill in a form during this timeframe. The sooner, the better!

It's really important that everyone who is eligible to be on the Electoral Roll fills in an application form. Please fill in your form today, and encourage others to do likewise!

#### **ENFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY**

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Many thanks... David Mann and Vasile Selever

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