St Gabriel's Church, Aldersbrook www.stgabrielsaldersbrook.org.uk

Weekly Newsletter 17th March 5th Sunday of Lent Passiontide begins

10am Parish Eucharist Celebrant Fr Martyn Hawkes Preacher Henry Lau 394, 379, 662, (165), 104

11.30am Children's choir rehearsal

Meeting over coffee to discuss how we wish to prepare for Christian Aid week. Sue our outgoing coordinator will help us think through the best way to progress things this year.

This Week

Evening Prayer

5pm Monday to Thursday on Zoom & in church. No evening prayer on Friday this week.

Tuesday 12th March

10-12 Open Church 1.30pm-3.30pm Afternoon Social Group in church

Lent Course

Continues Tuesday 12 noon, and Wednesday 7pm.

Wednesday

9.30am Prayer Group 11am Holy Communion 12 noon The Preschool Play Group 3.30 After School club

Thursday

10:00 - 11:45 am Open Church 10:15 - 11:15 am Tai Chi in church 11:45am – 1pm. Meditation and Reflection in church 1 - 2.15pm Yoga class in church.

Saturday

12 - 1pm Open church Saturday Organ music and an invitation to stay, listen, talk, pray. A time to take some time out during Lent. All welcome!

Next Saturday 23rd March

7.30pm concert in church - Latin American Harp, Cueca and other instruments and vocal. For something different, why not come along.

St Patrick's Day Ceilidh

Great work from a lovely team of St G and Friends to pull off last night's event. Many thanks due above all to Rusty who brought everything and everyone together so well.

Today after coffee in the hall we will have a soup lunch (served around 12 noon) to raise funds for the Diocesan Lent Appeal the Diocese of Jerusalem, which covers the territory of Gaza. Even if you can't stay to enjoy the delicious soup we would invite you to make a donation this Sunday or next. You can do so in a yellow envelope marked Lent appeal. You can donate direct also but we'd be glad to know how much as a church we raise.

Tuesday 19th March

10.30 am Bereavement Group for those experiencing loss at Christ Church Wanstead.

Holiday Club 2024.

Planning is now underway for holiday club - July 23rd to 26th. This years' theme is Joy! We are looking for volunteer leaders & young leaders but more immediately we are inviting members of the steering and creative groups to start working on the event with us. If you can help, please speak to Anthony or Clare or contact wwa.families@gmail.com / 07986180230 for more information.

Monday 15th April

8pm The book club will be meeting to discuss Richard Rohr's lent book, "Wondrous Encounters" The next book will be "The Essex Serpent" by Sarah Perry, to be considered on Monday 13th May. Newcomers are welcome!

Foodbank Update

Thank you for your continued generosity to the foodbank & Tin in a Bin, even as times are tight for all of us. Too many people depend on these donations to feed their families & there is no sign the numbers will decrease any time soon. Please continue to do what you can, knowing every single item is desperately needed. Thank you. Helen and the team.

Items for weekly notices need to submitted by Thursday evening. (<u>sarabertrand47@gmail.com</u>) **Magazine** - big push for the last deliveries. We are only producing a digital Easter card this year, so this is your only delivery for a while!

Holy Week services are in the magazine & on posters. Fliers also available to share with neighbour/friend.

Holy Week:

Reading opportunities abound: **Palm Sunday** 10am at Wanstead Park on the edge of Northumberland Ave/Ingatestone Road as we process to church. Passion gospel readers needed for morning service.

Palm Sunday evening 5pm - a lovely service of readings, hymns, prayers and silence reflecting on the 7 last words from the cross.

Tuesday in Holy Week: Tenebrae service with readings in candlelight to reflect on the arrest and passion of Jesus.

The Maundy Thursday vigil

We keep watch with Christ overnight in the garden of gethsemane (in church). A sign-up list for one hour covering the whole night is at the entrance - if you'd like to know more speak to Fr Martyn

Easter Flowers

Theme of yellow/gold and white only please. All help welcome to arrange flowers on Easter Saturday from 10am.

Easter breakfast

Gaynor has put a sign-up list for people to bring food items for after the dawn service.

For Our Prayers

For those who are sick:

Mr Ali, Eva and Peter Baker, Kevin Brown, Elwin Cockett, Joyce Demetriou, Peter Ellis, Margaret Filer, Eileen Galer, Martin Griffiths, Kelly Harmsworth, Sylvia Hawkes, Faye Jackman, Janis Lalor, Henry Lau, Jack Lewis, Milosh, John Mitchell, Marie Norman, Bibi Rahman, Mary Watts & those on the Prayer Board