

St Gabriel's Church,  
Aldersbrook  
[www.stgabrielsaldersbrook.org.uk](http://www.stgabrielsaldersbrook.org.uk)

Weekly Newsletter

Advent Sunday  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November

10am Parish Eucharist  
*Celebrant:* Rev. Canon Martyn Hawkes  
*Deacon:* Rev. Amy Taylor  
*Preacher:* Henry Lau

After church today all help is welcome to start the set-up for the Christmas market

The children and families group will be meeting downstairs in the choir vestry

#### This Week

##### **Morning Prayer**

9am Monday – Thursday  
In person only and all welcome  
Tuesday at Christ Church Wanstead

##### **Evening prayer**

5pm Monday – Thursday  
On zoom and in-person

##### **Tuesday**

10:00am – 12 noon Open Church

The Get-Together group meets for lunch at the Golden Fleece this week but the church will be open for those who may drop-in from 1.30 - 3pm

##### **Wednesday**

11am Holy Communion  
No Preschool Play Group or After School Club this week

7pm Soul Group will meet in the Choir Vestry. Our theme will be: The Creed, sharing our responses.

##### **Thursday**

10:00 - 11:45 am Open Church  
11:45am – 1pm. Meditation and Reflection in choir vestry  
No Tai Chi or Yoga this week.

*Items for weekly notices need to submitted by Thursday evening.  
(sarabertrand47@gmail.com)*

#### **Christmas Market**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 6.30-9pm**  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 12-3pm**  
Set-up starts after church today!  
All volunteers welcome.  
We welcome donations of good quality items including books, bric-a-brac, children's toys, bottles for the tombola, gifts etc. which can be brought to church during Open Church slots. Any prizes for the raffle would also be greatly appreciated

#### **Next Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

8.30am Holy Communion  
10.00am All-age Eucharist  
11.30am Children's choir rehearsal  
7.30pm Aldersbrook Community Choir concert

#### **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

7pm Police Safer Neighbourhood meeting - upstairs in the Hall. All welcome to learn more about crime prevention and local info.

#### **Book Club**

The next book club will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 8pm at the vicarage. We will be reading 2 books, feel free to read 1 or both. For advent, 'Listening to the Music of the Soul' by Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani. For fun, 'An Inconvenient Convent' by Simon Parke.

#### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

Advanced notice: Friends of St Gabriel's event - Comedy Night. Tickets will sell fast, so do get your ticket now if you are interested - in advance only. Bit.ly/stgcomedy

#### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

Burns Night - save the date, and watch this space for update on getting tickets.

#### **Foodbank Update**

Advent foodbank boxes are out now at the back of church. Thank you as always for your generosity. The last date for Christmas donations will be 16<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you. Helen and the team.

Today we begin a new church year, and a new lectionary year, with the Gospel of Matthew our main accompaniment to Sunday mornings. However, if you'd like to read a whole gospel though during Advent, do follow the bible reading plan for Mark's gospel (sheets at the entrance)

#### **Christmas services and events**

##### **Mon - Wed 15-17 December**

7pm - 8.30pm Carol Singing around the parish for The Children's Society. Singers & collectors needed - all abilities & experience welcome.

##### **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

6.30pm Christingle Service

##### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

6.00pm Carol Service

##### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Morning flowers and church clean (no 11am communion)

4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

##### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

10am Christmas morning mass

#### **Open Church on Tuesdays**

If you can help with keeping the church open on Tuesday mornings please do sign up to cover either a regular slot or to fill in one off gaps. The more our doors are open, the more people will see St Gabriel's is alive!

#### **For Our Prayers**

##### **For those who are sick:**

Saadia Akmal, Michelle Baker, Joyce Demetriou, Peter Ellis, Eileen Galer, Philip & Jennifer Hale, Kelly Harmsworth, Sylvia Hawkes, Nicky Hooper, Faye Jackman, Janis Lalor, Jack Lewis, John Mitchell, Marie Norman, William Starling, Kamalasan Vilait, Julie Waite-Wilson, Anita Watts, Mary Watts, Shirley Yick & those on the Prayer Board

##### **For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Closeta Gerald, James Spittle, Frederick Bettis