



Standing Together Against Violence

Church leaders from many denominations led the 'Standing Together Rally' in Trafalgar Square on Saturday 6 April responding to the high incidence of violence, especially amongst young people in the city.

The theme of the rally was

- **Standing Together** with families and communities impacted by violent crime
- **Standing Together** to work against violent crime
- **Standing Together** to find effective solutions to combat violent crime
- **Standing Together** to support all who have been affected by violent crime

The day began with prayers in St Martin-in-the-Fields led by church leaders including Bishop Jonathan, the Bishop of Edmonton, the Revd Peter Colwell from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, Pastor Julie Stokes, Bishop Danny Bennett, Pastor Nims Obunge, the Revd Ade Omooba and the Bishop of Barking, the Rt Revd Peter Hill.

They led prayers on a variety of subjects including: those in authority, unity church, social challenges, young people, peace in the countries cities, the rally and the nation

Over lunch some of those who were to speak and other invited guests were interviewed by the Revd Steve Coulson, one of the organisers. They then led the procession over to Trafalgar Square where two

hours of prayer, testimonies and music took place as the rally focused on how best to try to stem the tide of violent crime - and particularly knife crime - in our city.

The Rally was opened by the Revd Canon Rosemarie Mallett, Vicar of St John, Angell Town and Director of the Diocese's Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Department. The Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally and others led a time of lament.

Hundreds of people who had gathered from around the country for the rally, then heard from people involved in trying to tackle knife crime including Sophie Linden, London's Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

There was more music, scripture readings and prayers some led by the Revd Bill



Wilson, Vicar, St Stephen's South Lambeth and Bishop Jonathan. Bishop Christopher spoke to the crowd towards the end of the afternoon saying: "We must be salt and light otherwise young people will have their futures taken from them". His address can be found at <http://bit.ly/2GEqx2n>.

Addresses were also given by Cardinal Vincent Nicholls and Len Issacs of Ascension Trust who was one of the main organisers of the event in partnership with the Diocese of Southwark, London City Mission and Churches Together In Britain.



Those attending this inspiring event went away in the knowledge that they were not alone in the struggle to combat serious youth violence and encouraged that with prayer and action lives can be transformed



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**Visible
signs**

INSPIRED FOR THE FUTURE, 25 May 2019

10.00am: study morning with Dr Paula Gooder and Professor Esther Mombo

12.15pm: Eucharist with the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally DBE, presiding and Archdeacon of Southwark, the Venerable Dr Jane Steen, preaching

Southwark Cathedral, London SE1 9DA. Admission: free
For more information and to register: bit.ly/25YearsWomen



The Diocese of Southwark celebrates 25 years since women's ordination to the priesthood

HERE AM I, 22 May-2 June 2019

An exhibition of photography by Jim Grover, commissioned by the Bishop.

gallery@oxo, Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse Street, South Bank, London SE1 9PH

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Admission: free. W: www.here-am-i.com

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A view from THE BRIDGE

Looking back... looking forward...

I hope that you had a blessed Holy Week and joyful Easter Day and that the joy of Easter will go with you during Eastertide and the coming year.

As we look back on Easter and remember everything that Jesus did for us all it would be difficult not to reflect upon some of the tragic events that took place during Holy Week and Easter.

We saw the burning of the iconic Notre Dame in Paris and I am sure that, like me, you sat transfixed as the destruction unfolded.

Then on Easter morning the terrible events in Sri Lanka, where 359 people have died and more than 500 have been injured, brought home to us all the reality of all that there is to mourn in our world. (You will find the prayer that was written on this occasion on page 3) Rebellion continue to try to draw people's attention to the need for change in order to ensure that the world, which God gave to us to care for, continues to exist for future generations.

There is so much to be grateful for but also much to regret and be sorry about. It is important, therefore, that we take time to reflect upon our world and all that is happening and to pray for it.

We should also ask God - and ourselves - what more we can do in our lives to help to bring about positive change.

As we celebrate the joy of Easter, and all that God has given to us, it is right to give thanks as well for the work that goes on across the Diocese to give hope and support to those who need it.

Welcare has been doing this for 125 years and we are pleased to be able to bring you information and stories about their work in this edition of The Bridge. It is good to know that they, and so many others in the churches across our Diocese, are working to help families and others to know that God loves them no matter how hard life sometimes is.

Wendy S Robins



Pentecost services different this year

This year our Diocesan Pentecost celebrations will be in the Episcopal Areas.



The Croydon Area is planning services in each Deanery as follows:

CROYDON/ADDINGTON

Thursday 30 May at 7.30pm

A Sung Eucharist at Addington, St Mary The Blessed Virgin

CROYDON CENTRAL

Sunday 9 June at 6.30pm

A Pentecost Sunday Evening Service at Emmanuel Church (Normanton Road, Croydon)

CROYDON NORTH

Saturday 1 June at 5pm

A celebration of Thy Kingdom Come, alongside the Deanery Confirmation Service at Holy Saviour Church

CROYDON SOUTH

Thursday 30 May,

Each church in the deanery will launch Thy Kingdom Come on Ascension Day with a special service including prayer

for mission in our parishes.

Sunday 2 June at 6.30pm

St Mark, Woodcote will host a deanery service at which each church is invited to bring a prayer station representing an aspect of mission in their parish.

Sunday 9 June at 4pm

St Barnabas Purley is hosting a service for Churches Together in Purley and Kenley

REIGATE

Thursday 30 May at 7.30pm
An ecumenical Ascension Day Service at Reigate Hill.

Sunday 9 June at 3.30pm

Ecumenical Pentecost celebration service at Memorial Park, Redhill

SUTTON (Date tba)

Church of the Good Shepherd open church and prayer stations culminating in an ecumenical Pentecost service.

Monday 24 June 12 - 5 pm

South Beddington & Roundshaw are hosting a Quarante'Ore – i.e. joining the SCP 40 hours of prayer

In September All Saints Hackbridge are will hold open days with prayer stations.

TANDRIDGE

Sunday 9 June at 4pm

Pentecost café style service at Oxted, St Mary the Virgin

The Kingston Area celebration will be held at All Saints, Tooting on Sunday 9 June at 6pm

The Woolwich Area service is to take place at All Saints, Peckham on Sunday 9 June at 6pm. There will be a time of prayer between 3-5pm.

Refreshments will be served after both services.



Woolwich Area Readers held their AGM and Re-licensing Service on Saturday 6 April at St Paul's Church, Herne Hill.

Marion Watson (Area Warden for Woolwich) writes:

It was attended by the Venerable Alastair Cutting, and the guest speaker was the Revd Hilary Fife, a former hospital chaplain, who spoke movingly about supporting those who are bereaved in our churches.

It was Nicole Burgum's final duty as the Diocesan Warden of Readers so she was presented with flowers, with the love and thanks from the Readers of her own Area. She will continue in her role as a Reader at St Andrew's Church, Catford.

The new Warden Ray Wheeler was welcomed and assured of Woolwich Area's support and prayers.

The Revd Ruth Scott

A Memorial Service for the Revd Ruth Scott who died in February was held at St Mary, Richmond on Saturday 30 March. Ruth had been ordained in the Diocese of Southwark and served most of her ministry there.

She was a self-supporting Minister based in the Richmond Team from when she was deaconed in 1992 to 2001. From 2001 – 2008 she was the Chaplain to the Hickey's Almshouses in Richmond and from 2009-13 she was Chaplain to Christ's School Richmond.

So, it was no surprise that the church was packed as many of those whose lives she had touched gathered to remember her and her life.

The Revd Canon Julian Reindorp, former Team Rector in the Richmond Team recalled the work that Ruth had done in Richmond and David Porter, The Archbishop of Canterbury's Chief of Staff talked about her work

further afield especially her reconciliation work. The Radio personality Chris Evans talked about her work in broadcasting and Alison Campbell talked about her gift for friendship and her involvement with Terry Wogan's TOGS.

There was also a moving tribute from her family and people were asked to place a flower on and around the Altar as an act of thanksgiving for her life.

Many from the Diocese were there to say goodbye to someone who had mattered a great deal to many people. Ruth and her husband had moved to Winchester and donations were to be for a 'snuggle bed' for the ward in Southampton general hospital in which had cared for Ruth during her last illness.



The **JUNE** edition is due to be printed on **30 MAY** and in your parish from the following Sunday. Material for that edition must be with Wendy S. Robins at Trinity House by **MONDAY 20 MAY**

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. All photographs submitted for publication will assume to have the necessary permission for printing. So, please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so.

Forms for permission for the use of photographs of children and adults who may be vulnerable can be found at www.southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures



New Rector at Betchworth and Buckland

On 10 April with a very full church, the Revd Anna Moore was instituted by Bishop Jonathan as Rector of St Michael Betchworth and St Mary the Virgin, Buckland. She was formally welcomed by the churchwardens and local dignitaries in the presence of friends, family, clergy and parishioners of Buckland and Betchworth and St Mark, Reigate. The service was followed by refreshments, provided by people from the two parishes.

THE BRIDGE

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Abbey Wood celebrates hall restoration



Above (l-r) the Revd David Sherratt, Vicar of St Michael & All Angels, Cllr Brian Bishop, Mayor of Bexley, Bishop Christopher and Cllr Christine May, Mayor of Greenwich

St Michael & All Angels, Abbey Wood, celebrated the completion of their church hall restoration project with a tea party on 13 April.

The project included a new roof and refurbishment of the hall and toilets. The hall dates from 1904, and was initially a mission church, until the church was built in 1908. Since then it has been a vital community resource for the people of Abbey Wood.

Guests at the Celebratory Afternoon Tea included Bishop Christopher, the Mayors of Bexley and Greenwich, Teresa Pearce MP (Erith &

Thamesmead) together with parishioners and local people.

Blessing the hall Bishop Christopher (photo left) expressed his thanks to all who had contributed in any way to the success of the project.

Biffa - a waste management company represented at the opening by Patrick O'Mahoney, Operations Support Manager for the area - award funded the new roof, and the Suez Communities Trust funded much of the costs to restore and refurbish the interior and exterior of the hall.

Other charitable help came from the Foyle Foundation, The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation and The Beatrice Laing Trust. The Mayor of Greenwich thanked the

contractors mentioning the WWII shrapnel found by the roofers embedded in the old roof and the scheduling of work to take place outside of the "swift" nesting season.

The birds will soon be back from Africa to nest in the eaves for the summer!

The Mayor of Bexley expressed his thanks to the Abbey Wood community - groups and individuals - for raising funds towards the restoration of the hall Fund raising locally continues, for stage two of the project, to restore the church, at a cost of at least £300,000. Plans for this are well advanced, and grant applications have been made. Work will start as soon as practical.

Croydon MU marks Lady Day

On 25 March Croydon North, Central and Addington Deanery Mothers' Union marked Lady Day with a Quiet Morning at St Mildred's Church, Addiscombe led by the Revd Roger Hagon.

Meg Simmons writes:

We studied the painting of the Annunciation by Fra Angelico (below), considered Mary's dilemmas and compared them with our dilemmas. During the Eucharist at the end of the morning, Penny Locke was commissioned as Deanery leader by the Revd Simon Foster.



The Easter Journey in Charlton Deanery

Having successfully run the Christmas Journey for the last five years, the Charlton Deanery Schools project decided to trial the Easter Journey during the last week of term.

The Revd Margaret Cave writes:

Seven Year 5 classes came on the journey at Christ Church East Greenwich over the first three days of April. There was also a community performance on a Saturday so that anyone could come and experience the journey for themselves.

The Easter Journey is an experiential journey from the triumphal entry to Jerusalem

through the events of Holy Week and culminating in a scene with Mary Magdalene and Jesus in the resurrection garden. The whole class is led round the journey by a 'story teller' with the class divided into four groups with a journey leader so that there can be reflection before, during and after the journey.

The journey gives 9 and 10 year-olds the opportunity to piece together bits of the story and work out the connections and links for themselves. It was wonderful to hear children having that moment of insight when they suddenly 'got' the 'parable of the stone that the builders rejected' or when they realised, in the darkness of the

garden, who the soldiers were coming to arrest.

All the class teachers gave excellent feedback and we had lovely comments and appreciation from visiting parents. One teacher was moved to tears by Mary, mother of Jesus' powerful monologue. One said, 'It was an excellent, immersive and age appropriate experience for the class' and another, 'moving from scene to scene was a really effective way to draw the children into the story' and 'the Easter Journey really brought to life what Christians believe about Jess and the real meaning of the Easter festival'.

The team of volunteers found it an inspiring project to be involved with, profound and moving. We will definitely be doing it again.

The Revd Margaret Cave chairs the Charlton Deanery Schools Project



Mary discovers the stone rolled away from the tomb

Praying for the people of Sri Lanka

Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' (John 20.19)

Risen Lord Jesus, as our sisters and brothers knelt to pray life was taken from them, as others relaxed life was taken from them.

In the presence of such evil keep us firm in faith and constant in love that the world might be filled with your life, your light and your peace.

Amen.

Prayer contributed by The Dean, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn



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Southwark Cathedral was full for the Chrism Eucharist on Maundy Thursday.

During the service clergy renew their ordination promises and, in accordance with ancient practice the Bishop blesses the oils to be used in ministry during the coming year. It is also the occasion in the year when the Bishop speaks directly to his ordained colleagues. The Bishop's sermon focused on standing at the foot of the cross and can be found in full at : <https://bit.ly/2V9P6fB>
Photos of the service are on Flickr: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmCFzp9T>

New faces at St Cecilia's and the Cathedral

Mrs Renata Joseph has been appointed as the permanent Headteacher of Saint Cecilia's Church of England School, Wandsworth, from April 2019.

She joins Saint Cecilia's from Canons High School in Edgware, where she led the development of Teaching and Learning and more recently Staff Professionalism and The Canons Park Teaching School Alliance. Prior to that Mrs

Joseph was a senior leader at The Green School for Girls, in west London.

Mrs Joseph is also a trustee for the National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE) and has significant experience and expertise in outstanding provision for the more able pupils, which includes a commitment to challenging all pupils.



Ian Keatley has been appointed as the new Director of Music of Southwark Cathedral, succeeding Peter Wright who retires at the end of July, after 31 years as Director of Music.

Ian is currently Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. A former Organ Scholar at Southwark Cathedral, he began his career as a cathedral musician as a Vicar Choral at Wells Cathedral, and has

served at Westminster Abbey, the Chapels Royal and the Tower of London. Ian is also a Trustee of the Charles Wood Festival and the Founding Director of the New Charles Wood Girls' Choir.

Ian will be installed as Director of Music on Sunday 8 September, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Patronal Festival of the Cathedral.



On Thursday 11 April St Nicholas, Sutton hosted the premiere of My Front Door, a powerful new work by Jan Keone. The one-act play was performed by a group of adult drama students from Sutton College at which Mr Keone is a tutor.

This deliberately sparse production was presented in a workshop style. The audience included the Deputy Mayor of Sutton, and the Principal of Sutton College - and members of SPEAR outreach teams from Sutton, Merton

and Wandsworth. Hayley the SPEAR Rough Sleeper Navigator for Wandsworth, remarked on how sensitively the situation was portrayed in the production and how interesting the angle from which the issue of homelessness was looked at. SPEAR is a charity for people experiencing homelessness in SW London. A retiring collection in aid of the 2020 Sutton Winter Shelter (organised by Sutton Community Works) raised £285.

St John's School mural dedicated

At St John's C of E School, Kingston, the whole school community worked together to create mural depicting what the school holds dear.

Headteacher Lulu Esua writes:

It beautifully depicts God's love at the heart of our school, our motto of believe, inspire, achieve, our inclusive ethos, our core values of respect, service, honesty and perseverance, our care

of the earth and our close connections with our church and local community. We pray its vibrant colours, graphics and Bible quotes will bring hope and joy to all in our school community.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Richard Cheetham to bless the mural during Collective Worship with our vicar Vicky Maunder on Wednesday 27 February. It was also an opportunity for our children to find out more about the role of the Bishop.



The mural was designed by the parent of a child at the school - Hannah Hines - who told the children "Would any of you be surprised if I said that I didn't quite know how I was going to create this mural when I was first asked

to make it? The more time I spent developing my ideas, the more I realised that the words I was trying to integrate into the picture (from the St John's school motto) could guide me... "Believe. Inspire. Achieve."

'Flash' appeal raises funds for cyclone relief in Chimanimani

There was an added urgency to the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call this year, following the devastation caused by Cyclone Idai in some of our link Dioceses in Zimbabwe. And for St Anne and All Saints Church in South Lambeth it was the spur to launch a flash fundraising appeal in memory of our late friends, Robin and Jennifer Plunket.

The Revd Fraser Dyer writes:

Members of the congregation at St Anne's before their respective deaths, Robin (d.2013) and Jennifer (d.2018) spent 53 years of their married life together pioneering timber farming in East Rhodesia, later to become Zimbabwe.

Unlike many of their peers, they campaigned against white minority rule. Jennifer established what are thought to be the first women's co-operatives on the African continent, selling traditional handicrafts while at the same time promoting literacy and other skills.

It was telling of the respect in which they were held that under Robert Mugabe's policy of evicting white farmers from their land, the Plunket estate was left untouched.

Robin and Jennifer were both active in supporting the church at Chimanimani, and the congregation there would appear on St Anne's prayer list from time to time when Jennifer received news of any particular challenges they were facing.

Although living in London full time for health reasons, the Plunkets' hearts were never far from Zimbabwe and the people they loved.

The farm is now run by their nephew, and it was distressing to hear from him of the devastation and loss of life caused by Cyclone Idai. As well as destroying crops and farm buildings, including workers' accommodation, 22 people lost their lives including 12 children.

Knowing how distressed Robin and Jennifer would be by this news, the congregation at St Anne's rallied to raise funds for the church at Chimanimani with an ambitious target of finding £500 in just eight days.

People's generosity exceeded all expectations and a total of £1289.25 was collected.

We are grateful to the Diocese for graciously agreeing to channel this donation through the Bishop's Lent Call, to the church at Chimanimani on our behalf.



Jennifer, Lady Plunket.
Photo: John Bailey



Will you 'Circle the City'?

Bridge readers are invited to join Christian Aid on Sunday 19 May at

Circle the City, the annual sponsored walk around the City of London.

Explore the City's historic places of worship, many also hosting music, entertainment and activities for all - and raise money for Christian Aid.

Sign up now at ctc2019.eventbrite.co.uk or email ctc@christian-aid.org to find out more.

welcare... 125 years

Diocesan family support charity welcare has been supporting parents and children for 125 years and is marking this achievement in 2019 with a special service at Southwark Cathedral at 11.00 am on Saturday 15 June.

Taking part in this service will be many of the people who have helped Welcare's staff improve the lives of struggling families, including both clergy and volunteers, as well as some of the families themselves.

Welcare's roots go back to 1894, when the then Bishop of Rochester, the Rt Revd Randall Davidson, and his wife Edith, started the Diocesan Association for the Care of Friendless Girls to support unmarried mothers. The Association sprang from work they had already been undertaking at a local level.

Over the years the organisation was renamed several times, transitioning to the Southwark Diocesan Association for Prevention and Rescue Work in 1914, then the Southwark Diocesan Council for Wel-Care in 1970, now shortened to welcare.

Welcare CEO, Anna Khan, explains: "As the child and family support charity for the Diocese of Southwark it has always been Welcare's mission to help to give children the best possible start in life. The backing of the Diocese, and its belief in the importance and value of our work, has been fundamental to sustaining the organisation through changing times.

In the last 12 months alone we were able to help over 900 children to have a better future through the programmes we run. However, we could not have done this without the active support of our Bishops and diocesan officers and the congregations and clergy from parishes in all the areas we serve. We are hugely grateful for all the donations and prayerful support we receive. In addition, individual members

Welcare CEO Anna Khan



of congregations volunteer with us, doing everything from providing one-to-one support to children and families, to helping us at an administrative and governance level. This special service of Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to thank them all publicly.

Uniquely welcare can deliver services that reach people who may otherwise slip through the net. Social care services are stretched to the limit in the face of funding cuts and the reorganisation of the Health and Early Help systems. There is a real need in society for the support and care that our staff and volunteers can provide."

Underlining this continuing need, Cherry Murdoch, Chair of Welcare's Board of Trustees from 2017, added: "I am reminded of the words of a former Chair of welcare, Winifred Stone, who said at our centenary celebrations: 'We believe in what our predecessors began, and we must take that forward, for there can be no doubt about the need...we pray that we may be as responsive, imaginative and tenacious as those who have brought us thus far'."

"I can only echo her words and say that I feel very honoured to be Chair of Welcare in this very special anniversary year, and to join everyone in celebrating past achievements, while looking to the future."

Changing to meet changing times

By 2006 the original 12 independent local Welcare organisations merged to create a larger charity which was capable of tendering for contracts in the new commissioning environment which increasingly favoured larger suppliers. By doing so, Welcare was able to continue to deliver services on a local basis in South London and East Surrey, focusing on the sort of work that the voluntary sector can deliver more effectively than statutory services.

Just as Welcare's services broadened from the original mother and baby homes to more preventative services and family support over time, Welcare is today evolving to offer new programmes and courses to meet the demands the community faces. This

includes work with young people aged 11-13 to build emotional health and well-being and enable them to address their concerns about personal safety and living in areas where peer and youth violence is prevalent.

Says Anna Khan: "Today we focus on the key preventative actions and support that help people to develop the life skills they need to manage the financial, social and health issues confronting them. These can sometimes include domestic abuse and violence, which affects both parents and children."

Older age group

Welcare has also extended its reach to include families with older children up to the age of 13. This is in recognition of the critical period when children transition from primary to secondary education. Innovative group work for this age group includes a domestic abuse recovery and prevention programme, MySpace, a flexible parenting programme, Strengthening

Families, Strengthening Communities and a specific transition group called My Next Step which Welcare is piloting in partnership with St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common.

These core group-work programmes have now been running for five years and the impact they can have is clear in the story of Myra and Mia (not their real names) in the case study below.

Myra and Mia were supported by Hannah Franklin, one of Welcare's professional social workers. Hannah commented: "With our help, Myra and Mia have come a long way. Welcare also contributed to a report for the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service to support with supervised contact arrangements with Mia's father.

"Mia now has safe contact with her father and is on a waiting list for a volunteer child mentor."

New programme for 2019

Welcare is continuing to evolve and from May 2019, will be running a fun new programme, the #CapeAbility campaign, encouraging children to thrive, to care and to inspire. Using the theme of Capes and Super-Heroes, it shows how Welcare can help children to thrive through work to build emotional well-being; to care, through a focus on mutual respect and positive relationships; so that children can then go on to inspire their peers and their families to have healthy relationships.

Thrive, care and inspire will be key themes at the 125th Anniversary service, and will run through Welcare's work throughout 2019 and beyond.

Bishop Christopher sums up

Welcare's President is the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, who

is very supportive of Welcare's work throughout the Diocese.

He believes that the need for Welcare is as great today as it was in the very different circumstances in which his fellow Bishop, the Rt Revd Randall Davidson, launched the charity 125 years ago, in what was then the Diocese of Rochester.

Bishop Christopher says: "As a society, we need to be reminded of the important role parenting plays in a loving and caring environment in shaping children's futures.

"We must also recognise the additional support wider communities can provide in families' lives.

"Welcare's services are dedicated to bringing support to those children and families who are damaged by social isolation, domestic abuse, financial hardship or disadvantage. Welcare understands the pressures of family life today and is committed to strengthening families through small, supportive interventions which can transform the lives of vulnerable children and their families. Supporting Welcare in prayer, financially or by volunteering, provides the opportunity to respond to the needs of these vulnerable children and families, and to work together for the common good and to transform lives.

"I give thanks to God for Welcare and for the dedicated service of those who support the mission of the charity in our communities throughout South London and East Surrey."



#Thrive, #Care, #Inspire - the #CapeAbility campaign

Helping families like Myra and Mia*

Myra and Mia were referred to Welcare via Lambeth's domestic violence service after domestic abuse towards Myra by Mia's father.

Welcare programmes for Myra (Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities) and Mia (MySpace) helped them both to come to terms with the abuse and their feelings.

Myra writes: "My daughter's father was abusive towards me. I had no friends or family – no-one to talk to. I felt like a nobody. I had become a frightened timid person. I couldn't talk about my feelings to anyone or even think clearly about what happened to me.

"The worst thing was the effect on my daughter. She was hardly going to school – she was so anxious and was always sick. She used to take it out on me – shouting and hitting out.



"Social services referred us to Welcare. They thought it was important for us both to talk about the abuse, and our feelings."

Starting MySpace

"We both went to a course called MySpace. It's a 12-week programme organised by Welcare just for children from homes where there has been domestic violence to help them recover. There was a group session for the children in one room, and a separate meeting room where the parents (the non-abusing parent) could sit and talk. Mia was able to talk about what had happened and

start to understand her feelings about it.

"The people on the course made her feel welcome and that it was OK to talk. They did things like arts and crafts too – Mia's favourite session was one where they made a volcano to help express anger.

"Listening to Mia made me understand how she was feeling and what she'd been through, and the group with the other mums really helped me understand how to help her recovery and healing. It was helpful to be alongside a group of women with similar experiences. The support made

me feel less alone and helped me regain my confidence – we called ourselves the 'warrior women'."

Support for Mother and Daughter

Myra continues: "I wanted to be a better parent for Mia. So I signed up to go to Welcare's Strengthening Families (SFSC) group too.

"Going to this group helped me to feel more confident. They were there when I really needed them, like when I had to go to an Educational panel to discuss Mia's low school attendance. They helped me prepare what I needed to say, and I felt much less anxious going in.

"Mia is going to school more now. I'm so much more confident and feel more able to understand Mia's feelings and how to help her – we're getting on much better now. I've got a place at a local college and I'm looking for a job at an emergency services phone centre. I'd like to help other people in times of crisis."

***names have been changed**

supporting families

welcare services and values in 2019

Welcare's services are tailored to meet the real needs of the communities in which we work.

We provide practical help and support to families with children up to the age of 13 who are facing or overcoming

crises, empowering them to rebuild their lives and access opportunities to ensure their children have a secure and confident childhood and future.

We work with families and children who often feel unseen, and can slip through the net that other services might provide. We support families and children facing or



recovering from difficult issues such as:

- domestic abuse and violence
- housing and financial problems
- bereavement and illness
- mental ill health
- addiction/substance abuse
- troubled transitions for children, including primary

- to secondary school
- social exclusion and self-esteem issues
- behavioural problems at school/home
- relationship and parenting problems.

We believe in offering unconditional support and have learnt that external appearances can tell you very little about the struggles someone may be facing behind closed doors.

By working together with families, we hope to create a society where parents and children have the confidence to recognise their own strengths and seize every opportunity to flourish. Our mission is to work alongside parents to give

children secure and confident childhoods which enable them to thrive in the future.

We do this by:

- supporting families and children to develop resilience, confidence and self-esteem
- enabling children and families to thrive within their communities
- providing practical support to meet immediate needs
- working with families to pre-empt the need for statutory social work interventions
- developing our services to meet children's emotional health and well being
- working collaboratively with communities, schools and churches.

welcare's values...

We are proud of our Christian heritage and identity and derive our values from our Anglican origins. We believe that the essence of these values is shared by those of other faiths and none.

Welcare is:

Inclusive – our services are open and are offered unconditionally to all who have needs we can help

Nurturing – we strengthen and inspire families by being flexible and responsive to the evolving needs of children and families

Collaborative – we work in partnership with children, their families and other agencies.

Trusted – we are a respected and established charity that is honest, transparent and

accountable. Our services are supervised by professionally qualified staff

Beneficiary-focused – we always put the safety and wellbeing of children and families first.

...and services

We blend the skills of our professional staff with our trained volunteers, enabling us to provide longer-term support for individual children and parents when required.

Individual one-to-one Support Sessions

Family Support Workers provide one-to-one sessions for parents, children or families to work through the difficulties that they are experiencing. Support Workers use a visual tool called **Family Outcome Star+**, in collaboration with service users, to help both the family and Welcare to measure

the impact or difference made to their lives.

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC)

is an inclusive, evidence-based parenting programme, designed to promote protective factors which are associated with good parenting and better outcomes for children.

It has been adapted from an American programme - Strengthening multi-ethnic families. The course can only be delivered by facilitators trained by the Race Equality Foundation and has received the CANparent quality mark from ParentingUK, which is part of Family Lives.

Mentoring and Family Helpers

Welcare's volunteer programme provides specially-trained Mentors for children and Family Helpers for parents to provide additional and longer-term practical support. Volunteer Mentors are matched

with children who are struggling with confidence or self-esteem, behavioural issues, or just need some extra time and attention. The aim of the mentoring relationship is to encourage behaviours and activities that can be sustained after the matching has been completed. Volunteer Family Helpers can help parents develop household routines, assess which benefits they may be entitled to, help them put family budgets in place or accompany a new mum to the local nursery.

MySpace

is a 12 week community-based treatment and recovery programme for children from homes where domestic violence and abuse has occurred. It is accredited by Against Violence & Abuse (AVA) and provides a safe and welcoming space for children who have been impacted by domestic abuse in their own

homes to process, understand and manage their feelings and responses towards their experiences.

Specialised Groups

Welcare offers other groups for parents and children across their centres, for example, OurPlace, a young people's drop-in group run at the Inner-London centre in Lambeth and our Greenwich centre based on the Nightingale Estate in Woolwich Arsenal.

Advocacy and signposting

As well as running a range of courses, Welcare's Redhill Children's Centre signposts parents and families in need to the best local resources available to them and, if required, can also help them to access those resources. Workers and volunteers assist families with filling in forms, applying for benefits and accompanying them on visits to schools and nurseries.

Contact welcare

If you would like more information on Welcare's services, to ask for help, or to find out how you can contribute by volunteering or donating, please do get in touch.

For general enquiries, or to ask for help, visit www.welcare.org or contact info@welcare.org you can also write to Welcare, 19 Frederick Crescent, London SW9 6XN.

For information on raising money with or for Welcare, visit www.welcare.org/getinvolved or contact fundraising@welcare.org

For information on our volunteering programme, or to register interest in becoming a volunteer, visit www.welcare.org/getinvolved/volunteer or contact volunteering@welcare.org

If you would like to contact a specific centre, or hear more about local events, contact your local office:

Inner London:

tel: 0207 820 7913, email:

InnerLondon@welcare.org

Bromley: tel: 0208 466 0399,

email: Bromley@welcare.org

Greenwich:

tel: 0208 854 3865, email:

Greenwich@welcare.org

South-west London:

tel: 0208 893 9123, email:

SWLondon@welcare.org

East Surrey:

tel: 01737 780884,

email: Redhill@welcare.org

[f/welcareuk](https://www.facebook.com/welcareuk)

[@welcareuk](https://twitter.com/welcareuk)

You are warmly invited to join us at our service of thanksgiving and celebration for the work of Welcare over the last 125 years at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 15 June, 11am. Please join us.

Volunteering for welcare

Welcare offers a comprehensive volunteering programme.

Our volunteers come from a wide range of backgrounds, ages and experience. This diverse team of volunteers helps Welcare bring its services into the heart of the community. Although volunteering with families can at times be challenging, we are dedicated to ensuring everyone has a positive volunteering experience.

As a volunteer you can:

- make a positive difference to a child's life
- help to strengthen and empower families
- build your own confidence
- learn new skills

- increase your employability.

Welcare volunteers benefit from a professional support structure and volunteers have a

detailed role description, which gives clear guidance of their role and responsibilities within the organisation. We have



just renewed our Investing in Volunteers accreditation, which is the UK quality standard for good practice in volunteer management and support.

Volunteers are never asked to fulfil the role of a member of staff; volunteers complement the professional support we offer families and children. Where we are able to we will assist in giving you new experiences and developing new skills.

At Welcare volunteers are an integral part of the team. Whether you have worked in a similar role before, or working with families is an entirely new experience, our training provides all the practical knowledge you need to have an enjoyable and safe volunteering experience. We have a range of volunteer opportunities and the

time and commitment needed depends on the role.

Some volunteers help in the office, others at one off events, whilst some volunteer weekly mentoring families and children, or helping run group sessions.

We are also happy to welcome volunteers who feel they have talents to offer outside of the family support structure. We have welcomed volunteers who have lent their time and expertise to work directly with staff on our digital projects, including website analysis and photography.

Whatever your skills and life experience, if you want to help but don't feel that hands on family work is right for you, do get in touch and tell us what you can offer.

Bryan Harris's PARISH PROFILE

The coming of the London to Brighton Railway in 1841 brought a major expansion to the Surrey market town, Reigate.

For 600 years the parish church (St Mary Magdalene) had covered the whole of the Reigate/Redhill area. But with the rapid increase in population and house building four new churches were built: St Matthew, St Mark, St Luke, and St John – two in Reigate and two in Redhill.

St Mark's Church was consecrated in 1860 to serve a growing community of big, detached houses north of the railway. Although a substantial structure, it was built in just a year – thanks to plenty of available (ex-railway) labour and an easy to work local stone. But while Reigate stone made construction easier, it crumbles easily! By 1919 the steeple was unsafe and had to

be demolished and, especially as it wasn't a wealthy parish, the regular need for expensive repairs led to plans to replace the building in the 1930s. That was abandoned with the outbreak of WW2 – where extensive bomb damage made matters worse! Despite major post-war rebuilding work, by the 70s replacement was once again on the agenda. Instead the 1980s saw reordering and further restoration. Nevertheless last year alone, £100k had to be spent on the upper levels to save the tower – and building repairs and maintenance remains a major financial challenge.

The current Vicar, the Revd Martin Colton spent his sabbatical last year researching and writing a new history of St Mark's church which he considered sub-titling "a story of debt, loans and crumbling stonework". Not surprisingly St Mark's is not a listed building – although the 1917 War Memorial in the churchyard is! The lack of listing restricts access to the grants which might help preserve the crumbling fabric!

But somehow St Mark's Church survives, thanks to the care of successive generations of parishioners and a lot of fund-raising, and generous local people – but just don't breathe too heavily on the stonework!

With a number of churches within walking distance of each other, people in Reigate tend to gravitate to one which suits their tradition or preference.



In St Mark's case it's 'modern catholic' and it attracts some 40% of the electoral roll from outside the parish. The congregation is largely in the 'upper age range' but there are a considerable number of younger families with children. And that has affected the way St Mark's organises its worship.

Sunday's calendar is very traditional. It begins with a said 8am BCP Holy Communion. Then at 10am there is a Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) on most Sundays, with a more informal Parish Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month, with a Junior Church each

Sunday. There is also a Sunday evening service – usually Evening Prayer – at 6pm. During the week, Morning Prayer is said in church Monday-Thursday and an Iona Holy Communion is celebrated on Thursday lunchtime. To service this programme Martin has the support of three Readers and a part-time Parish Administrator. Until recently, he also had a curate, but she (Anna Moore) has just taken on her own parish.

However, many local families find the demands of football and other activities make Sunday morning services difficult. Martin said "Work with young people is a mission priority and whilst we continue to maintain Junior Church on Sunday mornings, our main thrust is on Sunday afternoons". A monthly Messy Church at 4pm had proved popular, so after a series of meetings with parents a monthly Family service was launched in January – already attracting 50 to 60 people. And on Wednesday afternoons, in term time, 'Tea-Time Tales' provides a mix of stories, songs and activities for 4-7 year olds. It is very well supported partly due to there being an infants school 110 yards from the church with whom good links have been established and most parents walk past St Mark's to and from the school. Many of those children also took part recently in the Easter Holiday Club during Holy Week.

For older 'young people' a combined youth group was started some 18 months ago with the neighbouring parish of Kingswood where the Revd Christine Colton (Martin's wife) is Priest-in-Charge. Also at Kingswood, Roots Church offers a monthly Sunday evening service for teenagers led by the Archdeacon of



Reigate and Roots open youth group led by a youth worker on another Sunday. Local schools use the church for worship and Martin visits them regularly.

"People in the parish are aware of the church", said Martin. "We're on the main route where people walk from home to school or to the shops or the station. And the building is prominent and very distinctive thanks to the blunt tower where the steeple once stood. We also work on raising awareness, including circulating very professional looking Christmas and Easter cards to virtually every home."

The church hall also plays its part – built in the 1960s it is the community centre for that part of Reigate. Home to different community groups from ballet to yoga, it also accommodates family parties, concerts, local 'am-dram' – and a monthly Ballroom and Latin social dance evening with Martin Colton as 'DJ'. The income from the hall also helps the parish budget – as does letting part of the car park to a local business. Last year £100k was raised and invested in a total (and very high specification) refurbishment of the kitchen to improve the facilities for both church and community activities.

Before ordination Martin was a professional musician and teacher and is keen to develop music as part of the parish's Mission Action Plan. St Mark's has a strong tradition of choral music, with a small robed choir, augmented for special occasions. Music is supported by a Father Willis

Organ in good condition and a grand piano – and the excellent acoustics in both the church and the hall are a magnet for concerts. Choral evensong is sung by the Geoffrey Searle Choir (St Mary's School) four times a term – and St Mark's Singers, an open access choir, brings together people from within and outside the church who just want to sing. "We also have a lot of musically gifted children and I am keen to get a children's choir formed" said Martin.

The church is located in a fairly affluent community but to maintain lifestyles people work long hours. Nevertheless it's a very busy church with a lot of people willing to find the time, to give time.

Volunteers enable St Mark's to be a weekly winter night shelter, to provide a monthly Sunday lunch for those who would otherwise be alone (with transport to and from) and they support and help with St Matthew's (Redhill) Food Bank. There is an 'active retirement' group which meets at least once a month – and St Mark's has its own 'overseas aid trust' which raises and donates money to projects mainly in Africa.

Martin said "It's always a big challenge to show the relevance of God to people who on the surface at least, appear to have it all. But we offer a distinctive style of worship – formal but accessible, visual and musical – and a warm welcome. We try to demonstrate the love of God by serving and working with the local community".



Over 50 five to eleven year olds joined in St Mark's Easter Holiday Club in Holy Week. The theme was Backpackers and the hall was decorated with flags from the various countries 'visited'. Activities included drama, singing, decorating fabric backpacks, designing and writing Easter cards (posted to their families) and making a travel game – and individual pizzas.



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St Mary, Beaminster, Dorset

"By giving a little, we gain a lot"

St Michael's Wandsworth School Headteacher Ann-Marie Grant's '20th Anniversary Headteacher Challenge' raised over £1,850 for Age UK Wandsworth.

In return for her agreeing to a pre-recorded indoor skydiving session and taking part in a 'karpool karaoke' (below)—donations from the pupils and parents came in thick and fast.

The culmination was the whole school (and some

parents) filling the hall to watch the live screening of the Challenge. The event included additional live karaoke, with 'A-MG' dressed up to the nines and singing along to some of her favourite Donny Osmond and Abba hits.

Each week during Lent the school has taken part in a variety of fundraising initiatives in aid of not just Age UK but also for the Red Maasai Academy in Kenya, a school which is affiliated with St Michael's. In all a total of £2,300 (and counting) was raised for their Lent Appeal Charities.



Lent Talks for the whole parish!

This year St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common opened its doors for the whole parish to participate in its Lent programme.

Building on the maxim 'it takes a village to raise a child', the 'Lent Talks with a Difference' programme aimed to stimulate a community conversation on some of the profound challenges facing the community.

St Mary Magdalene is unusual in having several major institutions within its parish bounds. These include HMP Wandsworth and Springfield University Hospital. So the topics chosen reflected some of the needs right on the doorstep.

Former Cabinet Minister, Jonathan Aitken shared his personal story *'From Politician to Prisoner to Prison Chaplain'*. He recounted his much publicised 'fall from grace' as he was convicted of perjury and sent to HMP Belmarsh. But there he fell into the grace of God and

his life was transformed. The rehabilitation of offenders continues to be a great need. Up to half cannot read or write and Jonathan (right) urged those gathered to consider what might be done.

Comedian, writer and 'Grumpy Old Man' Arthur Smith (below) spoke movingly on *'My Mother, Me and her Journey to Dementia'*.

He spoke of the heartbreak of his mother's condition and the relief of finding a place of care for her where she is settled and safe.

Nearly 850,000 in the UK live with dementia. What could the parish be doing?



The Revd Nadim Nassar, the only Syrian priest in the Church of England (below) was the final speaker. He tackled the tough topic of *'Violence in the name of religion'*. He highlighted the toxic mix of religion and politics, the pressing need for all faiths to address the violence in our sacred texts and how the Trinity 'God in community' is a source of inspiration for the flourishing of difference'

"The three talks were so stimulating" said the Vicar, the Revd Philippa Boardman. "Numbers surpassed our expectations. Well over half of those attending were from the wider community and we now have a network of contacts with whom to develop a wider conversation and action."

"The need is so great. Working together parish-wide, we can make a difference".



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Voice
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Let us pray

May

'And so I betake myself to that course, which is almost as much as to see myself go into my grave: for which, and all the discomforts that

will accompany my being blind, the good God prepare me!'

So ends the final entry made by Samuel Pepys to his celebrated and still read diary. The entry is dated 31 May 1669, so 350 years ago. His sight was too bad for him to continue the keeping of a journal which had recorded some momentous events in his life and in the life of London, not least the Great Fire of 1666.

He was a regular visitor to Southwark for he liked

to spend time in ale houses and there were plenty of those on the south bank. Visitors to the area now come to look at where Bridget Jones is meant to have lived by the Globe Pub in the Borough Market. They gaze at the door from which she emerges in each of the three films which bring to life her diaries.

To be honest I haven't kept a diary for years but I do sometimes keep a journal, when I am doing something significant, a

pilgrimage or a retreat, to record not momentous world events like Pepys and not the complications of a love life like Bridget Jones but the story of a soul, my soul.

If you have never tried it I recommend it to you. It can be momentous and it can be a love story, the momentous

love story of your encounter with God.

Lord,
you write your story on my heart;
may I never forget what you have done for me but ponder your love day by day.
Amen.



The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark
Please follow me on Twitter as I offer a prayer each morning so that you can join me in Morning Prayer.
Go to @deansouthwark

RE Week at Christ Church Primary School, Battersea

Judge P J Kirby joined Collective Worship at Christ Church School on the Thursday of RE Week (11-15 February).

His first question was "What is law?"

He was really impressed by the immediate reply from a Year 6 girl of "Rules agreed

on by a group of people which have to be obeyed for the good of everyone."

The theme of the school's fourth annual RE week was 'Justice'.

A highlight of the week was the Wednesday, when all classes went to the church for a series of workshops on justice.

They wrote a bible verse on a piece of parchment to be rolled into a scroll or kept

as a bookmark: tying ribbons onto a safety pin as a symbol of standing together for what is right.

They also spent time thinking about life in a developing nation; writing prayers for justice and hanging them on the prayer tree; and thinking about whether statements of situations around the world were true or false, and whether what was sad was just or not.

As one Year 5 boy said afterwards: 'I loved the activities in church, the lessons, the special assemblies and learning more about justice!'

Each child designed a cross to be displayed around the school.

One from each class was mounted on wood for the prayer board in the classroom.

Building the spiritual life of older people

One baptism liturgy reminds us that "*In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey*". However if we look at the range of services and activities offered by many churches, there are often opportunities for young people to explore their faith, while less energy seems to have been invested in providing openings to encourage the faith of older people at a very different point on their life and faith journey.

All those interesting in nurturing spiritual life in later life - for others or for themselves - will be welcome to come to a session titled "**The Lifelong Journey: Encouraging Spirituality**". The spirituality of older people may be developed individually, in groups, or through the worship, and all these will be looked at during this session. We will look at resources available and share insights emerging from authors currently writing

on this subject. Several practitioners will speak about approaches they have developed, and participants will be invited to share experiences, resources and questions.

The session will be run by SAGE - the Diocesan group working on issues relating to older people. It will be held on the morning of Saturday 18 May at Trinity House. To book a place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org.

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WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your events for **JUNE ONWARDS** to Trinity House **BY MONDAY 20 MAY**

Ongoing

- * **BEDDINGTON** - Quiet @St Mary's - 3rd Thursday each month 11am - 2pm. Various tools for quiet including labyrinth
- * **BOROUGH** - St George the Martyr Community Cafe and TimeBank every Thursday 2pm to 4.30 pm. Meet people, get advice, help one another
- * **ELTHAM** - Sing with an orchestra. 3pm last Sunday each month (not Aug or Dec.) Eltham Pk Methodist Church

- † **HACKBRIDGE** - Taizé at All Saints at 7pm First Sunday every month
- * **TATSFIELD** - Teas served every Sunday 3 - 5 p.m. at St Mary's Church until the end of September
- * **WARLINGHAM** - Water Aid lunches in St Ambrose Church Hall, 12-1pm first Wednesday
- † **ZIMBABWE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY** at St Mary, Newington - Shona Mass, 2nd Sunday of month at 2pm. Mothers' Union last Saturday 2pm

May

Wednesday 1 May

- ♫ **CATERHAM** - Munch with Music at St John's Church - Shona Fenion (violin) and John Cuthbert, (piano) Tea/Coffee 12:15 - 12:45. Performance 12:45 - 1:30pm. Free Admission - Donations welcome

Lunchtime Concerts at St Matthew's Church, Redhill

Thursdays at 1.10pm

- 2nd Recital - Peter Robertson (Flute) & David Way (Violin & Viola)
- 9th Chamber Music Recital - The Alma Ensemble
- 16th Chamber Music Recital - Angela Jones (Mezzo Soprano), George Mitchell (Violin) & Ann Slater (Piano)
- 23rd River City Saxes
- 30th Recital - Gemma Emson-Jukes (Flute)

Friday 3 May

- * **LAMBETH** - Open Day in the private garden of Lambeth Palace hosted by USPG - 12 noon to 3pm. £5 on the gate (children free). Dogs welcome, refreshments

Saturday 4 May

- ♫ **UPPER NORWOOD** - Coffee Concert at St John's - 11am Coffee and cakes, 11.30am Susan Anderson - mezzo-soprano. Free admission

Lunchtime Recitals at Croydon Minster. Fridays at 1.10pm. Free entry, donations appreciated.

- 3rd - Antoine Pichon (Piano)
- 10th - Students from Whitgift School
- 17th - Syeung Hye Park (Piano)
- 24th - Maria Koroleva (Soprano)
- 31st - Christian Smith (Bass)

Compline by Candlelight St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8.00 pm

- "More people of Faith"
- 5th Samuel Bernard (Priest barred during Civil War) - Elizabeth Lanyon
- 12th Thomas Merton (Anglican monk, mystic, theologian) - Revd Martin Hayward
- 19th Michael Green (Priest, theologian, writer) - Revd James Ashton
- 26th Nate Saint and fellow missionaries (Jungle pilot & martyr) - Heather Harris

CATERHAM ST LAWRENCE Guided Tours

- Sunday 5 May - 3pm
 - Monday 6 May - 3pm
 - Sunday 12 May - 3pm
- Adults: £3 Children: free All proceeds towards the upkeep of the Church

Saturday 11 May

- ♫ **EAST DULWICH** - Organ recital at St John's Church 11am - Andrew Chadney (Norbury and Thornton Heath). Tea and coffee; retiring collection.

MERCY in MOTION
An evening of stories and song with the Bishop of Woolwich and Dr Mosun.
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Tuesday 14 May: Christ Church, East Greenwich

Wednesday 15 May: St Paul's, Thamesmead

Thursday 16 May: St Barnabas, Dulwich

7.30pm (Doors open at 7pm)

Tickets £7 (£5 before 15 April) On the Door £10

Book tickets online at www.mercyships.org.uk/tour or phone 01825 769000

- ♫ **DORMANSLAND** - 'Music In Maytime' at St John's Church, 7 pm. Marianne Goodale (Soprano) & Jonathan Hodgson (Piano) - 'rom Debussy to Cole Porter'. Tickets £10 (u/16s free) from 01342 870681. Interval refreshments Proceeds to Church
- **CHELMSFORD** - Company of Servers National Festival from 11am at Chelmsford Cathedral. Mass, lunch, AGM, Evensong & Benediction. Preacher - Dean of Southwark. London & Southwark Chapter is travelling by 10.30am train from Liverpool Street

Sunday 12 May

- ♫ **EAST DULWICH** - Music by the Green 1.30 - 4.30 pm at St John's Church - music by choirs and musicians from the local area and beyond. Refreshments, crafts, face-painting. Admission free.

- * **SELSDON** - Christian Aid lunch 12noon in St John's Church Hall, Upper Selsdon Road

- * **PURLEY** - St.Swithun's Charity Plant Sale - 9.00am to 12.30 in Church Hall, Grovelands Road. Flower, fruit and vegetable plants and much more!

Wednesday 15 May -

- * **WESTMINSTER** - Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group meets at Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace SW1P, 4 to 5 pm. Diana Mills on her visits to Palestine. All welcome

Thursday 16 May

- ♫ **UPPER NORWOOD** - Organ Concert at St John's - 7.30pm. Max Smith. Retiring collection and refreshments.

Saturday 18 May

- ♫ **CROYDON** - Come and Sing Bach's St John Passion at St Matthew's Church.

- Croydon Bach Choir workshop and performance 10am - 5.30pm. Cost - £20 (students free) from www.croydonbachchoir.org/ Bring lunch.
- ♫ **OUTWOOD** - 150th. Anniversary Concert at St John the Baptist Church 7.30pm. - Mozart's Requiem and Elgar's Scenes from the Bavarian Highlands. £12 (£6 u/16) e-mail nickandjose@btinternet.com or pay on door

Sunday 19 May

- **CITY OF LONDON** - Circle the City, the annual Christian Aid sponsored walk around the City. Explore the City's historic places of worship, music, entertainment and activities and raise sponsorship money for Christian Aid. Sign up now at ctc2019.eventbrite.co.uk or email ctc@christian-aid.org to find out more

- † **CLAPHAM** - Welcoming Church - at Church of the Holy Spirit, Narbonne Avenue 6:30pm - refreshments afterwards

Saturday 25 May - Monday 27 May

- * **TATSFIELD** - Flower Festival in St Mary's Church. Open 11am (11.30am on Sunday) to 6pm. Refreshments, paintings and gift stall.

Sunday 26 May

- * **SELSDON** - Plant and Produce Sale at St John's Church - 11am in the Church Hall

June

Saturday 1 June

- ♫ **UPPER NORWOOD** - Coffee Concert at St Johns - 11am Coffee and cakes, 11.30am Sylvan Ensemble. Free admission

Compline by Candlelight St Mary's Church, Farleigh 8.00 pm

- "More people of Faith"
- 2nd St Hild of Whitby (Abbess, teacher) - Ven. Moira Astin
- 9th Sts Cyril and Methodius (9th century missionaries to the Slavs) - Revd Tim Pike
- 16th Bishop Jeremy Taylor (Chaplain to Charles 1) - Revd Philip Kennedy
- 23rd Farleigh Voices
- 30th Elizabeth Fry (Prison & social reformer and philanthropist) - Rebecca Pope

Wednesday 5 June

- ♫ **CATERHAM** - Munch with Music at St John's Church - Natalie Molloy (piano) & Tereza Stachová (piano). Tea/Coffee 12:15 - 12:45. Performance 12:45 - 1:30pm. Free Admission - Donations welcome

Lunchtime Concerts at St Matthew's Church, Redhill

Thursdays at 1.10pm

- 6th Lecture: 'Gerald Finzi' - Michael Barlow (Lecturer and Pianist), John Avis (Baritone) & Edmund Crutchfield (Clarinet)
- 13th Recital - Claire Dunn (Clarinet) & Daniel King-Smith (Piano)
- 20th Recital - Zoe Eborn (Violin) & Jeremy Weaver (Piano)
- 27th Chamber Music Recital - String Quartet (Camilla Morse-Glover & friends)

Lunchtime Recitals at Croydon Minster. Fridays at 1.10pm. Free entry, donations appreciated.

- 7th Elizaveta Saul (Violin) & Ana Manastireanu, (Piano)
- 21st Tom Little (Organ)
- 28th Liam Connery (Tenor)
- July 5th Alis An, (Piano)

Saturday 8 June

- * **WIMBLEDON** - Inter-faith peace Walk. Contact John Woodhouse 0790 8888 586 (by text) or woodhousesopten@btinternet.com for details. All welcome
- * **CLAPHAM** - St Paul's Church Summer Fair. 12 - 4pm. Cakes plants, local honey, pottery, bric-a-brac, toys & books, refreshments music, bouncy castle and kids entertainer. Entry conation: Adults £2 Seniors £1 (inc. free raffle ticket).

Sunday 9 June

- * **THORNTON HEATH** - 'Celebrating Diversity' - Croydon MEACC Act of Worship at St Jude & St Aidan Church 3pm - 4.30 pm, followed by refreshments. (please feel free to wear your international/cultural attire).

Tuesday 11 to Thursday 13 June

- † **ASCOT PRIORY** - Abiding In Christ - A Silent Preached Retreat For Clergy. Explore some of the themes of 'Enfolded in Christ - the inner life of a priest'. Conducted by the Revd John-Francis Friendship SMMS. Contact jff2209@yahoo.com

Thursday 13 June

- ♫ **UPPER NORWOOD** - Organ Concert at St Johns - 7.30pm. Simon Earl. Retiring collection and refreshments.

Saturday 15 June

- † **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** - Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate 125 years of Welcare. 11am. Hear stories of children and families whose lives have been transformed by the support of Welcare volunteers, donors and staff. All welcome. Refreshments

"We couldn't rustle up a real donkey..."

... but Holy Week still got off to a terrific start as St Mary Magdalene Wandsworth Common made their Palm Sunday procession in the bright sunshine.

Okay, no live donkey this year but an able substitute was on hand – in more ways than one! The trusty glove puppet was a brilliant replacement and got just as many pats from the children.

"It was great to be out amongst the early morning dog walkers, joggers and personal trainers' said Vicar, the Revd Philippa Boardman "We included special prayers for the key places of our parish HMP Wandsworth, the shopping parade, the railway station and Springfield Hospital, for God's Easter peace and hope".



A 'secret' garden opens to the public

USPG, United Society Partners in the Gospel, is hosting an Open Day in the private garden of Lambeth Palace on Friday 3 May from 12 noon to 3pm with guided tours at 1pm and 2pm.

Lambeth Palace garden is one of the oldest continuously cultivated gardens in the country, having been established in 1197. Over 10 acres, it includes plants from all over the world, reflecting the diversity of



the Anglican Communion. Tickets are available at the gates of Lambeth Palace

at £5 (children free). Dogs are welcome and there are refreshments available.

Lambeth Awards for Southwark priests

Three Southwark priests were among the 27 recipients of Lambeth Awards given by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace on 4 April. They are the Venerable Danny Kajumba, Bishop Graham Kings and the Revd Ian Mobsby.

The Venerable Dr Daniel Kajumba's (*below left*) Citation for the Canterbury Cross for Services to the Church of England places him "in the forefront of the battle against poverty, inequality, discrimination and injustice since arriving in the UK in 1971 as a refugee from Uganda. He has initiated numerous charitable activities to support refugees and the underprivileged and as Chair of the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns campaigned tirelessly for equality and opportunity in the structures of Church and State. As Archdeacon of Reigate he helped bring community cohesion, encouraging interfaith dialogue between the different diaspora communities in the UK".

The citation adds that "Daniel has deployed his many skills in various capacities: as missionary, evangelist, pastor, social and community activist, counsellor, broadcaster, politician, entrepreneur, diplomat and conservationist. He is well loved and respected by many".

The Rt Revd Graham Kings (*below right*) was awarded the Cross of St Augustine for Services to the Anglican Communion, for his outstanding work in mission and theology for the global South. Bishop Graham's long experience of working in the Anglican Communion, began with seven years as a Mission Partner for the Church Mission Society in Kenya.

On his return to the UK, Bishop Graham was appointed as the first ever Lecturer in Mission Studies at the Cambridge Theological Federation. He then went on to found and direct the Henry Martyn Centre for the Study of Mission and World Christianity.

Following stints in more domestic Dioceses, including Area Bishop of Sherborne and a Canon and Prebendary of Sarum Cathedral, he was

appointed Mission Theologian in the Anglican Communion (2015 - 2017). The purpose of this innovative project was to raise up new 'Doctors of the Church' in the global South to write, network, publish and engage with theologians in the global North, to renew the worldwide Church and to influence wider society. Bishop Graham worked tirelessly organising conferences around the world, arranging regular seminars in Durham and London and creating a website with a wealth of papers and resources. Since 2015 he has been an Hon. Asst Bishop in Southwark Diocese.

The Revd Ian Mobsby (*right*) the Woolwich Area Parish Mission Enabler and Priest in Charge of St Luke's Camberwell and the Prior of the Wellspring Community in Peckham was awarded The Dunstan Medal for Prayer and the Religious Life for his exceptional contribution to the creation and growth of new religious communities.

The citation says that Ian's work has been seminal in encouraging new religious communities, both through practical example and in fostering depth of reflection

on the phenomenon of new monasticism.

He has worked tirelessly in giving birth to such new communities, in the UK and abroad, writing in practical theology, helping others to reflect with him, and giving consistent support to other communities as they take their first few steps. In addition, he has worked collaboratively and creatively with traditional communities in enabling bridges of understanding, good practice and learning.

Bishop David Walker of Manchester, who has a lead responsibility for religious communities, has said that Ian has made an unparalleled contribution through his writings, his practical engagements and his support for the bringing together of the new communities.

Lambeth Awards

The Lambeth Awards were launched in 2016 by Archbishop Justin Welby to recognise outstanding service in different fields, including the Archbishop's ministry priorities of prayer and the religious life; reconciliation and peacebuilding; and evangelism and witness.



An Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land



3-10 March 2020

led by Bishop Christopher Chessun and Bishop Paul Hendricks

Cost £1,745 sharing a twin-bedded room with private facilities. Single room supplement.

Details from the Pilgrimage Administrator
Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court,
Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW
Tel: 020 7939 9428

Email: pilgrimage20@southwark.anglican.org

Walking | Welcoming | Growing