



St Margaret's Church



Jason Good and Ian Thirlwall take delivery of the new churchyard mowers.

Join Us This Sunday Third Sunday of Lent With Revd. Hannah Gordon

8.45am: Morning Prayer
10.15am: Holy Communion
Readings:

Exodus 20: 1-17
John 2: 13-22

Junior Church and Young People start in church and then move down to the Orchard, where activities run alongside the main service and finish at 11.15am.

This week Ian and Jason took delivery of the churchyard's new mowers, for those of you interested in 'the finer' details. The Mountfield 1530H is a high performing compact lawn tractor. This is the first lawn tractor in the 84cm sub category to feature the innovative twin bladed cutting system. The blades contra rotate, and direct the grass cuttings through the wide rear discharge chute into the collector. Mountfield design their machines to be as user friendly as possible this model has a high backed seat and for safety there is also a switch which cuts out the engine if the driver leaves the seat for any reason when the blades are turning. This reduces the risk of an accident and gives you peace of mind.

The smaller model is Mountfield's HP42 which is a lovely hand-propelled lawnmower, powered by a STIGA ST120 Autochoke engine and featuring a 41cm cutting width – ideal for mowing in-between graves. There is always lots to do in the churchyard, and the team would love to welcome more members, so if you are interested in getting involved then please contact admin@smchipstead.org

Morning Prayer
09:15 am
Every Tuesday and Wednesday



Another date for your diary. If you would like to help with making posies for Mothering Sunday, please do join us in the Parish Office on Saturday morning 9th March from 10am. We are also grateful for donations of small garden flowers, daffodils and small greenery. We make about 100 bunches. Even an hour of help would be wonderful." It is always a lovely social occasion. There will be a bucket outside the Parish Office on Friday 8th March for any donations. Thank you!

Obituaries

Ritva Leckie

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Ritva Leckie. She, with her husband George and son Dougal, was a staunch member of St Margaret's and also of Chipstead Evening WI for over 40 years. Having been born in Finland, she travelled the world with her family, finally settling here in Chipstead and devoting herself to Dougal's care. Her husband had been a Churchwarden and had also collated for many years St Margaret's Christian Aid giving.

Ritva's family warmly invite her church family and friends to a thanksgiving service celebrating her life which will be held at St Margaret's on Tuesday 12th March at 11am. There will also be a reception in the Orchard afterwards. The cremation service will be at Surrey and East Sussex Crematorium on Tuesday 26th March at 3.30pm.

It would be most helpful if you could please let Deborah know if you'd like to attend the church service and/or reception and/or crematorium. Please contact admin@smchipstead.org or telephone 01737 552160.

Dr Gerald Clough

It is (also) sad to announce the death of Dr Gerald Clough, a zoologist, whose family lived for many years in Chipstead. They were regular attendees at St Margaret's with Gregory and Katherine, his children, being heavily involved in the choir and other teenage activities.

**Monthly Drop In Sessions
with Hannah**

20th February	18th June
19th March	16th July
16th April	17th September
21st May	15th October

10am - 11:30am

stmargaretschipstead.org In the parish office



Parish Office

Deborah is in the Parish Office every Wednesday, between 10am and 1pm. Do drop in for a chat and refreshments.

Contact Us

Rev. Hannah Gordon
01737 552157
rector@smchipstead.org
Admin office
01737 552160
admin@smchipstead.org

Diary Dates

Messy Palm Sunday
3-5pm, Sunday 24th March



Join us for all-age activities, community and a chance to eat together at tea-time!

Please email Josh to let us know you are coming: youthsmchipstead.org



With the Messy Church Team
St Margaret's Church 'Orchard' on
Sunday 24th March 3-5pm

Special Services



10th March 10.15am Mothering Sunday – All Ages Together
24th March 10am Palm Sunday – Service of the Word
28th March 8pm Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion
29th March 9.30am Good Friday Worship for All Ages
31st March 10am Easter Sunday – Praise and Worship



SESSION TWO RECAP

A recap of session two, a link to which can be found below.

https://www.24-7prayer.com/podcast_series/the-lectio-course/

Again we are transported to the tranquil Waverley Abbey on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. This week Pete Greig is concentrating on Listening Lectio/Read the text and hearing God in the Bible. We must learn to read the text slowly, prayerfully and reverently. Pete continued his dog theme and we were introduced to Crumble, whom he described as having 'extraordinary superpowers!' Crumble runs to greet people before they even arrive, as a dog's hearing is set to 65,000 KHz, while the human ear is 20,000 KHz. However, humans have the capacity to hear voice of God, designed to enjoy a relationship with our creator, and we are all wired to process data differently.

Pete uses the 'Road to Emmaus, Luke 24 vs 27, as an example and said that Jesus leads the couple through an in depth Bible study, it is a masterclass for anyone seeking to hear his voice. Jesus explains what was said in all the scriptures concerning himself, he teaches us to interpret the Bible in the light of himself, his life, death and resurrection reframes everything, Theologians call this the 'Christological hermeneutic,' it means we put on a pair of 'Jesus glasses.'

"When it comes to hearing God, the Bible is the primary way in which He speaks", learning to hear God's voice begins with the Bible, George Gallup once said "The Bible is the best-selling, least-read book in America." We know we should read the Bible but let's be honest it's a bit less exciting than Netflix!

By approaching text prayerfully, using imagination, seeking conversation rather than information it becomes exciting, challenging, it comes to life. Francois Fenelon "Imagine that Jesus Christ in person is about to talk to you about the most important thing in the world. Give him your complete attention.

Pete used a painting as an image to invite us to use the frame, as a window pane to look through the text at the world, 'Lectio Divina is a way of viewing God's World; the whole of life through the life of Christ. The (Bible)word of God is foremost a person and only secondly a book. Our relationship is with the living Word of God in Jesus, through the written Word of God in the Bible, and not the other way around.

Pete's special guest this week was the very moving extremely reverent, 'Helen Berhane,' who is a Gospel Singer and recording artist, from Eritrea in East Africa. Helen was imprisoned and tortured for her faith in Jesus, and kept in a shipping container for 32 months. Helen described the Bible as her food, for her it was always new and something she read 15 times a day. She received her Bible from a preacher, who was sadly tortured and killed for his belief in Christ. He had managed to smuggle in a Bible which had been cut into sections so that it would fit in a washing powder box, to share with others. Helen said that in order to hear, you need to shut everything out, turn off any distractions, she said that 'Christianity is not difficult providing you listen to God.



If you would like to read more about Helen's inspirational and challenging true story, she published a book in 2009, called 'Song of the Nightingale'.

Lent

Watch and Pray: Sign up for daily emails here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/fai-th-calling/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/watch-and-pray-lent-reflections>

Or download the App for iOS or Android from the usual places!

Reminder week three of the
Lectio Course with
Revd. Hannah Gordon this
week in the Orchard from 5pm
to 6.30pm



THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK'S LENT CALL 2024

*"Let justice roll down like
waters and righteousness
like an ever-flowing stream"*

Amos 5:24

Week 3: The Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East

**This week we join together to pray
for the Priests of the Diocese and for
its people.**

Fr Nael Abu Rahmoun, Vicar of Nazareth,
Christ Anglican Church in the Diocese of
Jerusalem writes:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Salaam Shalom and greetings to you all
from the Land of the Holy One, as I greet
you with the word "peace", we continue
to miss peace in the homeland of Jesus.
We continue to witness massacres of
innocents, killing of children, devastation
and destruction in Gaza. Fear and
insecurity in Israel as well as in the
West Bank.

The Anglican/Episcopal Diocese of
Jerusalem covers five different countries
in the Middle East; Palestine, Israel,
Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. It is the same
Diocese but with different contexts. Try to
imagine how all these countries including
our Clergy, parishes and institutions are
affected by the war on Gaza, south Israel,
but also by the conflict escalation in
South Lebanon and North of Israel. Many
of our Clergy and congregations are very
close to areas of war and conflict.

I am the Youth Ministry Advisor and
Coordinator in this part of my Diocese
(Palestine/Israel). I have been told by
many university and college students,
especially those who just started their first



**The Vicar of Nazareth Fr Nael Abu
Rahmoun preaching.**

year of school, they were desperate and
depressed. They have lost the excitement
of taking a new step and still face many
challenges. I encourage them to be
patient and to think of young people of
their age in Gaza.

In January we organized two youth
gatherings one in Jerusalem and one in
Nazareth, unfortunately young people
from the West Bank couldn't participate
because they could not get entry permits.
Sadly, it was impossible to gather there
because of the situation.

While we continue to grieve and cry and
call and pray for a ceasefire and the end
of war and hatred, we should promote
reconciliation and healing, to build



Raising funds for
projects that focus
on peace with
justice and resilience
and well-being.

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and recover trust between the two nations, including religious leaders. This clearly will not be an easy work at all, but it is a sacred duty. There is no other way than love, reconciliation and acceptance of each other. We need to find more peacemakers and justice seekers and consider them as our partners, to renew the interfaith work, and try to be influencers. It is time for religions to be part of the solution and no more part of the conflict. I call to rediscover and see the image of God in the faces of each other, keeping in mind that everyone was created by God in His own image.

Please remember your sisters and brothers in Christ; the living stones of the homeland of Jesus, pray with and for us, visit us as soon as you can, don't let us feel alone or forgotten.

My thoughts and heart are with the children, women and all innocent people, in Gaza, West

Bank and Israel, the Anglican Al-Ahli Arab Hospital staff, all Christians who are taking shelters in the Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches, all people who lost their loved ones and still live and smell blood and death, with the traumatised and starving children. We must understand that war does not bring peace but more hatred. In war, no one wins, but it is everyone's defeat.

The question to be asked is: "Will Christians continue to find hope and resilience for the future?" I think the people and Christians of Gaza are a school, as they teach us life, despite everything, they are the hope. I remember the words written three days before Christmas by Shady a Christian from Gaza: "We celebrate Christmas in a difficult and terrifying situation but, we have the joy of Christmas in our hearts". These are words of a great witness of faith.

Let us continue to pray and love and to be the light for each other in the darkness and evil of war.



The Most Revd Hosam E Naoum and The Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun.

Third Sunday of Lent

The Cathedral and Churches in Jerusalem and the priests who serve there: Pray for Archbishop Hosam the Bishop of the Diocese and for St George's his Cathedral Church. Pray too for The Revd Canon Dr Donald Binder who is Chaplain to the Archbishop and Pastor to the English-Speaking Congregation at St George's and for The Revd Wadie Far who is Pastor to the Arabic-Speaking Congregation at the Cathedral and Vicar of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Jerusalem.

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Also in the Precincts of the Cathedral is St George's College, Jerusalem, which is the Anglican pilgrimage centre in Jerusalem. The Dean of the College is The Revd Canon Richard Sewell who has been there since 2018. Prior to going to be the Dean of St George's, Richard was Rector of Mortlake in the Diocese of Southwark.

Monday 4 March

Pray for the priests elsewhere in Israel: The Revd Fares Naoum, Rector of Emmanuel, Ramleh and St Peter, Jaffa; The Rev Hanna Dally, Rector, Holy Family, Reineh; The Revd Nael Abu Rahmoun, Rector of Christ Church, Nazareth; The Revd Canon Hatem Shehadeh, Rector, St John and St Luke, Haifa; The Revd Canon Fuad Dagher, Rector, St Paul, Shefa'amr; The Revd Emad Daibes, Rector, St Saviour, Acre, The Revd Bilal Habiby, Rector, Church of Our Savior, Kufr-Yasif; The Revd Hattim Jiryis, Priest-in-Charge, Christ the King, Tarshiha.

Tuesday 5 March

Pray for the priests in Palestine: The Revd Fadi Diab, Rector, St Andrew, Ramallah and St Peter, Birzeit; The Revd Jameel Maher Khader, Rector, St Philip, Nablus and The Good Shepherd, Rafidia and The Revd Saleem Dawani, Rector, St Matthew, Zababdeh.

Wednesday 6 March

Pray for the priests in Jordan: The Revd Canon Fa'eq Haddad, Pastor to the Arabic-Speaking Congregation and The Revd James Hornby, Pastor to the English-Speaking Congregation,

The Redeemer Church, Jabal Amman; The Revd George Al-Kopti, Rector, St Paul, Ashrafiyeh and St Luke, Marka; The Revd Dr Khalid Friej Rector St Paul, Theodore Schneller Chapel, Marka and Savior Church, Zarka; The Revd Jamil Khadir, The Good Shepherd Church, Salt; The Revd Canon Samir Esaid, Rector, The Virgin Mary Episcopal Church, Irbid and The Revd Ibrahim Nairoz, Rector, St John the Baptist, Husun. Pray too for St. Peter's & St. Paul's Church, Aqaba which is in vacancy.

Thursday 7 March

Pray for the Archdeacon in Lebanon and Syria: The Venerable Imad Zoorob, who is the priest at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Beirut, Lebanon and All Saints' Episcopal Church, Damascus, Syria.

Friday 8 March

Pray for the schools, hospitals and other projects: Pray for the schools, hospitals and other projects The Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle east helps to fund and sustain. Pray for protection for them, for safety and that they may be able to continue to operate.

Saturday 9 March

Continue to pray for peace with justice in the Diocese and the region: Pray for the people in the churches there, for the living stones, who keep Christianity alive in the region. Pray especially for Archbishop Hosam for strength and safety as he seeks to work with others to bring peace and justice.



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