



ST MARTIN'S BARNEHURST

PARISH NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

Eucharist services each week at 10.30am followed by refreshments
The next non eucharist Family Service is on **11th May** and will be led by Father James Butler
All services are followed with refreshments
Click [here](#) for the full calendar of Family Services in 2025

Father Gareth is on sabbatical until 24th August.

For information about St Martin's you can visit our website at www.aChurchNearYou.com/saint-martins-barnehurst

Email st.martins.barnehurst@gmail.com for parish matters or contact st.martins.hall@gmail.com for hall bookings.

For any pastoral matters please contact Julie Bowen on 01322 523344

INFORMATION ABOUT FATHER GARETH'S SABBATICAL

Sabbaticals are offered to encourage clergy to develop their ministry and continue life-long learning; it an opportunity to stand back from Parish ministry and reflect.

A specific goal for the period of study leave may be identified but there is also a need for clergy to take rest and relaxation seriously during this time and it is expected that clergy will spend between a third and a half of the time in rest and relaxation.

The key to a successful and enjoyable period of study leave will be effective planning and on return, a report, paper, or equivalent will be presented to a panel of Clergy.

I hope to do one or two things well, rather than trying to cram in lots of bits and will leave some space rather than try and fill every day. Three months seems a long time, but goes very quickly.

I shall be spending time living with the brothers at The Community of the Resurrection in Mirfield, Yorkshire. I will be staying at the Anglican Centre in Rome over Pentecost and I shall be studying at Ripon College in Cuddesdon, Oxford.

The main focus of my Sabbatical will be to study the Gospel for the day in the light of regular biblical study.

GOSPELS FOR MAY

4 th May 2025	John 21: 1-19
11 th May 2025	John 10: 22-30
18 th May 2025	John 13: 31-35
25 th May 2025	John 14: 23-29

COLLECT FOR MAY

Lord God the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread and one in joy and simplicity of heart
Amen

In May we ask you to pray for everyone living or working in Beverley Road, Eastleigh Road, Homer Close, Manor Way Northall Road and Windermere Road

We also ask you to remember the following in your prayers and keep them in your thoughts: Angela, Arthur, David, Elizabeth, Joan, John, Joyce, Keith, Mary, Mike, Neil, Rob, Sian and anyone suffering in body, mind and spirit.

If you have any specific prayer requests or an approaching significant special event, please let us know when so that we can add it to our prayer list at the appropriate time.

APCM UPDATE – click [here](#) to see a copy of the reports

- The new electoral roll has been completed and is available for inspection at the back of church. Please take time to check that your details are correct
- Dave Barnett and Jan Hailstone were elected as Churchwardens for 2025/26 and Karen Ingram was elected to the PCC for a term of up to 3 years



ST MARTIN'S BARNEHURST PARISH NEWSLETTER MAY 2025

Contact st.martins.mag@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the mailing list or if you have anything that you would like included in the next issue

Good Friday – the final hour

By Joyce Plumridge

On Good Friday I was lucky enough to be able to attend the 3rd hour of worship at St Martin's which is always led by the Choir.

They put together an amazing programme of songs and contemplative readings which broadly follow the timings of the actual events leading to Christ's death.

I would like to thank Wendy and the Choir for this inspiring service and encourage anyone reading this to come along next year

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

Congratulations to our winners: Wendy Barnett, Gwen Wade, Heather Suggitt and Daphne Boamah-Larbi.

The raffle raised £86 for church funds. Many thanks to Brenda for initiating the event & creating the wonderful main prize, and to everyone who bought tickets.

CHURCH QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 31st May in the Church Hall

Doors open at 6.30pm for a prompt 7pm start. Entrance is £6 per person and teams can be for a maximum of 8 players.

You can sign up at the back of church or via

fundraising.stmartins@gmail.com Please support this if you can

CAMEO (MU)

The next meeting is on **Monday 12th May at 7.30pm**, starting with tea & coffee in the Maxim Room. Come and join us for our musical evening when we will be singing our favourite hymns. (Please let Wendy know your favourite if possible so that she can prepare the cds)

The cost is £1 per person, as usual, and all adults are warmly invited to join us.

RAINWATER BONDS

We are pleased to announce that all the rainwater bond loans have been repaid due to a very generous legacy from the estate of Graham Briden a former parishioner.

Thanks to everyone who purchased a bond or made a donation

ST. MARTIN'S PLAYERS present
THE DIAMOND NECKLACE
A RADIO THRILLER
written by Juliet Bagnall
directed by Rae Calnan
Fri. 16 May 2025, 7:30pm
Sat. 17 May 2025, 2:30pm, 7:30pm
at the Huxtable Hall, St Martin's Church, Erith Road, Bexleyheath
Adults - £8 Concessions - £5
Box Office – 07539 351646
www.stmartinsplayers.co.uk

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Stagescripts Ltd.

This thriller will be performed in the style of a 1950s radio play, using recorded and live sound effects.

We encourage our audience to come along in evening dress (if they wish).

You may also bring your own refreshments.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH MONTHLY DRAW

£1 Per ticket

Email: stmartins.monthlydraw@gmail.com
to buy your tickets

6th April prize winners

1st Elizabeth Miller £25

2nd Elizabeth Miller £10

3rd Jan Hailstone £5

4th Brenda Whiteside £5

27th April prize winners

1st Gwen Wade £30

2nd Pauline Towler £15



ST MARTIN'S BARNEHURST PARISH NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025



Our new silk flowers are now on display beside the altar. Thanks to everyone for your generous donations that allowed us to be able to buy them

Postage Stamps and printer ink cartridges

Please keep saving these. Collecting boxes are in the church and the hall

EASTER EGGS FOR BEXLEY WOMEN'S AID

We collected 63 Easter Eggs for Bexley Women's Aid, so many that the Mums in the refuge may well have been able to have an egg each, as well as all the refuge and community children supported by BWA! A grateful letter of thanks from the refuge staff is at the back of church.



UPDATE ON ARTHUR OUR ORGANIST

I'm sure you will all be pleased to hear that after a lengthy stay in hospital Arthur has finally been able to return home. His house has been adapted to help him to live downstairs and he is getting home visits for physiotherapy, medication and personal care as well as some general support.

Hopefully this is the beginning of Arthur's full recovery and we look forward to seeing him back in church as soon as he is able

Get well soon Arthur from all of your friends at St. Martin's

PLANT SALE

Last weekend's plant sale raised an amazing £540 for church funds. Thanks to everyone that came along to support us on the day and if you couldn't make it there are still some plants at the back of church which will be there for another week



COFFEE SHOP

Every Tuesday in the Maxim Room from 10am

GARDENING WORKING PARTIES

If you can help to keep our grounds tidy please contact Phil on :

Philip.church@virgin.net