

St Saviour's Church, Brockley Rise: an inclusive church

NEWSLETTER MARCH and APRIL 2026

LENT ACTIVITIES

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, but still has a way to run before we reach Easter. Although Lent is a period of 40 days reflecting the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness, did you know its actually 46 days long? That's because its 40 days of fasting, and Sundays can never be considered fast days as every Sunday is a Feast Day celebrating the Resurrection, even when no other particular festival is happening. That means its ok to break your fast a little on Sundays, especially on Refreshment Sunday - a Sunday in the middle of Lent that gives people a little break from the days when people fasted rather more strictly than most people do these days. It's the 4th Sunday of Lent and became known in many places as Mothering Sunday.

We will be celebrating Mothering Sunday at our 10am Parish Eucharist that day, when the Uniformed Organisations will be with us and there will be flowers for all adults (not just mothers). Do join us!

Meanwhile our Lent activities continue. Each Thursday at 7pm there is guided Contemplative Prayer (no experience needed) and on Saturdays at 11:30am there is a Eucharist with Bible Study (again no prior knowledge necessary).

Fr David is always very happy to spend time talking one-to-one with people about their spiritual life. Lent, in particular, can act as a prompt for those conversations. Please do speak to him, if you think that might be beneficial.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Holy Week and Easter: Together with Christmas, Holy Week and Easter are the key moments that shape the Church year and mark the events that define Christian belief. Like Christmas too, it doesn't all happen on a Sunday! Do please make a priority of joining us to mark the important dates of Holy Week together, so we can even more meaningfully and joyfully celebrate Easter together. This year we will once again have a visiting preacher. Fr Jeremy Brooks, who will be known to many of you, has kindly agreed to be our preacher for the week.

29th March Palm Sunday

10am Parish Eucharist
with blessing of palms & procession from Church Hall

6pm Stations of the Cross

2nd April Maundy Thursday

11am Chrism Eucharist (blessing of oils) at Southwark Cathedral
(No 10:30 Eucharist at St Saviour's)
7pm Parish Supper in Church Hall
8pm Sung Eucharist with washing of Feet followed by watch until midnight

3rd April Good Friday

12 noon-3pm Liturgy of Good Friday

5th April Easter Day

Parish Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt.

160TH BIRTHDAY!

On 8th May St Saviour's Church will be 160 years old. We will spend the whole weekend celebrating, so please do make sure to put the events in your diary and join us!

Friday 8th May 2026 at 7pm

Eucharist on the Anniversary of Dedication with the Bishop of Southwark, The Right Revd Christopher Chessun. This will be the final visit Bishop Christopher makes to St Saviour's before his retirement in August.

Saturday 9th May 2026 at 7:30pm

160 Years of Song: Miriam Sharrad & Jan Rautio in Concert. The celebrations continue with an evening of music.

Sunday 10th May at 10:30am

All-age Parish Eucharist and Parade Service followed by a picnic in the churchyard. We will also mark the anniversary at our Sunday Service then, after the usual tea and cake in the Scout Hut, there will be fun for all ages with a big picnic.

LEGACY PROJECT

Many of you will remember Richard and Doreen Sutton who worshipped at St Saviour's for many years, primarily attending our Thursday Service. Richard generously left a significant sum of money to St Saviour's in his will for the maintenance and development of the buildings and grounds. A small team led by Dee is working on how we can best make use of this money to fulfil both Richard's wishes and the urgent priorities we have identified. We will also be working to secure additional funding through grants to enable the money to go further and have the greatest possible impact.

Do speak to Dee, Fr David or Kathryn if you would like to know more, and especially if you have experience in writing grant applications or buildings projects and would be willing to help.

If you are in a position to do so, you may like to think about leaving a gift to St Saviour's in your own will. Legacies like these can have a big impact on the life and work of a church. Do talk to Fr David or Kathryn if you would like to leave money for something specific, as gifts that are too restricted can unfortunately end up impossible to use.

JOKE

What did God do to cure Moses' headache?

He gave him two tablets!

DATES

Thursday 5th March

Guided Contemplative Prayer, 7pm.

Saturday 7th March

Church cleaning, 10am

Eucharist with Bible Study, 11:30am.

Sunday 8th March

Pub Club from 7:30pm in The Blyth Hill Tavern: Come and have a pint with Fr David! All are most welcome.

Thursday 12th March

Guided Contemplative Prayer, 7pm.

Saturday 14th March

Eucharist with Bible Study, 11:30am.

Sunday 15th March,

Mothering Sunday All Age Parish Eucharist and parade.

Tuesday 17th March

Lunch Club, 12:30pm in the Scout Hut: Join us for a lovely home cooked lunch and great company! Please contact Kathleen or Kathryn to reserve a place.

Thursday 19th March

Guided Contemplative Prayer, 7pm.

Saturday 21st March

Eucharist with Bible Study, 11:30am.

Thursday 26th March

Guided Contemplative Prayer, 7pm.

Saturday 28th March

Eucharist with Bible Study, 11:30am.

Sunday 29th March, Palm Sunday

Stations of the Cross, 7pm

Thursday 2nd April, Maundy Thursday

7pm Parish Supper

8pm Eucharist followed by watch until midnight.

Friday 3rd April, Good Friday

12 noon The Liturgy of Good Friday

Saturday 4th April, Holy Saturday

Church Cleaning, 10am.

Sunday 5th April, Easter Day

Parish Sunday 19th April

Sunday 19th April

Messy Church, 3-4pm in the Church Hall: Craft, stories, games and refreshment for children and their parents and carers. All Welcome, do invite others to come.

Pub Club from 7:30pm in the General Napier. Please note the date change.

Tuesday 21st April

PCC meeting, 7pm at the Vicarage.

Thursday 30th April

Churchyard and Grounds Mission Working Group, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Friday 8th May, 160th Anniversary of the Dedication of St Saviour's.

Sung Eucharist with the Bishop of Southwark, 7pm.

Saturday 9th May

Concert, 7pm: 160 Years of Song

Sunday 10th May

Church Picnic, 12 noon, following the Parish Eucharist.

Thursday 14th May, Ascension Day

Sung Eucharist, 7pm

Sunday 31st May

Annual Parochial Church Meeting, after the Parish Eucharist. An important opportunity for us to consider together the life of our church and elect churchwardens and PCC members. The meeting will be followed by a bring and share lunch.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Everyone on the Church contact list should have received a letter from Father David in February encouraging us all to prayerfully review our giving to St Saviour's. This has become especially important as our bills exceed our income. While the legacy project will be very helpful in the long term, none of that money can be spent on our everyday costs.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their responses to Kathryn. If you haven't managed to yet, but intend to, please do so before the end of Lent. If you didn't get a letter please do ask Kathryn to check that you are on our contact list and to add you if necessary. Her email address is kathryn.stsaviours@gmail.com.

NEXT EDITION

The next newsletter will be for May and June. Any items for inclusion should be sent to Kathryn by Sunday 19th April. kathryn.stsaviours@gmail.com