

THE

KING

MARCH 2026



29TH MARCH AT 10AM

The Parish magazine of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING

NORTHWOOD HILLS

VICAR The Reverend Michael Miller (020) 8866 9230
The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS
e-mail vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

LAY MINISTER Miss Sarah Parnaby (020) 8866 8309

SERVICES Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday
Also streamed from our website
Other Services - Said Eucharist
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, Saturdays 10.30 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL at St. Edmund's Church
Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.
Please contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for more information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNINGS OF MARRIAGE -
please telephone the Vicar.

OFFICERS

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MAGAZINE

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WEBSITE

www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

FACEBOOK

 St. Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills

HOW TO RECEIVE THE MAGAZINE

This magazine is published online at www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk and can be printed on request.

If you know someone who does not have internet access and would like a printed copy of this magazine, please contact Steve Castle at steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk giving their name and postal address (having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

We publish a free weekly e-mail newsletter which contains links to the latest edition of this magazine and to The Orbit pew sheet.

You can subscribe to the weekly e-mail by completing the form at <https://tinyurl.com/subscribe-orbit> or by visiting www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk and clicking the “Subscribe” link underneath “Weekly Newsletter”.



APRIL MAGAZINE

*All contributions for
the April Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by*

Friday 20th March

020 8866 7173

jonesjennye@googlemail.com

*The April Magazine
will be available
from Sunday 29th March*

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

February has been one of the wettest months I can ever remember; I hope and pray that we see some Spring sunshine in March. This year the whole of March falls in the season of Lent.

Lent is a penitential season when we are invited by the church to take time to reflect on our spiritual lives, and it is a time of renewal, and preparation as we journey together towards Easter. It is a season that helps us to draw closer to God through prayer, self-examination, and acts of kindness.

To help with this there are some extra opportunities being offered along with the daily Eucharist. Firstly, there is the Lent Course, which will be held at 7.45 pm on Thursday evenings. We will be following the Diocese of London's course this year called Treasures of Darkness. It will help us to explore the journey of discipleship amid uncertainty, mystery, and unknowing. Drawing on lived experience and the wisdom of disability and suffering theologies, we will reflect on what it means to follow Christ – not in spite of life's struggles, but as we encounter God's grace and guidance within them. Together, we will seek the treasures hidden in darkness and mystery, nurturing a faith that trusts beyond sight and clarity. There will be a number of eminent speakers and the opportunity to pray and talk together. We will start on Thursday 26th March; I do hope many will be able to join.

As in previous years, the Friday Eucharist will include a devotion often based on the Stations of the Cross and will be followed by a free Soup and Roll Lunch.

Being a penitential time many people make their confession during Lent and there will be times when I will be available to hear them, but it may be more convenient to book a time that is more suitable so please let me know if you wish to do so.

Lent is often seen as a time when we give up something; perhaps chocolate or sugar in our tea. The idea is that we can then take on something spiritual to help us get closer to God. I hope that you will be able to take on something extra this year; maybe come to a weekday Eucharist or read a spiritual book each day in addition to your normal daily devotions.

Whatever you decide to do this Lent whether it is to give something up or take something on I hope and pray that you will find it deepens your faith and brings you closer to our Lord.

With Love and prayers

Fr. Michael

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS MARCH 2026

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

1 SUN 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 12.1-4a, Romans 4.1-5,13-17, John 3.1-17

5 Thur 7.45 pm Lent Course, in the Small Hall

8 SUN 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

Exodus 17.1-7, Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42

12 Thur 7.45 pm Lent Course, in the Small Hall

15 SUN 4th SUNDAY OF LENT; Mothering Sunday

Colossians 3.12-17, John 19.25b-27

19 Thur 7.45 pm Lent Course, in the Small Hall

22 SUN 5th SUNDAY OF LENT; Passion Sunday

Ezekiel 37.1-14, Romans 8.6-11, John 11.1-45

11.30 am (approx.) Annual Parochial Church Meeting

26 Thur 7.45 pm Lent Course, in the Small Hall

29 SUN PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50.4-9a, Philippians 2.5-11, The St. Matthew Passion

OTHER DIARY DATES

Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday

Friday 3rd April Good Friday

Sunday 5th April EASTER DAY

Thursday, Friday, Saturday

7th, 8th, 9th May Arrow Players Play

Thursday 14th May Ascension Day

Saturday 16th May Plant Sale

Sunday 17th May Beating the Bounds

Sunday 24th May The Day of Pentecost

Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday

Thursday 4th June Corpus Christi

Saturday 20th June Summer Fair

ST. EDMUND THE KING
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

will be held at approx. 11.30 am,
following the 10 am Sung Eucharist
on Sunday 22nd March, in the Hall

Elections of Churchwardens and PCC members
Financial Report
Reports from Church Organisations

LENT COURSE

For this year's Lent course we will be using
the Diocese of London Lent Course "Treasures of Darkness".

We will think about what it means to follow Jesus
when life is hard, uncertain, or full of questions.

We will learn from stories and ideas
about living with suffering and difficulty.

The sessions will help us see how God is with us
even in dark and hidden places (Isaiah 45.3).

The series has five sessions
from Thursday 26th February.
at 7.45 pm in the Small Hall,
and will continue for the following 4 Thursdays.

Each session will include a recorded talk with a guest speaker,
followed by time for us to pray and reflect as a group.

The recordings will have captions, British Sign Language
interpretation and easy-to-read materials.

Everyone is welcome to join.

LENT GIVING 2026

As usual, this year's Lent Giving will be divided equally between a charity providing services to people in our country and an overseas charity.

ST. GILES TRUST is a national charity that works with people facing disadvantages such as homelessness, long-term unemployment, an offending background, addiction, severe poverty and involvement in gangs. Founded in 1962 at St. Giles' Church in Camberwell, the Trust's main work is in schools, prisons, hospitals and communities across England and Wales.

www.stgilestrust.org.uk

THE DAVID NOTT FOUNDATION provides safe, skilled surgical care to areas where healthcare is stretched to breaking point by conflict and catastrophic events, like earthquakes or floods. Injuries in these areas are complex, specialist surgical skills are scarce, medical resources limited, surgical teams stretched thin, and emergency rooms overwhelmed. Hospitals can also be targeted as a weapon of war, inflicting further chaos.

When volunteering his trauma surgery skills at times of urgent need in Syria, Libya, Afghanistan, Yemen, Nepal and beyond, co-founder Professor David Nott shared decades of knowledge with frontline doctors, equipping them with the confidence and skills that helped them save more lives against the odds.

www.davidnottfoundation.com

Envelopes for your Giving are available at the back of the Church, to be placed in the Offertory Dishes.

Or you can send a cheque, made payable to PCC of St. Edmund The King, to St. Edmund's Lent Appeal, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood, HA6 1QS.

Or you can make a bank transfer (details as in "Raise the Roof Update" - p.9)

EASTER WORSHIP

at ST. EDMUND'S



PALM SUNDAY - 29 MARCH

10 am Blessing of Palms, Procession
and Sung Eucharist

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY 30, 31 MARCH, 1 APRIL

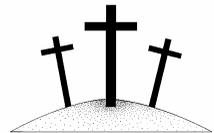
7.00 pm Eucharist for Holy Week

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 2 APRIL

8 pm The Mass of the Lord's Supper
The Watch of the Passion begins

GOOD FRIDAY - 3 APRIL

1 pm - 2 pm Good Friday Meditation
2 pm - 3 pm The Good Friday Liturgy



HOLY SATURDAY - 4 APRIL

8.30 pm Easter Vigil

EASTER DAY - 5 APRIL

10 am Blessing of the Easter Garden
and Sung Eucharist



SUNDAY SCHOOL 
at St Edmund's Church

For more information
call Carol 07827 159 586

 **BRING - AND - BUY
SALE**
**1st SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH**
11.15am IN THE HALL
Part of our Eco Church Project

St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild's programme for 2026
is currently in development
under the new leadership of Sarah Parnaby

In the meantime, please keep
the 2nd Tuesday afternoon of each month free,
pending further announcements

St. EDMUND'S YOUTH GROUP

Meets usually every 2 weeks
on Wednesdays during term time;
7.30 - 9 pm, in the Hall. Open to all aged 10-16.

Contact Steve Castle on 020 8868 0482 for information.

See www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk/youthgroup
for details and dates

PALM SUNDAY REFLECTIONS

Adapted from Common Worship

On Palm Sunday, the Church commemorates Christ's entry into Jerusalem to complete his saving work by dying and rising again. The commemoration liturgy has two distinctive features - the procession with palms and the reading of the Passion Gospel.

The procession is a dramatic way to recall and celebrate the beginning of Holy Week - the days of the passion and death of Our Lord. Palm or other branches are carried, although they are perhaps secondary to the procession itself. The procession does not simply remind us of what happened in the past - it is in itself an act of praise to Christ, and it expresses our readiness to take up our cross and follow our crucified and risen Lord, as we go with him to the place of suffering and death. It also serves to emphasise that, as recorded in the Gospels and foretold by the Prophets, Jesus rode on a donkey - symbolic of coming in peace - and the people celebrated by laying down their cloaks and small branches of trees in front of him, singing part of Psalm 118 - "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord". Today we sing "All glory, laud and honour to Thee, Redeemer King" as we process (see p.18).

The reading of the Passion Gospel takes us into the heart of Holy Week. Although the services of Holy Week are shaped by the historical commemoration of the events of the last week in Jesus' earthly life, taken together they form an extended celebration of the whole mystery of his redemptive work. The solemn reading or singing of the narrative of the passion and death of Jesus Christ is an essential part of the liturgy of Palm Sunday; a full form of the Passion is used, often starting to read at Gethsemane up to the laying in the tomb. The whole narrative reminds us that at the centre of Christ's reign is the power of costly, unconditional love.



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Adapted from material in Common Worship

The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion during Lent for many centuries - they provide a way for us to engage actively with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. They originated when early Christians visited Jerusalem and wanted to follow literally in the footsteps of Jesus, tracing the path from Pilate's house to Calvary. They would pause for prayer and devotion at various points. Eventually those pilgrims brought the practice back to their home countries and ever since then Christians of differing traditions have used this form of devotion.

In the late 14th century, the Franciscans were given the responsibility for the holy places of Jerusalem; they erected tableaux to aid the devotion of the visitors. Images of this nature are now found in churches all over the world.

The number of stations has varied through the centuries from as few as 5 to as many as 36, but the now traditional number of 14 was established by Pope Clement XII in 1731 - nine scriptural stations and a further five based on popular devotion. In recent years there have been a number of variations in these 14, particularly to focus on wholly scriptural derivations. These tend to widen the scope of the depiction of the Way of the Cross to start at Gethsemane and include events at the Trial. Some churches include a 15th Station - The Resurrection.

The stations, as displayed in churches, act as a focus for personal prayer and as part of a liturgical celebration. In this latter context they have been used either as a whole service in themselves, or a few of the stations have been used in the context of a larger liturgical celebration.

The stations displayed in St. Edmund's represent the 14 'traditional' stations ...

- | | |
|------|--|
| I | Pilate condemns Jesus to death |
| II | Jesus takes up cross |
| III | Jesus falls the first time |
| IV | Jesus meets his mother Mary |
| V | Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry the cross |
| VI | Veronica wipes the face of Jesus |
| VII | Jesus falls the second time |
| VIII | The women of Jerusalem mourn for Jesus |
| IX | Jesus falls the third time |
| X | Jesus is stripped of his garments |
| XI | Jesus is nailed to the cross |
| XII | Jesus dies upon the cross |
| XIII | Jesus is taken down from the cross |
| XIV | Jesus is laid in the tomb |

The wooden crosses with roman numerals at each Station were given by the Altar Servers at the time of the building of the permanent Church in 1964. The tableau figures at each Station were given by Freda Varcoe in memory of her husband Winston in 1998.



The 12th Station, as depicted in St. Edmund's

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

We had our first PCC meeting of 2026; as you'd expect, we had a range of agenda items to cover including choosing our Lent Charitable Giving, Clean Water beneficiary and Overseas Aid. It's an important decision to get these charitable recipients right on behalf of the congregation of St. Edmund's.

Our Clean Water recipient is Water Aid, who are an international non-profit organisation with one goal: to change the world through water with decent toilets and good hygiene. It's the foundation for good health, dignity, and a life full of opportunity for the millions of people still living without.

As announced in the Orbit, we will be supporting two charities through our Lent Giving; the first, St. Giles Trust, which is a UK charity that helps people facing adverse circumstances to find suitable employment, housing and support. They also work with those involved in gangs and have initiatives to end knife crime. The second is the David Nott Foundation, which works overseas in countries impacted by conflict and catastrophe, providing much needed healthcare. We feel that these charities support our previous giving to youth crime initiatives and mental health, as well as being relevant to the current world-wide situation. The David Nott Foundation covers this by not being location-based, but supporting healthcare in a wide number of countries in conflict and again, the St. Giles Trust is wide-reaching in the level of support it gives.

For further information please see <https://www.wateraid.org/uk>, <https://www.stgilestrust.org.uk/> and <https://davidnottfoundation.com/>

Additionally, we discussed the importance of our Easter and Christmas Parish-wide newsletter. It was a very emotive topic, as we appreciate how valuable it is to our mission, St. Edmund's and of course the local community. However, it relies on volunteers to put it together and then, once printed, to deliver it. With everyone's commitments it can be difficult to get all the newsletters delivered, hence the discussion. It was decided that our Easter edition will go out as usual, but we are looking into options for future editions, especially around its delivery. If you are able to support this in some way, please contact a member of the PCC.

It is always a joy to attend PCC meetings, as it's a fantastic opportunity to learn about the workings of the church as a whole and of St. Edmund's, and I am always enlightened by the difference of opinions and points of view. As I said above, the Parish Newsletter was a heated debated, polite of course but passionate. I was heartened to hear the value members of the parish place on receiving this newsletter, especially in the way it enables everyone in our parish to have our contact details close at hand for times in their lives when they seek comfort or need pastoral support.

We have our annual meetings (APCM) on 22nd March after the Sunday Service. Please do come along and find out what has been going on during 2025; I have no doubt you'll be inspired by who we are and what we do.

Amanda Roberts, PCC Secretary

RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE



The Fundraising Team Needs You! Well, more specifically, your ideas. As you know, we have a regular set of fundraising events firmly embedded in St. Edmund's calendar, namely the Plant Sale, Summer Fair, Christmas Bazaar and our monthly Bring and Buy Sales.

Alongside these events we have also run some fundraisers which are designed as social occasions; examples in the past have been quiz and film evenings.

We would really like you to let us know if there is a particular kind of event you would like to see held at St. Edmund's. It could be another quiz or film evening, or an entirely new event; maybe something you know another church has done.

Hopefully by putting our collective heads together we can come up with some fun ideas which will help us to increase in fellowship and raise some money into the bargain!

Please share your idea(s) with me after a service, or send your ideas to me at steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk or give me a call on 020 8868 0482. You can also give your suggestions to the other members of the Fundraising Team: Fr. Michael, Carol Diggins or James Mair.

Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only reach our fund-raising target through a combination of prayer, collective fundraising events, grants and personal donations.

If, after prayerful thought and consideration, you feel able to make a personal donation towards the Hall and Lady Chapel roof replacement, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be made in several ways:

- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank (preferred method, as we receive the whole amount with no fees taken):
 - account name: PCC of St. Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
 - sort code: 40-52-40
 - account number: 00017222
 - optional reference "Raise the Roof"
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the "Donate here" button on our website: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk
- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St. Edmund The King (with "Raise the Roof" written on the reverse, please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St. Edmund's Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.

Thank you for considering a donation. Please continue to keep the project in your prayers as we seek to keep our Hall and Lady Chapel open, safe and available for all in our Parish.

With my best wishes Steve Castle

Springtime greetings!

February opened with the light-filled, spirit-lifting Festival of Candlemas, celebrated in an All-Age Service. Fr. Michael preached on the faithfulness of God, as experienced by the two elderly Temple servants, Simeon the priest and Anna, when they recognised the child Jesus as the One for Whom they had waited for so long.

He illustrated this faithfulness with a child's story called 'Horton hatches the Egg', by Dr. Seuss, in which an elephant takes over the hatching of an egg from its irresponsible mother, Mayzie bird, and persists in looking after it, whatever happens. The message was about the patience and faithfulness of God Who is patient and sticks to His promises - as should we.

Our lit candles represent our faithfulness and hope as well; Fr. Michael blessed the new candles for the church and for individuals, and later we brought our small church candles to shine together in a blaze of glory, as a symbol of our prayers, both individual and communal. The music was full of light too: we had among other favourites, 'Shine Jesus Shine', and the choir sang Gregory Murray's setting of the Nunc Dimittis, the song of Simeon (Luke 2.29-32).

I found out some facts about Candlemas that I didn't know, from an article in the Church Times by Sally Welch. Apparently, it took the place of the Pagan festival of Imbolc, which took place between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox, when the days are getting longer, and the first signs of spring can be perceived.

In his letter last month, Fr. Michael mentioned that snowdrops were one of the first signs of Spring in his garden, and I discovered a delightful legend (also thanks to Sally Welch) about the 'Candlemas Bell' - the country name for the snowdrop. It goes like this:

"When Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden, they were trudging through the freezing snow in great misery and despair. Suddenly, an angel appeared. The angel breathed gently on the flakes, and they were transformed into beautiful little white flowers, which would be a reminder of brighter days to come."

A promise that God's love follows us everywhere, even in our darkest days.

Now we are into March, the flowers we see around are more likely to be daffodils, or 'Lent Lilies' as they are sometimes called. There's that Greek myth about the daffodil, but we've been witnessing rather too many examples of narcissism in the news lately! Instead, I'm sharing with you some verses written by Frank's mother Anne (aged 91) which appeared in her beautiful hand-painted birthday card to me last month. I was thrilled. Here is her poem:

"Daffodils wear their golden gowns,
Green slender leaves and sunshine crowns,
Nid-nodding in the fierce spring breeze,
A challenge to a frosty freeze;
Growing bravely in green grass verge,
Outwitting cold rain-water's surge,

Defying last of winter's fling,
They gladden hearts, heralds of spring.
A valiant heart in every part,
Sing and dance, rejoice my heart,
Like daylight after darkest night,
Glow on, grow on, a welcome sight."

On Tuesday 10th February, St. Edmund's Women's Guild held their 2026 AGM. We expressed our extreme gratitude for the many years of faithful and loving service given by Connie Ambrose and Hilda Greenfield, who are now retiring from running the Guild. The Guild will continue! We are sharing the jobs, with Wendy Jones keeping an eye on the finances at present, and myself organising the programme of speakers and activities. If anyone would like to contribute with a talk or an activity, please let me know!

This is the simple but heartfelt 'thank you' poem I wrote for Connie and Hilda:

"Connie and Hilda, what can I say?
We hoped we'd never see this day,
But we're so grateful for the time
You've given us - those years sublime,
The talks in rich variety,
The legendary scrumptious tea,
Your grace and kindness to this throng
That makes us feel that we belong.

You've kept us going through the years
Of sickness, suffering and tears.
You gave us time to chat and smile,
Forgetting problems for a while.
We thank you for your precious part
In the Guild's life, with all our heart."

The next meeting of LIFT (Ladies In Faith Together) will be on the morning of Saturday 7th arch 7th, from 9 am to 11 am at London School of Theology, Northwood. Helen Walker from Soul Survivor will be speaking. We pay £11 which includes a lovely breakfast and all the necessary admin for the day. It is a friendly session with women from all churches in the area, and is a good opportunity to meet local fellow Christians of all denominations. For more details do contact me, as I'm the LIFT rep for St. Edmund's.

On Sunday 15th March, we can relax a little from whatever Lenten hardship or abstinence we've chosen, as it's Refreshment Sunday. It's also Mothering Sunday: do bring family, friends and their families to our 10 am Sung Eucharist: it's so lovely to have a full church!

Earlier, I mentioned 'our darkest days': there have been plenty of dark days lately across the world, in addition to all the personal crosses that we bear. I hope you are all trying to attend the Diocese of London Lent Course: 'Treasures of Darkness', in which we're thinking about what it means to follow Jesus when life is hard, uncertain, or full of questions, and learning from stories and ideas about living with suffering and difficulty. Everyone is welcome to join, so if you haven't yet, try to make the effort: it's important for enriching our Christian life together. For details, see page 5.

We have just heard that Ruth Luck died peacefully on 10th February. She had wanted to be with her Maker for sometime, but remained cheerful, positive and grateful for her situation in St. Vincent's, with her lovely tree outside the window. We offer our condolences to her friends, especially her friend Jenny, who did so much for her. Details of her funeral will follow, when I shall write some more about her interesting life. I will miss her, and so will Frank. May she rest in peace at last, and rise in glory.

I do wish you a peaceful and spiritually fruitful Lent and Passiontide -
and keep looking for those signs of Spring!

2nd NORTHWOOD (ST. EDMUND'S) SCOUT GROUP

Amanda Roberts

2nd Northwood is a thriving Scout Group with Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, plus a Squirrel Drey currently being trialled. Our sections meet weekly at St. Edmund's Hall, go on sleepovers, camps and take part in activity days. We have teams of adult leaders for Scouts and Cubs, and are looking to build up the same Beavers and Squirrels leadership teams to assist in the planning and delivery of an exciting programme of outdoor activities, crafts, games, challenges and camps.

Being an Adult Volunteer Leader is a fun and rewarding role; it is ideal for people who enjoy working with young people. Over time you'll see members grow in confidence and ability as they learn from the programme that you help to run. No experience is necessary; full training is given, subject to DBS and references of course.

So if you enjoy having fun and using your imagination, and want to inspire Squirrels (4-5 years) or Beavers (6-7 years) to focus their energy and reach their full potential please contact Amanda at 2nscouts@renscouts.org.uk

I look forward to hearing from you and supporting you on your Scouting Journey as an Adult Volunteer Leader!



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 6th March 2026



The World Day of Prayer is an international, women-led, ecumenical movement that shares the hopes, concerns, and prayers of women from around the globe. Each year, women from a different country prepare a service, sharing their unique spiritual journey and culture. For 2026, the women of Nigeria have created a service on the theme "I WILL GIVE YOU REST", reflecting on our need for peace and solace, drawing on their faith and experiences in a world filled with struggles and anxieties.

The preparation for this day is extensive. The writing country and theme are chosen years in advance, and the service then travels to the international committee in New York for translation and dissemination to national committees in over 120 participating countries. From there it is adapted and shared locally, culminating in gatherings at hundreds of churches every March.

This day is a powerful demonstration of global solidarity. It begins in Samoa and moves across the world in a continuous wave of prayer, finishing 38 hours later in American Samoa. It truly is a worldwide day of prayer!

It appears that the nearest service to St. Edmund's is at
St. Giles Church, Ickenham, at 2.00 pm on Friday 6th March
For further information see wwdp.org.uk

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel!
Blessèd is he that comes in the name of the Lord!
Let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah,
as did the crowds who welcomed him to Jerusalem.

*All glory laud and honour
To Thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessèd One.
All glory laud and honour ...

The company of angels
Are praising Thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply.
All glory laud and honour ...

The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before Thee we present.
All glory laud and honour ...

To Thee before Thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.
All glory laud and honour ...

Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.
All glory laud and honour ...

Do Thou direct our footsteps
Upon our earthly way,
And bring us by thy mercy
To heaven's eternal day.
All glory laud and honour ...

Within that blessèd City
Thy praises may we sing,
And ever raise hosannas
To our most loving King.
All glory laud and honour ...

The text of the hymn is attributed to Theodulf, Bishop of Orléans (c. 750-821). He appears to have been a native of Italy, but became Bishop of Orléans (France) in 785, and soon afterwards also Abbot of Fleury. In 818 he was imprisoned at Angers, France, for conspiring against Louis, Emperor of the "French" empire (which at the time included present-day Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, most of Germany, the northern half of Italy and a large portion of north-east Spain). Legend has it that, in a Palm Sunday procession, Louis passed the prison in which Theodulph was held, and heard the bishop singing this hymn. Louis was so moved that he freed Theodulph and decreed the singing of the hymn on all subsequent Palm Sundays.

The text was originally in thirty-nine Latin couplets. John Mason Neale translated the text into English in his *Mediæval Hymns and Sequences* (1851) and with further revisions was included in the original edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861).

Rev. Dr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) was born in London, educated at Sherborne School and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1842. At the age of 22 he was Chaplain at Downing College, Cambridge, but ill health and his strong support of the Oxford Movement kept him from ordinary parish ministry. So Neale spent the years between 1846 and 1866 as a warden of Sackville College in East Grinstead, a retirement home for poor men. There he served the men faithfully and expanded Sackville's ministry to impoverished women and orphans. He also founded the Sisterhood of St. Margaret, which became one of the finest English training orders for nurses. He wrote or translated many hymns, including "Good Christian Men, Rejoice", and "O come, O come, Emmanuel", and produced many books and articles on Liturgy and Church history.

The tune used for the hymn is referred to as "St. Theodulph", a tune largely derived from another hymn tune "Valet Will Ich Dir Geben", which was composed in 1613 by German cantor, composer and theologian Melchior Teschner (1584-1635).



Brownies
Northwood

6th Northwood Brownies

Brownies is part of Girlguiding and
open to girls aged 7-10

We meet at St Edmund's Hall
on Wednesday's
5.30pm to 7pm

For more information contact Nicola at
brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk

UPCOMING CONCERTS AT ST. EDMUND'S

Saturday 7th March

TRINITY ORCHESTRA Family Concert at St. Edmund's

'Musical Superheroes'

two performances, at 2.30 pm and 4.15 pm

a variety of exciting music, with heroic themes
from Superman and The Avengers,

Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and other musical adventures.

Suitable for children aged 5 and upwards.

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7.30 pm Saturday 14th March

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80th Anniversary Concert

'Messiah' (Handel)

Orchestra, Choir and Soloists

Conductor - Robert Jones

Tickets £17

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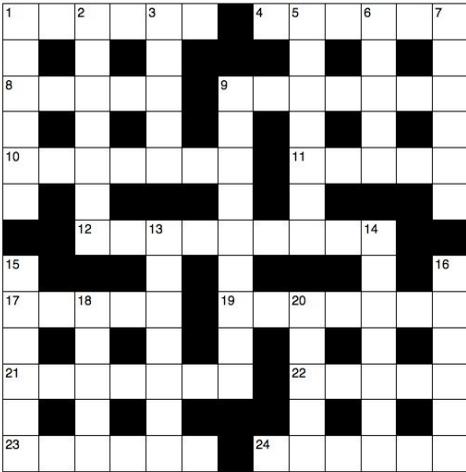
Under 12s free

7.30 pm Saturday 21st March

HARROW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Dvorak: Violin Concerto, Rachmaninov: Symphony No 2.

MARCH CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Arouse (*Song of Songs 2.7*) (6)
4. Extinguish (*Isaiah 1.31*) (6)
8. "“They — — ,” you will say, “but I’m not hurt!”” (*Proverbs 23.35*) (3,2)
9. Unhappiness (*Nehemiah 2.2*) (7)
10. Jewish (7)
11. Dirge (anag.) (5)
12. ‘A truthful witness gives honest — , but a false witness tells lies’ (*Proverbs 12.17*) (9)
17. Paul quoted from the second one in his address in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (*Acts 13.33*) (5)
19. ‘Do not use your freedom to — the sinful nature’ (*Galatians 5.13*) (7)
21. ‘As you can see, he has done nothing to — death’ (*Luke 23.15*) (7)
22. Name applied by Isaiah to Jerusalem (*Isaiah 29.1*) (5)
23. ‘All the people — — one man, saying, “None of us will go home”’ (*Judges 20.8*) (4,2)
24. Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham’s side when he died, was one (*Luke 16.20*) (6)

DOWN

1. Appalled (*Job 26.11*) (6)
2. ‘In an — to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea’ (*Acts 27.30*) (7)
3. Expel (*Acts 18.16*) (5)
5. ‘But I have a baptism to — , and how distressed I am until it is completed!’ (*Luke 12.50*) (7)
6. ‘Of the increase of his government and peace there will be — — ’ (*Isaiah 9.7*) (2,3)
7. Hurry (*Psalms 119.60*) (6)
9. ‘For I desire mercy, not — , and acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings’ (*Hosea 6.6*) (9)
13. One of its towns was Sychar, where Jesus met a woman at Jacob’s well (*John 4.5*) (7)
14. Shouting (*Acts 7.57*) (7)
15. Arachnid (*Isaiah 59.5*) (6)
16. One of Paul’s first converts in Philippi was Lydia, a — in purple cloth (*Acts 16.14*) (6)
18. Donkeys (5)
20. Raked (anag.) (5)

February Crossword Solution



*The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving
the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.*

*The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of
the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London*



*Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ
in the year 869 when he was 29 years old.
The crown and arrows of the church crest
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.*

