

Bishop Martin writes...

My friends, look at the processes of resurrection that are occurring at this very time!

Not my words but the words of Clement of Rome to the Church in Corinth, writing in the first century.

I spent Easter eve at St John the Divine, Kennington and Easter morning at St Mary, Barnes – and glorious they were. But I have enjoyed Clement of Rome's words that I came across as I returned from a few days Easter leave in the Creuse region of France.

"Look at the processes of resurrection that are occurring at this very time!"

I love the immediacy of it. Though life is often full of hardship and loss, the fruits of the resurrection are all around us – happening right now! – if only we had eyes to see.

This Easter season I was reminded of a book by a former Divinity Professor at Cambridge, Nicholas Lash. It is not an easy book but the title has long fascinated me: 'Easter in Ordinary: Reflections on Human Experience and the Knowledge of God' (SCM, 1988). I like the title because it seems to imply – with Clement of Rome – that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is not confined to special experience or high days and holidays but is all around us. Everything that we do and say and see and touch is suffused with the blinding light of Christ's glorious resurrection if only we had eyes to see!

But do we grasp this?

The playwright, Dennis Potter (1935-1994), not a believer, in his final interview before he died captures beautifully the glory of Christ's resurrection, and what it means for our

redemption. He writes as follows, reflecting on a spring blossom that might easily pass us by.

Below my window in Ross...there at this season, the blossom is out in full now, there in the west early. It's a plum tree, it looks like apple blossom but it's white, and looking at it, instead of saying "Oh that's nice blossom" ... last week looking at it through the window when I'm writing, I see it is the whitest, frothiest, blossomest blossom that there ever could be, and I can see it. Things are both more trivial than they ever were, and more important than they ever were, and the difference between the trivial and the important doesn't seem to matter. But the nowness of everything is absolutely wondrous, and if people could see that... There's no way of telling you: you have to experience it, but the glory of it..." (<https://www.theguardian.com/the-guardian/12007/sep/11/2/greatinterviews> last accessed 23 April 2023).

The glory of it. Easter in ordinary! And Potter reflects, importantly I think, of seeing in the present tense. If you do that 'boy do you see it!' he says.

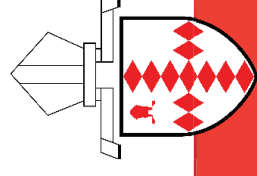
I was struck this Easter how in John's Gospel, it is precisely when Judas goes out to betray Jesus that Jesus speaks of glory.

"When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him'" (John 13: 31)

It is another striking insight into our topsyturvy faith – loss, betrayal and hardship leading to glory.

May you know Christ's glory at this time, see it all around you. Easter in ordinary!

+ Martin



NOTICEBOARD

News and Events from the Diocese of Southwark
MAY 2023

Thy Kingdom Come

Thursday 18 - Sunday 28 May

The theme of this year Thy Kingdom Come is "Our father in Heaven".

Each day between Ascension and Pentecost we will be focusing on praying for more people to come to know Jesus.

To help you pray "Thy Kingdom Come" resources including prayers, further reading and suggestions for actions you might wish to take aimed at adults, children and young people, and all ages. As well as resources for people working with children and young people.

A pack of prayer materials has been posted to parishes. If you wish to receive extra packs, please fill in the form included in your pack. Alternatively there are further resources available on our website: <https://southwark.anglican.org/mission-ministry/mission/mission-evangelism/thy-kingdom-come/>

National Anglican Fresh Expressions & Pioneering Conference

**Saturday 20 May, 10am - 4pm,
Christ Church, 27 Blackfriars Rd, London SE1 8NY**

There is still time to book and join us to learn from other people's stories, share your own and take part in shaping our shared stories of Fresh Expressions and pioneering across the country.

The keynote speaker is Brian McLaren; author, and theologian. There will also be a wide range of seminars led by local pioneers who'll be sharing their stories of pioneering and Fresh Expressions and the lessons they've learned along the way.

£15 per person (including lunch).

Please get in touch if price is a barrier:

Pioneering@southwark.anglican.org

For more information and to book go to:

<https://bit.ly/swkfxp23>

The Coronation of King Charles III

Visit the Church of England website for full information about the Coronation weekend, resources and publicity for churches: <https://www.churchofengland.org/coronation>

If your church is planning something special, please let us know at communications@southwark.anglican.org - and don't forget to send us photos afterwards so that we can share your stories more widely

The Diocese of
Southwark

Walking | Welcoming | Growing



The Diocese of Southwark

PERSONNEL

REST IN PEACE

The Revd Robert William Hampden Nind, died on 20 March at the age of 91. He was previously Assistant Curate of Spalding (1956-60); Vere, Jamaica (1960-63); Rector (1963-67); Curate-in-Charge of St Bartholomew, Battersea (1967-70); Commissary of British Honduras (1967-73); Belarus (1973-77); Jamaica (1970-77); Vicar of St Matthew, Brixton (1970-82); Southwark Diocesan Industrial Chaplain (1984-89); Oxford Diocesan Industrial Chaplain (1989-95). May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

The Venerable Carol Coslett, presently Assistant Director of Lay Ministry in the Diocese of Southwark was licensed with the Bishop's Public Preacher's Licence (PPL), on 20 April, by the Bishop of Southwark.

The Revd Ian Luke-Macauley, at present Assistant Curate of Clapham Common, St Barnabas will be instituted as Vicar of Battersea, St Peter & St Paul on 10 May, by The Bishop of Kingston.

The Revd Susan Thomas, at present Assistant Priest of Coulsdon, St Johnwill be licensed as Area Dean of Croydon South, on 11 May, by The Bishop of Croydon.

The Revd Hannah Gordon, at present Assistant Curate of Carshalton Beeches, Good Shepherd will be instituted as Rector of Chipstead, St Margaret, on 30 May, by The Bishop of Croydon.

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

The Revd Barry Hengist, presently Vicar of Shirley, St George the Martyr, is to retire on 31 July.

The Revd Olu Adams, presently Vicar of Peckham, St Mary, is to retire on 1 July.

The Revd Timothy Goode, presently Rector of Lee, St Margaret, is to resign in late July (date to be confirmed) to take up the post of Residentiary Canon for Congregational Discipleship and Nurture at York Minster.

The Revd Roger Hagon, presently Vicar of Addiscombe, St Mildred, is to retire on 31 July.

The Revd Ian Mobsby, presently Interim Pioneer Rector of Southwark, Christ Church and Diocesan Assistant Dean for Fresh Expressions, is to resign on 31 July to take up the post of Diocesan Community Missioner for the Diocese of Niagara in the Anglican Church of Canada.

PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE

The Revd Vanessa Elston, previously Curate of Battersea Fields, St Saviour, All Saints & St George, was granted the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 30 March (listed under Bishop's Chaplain).

The Revd Angela Gbebikan, previously Vicar of South Beddington and Roundshaw, St Michael & All Angels, was granted the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 4 April (listed under Croydon Central Deanery).

The Revd Ruth Lampard, previously Honorary Curate of Waterloo, St John, was granted the the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 8 April (listed under Wandsworth Deanery).

The Revd Gilbert Sonowo, most recently priest in Ifo Diocese, Nigeria, was granted Overseas Permission and the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 8 April (listed under Plumstead, St John w St James & St Paul, Plumstead Deanery).

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Woolwich Retired Clergy and Partners Service and Lunch

Thursday 11 May, from 11.30am, St Margaret of Antioch, Lee Terrace SE13 5DN

Short Service with Commissioning of Revd Canon Kim Hitch and thank you to Revd Ray Turpin at 12 noon. Followed by lunch To book your place contact Beverly McBean at: Beverley.mcbean@southwark.anglican.org or call to: 020 7939 9429

Sustaining yourself in Christian ministry

Saturday 22 July, 10am - 3pm, Trinity House, free

This is a day designed to help lay people who serve God in long-lasting ministries (although we won't turn clergy away). If you are a Reader or a SPA you will find it particularly useful, as will people who have a role as an officer of a church which consumes a great deal of their time.

It's for those who have served for many years and would like to think about the challenge of perseverance, and those who have been licensed or commissioned in recent years and would value an opportunity to develop good habits of self-care.

This is an in-person event. The day will be led by Mick Kain, who has himself clocked up many years of faithful service to Southwark Diocese as a trainer.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Children and Young People (CYP) Drop-ins

Every first Tuesday of the month starting on 2 May, 1.30 - 2.30pm
To network, share ideas and explore a CYP subject-specific area. Join the CYP Team to find out how to engage with CYP in challenging times. Other monthly topics will be Godly Play, children and youth church, toddler groups, musical opportunities with CYP, Diddy Disciples, Growing Faith at school, and more.
To register click [here](#).

Together 2023: Your voice, your choice

Saturday 22 July, 12noon - 3pm, The Salmon Youth Centre, 43 Old Jamaica Road, London, SE16 4TE, free

This is a celebratory event for young people aged between 8-18 in the Woolwich Episcopal Area, and their leaders

The Bishop and Archdeacons would like to meet you, eat with you, have fun with you, and worship with you. There will be workshops involving song-writing (with Noel Robinson), football (with KICK London), and art (with clay and mosaics).

The afternoon will conclude with a service to thank God for the volunteers and paid workers who nurture children in this part of the Diocese.

Book your place at: bit.ly/4194x6J

EVENTS & NOTICES

The Aurora Youth Ministry Course

Do you work with young people? Join the Aurora Youth Ministry course and gain a qualification as a commissioned Youth Worker which is formally recognised throughout Southwark Diocese.

Following a selection process, the Aurora course lasts nine months, and is the first part of a two-year course.

To gain the qualification you also need to complete the Bishop's Certificate in the second year.

There is also an Aurora Children's Ministry course, and that will begin in September 2024.

The course is taught both in person at Trinity House and online, and you can register your interest at bit.ly/41ra1jo

Evangelism for pioneers

Wednesdays 24 May, 14 and 28 June, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Zoom, free

This is a three-part course to help Pioneers and those involved in fresh expressions explore how to go about evangelism in the style of Jesus.

The first part is an introduction to spiritual friendship. The second part turns its back on evangelism as a sales pitch or an argument, and instead explores a more natural way to engage friends in conversation and invitation. Part three explores two new resources called Talking Jesus and Sharing Jesus.

David Cundill, the Pioneer Development Officer, leads the course.

To book your place email: pioneering@southwark.anglican.org

Justice and the Church?

Friday 16 and Saturday 17 June, Yarnfield Park Conference Centre, Stone, Staffordshire

USPG launches their 2023 conference titled *Justice and the Church?* Taking place over two days along with partnering organisations and guest speakers. USPG will explore what justice means throughout the Anglican world.

The event will have keynote speakers, workshops and bible studies as we tackle questions such as:

- What does justice mean?
- How might we recognise it?
- Where, as Christians and Church, are we falling short?
- How do we seek God's justice on Earth for all, whilst acknowledging the huge diversity within our church and communities?

The keynote speakers; Sarojini Nadar and Revd Dr Al Barrett will seek to tackle the inherited complexities within the histories of church and mission.

Through a series of participatory workshops and Bible studies, we will explore how these histories continue to foster injustice in the present - particularly concerning race, gender and the environment.

[Book your tickets here](#)

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PERSONNEL

The Revd Canon Howard Such, presently Honorary Canon Emeritus of Southwark Cathedral, Church of St Saviour & St Mary Overie, was granted the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 18 April (listed under Southwark & Newington Deanery).

OTHER VACANCIES

Church Musician - All Saints, Upper Norwood

Salary: £4- £5K (dependent on experience)

Working Days: Sundays 9.15 - 11.30am; Choral Eucharist and rehearsals; organ; rehearsals one hour a week alternating the junior and the senior choir.

Once a term, playing the piano for the All Age Eucharist with a growing Junior Choir.

Required to play for additional services at Christmas, Holy Week and Easter, including five seasonal evening services. First refusal for weddings and funerals. Supporting an amateur but committed and growing choir.

For further details and job description visit: www.allsaintsun.org/vacancies

To apply email Fr Antonio at: vicar@allsaintsun.org

Subject to our Safer Recruitment policy and Enhanced DBS Checks.

Diocesan Confirmation

The Diocesan Confirmation Services for 2023 at Southwark Cathedral will take place on **27 May and 25 November** at 4pm.

Parishes wishing to put forward candidates should be in touch with Tom Bridges at: tom.bridges@southwark.anglican.org.

NOTICES

Articles of Enquiry

The Articles of Enquiry are now online and ready for churchwardens to start completing on the Parish Returns website: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

in advance of your annual church inspection. The Articles of Enquiry must be completed one week prior to the inspection, or by **31 May 2023**, whichever comes first.

The Articles of Enquiry are a set of questions which give churchwardens the opportunity to help the Archdeacons form a picture of how things really are in our parishes.

They are a small part of the communications between the parishes and the wider Diocese and we thank you for taking the time to respond.

Please contact your Archdeacon's PA if you have any queries or need help accessing the online system.

Online Parish Returns

The parish finance and energy usage data is still open for you to input your information.

The deadlines for each return are as follows:

- Return of Parish Finance 28 June
- Energy Footprint Tool 31 July

The online system can be accessed here: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>.

Please contact us at data@southwark.anglican.org if you have any queries or need help accessing the online system.

DIOCESAN TRAINING

Praying with the art of Giotto

**Tuesday 6 June, 7.30 - 8.30pm,
Zoom, free**

Giotto di Bondone was 'the most sovereign master of painting in his time'. In 14th Century Florence he painted sublime images of the life of Jesus and Italian saints. Perhaps his most famous composition is Pentecost. So it is appropriate that, towards the start of the season of Pentecost, we use his paintings to inspire our prayers.

Our prayers, silence and appreciation of a great artist will be guided by the Revd Jeremy Groombridge, NSM at All Saints Church, Sanderstead.

To book: learning@southwark.anglican.org

Bereavement care awareness

**Saturday 10 June, 10am - 1.30pm,
Trinity House, free**

This is an event for SPAs and pastoral ministers to help them support bereaved people. It is delivered by Care for the Family and will help you better support those who have been bereaved in your church and wider community. It will include teaching to help understand what bereavement is, case studies, and a discussion of what we can do to make a difference. This is an in-person event and limited to 15 people.

To book: learning@southwark.anglican.org

Godly Play

**Saturday 17 June, 10am - 4.00pm,
Trinity House, free**

Godly Play is a movement that encourages the spiritual nurture of children and adults in our churches. It involves storytelling and theological reflection for all ages. Children's leaders and preachers

alike are welcome to join the Revd Ronni Lamont, the writer and facilitator, as she introduces Godly Play and helps us understand what a powerful and creative technique it can be.

Book your place at bit.ly/3odNz8E

Ground Floor Guide to 1 Corinthians

**Thursday 6 July, 7.30 - 8.30pm,
Zoom, free**

In about 53AD Paul wrote to a church he had founded in Corinth, modern-day Greece. He loved the people in that church and it wasn't the last letter he sent them. It also wasn't, you may be intrigued to learn, the first letter he sent to them. He wrote to them about leadership, sex, marriage, food, worship, love and the resurrection of Jesus. His words have inspired, encouraged and directed Christians for 20 centuries.

Tonight it's our turn.

Our thought-provoking evening will be led by Julia Cernoch, Reader at St John, West Wickham.

To book: learning@southwark.anglican.org

Diversity training

**Saturday 1 July, 10am - 12.30pm,
Trinity House, free**

Everyone in a position of leadership in a church will be helped by addressing the issues of unconscious bias which arise in diverse communities. This training is designed to help lay and ordained leaders to consider the issues involved, whether they are clergy, Readers, SPAs, Pioneers, leaders of children and young people or PCC members.

To book: learning@southwark.anglican.org

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Lay Ministry Information Evening

**Wednesday 7 June, 7.30 - 9pm,
Zoom, free**

Anybody who would like to take some tentative, no-obligation steps in exploring a vocation to a lay ministry is welcome to attend this information evening.

You can discover more and ask questions. You might have an interest in being a Reader, a SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary), a Pioneer, a leader of children and young people, or an Evangelist. This is a chance to hear the stories of people who are experienced in these roles.

To book email: learning@southwark.anglican.org

Vocations Forum

**Saturdays: 20 May, 22 July, 16
September and 18 November,
9am - 4pm**

The focus is on commissioned and licensed lay ministries and on ordained ministry as a Permanent Deacon or as a Priest.

Attending a vocations forum is a prerequisite to entering the discernment process for many ordained and lay ministries. We are committed to encouraging vocations in people who represent the full diversity of our Diocese and so, everyone is welcome.

You need your incumbent or chaplain to sponsor you to attend.

Please ask them to book your place through Sue Stewart, Vocations Team Administrator, by emailing her at:

sue.stewart@southwark.anglican.org

The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship 2023-2024

The Bishop's Certificate is a 10-month course exploring the Christian faith. It begins in September.

There are modules about the Bible, being Anglican, what Christians believe, living as a follower of Jesus Christ, and putting your future into God's hands

It is for anybody who wants to be more confident about their faith, or begin to explore whether God is calling them to a ministry. You can take the course either in person at Trinity House or online, and there are evening or morning groups.

The cost is £220, but no one is ever prevented from taking the course because of the expense.

Further details and instructions for how to apply [here](#).

Woolwich Episcopal Area Clergy Study Day 2023

**Tuesday 23 May, 9.30am - 4pm,
St Laurence Church, 37 Bromley
Road, London SE6 2TS, free**

This year's Woolwich Clergy Study Day topic is Mission, Theology and the Arts.

For more details and to register your attendance please use the Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/602568848647>

Save the Date for the

Diocesan Clergy Study Day

Study Day at Southwark Cathedral on **Wednesday 4 October**. Save this date in your diary.