



roundabout



The Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common

Issue 542 May 2023

The King

On 6th May, millions around the world will be watching the ushering-in of a new era and accepting Charles III as king.

The role and status of our new monarch will be reflected in his elaborate clothing, the mode of transport, and the solemn and sacred ceremony. The Coronation Regalia will be symbolic of his responsibilities; the maces and swords represent authority, the jewelled accessories military leadership and dignity, and the sovereign's orb his God-given power.

In Biblical times, the Jewish people were anticipating a king who would be their supreme ruler, a man with the authority and power to redeem and reign with justice. But they did not understand the nature of *God's* kingdom - of servanthood and sacrifice and love.

If we compare Jesus' attire to that of King Charles we find that his birth found him swaddled in strips of cloth - and his death wrapped in bloodied linen. His crown was twisted of thorns and his purple robe a garment of mockery. Instead of a palace, Jesus inhabited an animal shelter, as a toddler had refugee status and his ministry was one of nomadic existence. His mode of transport was primarily on foot - and on Palm Sunday a humble donkey. The ultimate symbol representing Jesus is the wooden cross on which he was crucified.

Jesus did not fit the image of a king according to man. And yet, he is the **king above all kings**, defeating death and bringing resurrection life to anyone who believes and calls on his name!

King Jesus is:

the image of the invisible God... the creator of all things, including thrones or dominions, rulers or powers; all is created through him and for him and held together by him. Jesus is above all things and through him, God has reconciled to himself all things by making peace through the blood of his cross. (Paraphrase of Colossians 1: 15-20)

Do you accept Christ Jesus as *your* king?

God bless

Reverend Rachel Winn



**As members of St. Augustine's with St. Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command
— to share God's love with our community.**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

"God's Mission" at St Augustine's



Throughout the Church of England, Eastertide is a time of renewal, personally and collectively. It is when every parish must hold an Annual Meeting. AGMs are not always noted for riveting content! However, it was heartening to look back over the year at the number of new ventures we have taken at St Augustine's with St Luke's.

With fruit and croissants and coffee, we have been worshipping once a month in a new way at Café Church.

Sharing chat, games and soup, we have enjoyed weekly 'Warm Space'.



After experiencing separation and loneliness during the pandemic, our new Pastoral Team are supporting the community

WARM WELCOME SPACE and CAMEO

(Come And Meet Each Other)

Both of these weekly activities have offered an opportunity to share Christian love, offer support and to grow friendships.



In our own church family, as in every other family in the land, we have noticed the cost of living increases and if we can use our facilities to mitigate the effects of heating or eating, we invite you to join us. Call our church office on 020 8295 1550, or one of the people listed on the back page of Roundabout.

At St Augustine's with St Luke's we donate, or tithe, 10% of our income from the previous year. The receiving Christian charities are those with a personal or local connection and we pray that God's love will inspire us all to listen to his Word and live out its message.

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FORGET ME NOT CAFE

Memory cafe for anyone with dementia, their families, carers and friends.

Where: The Garden Room
St. Augustine's Church
Southborough Lane
Bromley BR2 8AT

When: Third Tuesday in the month
between 1.30 – 3.30pm

Tea, coffee and cakes available (Payment by donation)
Contact – Diana Pattison on 020 8464 1151 or
dianaepattison@gmail.com

(Run by the members of The Bromley Common Group of Churches)

Coronation memories

In a Café Church service recently, we had to guess as many words as we could connected to royalty. It struck me how few people present that morning would remember the Queen's coronation. A brilliant film was made of the day which we were able to watch in the cinema after the event.

Some of us were able to watch events as they were televised on tiny television screens.

My lasting memory of the day was of the Queen of Tonga smiling broadly as she rode in an open carriage in the pouring rain.



At school, we had been given a book 'Queen Elizabeth' with coloured photos of the life thus far of our very young new monarch. Later, it was exciting to see new coins appear in our change and new post boxes with 'ER' instead of 'GR' on them.

I wonder what your memories are of that day and what you will remember about this year's event.



Ann Hanrahan

God Save the King!

Wow! May is going to be a lively month this year as, fired up with the joy and hope of Easter and the coming of Pentecost, we look forward to the new Carolingian era and the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla in Westminster Abbey.

This will be a third coronation for me, which will begin the reign of my fifth monarch. Ouch! quite a sobering thought.

Some things will be just the the same, of course, with all the pomp and pageantry of a great State occasion, but each occasion evokes different personal memories for all of us.

The 1937 coronation of King George VI is memorable for the crowds at

Buckingham Palace and the Abbey and children's parties blocking every street in the rest of the capital with long lines of trestle tables (ours, coincidentally borrowed from St. Augustine's Church, Fulham) decked with Union Jack tablecloths and bunting, each groaning with goodies. We all wore paper crowns, waved flags and drank from Coronation mugs (mine was broken, but we still have one for Edward VIII), but for me the party highlight was, as usual, my aunt Mabel's 'Mushroom dessert' - a bowl of lime jelly, well chopped to resemble grass, then adorned with 'mushrooms' made with halved bananas and topped with half a gooey meringue. Delicious!



How different was the 1953 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth. No street party this time as I lived on a main road, but though in deepest Kent, I did see the Coronation itself in the Abbey and the whole of the outdoor ceremonial, courtesy of a neighbour's black and white television; a massive beast the size of a small fridge with a tiny, nine-inch cathode ray tube for a screen. While twelve-inch sets were a rare luxury, binoculars or a large magnifier in front of the screen always helped.

This year we timid souls will watch it all at home in glorious technicolour rather than brave the crush and a restricted view. Where will you be?

Once again we shall be looking to the future with hope and optimism, but I cannot help remembering that at each coronation there were dark clouds to be seen on the horizon. We will need prayer as well as hope.

Adrian Charles King

Church Outreach:



Spinnaker works in primary schools exploring the Christian faith. With the cooperation of the schools, Spinnaker workers are invited to take assemblies, interact with children in lessons and share Bible stories. The Trust has expanded into nine educational locations in the south east, including Beckenham & Penge, Bromley and Croydon. Our own Jacky Skinner used to be a Spinnaker team member. www.spinnaker.org



UK Outreach: CAP. Christians Against Poverty. Poverty robs people of life in all its fullness and CAP exists to support local churches to be what God has called them to be – a loving, caring presence. Churches and grass roots campaigners are provided with free expert debt help and advice. Advisers spend time with individuals constructing ways in which they can take control of their finances. The aim is to be free of debt. Nigel Pope has been involved with the CAP Bromley branch www.capuk.org



Church worldwide; CMS. The Church Mission Society has been an organisation we at St Augustine's have supported for many years. Through them we have had associations with mission workers in Africa and Asia. CMS builds on what local people are already doing and so there are many examples of long-term relationships. In today's world, the work of sharing the Gospel includes mission in the UK among mixed and overlooked communities. www.cms.org

(Some of the charitable organisations we supported financially last year)

Friends of Jubilee Country Park 20th Anniversary 2003-2023

As part of our anniversary year celebrations, we are delighted to be welcoming a very special guest speaker, **Tom Hart Dyke**, who will be giving his talk on *'The World Garden at Lullingstone Castle'* on **Thursday 11 May** in the Garden Room at St Augustine's Church. This is the garden which he planned whilst held captive by guerrillas in the Colombian jungle in 2000. Tom's idea for the garden was formed in the depths of despair after being told to prepare to die. Tom is a great speaker and has a truly fascinating story to tell. It is definitely an event not to be missed, so please join us and we look forward to seeing you there.

Doors will open at 7.00pm for the talk at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served before the talk. A donation towards the cost and work of the Friends of Jubilee Country Park would be welcomed.

A Short Break in Amsterdam



On a sunny, but cold spring day, my friend Sally and I set out for Amsterdam. We took just two trains; Thameslink from Petts Wood and Eurostar from St Pancras. The trip was booked for a special reason - we were both keen to visit a much-awaited exhibition of paintings by Dutch artist Vermeer, famous for *A Girl with a Pearl Earring*. I had been to Amsterdam before, but for just one day and it is a fascinating city.

In the 17th century, it became the principal trading city in the Netherlands and as we walked, we noticed how tall and narrow the houses were. It was because they were taxed on their width. There is no wasted space: the smallest one is two metres wide! If you look up, each roofline makes a statement, usually to display wealth. There are pulley systems reaching out from the attics, designed to haul up precious spices collected from the Dutch East Indies and hung in the lofts to dry. The pulleys are still there and – perilously – are the way of getting furniture to and from, the upper floors. It's worth having eyes in the back of your head in Amsterdam as if a rapidly descending chair doesn't get you, the bikes certainly will!



The new Anne Frank Museum

We were able to experience the dark, claustrophobic interior of one such house at the Anne Frank museum. I have not read her diaries, but I had seen the film. Nothing prepared me for the tiny space, up steep stairs, in which eight people lived secretly, sometimes in total silence, for two years. We had an excellent talk at the start, which

explained how the systematic removal of every freedom and human right from the Jews was what drove the family to live in this way. The heartbreak of their discovery and deportation to the death camps on the very last transport, just amplified the bleakness of their story. Only Anne's father, Otto, returned and found her diaries.

The following day we saw the Vermeer exhibition at the



Rijksmuseum, displaying 28 of his 37 known paintings. They are beautiful. The sense of place and peace is beguiling, as are the expressions of the sitters, most of them anonymous. The light is special, whether it comes in from a half open window or is reflected off a silk curtain. We got very close to them.

Vermeer's attention to detail draws you in; the puckered stitching on a yellow jacket where the fur is attached, or 'Girl with a Pearl Earring' inviting you to take a very long look.



Our four day visit also included a performance of Mahler's Sixth symphony at the famous, and very elegant, Concertgebouw and an afternoon at the Van Gogh museum. Short city breaks are great, but there is a lot of walking. So on our last day, we took a canal boat trip, shopped for chocolate cookies and waffles and let the train take the strain back to St Pancras.

Mary Plummer

I'm Sorry...

It had been one of those days; you know the kind I mean. It had not started well. A Little Girl I Know had slept through the alarm, and then refused to wake up when I tried. When she did get out of bed it was a rush to get ready and we were later than normal leaving the house. She was grumpy as we drove to school, my questions given one-or two word answers. As we said our goodbyes, I could see that we were both close to tears.

I drove away from the school knowing that it would be a long day until I was back there at pick up time and I had so much to do. My 'To Do' list was long and my energy level low that morning. I needed my morning walk to clear my head and get myself in a better frame of mind. Ninety minutes later I had walked, spoken to a few people I regularly see in the park, bought a sandwich for my lunch later and the world was looking a much brighter place. I thought of A Little Girl I Know and asked God to look after her that day. With her safely placed in His care I was able to move on with the jobs that needed to be done that day.

Later, as I drove to pick her up at the end of the school day, I felt so much better. I had achieved a lot, although there were still plenty of jobs outstanding. I was pleased that some things I hadn't wanted to do were now done, finished, completed.

As I sat in the car waiting for her at the pre-arranged place, I could see from my rear view mirror her approaching. It was difficult to tell from her facial expression what kind of day it had been. The journey home was better. We managed full sentences, and even a laugh or two. As we got nearer to home A Little Girl I Know paused in what she was saying, "Mum I'm sorry about this morning, I was really awful towards you. I didn't mean to be like that."

I told her that just as God forgives me for the many things I do wrong, I was going to move on from the unpleasantness of that morning, and that she should do the same. When we got home we cuddled, a sign that all was now well between us.

Remember it takes love and strength to say sorry, and love to accept it to enable us to move on. God's forgiveness is there for us all day every day if we admit that we have done wrong.



Christian Aid Week: 14-20 May 2023

Soaring costs are affecting people here and around the world. We won't stop until everyone has the chance to live a full life, free from poverty. We are united in hope that, with your help, more young people will be able to transform their lives.

Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.

Christian Aid envelopes are at the back of the church if you would like to donate. Please hand them in to the church office, or you can donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk

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MAY 2023

These diary dates run alongside our Usual programme of services [overleaf](#) or: www.st-augustines.org.uk



Date	Event	Where	Time	More Details
Wednesday 3rd	 Hot Chocolate on the Green	St Augustine's Church Green	From 3.00pm	Free hot chocolate to passers-by, (weather-dependent)
Wednesdays from 3rd (Term-time only)	The ARK Toddler Group	St Augustine's Church	10.00am ~ 11.30am	
Thursdays from 4th	Welcome Space and CAMEO	St Augustine's Church, Garden Room	11.00am ~ 4.00pm	A cozy space to meet, chat, enjoy coffee, light lunch, tea & cake... wi-fi & work spaces available
Sunday 7th	Coronation Café~Style Church	St Augustine's Church	10.00am	We share breakfast & the love of Jesus amid our Coronation Prayer Stations & Flower displays
Monday 8th	 Coronation on the Green ~ and in the Church	St Augustine's Church Green and inside the church	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Join us for an afternoon of tea & scones, games, Quiz with prizes & more! ... & visit our Coronation displays and Prayer Stations in the church.
Saturday 13th	Youth Connect 'Fast Fashion'	St Augustine's Church, Barnard Room	7.00pm ~ 9.00pm	Could you be the next Ralph Lauren or Calvin Klein? Come along and put your designing and creating skills to the test!
Monday 15th	 Merry Pilgrims Walk	Meet at Tent Peg Lane, off Crestwood Drive (free parking)	10.30am	Join us for a gentle walk through the woods, about an hour.
Tuesday 16th	Forget Me Not	St Augustine's Church, Garden Room	1.30pm	
Wednesday 17th	Mothers' Union Archdeaconry Service	St Paulinus Church, Crayford, DA1 4RL	2.00pm	This is a chance to meet other members in the Archdeaconry of Bromley and Bexley
Wednesday 17th	Bits and Pieces Watercolour Landscapes	St Augustine's Church, Barnard Room	7.30pm ~ 9.30pm	Have fun creating a beautiful landscape scene using watercolours. £5 per person.
Sunday 21st May	St Luke's Taizé Service	St Luke's Church, Bromley Common	5.30pm	
Saturday 27th	 Youth Connect Board Games	St Augustine's Church, Barnard Room	7.00pm ~ 9.00pm	Let's have a fun evening of games that won't leave you bored!
Monday 29th	 Get Crafty! Bank Holiday fun for children & adults alike!	St Augustine's Church	10.00am~ 12.00 noon	A fun Bank Holiday morning of craft activities for the whole family. Under 12s need to be supervised by an adult.

ROUNDABOUT May issue: Editor Ann Hanrahan, Layout Adrian King.

The June 2023 issue will be printed and published on the St. Augustine's and St Luke's website.
 Editor: Sue Goodger - sue_goodger@ntlworld.com Layout: Tanya Wardley - tanya@wardleyuk.com
Please send all articles in absolutely plain, unformatted text and all photos separate from the text by May 23

Church Information

Staff Contact Details		
Vicar	Rev Steve Spencer	020 8467 1351
Curate	Rev Rachel Winn	07311 330202
Youth and Schools	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07985 070734
Licensed Lay Minister	Verity Mitchell	07379 294826
Churchwarden	Hilary Chittock	07884 195700
Parish Office: Mon-Fri 9.30 am - 1.30 pm	Linda Spencer Victoria Bouwer	020 8295 1550 office@st-augustines.org.uk

You are welcome to worship with us. Our regular Sunday Services for May are:

Sunday 7 May	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ Coronation Café-Style Church
Wednesday 10 May	12.00 Noon	St Augustine's Chapel ~ Holy Communion
Sunday 14 May	10.00 am	St Augustine's Church ~ Holy Communion
Sunday 21 May	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ Morning Worship
Sunday 21 May	5.30 pm	St. Luke's Church ~ Taizé Service
Wednesday 24 May	Noon	St Augustine's Chapel ~ Holy Communion
Sunday 28 May	10.00 am	St Augustine's Church ~ Pentecost Holy Communion

The 10.00 am service will also be live streamed on our You Tube channel, www.st-augustine's.org.uk
 To book a room at St. Augustine's, contact Liz Carter on 020 8467 8155.
 To book St. Luke's Hall, contact the Church Office on 020 8295 1550.
 Contact details for all church groups are on our website www.st-augustine's.org.uk
 Our vicar Steve Spencer can also be contacted at revsteve.spencer@btinternet.com

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