

# ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

June 2020

50p



# **St Martin's Church, Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ**

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

[www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk](http://www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk)

Email: [stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com](mailto:stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com)

<b>The Vicar</b>	The Rev'd Julia Palmer 020 8992 2333
<b>SSM Assistant Priest</b>	The Rev'd Brandy Pearson (c/o Parish Office)
<b>Permission to Officiate</b>	The Rev'd Robert Pearson
<b>Assistant Curate</b>	The Rev'd Bryony Franklin (Fri & Sun)
<b>Commissioned Lay Minister to Japanese Anglican Church UK</b>	Mrs Yuki Johnson (07572 324107) <a href="mailto:yukifunakawa@btinternet.com">yukifunakawa@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Parish Administrator (weekdays: 9.30am – 1.30pm)</b>	Parish Office, rear of Church Hall, Hale Gardens, W3 9SQ 020 8992 2333
<b>Reader</b>	Dr Margaret Jones (020 8997 1418)
<b>Reader Emeritus</b>	Mrs Lynne Armstrong (020 8992 8341)
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Mrs Liza Ambridge (020 8992 3029)
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	Ren Balcombe

The Vicar is available for consultation and enquiries by appointment.  
Please ring the Parish Office.

Articles for the next month's magazine should be sent to  
The Parish Office (email: [stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com](mailto:stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com))  
Please title the email "magazine item"

**They should reach the Editor by 18<sup>th</sup> June.**

**The July magazine will be on sale by 28<sup>th</sup> June.**

## NOTICES

**YouTube:** We are "St.Martin's, West Acton" on YouTube – our icon is a photo of our church. Subscribe to our channel to be alerted when videos are posted.

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stmartinswestacton/](http://www.facebook.com/stmartinswestacton/). You do not have to have a Facebook account to view the page.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May:** Pentecost Holy Communion at 10am, and Junior Church at 10am via Zoom. Please contact Bryony for info on Junior Church.

**Poetry:** If you would like to write a poem about your experience of lockdown, or anything else, please send to Brandy. We can post on Facebook and/or in the magazine.

**Would you like us to call you?** If you are feeling out of touch with us, need any help, or would just like a friendly phone call, please contact the parish office.

**Dial-in worship:** from the Archbishop of Canterbury. Dial in to listen to prayers and reflections at any time by calling 0800 804 8044.

**Finances:** We have lost all our income from renting the hall and with no Sunday services our regular giving has gone down. Many of you give financially through standing orders but if you give regularly in cash or by envelope, please consider giving direct to the bank or setting up a standing order. Our account details are: St Martins Church West Acton, Sort code: 40-11-58, Account 60482676.

## The Gift of the Holy Spirit



This year, the month of June starts the day immediately after Pentecost. As the name might hint at, Pentecost is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday, and therefore fell on 31 May this year. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Jesus' followers as they celebrated the fiftieth day after Passover, known as the "Feast of 50 days", as described in Acts Chapter 2. And so, perhaps June is a good time to reflect on the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is referred to by various names in the scriptures. In the New Testament, one of these is *Paraclētos* in Greek, which means something like 'comforter', 'helper', or 'advocate'. I am sure we need comfort, help, and someone advocating for us at all times, but perhaps even

more so at present. For many of us, our usual sources of support from extended family and close friends, both for everyday matters and following major events, can only be provided at a distance at the moment. But at Christians we know that, as always, God is with us as a source of comfort and support. In John 16, one of the passages in which the term Paraclētos is used, Jesus promises that when he leaves the earthly world, he will send the Holy Spirit (the 'comforter') in his place. And even now, two thousand years later, that promise still holds.

Another biblical name for the Holy Spirit is the 'Spirit of wisdom and understanding,' as used in Isaiah 11:2. Wisdom and understanding are needed at all times and in all places – but perhaps even more so at present as we, and local and national decision makers, have to make decisions around how to balance the risks of different courses of action. These include considering how best to control the spread of Covid-19, the effects on peoples' jobs, the effects of social isolation, and the longer-term impact on businesses – as well how to learn from the benefits of our change in lifestyle on society and the environment. And in particular, we need wisdom in making sure that decisions do not adversely affect those who are most vulnerable.

So this June, I pray that we will each be aware of God the Holy Spirit as he helps and comforts both ourselves and those we love, and that the Spirit will bless us with wisdom and understanding, and continue to bind us together as a community – spiritually and socially connected while remaining physically distant.

Rev Bryony Franklin

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## Junior Church activities

Following suggestions made by the Junior Church Council, Junior Church is now running on the Zoom online conferencing platform each Sunday morning. We have an opening activity such as a quiz or treasure hunt, followed by opening prayers, then we watch a video, and do an activity before ending in prayer and some music.



Our activity on Sunday 24th May focused on Psalm 18:2 **"The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies"**.



We heard in the video how God is our Fortress in whom we can feel secure, no matter what is going on around us. Our young people each made a fortress live on Zoom, out of whatever they could find around them – we've shared a few photos of them here!



If your child would like to join us for Junior Church, it takes place at 10am every Sunday morning via Zoom - please email me for the link.

Rev Bryony Franklin  
[bryonyfranklin@gmail.com](mailto:bryonyfranklin@gmail.com)



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## Inspired by Captain Tom to Birthday Bike Challenge

When 10-year-old Finn Bissett saw Captain Tom Moore walk 100 laps of his garden ahead of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, he decided he wanted to raise money for charity too. Finn, who lives in Ealing Common and is a Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School pupil, is currently at home and was wondering what he would do to celebrate his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 11. Usually he would spend it with his friends but he said, since that wasn't going to be possible this year, he'd like to spend it helping others instead.



"I saw Captain Tom Moore on the news and it got me thinking as my birthday was coming up," Finn explained. "I heard about his charity fundraising and I thought 'why don't I do that' because I can't hang out with my friends on my birthday, so I'll raise some money from the NHS instead." Finn is cycling 100 laps on his 'Bike Round the Block' challenge on Monday to raise money for the London North West Hospitals Trust (LNWH). The Trust includes Northwick

Park, St Mark's Ealing, and Central Middlesex Hospital, Meadow House Hospice, and other essential community services.

Finn's challenge takes him around West Lodge Avenue and Hart Grove, near Ealing Common. Finn expects it to take him between four and five hours, with 10-minute hourly breaks plus a few challenge rounds. His friends have challenged him to do things like paint his face blue for one lap and ride along with underpants on his head for another lap, so he'll do those towards the end of his ride.

"I'm feeling quite nervous and happy because my friends on the block are going to cheer me on," Finn said when asked about the day ahead. "I think a lot of people are cheering – three or four of my friends live on the block and they're going to come out and watch and that will mean a lot to me. It will really help motivate me."

Finn has already managed to raise £2,619, well over his target of £100, and he believes he's got a fair amount of local support after his parents, Aimee and Ryan Bissett, emailed everyone they know and made flyers to post in local houses. When asked why he's chosen to raise the money for LNWH specifically, Finn said that it's helped his family immensely in the past. "It's because they've already helped my family through tough times because when my grandma was really ill they helped her stay alive for a lot longer," he said. "They've helped a lot of my family actually. My cousin was born there and they helped my auntie too."

He trained hard for the fundraiser. "I've done loads and loads of cycling," he explained. "My dad took me on very

long bike rides to Chiswick and then going into London. I also really love sports, I also like rugby, hockey, netball, basketball and football. For my birthday I got a football goal from mum and dad and have been doing lots of that. I'm missing school a lot because my friends are there and I can learn a lot more easily at school."

Finn's mother, Aimee, added: "This challenge means a lot to Finn and he's so thrilled about doing something for others. It's given him quite a purpose. He's really missing school and that sense of community. These kids haven't been able to articulate how hard this has been. But now I can really see with him that feeling like you're part of something motivates you to keep going."

Donate at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/finnbissett](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/finnbissett).

This article by Lucy Skoulding appeared in *My London News*

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## **A little something to make you grin**

There was a young girl in the choir  
Whose voice rose higher and higher  
Til it reached such a height  
It vanished from sight  
But they found it next day in the spire.



There were two young ladies from Birmingham,  
and I know a sad story concerning them  
They stuck needles and pins  
In the Right Reverend shins  
Of the Bishop engaged in confirmingem.

Kindly sourced by Lynne Armstrong



## Pride 2020

For many, June is significant for being Pride Month, a time when queer/LGBTQIA+ people come together to strengthen one another, to remember the struggles past and present, and to hope for a brighter future. Pride marches are usually held all over the world. This year, of course, things are very different.

Where we would usually show up in force to remind one another that we are not alone, this year we will be staying at home, keeping one another safe through distanced support. We will reflect on the history and future of our community within our own households rather than out on the streets. It is harder to remember, in isolation, that we are not alone, but we can still connect with one another.

**“Have no fear, for I have taken up your cause; naming you by your name, I have made you mine. Because of your value in my eyes, you have been honoured, and loved by me.” -Isaiah 43:1,4**

This text was chosen by Progetto Gionata, an Italian LGBT Christian network, to remind us that we need not fear, because we are valued, honoured, and loved by God. Together, we can be the change we want to see in our world, and especially in our faith communities.

<https://tinyurl.com/y9agrjgv>

I invite you to visit OneBodyOneFaith @1Body1Faith on Twitter to find resources for queer Christians in this month of Pride.





# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## Church online

In these unprecedented times, the Church of England is holding its weekly services online. If you're left wanting more connection with the wider Church community after our services, please do check out the Church of England website at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online> to view their online services and a list of resources to help you walk with Jesus, including a variety of prayers and reflections.



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## **The Parish of St Martin Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ**

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### **Usual Sunday Services**

8am: Holy Communion  
10am: Parish Communion  
6.30pm: Evensong

Our Junior Church meets in the Church Hall at 10am  
except when there is an All-Age or Parade Service.

### **Japanese Anglican Church UK**

meets every third Sunday of the month:  
(except July, August and December)

3pm Bible Study and Evening Worship in Japanese

Every **Wednesday** in the Parish Room  
11am: Informal Eucharist followed by the Coffee Club at 11.30am