

Our Ladye Star of the Sea

(Crooms Hill) West Greenwich

ourladyestaroftheseagreenwich.church

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Fr. Kevin Robinson BD MA AKC

Facebook: Our Ladye Star of the Sea



Sixteenth Ordinary Sunday

20th July 2025 Year C

Red Book page 114

Are you thinking Critically? Then I'll begin:
Scripture says: ***“You shall Love the Lord thy God with all thy Soul, with all thy Strength and with all thy Mind”!***

It will soon be 50 years since I first met *Liz Newman*. While I have served these past 14 years as the Catholic Priest for Greenwich, Liz has latterly served as the long-standing lady Vicar of Charlton. In 1976 together with more than 40 others. we embarked on a course of Critical Theology at **Kings College London**. Now, at the same moment we face retirement. I think back to those heady days at KCL with gratitude. We were immersed in the study of *Biblical & Patristic Theology, Church History, the Formation of Christian Doctrine* and all those related fields of *Philosophy, Human Ethics* and the *“Church in the modern world”* (Vatican II in other words). It gave us a strong foundation for a future in ordained Ministry.

I am proud of the formation we received at Kings. At every moment, we were taught and expected to THINK CRITICALLY in all these fields. CRITICAL THINKING, CRITICAL HISTORICAL PROCESSES, CRITICAL ANALYSIS was the mechanism by which we would succeed or fail in the final examination of our degree. Many indeed fell along the wayside in those three intense years. This is how we were formed; this is how we were trained; this is how we were required to apply our *minds* as the scriptures demand.

We looked at how our sacred texts had been received, translated and interpreted through 20 centuries (*hermeneutics*). We looked at how our teachings had brought unity or division, raised the dignity of what it means to be human or perhaps

caused destruction and unnecessary conflict. We saw how the Biblical injunctions demanded an end to slavery, or maybe justified warfare in defence of the innocent.

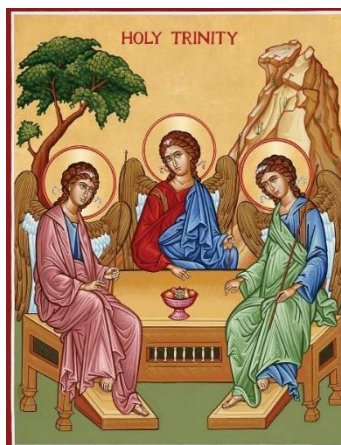
At every moment we were required, not just to benignly accept the contemporary standards of our received inheritances but to consider what they were, how they had been formed and how the Holy Spirit may or may not have led the church to being where we are today. In my case, it led (not so much to depart from the CofE) but to embrace the fulness of the faith embodied in the complete deposit received within the ***One Holy Catholic & Apostolic Church***... And I was expected to bring my critical faculties with me. I have no regrets other than that the rest of the Anglican communion has yet to complete that journey.

In the mid 70's the Dead Sea Scrolls were only just beginning to emerge in reliable publications. This specialist field grasped my attention and has continued to do so ever since. These ancient manuscripts, contemporary with the very life of Christ, represent the oldest accessible forms of the OT scriptures and related writings. They threw immediate light on the background to the Christian Gospel, The Person of John the Baptist & The imminent expectation of a Messiah. They illustrate how

Christians and Jews remain inseparably intertwined because so much of our inheritance is shared. Christianity, without our Jewish Brothers and Sisters would be unintelligible.

This Sunday at 3.00pm come & join the multi faith act of witness in the ruins of the old Garrison Church when I shall invite all our friends to think critically in all their respective faith traditions too.

God Bless Fr Kevin AKC



Entrance Antiphon**Ps 53: 6, 8**

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Collect

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants
and mercifully increase
the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent
in hope, faith and charity, they may be
ever watchful in keeping your commands...

First reading**Genesis 18:1-10a**

In those days: The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, 'O Lord, if I have found favour in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, 'Quick! Three measures of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.' And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk, and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, 'Where is Sarah your wife?' And he said, 'She is in the tent.' The LORD said, 'I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.'

Responsorial**verses from Psalm 15**

*O Lord, who shall dwell
on your holy mountain?*

Whoever walks without fault;
who does what is righteous,
and speaks the truth from his heart;
whoever does not slander with his tongue. (R)

O Lord, who shall dwell
on your holy mountain?

Who does no wrong to a neighbour,
who casts no slur on a friend,
who looks with scorn on the wicked,
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R)

Who lends no money at interest,
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a one shall never be shaken. (R)

Second reading**Colossians 1:24-28**

Brothers and Sisters: Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body — that is, the Church — of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known — the mystery hidden for ages and generations, but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Alleluia, Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

Gospel**Luke 10:38-42**

At that time: Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.'

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 110: 4-5

Behold, I stand at the door and knock,
says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice
and opens the door to me, I will enter
his house and dine with him, and he with me.

Prayer after Communion

Graciously be present to your people,
we pray, O Lord, and lead those you
have imbued with heavenly mysteries to
pass from former ways to newness of life.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

The CCRS is an internationally recognised knowledge-based, qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, & applicable. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop's vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs for further information.

THE WELL

An Event at Southwark Cathedral

On Thursday 11th September at 6.30-9.30pm, *St George's Cathedral* is hosting a special evening of beauty, reflection & Eucharistic revival with *Christopher West & Mike Mangione*. The heart burns with a mysterious thirst; THE WELL is an invitation to quench that thirst. THE WELL engages the imagination and the senses with live music by Mike Mangione and the dynamic presentation of Christopher West, for a revival like you've never experienced before.

Tickets cost £20 and can be booked via
www.rcaos.org.uk/thewell2025

London Catholic Social Group (LCSG)

The London Catholic Social Group have a number of upcoming events for Catholic adults over 30. **Saturday 26th July,**

Day trip to Waddesdon Manor.

Sunday 3rd August, picnic in Regent's Park.

Contact us on: WhatsApp

Brendan 07425549408, Facebook VISIT
londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com'.

National Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham, Saturday 2nd August

to be led by Bishop John Keenan
of Paisley diocese, Scotland

Everyone is invited to join in this pilgrimage either in person or via the Shrine livestream at
www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/.
Details of the day and travel arrangements can be found at www.prolifepilgrimage.org

Marriage Care Volunteers needed

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation that helps couples form & sustain healthy marriages and provides support in times of relationship difficulty. It has been operating for nearly 80 years and we are keen to try and find more volunteers to help with this important work.

marriagecare.org.uk.

We are currently looking for Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators to prepare couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. Full training is provided for this role, which mostly delivers courses online to couples across the country. There are other ways of supporting our work too, for example by helping with our communications & administration and being on the reception at our centre in Blackheath for one or two evenings a month.

For more information please email:

volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

or the local centre co-ordinator:

Tony.Lawrence@marriagecare.org



Combined Act of witness ruins of the old Garrison church 3.00pm this Sunday

Dear Friends Next Sunday Evening July 27th we shall have an informal party at the Clarendon Hotel from 5.00pm marking the close of my ministry at Greenwich & retirement. Just gather for drinks and a piece of cake, nobody needs an invitation. Don't bring gifts and presents just bring yourselves and your kids and have a beer or a glass of something sparkling. All being well we can spill into the garden. I will continue to supply mass throughout August but with so many people away in that month parish life becomes quieter. Frances and I will gradually remove to our personal home during that month. Please welcome Fr Tom Lynch from the first week in September.

The Sixteenth Ordinary Sunday July 20th -27th 2025

Satd 19th 6.00pm Int: Peter Dayer (RiP) 3 Baptisms 12.30

Sunday 9.00am Int: Fidelia Beyka Sevilla & Richard Tepper (42&19 An RiP)

16th Ord 11.00am Inc Baptism of Emily Hunt (Katerina's Child)

3.00pm Combined Act of Witness in the Ruins of the old Garrison Church

Tues 22nd 7.00pm Int: Grace Dean (14th B/D) **Saint Mary Magdalene**

Wed 23rd 9.30am Int: Jude & Susan Clarke (25th W/A July 15th) Holy Mass

Thrs 24th 9.30am Int: Johnson Mendez (RiP 22nd July) continues

Frid 25th 9.30am Int: Past Benefactors of this Church every Saturday

Satd 26th **1.30 Nuptial Mass Tom Garton & Gabriella Peeters** at the Queen Elisabeth Cottage Chapel at 4.30

6.00pm Int: Frances Morgan (80th B/D)

Sunday 9.00am Int: Parish & People

17th Ord 11.00am Int: Fr John Lavery (RiP 8th Ann)

5.00pm Open invitation to celebrate the close of my Ministry in Greenwich at the Clarendon Hotel SE3 0RW



OUR LADYE STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

Our new website is now ready to use.

<https://ourladyestaroftheseagreenwich.church/>

Do refer to it for finding out dates, such as for the next First Holy Communion or Confirmation registration, or when the next church cleaning is, or the over 60s at Hyde Vale, or how to arrange a baptism etc.

You can donate a stipend online, for a mass to be said too, if you cannot get to church to pick up an envelope. Click the donate button and choose the 'mass stipend' option, and 'Contact us' button, make your request for mass said. There are past newsletters on historical aspects of the church as well as the latest newsletters & photo galleries that can be added to.

You will find an interesting Heritage section on the history and special and unusual features of Our Ladye Star of the Sea. Any future updates on the long term church Restoration, or some of the repairs that have been carried out in the past, will be found in the Restoration section. External funding has to be obtained first and foremost, though any parish initiatives towards the Restoration, do help to pay the bills too! This section will grow as any progress is made. Thanks to our small volunteer website team who have been guided by a local design company <https://www.fitcreative.ltd.uk/>. Thankyou also, to those parishioners who contributed some content. We now have a very worthy & engaging website. Do take a look!

Times of Mass and OTHER Services

DONA card payment system. To make an online gift via BACS Please use

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Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm at the Star of the Sea **Twitter:** Stella Maris@MarisCrooms

Sunday Masses at 9.00 am & 11.00am

benchandpew@yahoo.com

Weekday Masses: Tuesday NB at 7.00pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30 am

Confessions:

Saturday at 10.00am Tuesday from 18.15 at the Star of the Sea or by appointment

The Presbytery 68 Crooms Hill London SE10 8HG Tel: 020 8858 0662

BAPTISM

Preparation & Arrangement commences again in September.

Dominican Conv: 38 Hyde Vale SE10 8QH Tel: 020 8692 3382

St Joseph's RC Primary School Tel: 020 8858 4182 Commerell Str SE10 9AN H/T: Suzanne Long

St Ursula's Girls Convent School Tel: 020 8858 4613 Crooms Hill, SE10 8HN H/T: Mark O'Shaughnessy

