

# NEWSLETTER

Sunday 24th March 2019  
Northolt Park Baptist Church Weekly Newsletter

**N**ortholt **P**ark **B**aptist **C**hurch  
To Know Christ and Make Christ Known

Welcome to your weekly newsletter from Northolt Park Baptist Church. This week Sue Blake is leading the worship service and Olu Falowo will be preaching.

## 'KNOWING THE TRUTH' —Different Path—

This week's scripture reading  
(Matthew 7:1-14) NIV

### ***Judging Others***

7 "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in

### **'Rota for this Sunday**

'Mission Prayer Focus'

Theme: 'Dealing with  
People - Knowing the  
Truth'

Speaker: Olu Falowo

Worship Lead: Sue

Scripture: Matthew 7:1-14

Scripture Reader: Sue

Sunday Club: Janet

Creche: TBC

Greeters: Margaret Carey

Shared Church Lunch

*the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

*<sup>3</sup> “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.*

*<sup>6</sup> “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.*

#### **Ask, Seek, Knock**

*<sup>7</sup> “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.*

*<sup>9</sup> “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! <sup>12</sup> So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*

#### **The Narrow and Wide Gates**

*<sup>13</sup> “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*

## **Services in March 2019**

### **Sunday 3rd March**

Theme: ‘Praying-Fasting’

Speaker: Martin

Hopwood

Worship Lead: Janet

Scripture: Matthew

Scripture Reader: Hazel

Sunday Club: TBC

Creche: TBC

Greeters: Letia

Teas/Coffees: Paul

### **Sunday 10th March**

‘Family Service’

Theme: ‘Where Are Your Treasures?’

Speaker: Michael Lovejoy

Worship Lead: Hazel

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-24

Scripture Reader: Nicola

Sunday Club: TBC

Creche: TBC

Greeters: Roy

Teas/Coffees: Dennis and Farina

### **Sunday 17th March**

‘Communion Service’

Theme: ‘Don’t Worry’

Speaker: Michael Lovejoy

Worship Lead: Brett

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34

Scripture Reader: Pat

Sunday Club: Yinka

Creche: TBC

Greeters: Pat

Teas/Coffees: Lisa

### **Sunday 24th March**

‘Mission Prayer Focus’

Theme: ‘Knowing the Truth’

# Something for Everyone — @ NPBC —

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES HELD AT NPBC

Sunday Morning Service -	<b>10.30am</b>
Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting -	<b>7.30pm</b>
Tuesday Morning Bible Study -	<b>10am</b>
Wednesday Fellowship (1st Wed month) -	<b>1.45pm</b>
Wednesday Bread for Life (Alt Weds) -	<b>8pm</b>
Thursday Girls Brigade -	<b>6pm</b>
Friday Worship Team Music Practice -	<b>7.30pm</b>

Refreshments are served after the Sunday service, so please stay for tea or coffee and a chat.

## CONTACTS FOR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tuesday morning Bible Study:	<b>Sue Blake</b>
Wednesday Fellowship:	<b>Hazel Gordon</b>
Wednesday Bread for Life:	<b>Paul Simpson</b>
Thursday Girls Brigade:	<b>Rebekah Rego</b>
Friday Worship Practice:	<b>Janet, Josephine, Jenny</b>

## PASTORAL CARE CONTACTS

Revd Michael Lovejoy  
Josephine Morris  
Janet Yau.  
Yinka Falowo (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Speaker: Olu Falowo  
Worship Lead: Sue  
Scripture: Matthew 7:1-14  
Scripture Reader: Sue  
Sunday Club: Janet  
Creche: *TBC*  
Greeters: Margaret Carey  
Shared Church Lunch

## Sunday 31st March

'Mothering Sunday'

Theme: 'Wise and foolish Builders'

Speaker: Michael Lovejoy

Worship Lead: Josephine

Scripture: Matthew 7:15-29

Scripture Reader: Paul

Sunday Club: *TBC*

Creche: *TBC*

Greeters: Yinka

Teas/Coffees: Hazel and Letia



Do continue to pray for Margaret and Stan and their extended families. The recent passing of both Bernard (their Son in Law) and Oli (his father) is a loss and a difficult time for the family.

Let's continue to pray for the Cunningham's family with the passing of Cindy. The funeral has been arranged to take place in

## THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP TEAM

**Worship Lead** - Sue Blake

**Music** - Dennis

**Vocals** - Jenny

**Vocals** - Josephine

**Vocals** - Janet

this week's news

@ NORTHOLT PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

## MEMBERS MEETING

— This Sunday@NPBC —



May the Lord lead us as we discuss and plan the next phase our church development in His service.

## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We will meet as usual on the 9th April 2019

Then we will be on Holiday on the 16th and 23rd April.

Our next meeting will be on the 30th April

May.

Val's brother Les is making progress with his fall, however, he is finding it difficult to maintain his memory. Pray for continual healing and recovery.



The Christchurch Mosque attack news reports 43 of the 49 wounded survivors, are officially out of the most serious danger, which is being hailed as a triumph for hospital staff in New Zealand. Let's continue praying for the families who continue to grieve the loss of their loved ones.

Do continue to pray for those in our number who are unwell, or have not seen for a while. Let's be mindful of the unspoken requests and needs of others. Let's bring them all before the Lord in prayer.

Michael (our Minister) requests prayers for his pending neck surgery this

at 10 am.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!



**WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP**  
Margaret Reynolds will be leading the Wednesday Fellowship Meeting. All are most welcome to attend on Wednesday 3rd March at 1.45pm. Teas/Coffees and Hot-cross buns will be served



**WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP**

On Tuesday 9th April the Wednesday Fellowship group are planning to have lunch at the Harvester in Northolt. They are meeting in the Harvester at 1pm. Please contact Hazel Gordon or Sue Blake for further details.

coming Friday. Pray also for all our NHS staff.

Let's continue praying for the Brexit talks. Pray God will give wisdom and direction with all negotiations and any agreements will serve our nation and maintain relations with the EU and rest of the world.

**Let us pray for you**

Please email your prayer requests to [npbc.pray@gmail.com](mailto:npbc.pray@gmail.com)

If you have an urgent and important prayer concern, please contact Pastor Michael Lovejoy  
Telephone  
020 8632 9225  
(Manse)

Get more information on forthcoming activities at NPBC on the church website

[www.npbc.uk.com](http://www.npbc.uk.com)

# PASTOR THOMAS FROM MESSAGE

## **Spirituality Focus**

What do we understand by the term 'spirituality'? How would we fashion a working definition of Christian spirituality? What do we regard as the essential elements of truly Christian spirituality? These questions help support a model of spirituality which is biblical, a spirituality which draws from the rich traditions of Church history, and a spirituality which has Jesus at its centre.

A profile for Christian spirituality can be found in Romans 12. 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.' Romans 12 focuses us on relationships with God, ourselves and our world's values. I believe there are three dimensions to genuine Christian spirituality: our biblical understanding, our prayer life and our practical discipleship. This commitment to Christ reminds us that we should see Christ as central to truly Christian spirituality.

For me, prayer comes first. It's about seeking God's guidance by the ministry of the word in prayer. I believe God called me first to pray, to prepare, and to be patient. Alister McGrath notes: 'Spirituality arises from a creative and dynamic synthesis of faith and life, forged in the crucible of the desire to live out the Christian faith authentically, responsibly, effectively, and fully'. Personal spiritual development can be neglected with the demands of life and ministry. We need to carefully maintain our prayer life. If needed, it's always prudent to choose our prayer partners carefully because openness, trust, honesty and confidentiality continue to be the basis of such relationships. The occasional retreat also offers a spiritual break from the rigors of ministry/discipleship discipline. However, our personal daily devotion in biblical reflection and prayer will continue to be the source of our continual spiritual development. Seeking the Lord's direction in our lives requires

relational spiritual insights. If we allow the Bible to shape our spirituality, we can enter into all that God has in store for us.

What does the Bible teach on spirituality? Christian spirituality is biblically grounded, reliant on the Holy Spirit and an integral part of life. Christian spirituality is biblically defined as the practice of Christian faith. It includes both knowledge and action. James 1:25 notes, for example, 'But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, s/he will be blessed in his/her doing.' From the earliest writings of the New Testament, the principle of integrated and authentic faith and action has been taught as essential to Christian spirituality. Christian spirituality relies on the power of the Holy Spirit to live according to God's will. For example, 1 John 1:5-8 teaches that true spirituality depends on the supernatural power God gives through the Holy Spirit rather than dependence on human strength. Christian spirituality is concerned with how all of life connects to our relationship with God.

The idea of a spiritual journey is powerfully present in scripture and in subsequent Christian history and experience. Church history reflects many forms of spirituality including: Evangelical spirituality, Ignatian spirituality, Mystical and contemplative streams of spirituality, Franciscan spirituality, Celtic spirituality and Holiness movement, and Pentecostal Charismatic spirituality. People who have shaped these traditions are briefly noted, for example, Francis of Assisi, Julian of Norwich, Ignatius Loyola and John Wesley, all source their inspiration from the Holy Scriptures. In addition, many form their spirituality through sacred tradition. Spirituality is mainly expressed through prayer, daily Christian living, and worship, which ultimately lead to union between the divine and humanity. Spirituality is described throughout the centuries as life in Christ, striving for moral and spiritual perfection. The mystical union in spirituality is not only a 'devout life' but also the love of both the person of Christ and our neighbour.

Let me conclude with a comment on self-care. Thomas Oden in 'Clinical Pastoral Care' notes: 'Caring for the flock cannot occur unless one first cares for oneself, watches over one's own welfare, feeds and nurtures one's own body and soul'. We are all co-workers with Christ and, as His disciples, we have a duty of care for others and ourselves.

May God continue to bless you all in His service. (Pastor Michael)

1. L. Wilson, *Constrained by Zeal: Female Spirituality Among Nonconformists: 1825-1875* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 2000), p. 4.
2. Alister McGrath, *Christian Spirituality* (Oxford England, Blackwell Publishing, 1999), p.9.



## THIS MONTH'S MISSION PRAYER FOCUS (WEC International - David and Magee Whitehorn)

### Missions/Charities we support at NPBC

- Spurgeon's Children's Charity
- Baptist Home Mission Fund
- Worldwide Evangelisation for Christ (WEC International ) -David and Margie Whitehorn.
- Living Stones House of Prayer – Cyprus
- BMS World Mission - Baptist Ministers David and Michelle Mahon
- 2nd Company Northolt Girls Brigade (Local children's Mission Outreach)
- Food Bank (Local Community Outreach)

See mission newsletters on the church notice board for prayer focus.  
Please forward any mission prayer focus news to [npbc.mission@gmail.com](mailto:npbc.mission@gmail.com) or speak to  
Jenny Lovejoy (Mission Coordinator)

*Note any personal and sensitive mission information cannot be published in this newsletter. Maintaining strictest confidentiality is our priority*

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# Local Events

Please see notice board at the back of the church for information

## Minister's Surgery at NPBC

Minister's surgery is held on Tuesdays between 1pm - 3pm. If you would like to speak to Revd. Michael Lovejoy or visit, you can contact him by email

[rev.maclovejoy@gmail.com](mailto:rev.maclovejoy@gmail.com) or by telephone on 020 8422 8446 (Church Office)

NB. Visits are by appointment only.



*Minister: Rev. Michael Lovejoy*

*Tel: 07703 408260 or 020 8632 9225 (Manse)*

*Email: [rev.maclovejoy@gmail.com](mailto:rev.maclovejoy@gmail.com)*

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