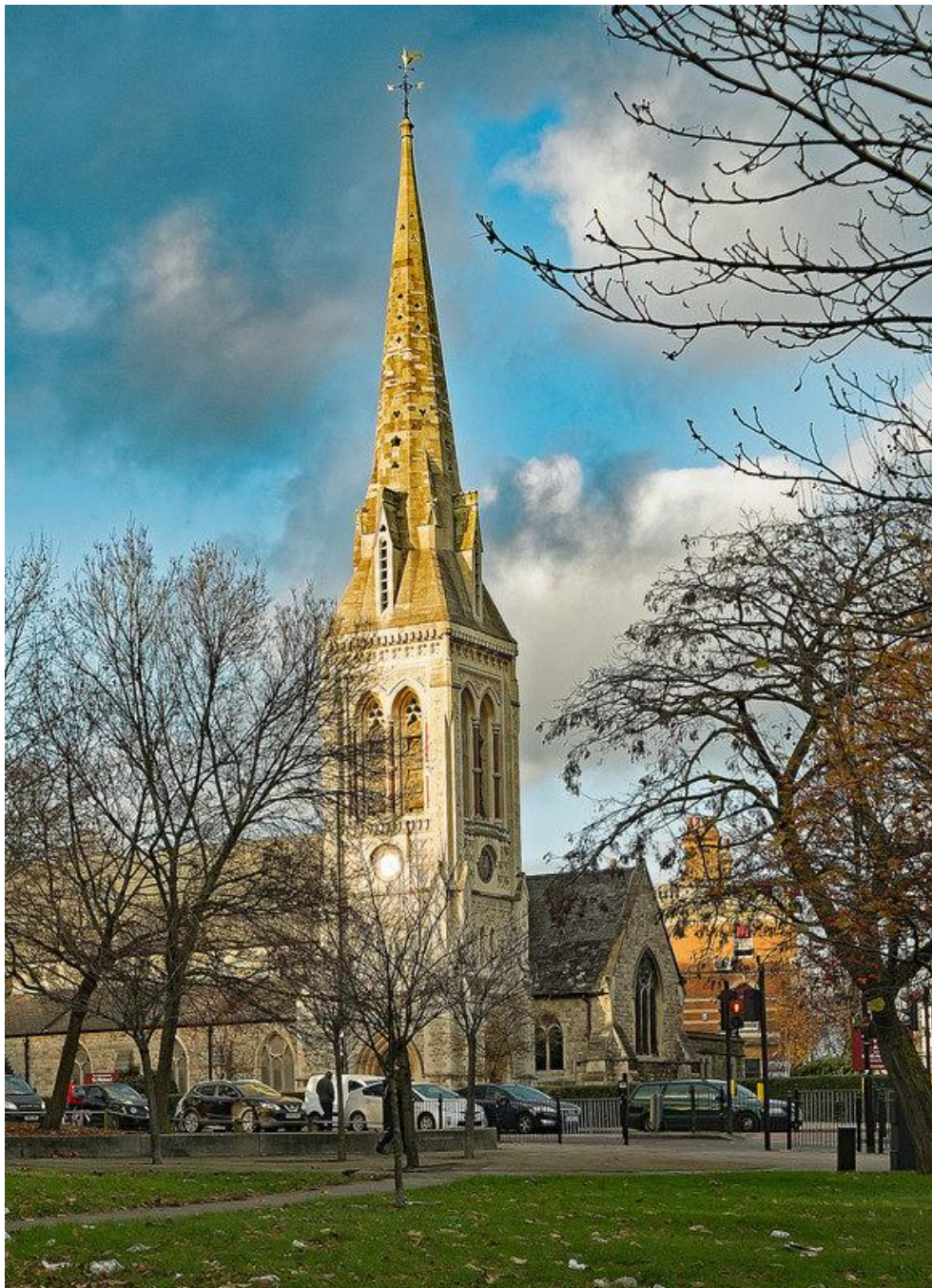




The Wood Green Parish Round Up

September 2026

Welcome...

...to the September edition of the monthly round up for the Wood Green Parish. In this months magazine we have an article about our Patron St Michael as we anticipate our patronal at the end of September, an update of all our services for the month ahead, our upcoming events, and a look back upon what has happened in the parish over August.

On the 20th September the Rt Rev'd Jonathan Baker, Bishop of Fulham will return to the parish to celebrate the Feast of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. He will also conduct a parish baptism, so do please do come along to celebrate the growth of the church as well as another opportunity to meet and talk with our Bishop.

Our Patronal celebration will be taking place on Sunday 27th September, and we are fortunate enough to have Rev. Prebendary David Houlding SSC, sometime Vicar of All Hallows Gospel Oak, to preach for us.

If you have any articles you think may be of use for supporting the spiritual life and welfare of the parish, please do speak with Fr Simon. Or if you are interested in supporting with the publication and arranging of the Round Up – similarly speak with Fr Simon.

- Fr Simon Billington.



The Feast of St Michael: Defender and Guide.

As the nights draw in and the leaves begin to fall, we once again approach the great Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels. Saint Michael the Archangel has been honoured since earliest times, as a powerful symbol of courage, protection, and faithfulness to God. His name means “Who is like God”, a reminder that all strength and goodness come from the Lord.

Devotion to Saint Michael can be traced back to early Jewish tradition, where he was seen as a chief angel and protector of God’s people. In the Book of Daniel, Michael is described as a “great prince” who stands guard over the people of God. The New Testament presents him as an ‘archangel’ and he is the leader of the heavenly armies in the Book of Revelation, where he and his angels battle the dragon, a symbol of evil.

St Michael is also venerated in Islam, as Mikail, and is associated with mercy, asking God to forgive humans: ‘From the tears of Mikail, angels of mercy are created as his helpers.’ From the early centuries of Christianity, Saint Michael was regarded as a defender of the Church and a guardian in times of danger. As we see in our own churches at Wood Green and Bowes, artists often show Michael wearing armour, carrying a sword, or standing victorious over a dragon. These images express his traditional role as a spiritual warrior who points believers towards trust in God’s victory over darkness.

In the Western Church, Saint Michael is celebrated on 29th September, a feast often known as Michaelmas. Today, the Feast of St Michael’s is commonly observed together with the archangels Gabriel and Raphael. Saint Michael is especially remembered as a patron of protection, courage, and service, and is often associated with soldiers, police officers, emergency workers, and those seeking strength in difficult times. Saint Michael’s story offers a timely encouragement: faith is not only about comfort, but also about courage. His example invites us to stand for what is good, to seek God’s protection, and to trust that light is stronger than darkness.

As we celebrate the Feast of St Michael and All Saints this year, let us follow St Michael’s example: let us be a people who defend the weak and who guide those who are lost in darkness, toward the light of Christ.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen

The Wood Green Diary

Do take note of the worship services below. We will be transitioning slowly out of the summer timetable, but the end of the month is marked by two big celebrations – so please do invite friends and family to these celebrations which are both marked by guest celebrants and preachers to the parish.

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 st 11:00 Said Mass at Bowes	2 nd 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	3 rd	4 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	5 th 11:00 Confessions at Wood Green 12 Noon Said Mass at WG All Nations Evening (7pm - 11pm)
6 th 08:30 Said Mass at WG 10:00 Sung Mass at WG 11:30 Sung Mass at Bowes	7 th	8 th 11:00 Said Mass at Bowes <i>with</i> Bible Study afterwards	9 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	10 th	11 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	12 th 11:00 Confessions at Wood Green 12 Noon Said Mass at WG
13 th 08:30 Said Mass at WG 10:30 Sung Mass at WG 11:00 Sung Mass at Bowes	14 th	15 th 11:00 Said Mass at Bowes <i>with</i> Bible Study afterwards	16 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	17 th	18 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	19 th 11:00 Confessions at Wood Green 12 Noon Said Mass at WG
20 th 10:30 Sung Mass at WG (<i>Feast of St Matthew and Baptism</i>)	21 st	22 nd	23 rd 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	24 th	25 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green	26 th 11:00 Confessions at Wood Green 14:30 Said Mass at WG, <i>with</i> Marriage Vow renewal.
27 th 10:30 Sung Mass at WG (<i>Patronal Festival</i>)	28 th	29 th 11:00 Said Mass at Bowes <i>with</i> Bible Study afterwards	30 th 12 Noon Said Mass at Wood Green			

Summer in the Parish – August 2026

Men's Breakfast



The St Michael's Men's group met this summer for breakfast at the Naya Café near the underground Station for Wood Green. It was a wonderful morning of great food and discussions. We spent some time exploring the relationship our prayer lives have with global and national events. The date for the next meeting will be Saturday 26th September, location is TBC. Please speak to Harris if you would like to know more about the group and its events.

Parish Outing to Eastbourne

On Saturday 15th, both St Michael-at-Bowes and St Michael's Wood Green came together to escape the city for the day with a coach trip to the seaside. They joined the summer crowds who had gathered to watch the Eastbourne International Airshow. With great weather, exhibitions and amusements, a great day was had by all.



THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM



PILGRIMAGE FOR HEALING AND RENEWAL

MONDAY 31ST AUGUST 2026



12.00 noon Sung Mass

Principal Celebrant: The Rt Revd Jonathan Baker
Bishop of Fulham

2.30pm

Sermon, Sprinkling and Healing Ministries
Preacher: The Rt Revd Jonathan Baker
Bishop of Fulham



www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk

Last Chance Saloon - Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Our Annual Parish pilgrimage to Walsingham is almost completely booked up. Please arrive promptly for 07:30 so that the coach can leave at 07:45. If anyone is interested in attending and has yet to book and pay for a space (seats cost £30pp) – please speak to Fr Simon. Thank you for everyone paying for their seats in advance. The weather forecast is highs of 22 °C, with some cloud.

Looking Ahead...

All Nations Evening – Saturday 5th September

7pm -11pm, St Micheal's Church Hall, Bounds Green Road.

Join us on the first Saturday of September as we put on our annual celebration for the rich diversity of our worshipping community. There will be lashings of food and drink from a variety of different cultures, and of course plenty of music. We are looking for donations of food and any decorative items that represent your nationality, if you can offer anything please speak to Veera. We look forward to seeing you there!

The Feast of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Sunday 20th September, guest Celebrant –

Rt Rev'd Jonathan Baker, Bishop of Fulham.



With our Bishop coming to visit us at the end of the month, we will mark the Feast of the Apostle and Evangelist St Matthew. We are doubly fortunate that the parish Mass will also include a Baptism. We have been fortunate enough for him to cover one of our Sunday's during Fr Simon's vacation, do join us again as he will lead us through our celebration of one of the two Apostles whose accounts of Christ are included in the Bible.



The Feast of St Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

Sunday 27th September, Guest Preacher –

Rev. Prebendary Fr David Houlding SSC.

Come and celebrate with us as with join with the church around the world to give thanks for St Michael. As our patron Saint it is great chance to celebrate the life we share in Christ, with the prayerful support of the Archangel Michael. We will also be joined by Fr David Houlding SSC, sometime Vicar of All Hallows, Gospel Oak.



Urgent Help Needed: Support with Parish Administration

Whilst we have been blessed that the operational and sacramental life of this parish has managed to continue in a steady pattern since Fr Ian's retirement, the past 3 months have demonstrated to the PCC how much work is required to do this. In order for this pattern to maintain its current shape, support is required for various administrative tasks. Without further support from our community there will have to be changes made to the shape of our life and ministry. If you can give the church some of your time in response to this please speak to Elizabeth, Yvonne, or Fr Simon.

Donations

Important Banking Information: If you pay your offering via a Standing Order or a direct debit, please note the following account details. **All cheques** to be made payable to:

The Parish of Wood Green

Account no. 00037635

Sort code 405240