

# Welcome to Catford Community Church

*whether you're a regular or a visitor, you're very welcome*

*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known - Eph 3:10*

## Adoption

Welcome to our Sunday morning communion service at Catford Community Church, which today is led by Martyn Biddiscombe, with Margaret George leading worship. Then Ian Butcher will be looking at Ephesians 1:5 and our theme of adoption in the family of God. We are welcomed in and challenged to show God's welcome to each other, and those who are our guests. We can do this on Sunday mornings and in other parts of our lives too.

## How Being God's Adopted Children Changes Everything

Today we're continuing to dig into the opening sections of Ephesians, where Paul packed in so many ideas about our life of faith in Christ. We're looking at the idea of adoption into God's family, which Paul uses a few times in different letters, which comes in Ephesians 1:5. We'll be picking up some of the ideas that Krish Kandiah explores in his latest book *The Greatest Secret*. This book suggests that if we properly get hold of what the Bible says about our adoption as children of God, it radically changes the way we see and understand everything - ourselves, the church, mission, prayer, worship, the Bible, and more...

Why not read the book yourself? You can get a free copy - if you make a monthly gift to support the excellent work of Home for Good, they will send you a free copy of the book (or another one of Krish's books if you prefer). You can even read the opening chapter of the book right now!

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LOOK AT ALL THESE PUPPIES AND KITTENS THAT I HAVE ... HOW CAN YOU NOT LET ME IN?

## Diary Dates

### Monday 3 February

PlayPoint @ The Point @ 1:15pm

### Thursday 6 February

ConnectionPoint @ The Point @ 10:30-12am

### Tuesday 11 February

Pins @ The Point @ 8pm

### Saturday 15 February

Men's Breakfast @ Selco Builder's Cafe @ 8:30am

Craft Morning from 10.30am @ The Point

### Sunday 16 February

Church Lunch @ Martyn & Maureen's @ 1:00pm

### Tuesday 25 February

Curry on the go @ The Bear SE8 @ 7:30pm

Pins @ The Point @ 8pm

### Friday 28 February

REACH London Prayer Walk with iNet @ Kings Cross Baptist @ 7

### Friday 24 - Sunday 26 April

Weekend Away @ Ashburnham

HAVE YOU READ KRISH KANDIAH'S NEW BOOK?

"This book will make you radically rethink what discipleship looks like."  
Tim and Rachel Hughes

Give a **monthly gift today** and receive your copy - **free!**

Visit [homeforgood.org.uk/donate](http://homeforgood.org.uk/donate) to claim your free book



Catford  
Community  
Church

Transforming. Community. Life.

Services are very informal and all ages are welcome. At the end of the service please do stay and chat over tea or coffee.

Our Leadership Team are:

Ian Butcher, Maureen Biddiscombe,  
Margaret George, Kim Knappett,  
Simon Trodd and Phil Wood.

## Brexit: Is it an opportunity for the church?



Whether you are passionately celebrating, or convinced we are making a terrible mistake, or just plain fed up with the whole thing, there is no doubt that this is

a significant moment in our recent national history.

After so many words have been written on this topic it can be hard to know what else to add. Indeed, one of the features of this week has been the understated nature of the leaving. Save for the declarations of love in the European Parliament and the failed fundraiser to 'bung a bob for a Big Ben bong', it feels as if most people have already moved on. After the high dramas of 2019 it seems that 2020 has started with the collective realisation that there is life beyond Brexit.

It would be foolish, though, to ignore the light that the Brexit debate has shone on our society and also on our politics. Now is a moment to reflect. Social media debates suggest that our society is deeply divided, socially, economically and politically, and that we haven't found a way to disagree well.

While we undoubtedly need a sense of perspective on all this anger, there does seem to be a common feature underpinning the viewpoints being expressed: the self – our own strength and our own ideas. We continue to look to ourselves for our national salvation whilst being oblivious to the fact that our rejection of the values of Christianity in our public life is a primary factor in the fragmentation and division that we see.

Without God at the centre of our society we have lost the value of truth. As Christians, this should make us reflect on some old truths – truths that are increasingly ignored in our fragmented national life. When there is no public truth all opposing views can be fake news. When we don't recognise God's image in our fellow humans our opponent becomes an enemy to be destroyed rather than a person to be loved.

But it is in this context that we are called to live out our identity, offering unity and hope. One of the features of the last few years has been the heat of the arguments – more heat than light, a sign perhaps of these arguments touching people's core identity. But while robust debate is a sign of a healthy political culture, it can also distract us from the truth that politics, although important, was never meant to provide all our answers. As Christians we are free from our lives being defined by what happens politically. Instead, we are children of God, and it is from this primary identity that we engage with public life – from lives built on the solid rock of Christ.

In a divided society the church has a role to heal and a role to witness.

See the full article by Kieran Turner at <https://www.eauk.org/news-and-views/brexit-is-it-an-opportunity-for-the-church?>

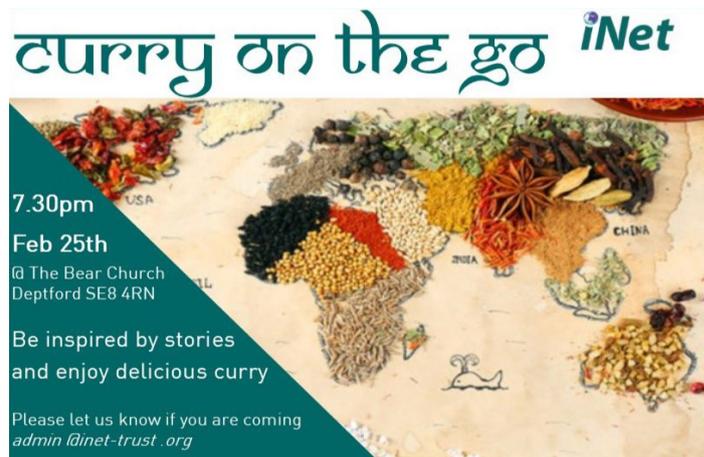
## Come for Curry!

Are you coming to the iNet Curry Night?

This is always a great evening, and this year we'll be hearing about One Way School, as well as other places around the world. Sophie is getting ready to head off to Zimbabwe in just under two weeks time, and she'll be back with an update before the curry night.

We'll also be sharing a bit more about the Home for Good Families of Refuge project which I've mentioned a couple of times already. They are having a launch event on the same evening, so to save you having to decide which to go to, we'll be promoting it at the curry night too!

If you haven't already, it would be really helpful if you could email iNet to let them know you're coming to the curry night, so they have an idea of numbers.



## London Prayer Journey

The iNet team are joining in with the REACH London prayer journey. Catford Community Church are planning to travel and pray with us. We're starting at Kings Cross Baptist Church on 28 Feb at 7pm. For more information see the Reach London site: [reachlondon.org](http://reachlondon.org)

## SUNDAY ROTA

### Refreshments

2 Feb - Joe & Elizabeth  
9 Feb - Marilyn & Stuart  
16 Feb - Pat & Charlotte  
23 Feb - Elizabeth & Stephen

### Welcoming

2 Feb - Mabel  
9 Feb - Kim  
16 Feb - Priscilla  
23 Feb - Carol

Please let Joe know about any changes or swaps