

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD**

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 85 8 December 2021



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Last Friday we shared the delightful Christingle service with Boyne Hill Infants in our church. Every year it is a wonderful occasion as we remember the light of Christ and the hope this brings.

This Sunday in church we will celebrate the Christingle service as part of our Eucharist. Anne Clark and the team are making 60 Christingles on Saturday morning and then on Sunday we will share the meaning of the Christingle and at the same time support the Children's Society. We do hope that you will be able to join us and in doing so help the ministry of this wonderful charity.

The chief Executive of the Children's Society, Mark Russell, has recently been interviewed concerning the impact of the Pandemic on children's mental health and education. 'The pandemic has had an overwhelming impact on children and young people. NHS data shows children's mental health referrals were 72% higher during the pandemic than before, whilst scores of studies show that it's likely many young people's long-term prospects have been damaged.'

Another issue that has arisen is the well-being of children as their education, friendships, play and being a child have suffered. The pandemic has also made it more challenging to identify children experiencing exploitation and abuse because it has been hidden from view for large parts of the last eighteen months.

The Children's Society's project workers try to address some of the worse problems facing young people today and it would be a wonderful act of Christian witness if this weekend we can raise money to support this excellent charity through a joyful celebration.

Christingle services are joyful celebrations (Boyne Hill Infants is a moving and joyful service each year as young faces look with awe and wonder at their flickering candles in the beautiful surroundings of the Church) and they bring families and communities together to share the light of Jesus and spread the message of hope. The history of the Christingle can be traced back to the Moravian church, which like many traditions at this time of year have their origins in Germany. Christingle goes back to 1747 and for over 50 years has led to millions of pounds being raised for The Children's Society. Please come to church this Sunday to enjoy the Christingle service and raise funds for the Children's Society.

SAD NEWS

It was with sadness that we heard the news from Claire, the daughter of Vivienne Paterson, that Vivienne had died peacefully on 6 December in the Thames Hospice. I visited Vivienne last Thursday and we shared happy memories of pilgrimages to Walsingham, shared study groups (which Vivienne enjoyed so much), the Mothers' Union and latterly the Senior Saints and the wonderful Tiny Saints that Vivienne loved helping with. Vivienne was a person who supported All Saints community in many ways and her encouragement to families at Tiny Saints was such that one or two families kept in contact with her as friends. Vivienne's funeral service will take place on Thursday 23rd December at 2.30pm in church. We keep Vivienne and her family in our prayers at this time.

SHARING LOVE AT CHRISTMAS

St Peter's Church last year celebrated 'Sharing Love at Christmas'. Their congregation, with the aid of a matched grant, offered over 500 Christmas boxes to people around the town. I was invited to share 20 and I did so with some of the All Saints congregation. This year St Peter's have invited all the churches of the town to share in this wonderful project. With the aid of the grant a lovely box can be offered at £5. You can donate at <https://www.stpetersmaidenhead.org.uk/lovechristmas> and the closing date for donations is Tuesday 14 December.

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 8 December	1.30pm All Saints School Recording in Church
Thursday 9 December	2.45pm <i>Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 8.00pm Choir Practice in the Parish Centre
Friday 10 December	10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
Saturday 11 December	10.00am Christingle making in the Parish Centre
Sunday 12 December	10.00am Parish Eucharist & Celebration of Christingle in Church 6.00pm Sundays@Six on Zoom with the Church of the Good Shepherd https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83960514349?pwd=YUxYSVZSVjF1cDVTdS85cDRlZm95UT09 Meeting ID: 839 6051 4349 Passcode: 945101
Monday 13 December	AllSorts meet on Zoom
Tuesday 14 December	2.30pm Tuesday Club Christmas Meeting in the Parish Centre
Wednesday 15 December	10.00am Eucharist in Church
ADVANCE NOTICE	Sunday 19 December 6.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols in Church followed by mulled wine and mince pies

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Lord Jesus, born in a stable yet surrounded by love, we pray for all children that they may be nurtured in communities of care.

Lord Jesus, cradled in a manger, kept warm and protected from harm. We pray for children and young people who feel unsafe and afraid. Help us to find places of safety.

Lord Jesus, worshipped by Shepherds and Kings, we pray for the work of the Children's Society and all those who form communities of support around vulnerable children and young people.

Lord Jesus, we pray for children and families who have suffered during the Pandemic. For all those who feel alone please give them someone to support and help them.

We pray for all those in need. We remember Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Dave Hill, his wife Eliza, Dave's parents, Ann and Chris, his in-laws, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Joan Poolman, Doreen Hill, John Hicks, Christel Kirschner, Ursula Hutchinson, Mikhail and Luidmila, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner.

We pray for all the recently departed especially Vivienne Paterson, and all our departed loved ones and for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

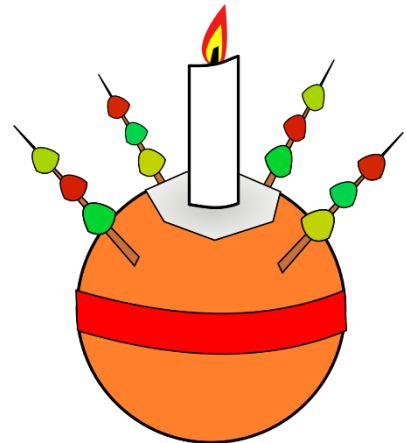
We give thanks for all that the Christingle symbolises:

May the orange remind us of the amazing earth you have created.

May the red ribbon remind us of the love wrapped round the earth.

May the cocktail sticks and sweets remind us of the light you shine into dark places and the gifts you share with us.

We give thanks for the impact Christingle services have on the lives of vulnerable children and we ask that you help us to work together to ensure that no child feels alone. Amen.



May we all be blessed by God's love this week,

Fr Jeremy

Christingle

There will be a collection for the Children's Society at the Christingle service this Sunday. (Suggested donations of £1). Helpers are needed to make the Christingles between 10.00am and 11.30am on Saturday 11 December in the Parish Centre. Please help if you can. New volunteers are always welcome and the job is quickly completed with lots of help.

Anne Clark

Worship for Sunday 12 December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTINGLE

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare the way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

EPISTLE **Philippians 4: 4 - 7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL **Luke 3:7 - 18**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

It's lovely to be back in Church with our lovely new floor and to have services back to some sort of normality. But not all our Servers and Refreshment providers have returned, and some new volunteers would be very welcome. If you are interested or would like to find out more please email Nick Kirk nickkirk2002@hotmail.com or speak to him after a service.

RAFFLE AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

Some of the items which weren't won on the Tombola stall after the Christmas Market are now delectable prizes in a raffle. Stella will be selling tickets priced at £1 each following the service this Sunday morning and the draw will be made after the Eucharist on Sunday 19 December.

ALL SAINTS POST BOX



Sshhhh ... don't tell the Sustainability Group but the letter rack at the back of Church is in place for us to exchange cards with each other as in days of yore.

But if you're more green-minded you could use the Parish News virtual postbox again this Christmas. Just email me (jan.moss@btinternet.com) with your name and maybe a short seasonal greeting and we'll print them all together in our next edition.

If you'd like to make a donation to a good cause in lieu of card costs I'm sure all good causes would be very grateful! Our own Floor Project for instance (All Saints Church Fund marked Floor Appeal)

Jan Moss