

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Every ordained Priest has at some point passed through the doors of a Theological College as a part of their training; in Fr Jeremy's case, full time training at St Stephens House in Oxford. In my case, it was part-time study at Cuddesdon Theological College on the outskirts of Oxford.

This week I received the 2023 copy of "Cuddesdon News", the annual magazine sent out to all who have links with the College. In his Introduction, the Principal Bishop Humphrey summarises what we all know – that 2022 was in many ways a year of trauma and chaos in this country; the death of Queen Elizabeth II, the beginnings of recovery from Covid, but with questions about what might have been changed for ever; political instability as Prime Ministers came and went with rapidity and for bizarre reasons; war close at hand in Ukraine, and refugees from there, Afghanistan and countless other places (as we know only too well in our church community here) as families flee repression and violence; and the mounting concern over climate change and other environmental issues highlighted by COP27.

But Bishop Humphrey went on to ask the really important question – what is the task of the Church (which means you and me) in these strange times? He writes:

"Against this backdrop, the task of the Church is – as always – to proclaim Good News, the Gospel of a God who calls order out of chaos as a primal creative act, and who in Jesus Christ enters the traumatised and sin-depleted reality that humanity has made of creation to rescue and restore it in hope and promise....there needs to be theological wisdom as well as unpretentious humility to our message of hope and joy in circumstances of loss and bewilderment. [We] need to tread carefully and respectfully on the holy ground of the world's pain and fear, insistent on the narrative of hope yet sensitive to the suffering of [our] communities."

Last Saturday, some of us attended a workshop on Care for Creation hosted by St Luke's Church and heard gifted and wise speakers explain from the pages of the Bible how God cares not just for humankind but the whole of creation, and how the wellbeing of humankind is bound up with the wellbeing of the whole of creation. We learnt how God is constantly seeking to renew his whole creation; not to destroy it because it is sinful and failing, but love and nurture it into fullness of life and wellbeing. And we learnt how we are all called to be a part of that programme of renewal. Renewal of hearts, of communities, of Creation.

This coming Sunday we have a dramatic sign of that renewal, as we baptise three new Christians. This is not just a sign, but a Sacrament (“an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace”) – for God uses physical things (in this case water, prayed over in Christ’s name by the Priest) as a means of imparting his grace and blessing. In Genesis 1 we read how God’s Spirit moves over the face of the waters to bring the order of Creation out of the chaos of the primordial floods, so in baptism God uses water and the faithful prayers of the Church to bring the order of new life to the chaos of our sinful natures. Through that renewal of individual lives God seeks to bring (through us, his people, and under his guidance and grace) the blessings of renewal into the dark places of our communities and our world.

Bishop Humphrey insists that we are to be messengers of hope and of joy, and by being messengers of hope and joy to enlighten in the power of the Risen Christ the lives of those around us. We are called to work together with Christ and with one another to be God’s Blessing in the world, in the whole of Creation.

Fr John

LENT AT ALL SAINTS

1. Thursday evening Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 7.00pm
2. Bible Study, looking at the events of Holy Week through the Gospels. Every Wednesday at 7.00pm in the Birinus Room, ending with Compline at 8.00pm.
3. Friday 10 March – Quiet Day with Fr John including a soup lunch at All Saints.
4. The Wednesday soup lunches supporting ‘The Ripple Effect’ charity.

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 9 March	<p>8.45am Duncan Dyason and Danilo share the ministry of Street Kids Direct in Guatemala with the students of Altwood School. If you would like to sponsor this charity please sign the sponsor form at the back of church.</p> <p>3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School – The Pharisee and the Tax Collector</p> <p>7.00pm Stations of the Cross led by Fr Jeremy</p> <p>8.00pm Choir practice</p>
Friday 10 March	<p>9.00am Boyne Hill School Assembly on the theme of ‘Compassion’.</p> <p>10.00am Quiet Morning in Church with Fr John. The morning will finish with a celebration of the Eucharist followed by lunch. It is not too late to join the morning and for those seeking prayerful and reflective opportunities during Lent I would fully recommend the morning to you.</p> <p>10.00am Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre</p>
Saturday 11 March	<p>10.00am – 3.00pm The Diocesan Synod meets at Cowley, Oxford. Please pray for the discussions and decisions made by the Synod on behalf of the Diocese on areas of mission and finance</p>
Sunday 12 March	<p>10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Third Sunday of Lent - Worship for All and Holy Baptism</p> <p>Celebrant: Fr John Preacher and leading the Baptisms: Fr Jeremy</p> <p>6.00pm Sundays@6 led by St Luke’s on Zoom</p>
Monday 13 March	<p>9.30am Morning Prayer</p>

Tuesday 14 March

9.30am Morning Prayer

11.30am Funeral of Giles Haslam at All Saints – Many will remember Giles as an altar server of many years at All Saints. It would be comforting for his brother Quentin and sister Alison to have the support of the church community. The Haslam's were regular members of the choir and Sunday School when they were children.

Wednesday 15 March

Eucharist in Lent as we reflect upon the characters of the cross and resurrection from Bishop Gregory Cameron's Book 'An Easter Book of Days.' – **Fr John**

11.00am Coffee served at the back of the church

11.15am Bible Study in the Birinus Room

12.15-1.15pm Lenten Lunch – All are welcome to join us in the Parish Centre to enjoy homemade soup and bread. All donations will go to support the 'Ripple Effect Charity'.

2.30pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

3.45pm Meeting of the Trustees for the Alms Houses in the Birinus Room.

7.00pm Lenten Bible Study looking at Mark's Gospel with Fr John in the Birinus Room.

ADVANCE NOTICES

Advance notice – Mothering Sunday Posies. Posies will be made in the Parish Centre on Saturday 18 March from 10am. Please see the full notice from the Flower Team

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for Abbas Fouladi, Afsaneh Rahimi and Ferydwn Bozorgnid who will be baptised in our 10am service on Sunday.

We pray for our keeping of Lent in preparation for the great mystery of our faith celebrated in Holy Week and Easter; that this Lent and Easter would be a time of renewal for us personally and for the life of our Church community.

We pray for the Ripple Effect charity we are supporting this Lent, and for all who seek to bring renewal of life and community in places of shortage and tension. That no-one should have too much in order that all can have enough.

As freezing temperatures return to our country we pray for all those who are homeless or in cold and inadequate housing, and those unable to provide properly for themselves and their families. We pray for all agencies which bring them help, for local authorities, homeless charities and foodbanks including our own Maidenhead Foodshare. May we be generous even as we acknowledge God's generosity to us.

We pray for those of our congregation and Parish in any kind of need at this time. We pray by name for Michael, Kirsten and Maddy; for Suzette, Danielle, Paul Latham, Jenny Chua, Doris Winn, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Tadeusz, Teresa, Leigh Hutchinson-May, Silvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes, Marnos, Gordon Kerrison, Lorraine Ansell, Emilia Clark, Ruby Doughty, John Handcock, Andrew Collins and Sarah.

May they know the healing peace and presence of Christ, and we pray and give thanks for those who bring them care and comfort.

We pray for the recently departed: Daniel Smith, Giles Haslam, Margaret Easthill and Hilda Kinloch. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for their families and friends and for all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

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WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 12 MARCH THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Worship for All with Families

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

GOSPEL John 4. 5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving[e] wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Lento - *F Bridge*

Opening Hymn: AMNS 584 All my hope on God is founded - *Michael*

Mass Setting: Rite A - *Dunford*

Gradual: AMNS 592 As the deer pants for water - *Nystrom*

Offertory: AMNS 365 Let us build a house where love can dwell - *Two Oaks*

Communion: AMNS 604 Brother sister let me serve you - *Servant Song*

Closing Hymn: AMNS 761 Praise the Lord ye heavens adore him - *Abbot's Leigh (644)*

Postlude: Voluntary in g min - *J Stanley*

NOTICES

Quiet Morning.

There is still time to sign up for our Lent Quiet Morning in Church which is this Friday, 10th March, starting at 10am. There will be three talks, and time for quiet prayer and reflection, ending with a Eucharist at 12.30 and a simple lunch. It would be helpful to know how many to expect – there is a sign-up sheet at the back of Church, or just email me at revjohnainslie@gmail.com. Or just turn up on the day !!

Fr John

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to sponsor lilies for Easter Day in memory of a loved one, please put your name on the list which is located on the table at the back of the church. This is a lovely way to be involved in making the church look really beautiful for this Queen of Festivals. Unfortunately, the price of flowers has increased dramatically over the past few years, and it is anticipated that the lilies will cost around £6.00 per stem this year. We need to place our order by **28th March** at the latest; so, it would be a great help if you could put your name on the list by that date. If it's of help, payment can be made using the pre-printed envelopes which are also on the table at the back of the church. This should then be handed to Stella Harding or the Church Office.

The Flower Team

Mothering Sunday Posies – 19 MARCH 2023

We shall be making the posies for Mothering Sunday on **Saturday 18th March at 10.00am** in the Parish Centre. We are always grateful for as much help as possible, so please come along and help if you can. A selection of small pieces of greenery are required, such as Heather, Pittosporum, perfumed leaves

(rosemary etc.) are particularly welcome, so if you or your neighbour have any that can be spared, can you please bring them with you or leave them at the Parish Office on Friday morning, 17th March.

The Flower Team

FOODSHARE

In these hard times Foodshare are more in need of our help than ever. Each week in the Maidenhead Advertiser there is a list of items most wanted.

SUPPORTING ALL SAINTS CHURCH - ON-LINE GIVING

It costs All Saints approximately £2,500 per week to maintain the current level of parish activity - without the generous time freely contributed by our volunteers this cost would be much more.

If you feel that you are able to assist and help support All Saints financially, with either a one-off donation (via card), or, most beneficially, set up regular giving by direct debit - this can easily be arranged on the recently set-up All Saints Page on the Parish Giving Scheme site, accessible from the top section of the All Saints Website, and also directly at:-

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/boyne-hill-all-saints-maidenhead/>

Alternatively, for a quick connection, use the QR code below:-



Please also consider if you can help support All Saints Church through donating time and talents – the Church relies upon our teams of volunteers to operate and provide services to the community.

More details are in the attachment issued with Issue 140 – a big thanks to all of our supporters.

Rod Broad, Hon Treasurer