

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

I have in recent times taken on a new role within the Diocese of hosting a group of curates from Reading, Slough, and Windsor over the three years of their curacies. We meet monthly and they are a wonderfully engaging, thoughtful and intelligent group of people who are open to share their experiences of ministry. We recently discussed the subject of funerals. I asked them the question which has been put to me on numerous occasions of who do you think the funeral service is for? There was a mixture of responses some feeling that the funeral was for the deceased, others for the family and friends of the departed loved one and others suggesting it might be for the deceased and their loved ones.

My early experience of officiating at funerals led me to being 'dropped in at the deep end.' My first experience of leading a service was followed by my second and then my third all on the same day! My biggest fear apart from getting through what are emotionally difficult services was getting information confused when taking this number of services in such a short space of time. The first service that day in a funeral parlour in Newport, South Wales was of a former railway man. As I arrived at the service and looked to the back of the parlour, I saw my best friend's father sitting there. I should have guessed as this man had taken me on trains in Rogerstone when I was a young lad growing up as he too had been an engine driver. He was an atheist and his son, and I would discuss as we waited for the bus to school each morning politics, religion, and sport. No idea how our relationship survived but it has to the present day.

That morning leading the service I focussed on this man and felt the need to not only speak about his departed friend but to offer Christian hope to the family and to try to convince my friend's dad that there was truth within the Christian faith. I am not sure that I ever found the words to convince him although the family has asked me back to Wales to officiate at his funeral during my time here in Maidenhead. One of the readings at his service was 'Imagine' by the Beatles. The lyrics go 'Imagine there's no heaven!' Maybe this was his last challenge to me.

My humble response to funerals is that they are for the family, the friends and for the departed loved one. This weekend we will commemorate All Souls and that service provides me with the some of the theology and belief that leads me to share hope at a time of death. The way we share the hope of All Souls is through the Eucharist. When we share in the rites of a funeral of a person we cared about and loved we feel the deepest loss. On Maundy Thursday we discover Jesus who we find in John's Gospel is the one who came among us as a vulnerable baby boy who came to share his life with us and give his life for us. At the Last Supper having washed the feet of his disciples he faces his own death. The early disciples were distraught like many of us at a funeral. The one who brought meaning to life seemed to be heading towards an ending that would put in question whether anything makes sense at all.

We all have times when we question whether our lives have any meaning or purpose. The Last Supper felt like not just the end of one person's life but the end of any sense of meaning for any of us. Yet the Last Supper was the time when Jesus took, blessed, broke, and distributed the bread. 'Do this in memory of me.' Then following the supper Jesus blessed the cup. This meal looked back to the Passover marking the movement from slavery to freedom in the Promised Land. The meal would point forward to the future when we would know Jesus' presence in the breaking of the bread. The meal followed by the watch led to Good Friday and Jesus having experienced desolation and death, then won for us New and Transformed life. On Holy Saturday each year we light the Paschal candle from the Easter fire, the sign that goodness overcomes evil, light shines out of darkness and New Life overcomes death.

In Luke's gospel another story of resurrection took place which I have used many times at funerals. The road and supper at Emmaus had more people lamenting the loss of Jesus on the cross before coming to know Him in the breaking of the bread. With eyes wide open and hearts burning they had experienced the 'Thin place' where Heaven and Earth are joined. The Eucharist is the place of 'Mystical Communion' where, as Fr Nicholas shared on Sunday, all the Saints and all our departed loved ones have gone before us. If we believe Jesus is alive in bread and wine, then we can believe that our loved ones have gone before us to that place we call Heaven. When we share in this Eucharistic meal we are in communion with God, the Saints and all our departed loved ones.

This All Souls Day as we celebrate the Requiem Mass be reminded that the faith, we hold enables us to remember our departed loved ones and to celebrate their new life in the Kingdom. Every funeral liturgy should speak of this hope of New Life for the departed loved one but also hope to all of us of our journey through death to the Heavenly Banquet.

Please sign the names of your departed loved ones on the list prepared by Fr John for the 6pm All Souls Eucharist this Sunday.

May we all share God's love this week,

Fr Jeremy

All Souls Requiem Service. Our annual service of requiem when we remember before God and give thanks for those who we have loved and lost will take place on Sunday 5 November at 6.00pm. There will be hymns and a chance to light a candle. All are very welcome, especially if you have lost a loved one recently. The service will be followed by tea and coffee. The List for Names to be read out at the service is now at the back of church. If you would like a deceased friend or relative remembered at the service please email the name to me at revjohnainslie@gmail.com before SUNDAY MORNING. *Fr John*

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 2 November

8.50am Remembrance Assembly at Altwood School
11.00am Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room
3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School
8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 3

9.00am Assembly at Boyne Hill School
10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
10.00am All Saints School Rehearsal
2.30pm All Saints School Service in Church

Sunday 5 November

10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday Before Advent

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Fr John

12.00 noon Holy Baptism

Please pray for Myron Elon Malekshahi, Constantine Alexei Malekshahi, their parents & godparents

6.00pm Requiem Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy

Monday 6

9.00am Morning Prayer in Church

Tuesday 7

9.30 am Morning Prayer in Church

2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre see p 6

Wednesday 8

10.00am Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr John

11.00am Tai Chi in the Parish Centre

11.30am Bible Study in the Birinus Room

3.00pm Senior Saints Meeting see p 6

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday 12 November 10.00am Remembrance Sunday There are now Poppies in Church on sale for the Poppy appeal on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We continue to pray this week for peace throughout the troubled areas of the world, praying especially for the conflict in Israel and Gaza and for the terrible end to human suffering in these places. We pray too for the war in Ukraine and for an end to hostilities that have brought so much human suffering. We pray God for wisdom, perseverance, and determination for all those working hard to find a way towards peace and justice.

We pray too for Asylum seekers and refugees in Britain and across Europe that they may find people filled with compassion for their plight. We pray for the refugees who are being asked to leave hotels quickly as they try to find a home to live and a job to provide self-worth and a living.

As the schools of our parish return this week we pray and give thanks for the opportunities we have to share the Christian faith through Open the Book at Larchfield and All Saints Schools, for assemblies at Altwood and Boyne Hill and the service to celebrate All Saints Day at the church with All Saint school. We pray for Revd Jo Ellington as Chaplain at Altwood and for the new Alpha course beginning this week at the school.

We give thanks this weekend for Constantine and Myron Malekshahi as they are baptised into the Body of Christ this Sunday. We pray for their parents, godparents, and our community that we may help to encourage and nurture these young children in the Christian faith. We pray too for Sabastian Barnes, Sophia Paul and Alicia Stockbridge on the anniversaries of their Baptisms.

We pray for those from our congregation and parish in any kind of need. We pray for Michael, Kirsten and Maddy; for Suzette, Daneille, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Birmta Zadinane Edite Zadinane, Heidi Webb, Tadeusz, Christopher, Sylvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Eddie Sheppard and Carol Sheppard, Barbara Bannister, Janet Emerson, Liz Holloway, Hugh Boulter, Simon Cowdery,

Charlie and Jess, Joseph White, Morieza Seraj, Abbas Heidari, Scopas Lado, Mageret Ego, Jim Goff, Gill Deane-Williams, Simon Fullarton, Vera Shaw and Suzanne Brown.

May they all know the healing presence of Christ. We pray for those who bring healing to those in need, those caring for loved ones at this time and for staff and residents of care homes in our parish.

We pray for the recently departed and all our departed loved ones at this time of All Souls. May they rest in peace and Rise in Glory.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 2 : 9 – 13

You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

GOSPEL Matthew 24: 1 – 14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Messiah!" and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations;

MUSIC

Prelude: French Carol *P Hurford*
Opening hymn: 584 All my hope on God is founded
Gradual hymn: 795 The kingdom is upon you
Offertory hymn: 708 Lift up your hearts! We lift them
Communion hymn: 721 Love divine, all loves excelling
Closing hymn: 580 Judge eternal, throned in splendour
Postlude: Impromptu No 3 *S Coleridge-Taylor*

6.00pm REQUIEM EUCHARIST FOR ALL SOULS

Organ Preludes Vater unser im Himmelreich, BuxWV 219 *Buxtehude*

Schafe können sicher weiden, BWV 208 *J S Bach*

Opening: 357 All people that on earth do dwell

Gradual: 794 The king of love my shepherd is

Offertory: 460 O thou who at thy Eucharist didst pray

During Communion: Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier, BWV 731 *J S Bach*

Final: 218 Thine be the glory

Postlude: Fugue in E flat major ('St Anne'), BWV 552 (ii) *J S Bach*

ALL SAINTS' CHRIST CHILD MARKET SUNDAY 3 December 12 noon to 3.30pm

Our Christ Child Market is only a few weeks away now, and we need to ask for everyone's help with the following please:

Volunteers to help on the All Saints stalls:

To help man and provide cover on the following stalls; there is a **sign-up sheet** at the back of the Church:

- ✚ Entrance to the Market
- ✚ Handicrafts
- ✚ tombola
- ✚ raffle
- ✚ children's activities and tattoos
- ✚ cake stall
- ✚ chocolate stall
- ✚ BBQ
- ✚ mulled wine & hot chocolate
- ✚ teas and coffee and mince pies.



Please sign-up for the stall you would like to help on; there is also space on the sheet to sign up if you don't have any preference.

Donations:

We would be grateful now for **prizes for the RAFFLE and TOMBOLA.**

Please remember, new items only.

The collection box for your donations is at the back of the Church.

Gazebos and Cakes

We also need to ask for help with providing **GAZEBOS for our stall holders** and – from the bakers amongst you - **CAKES for the All Saints' cake stall.**

Sign-up sheets for these are at the back of the church too.

If you have any questions or need more information, please speak to any member of the team:



*Fr Jeremy, Dianne Farmiloe, Jo McMullen, Tanya Fullarton, Sibo Veira,
Darren Pimm, John Gay and Stella Harding*

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL

We are going to be taking part in this appeal for the 11th time this year. In each of the last 3 years, we have donated over 60 boxes as gifts for children around the world who don't have much. Over 10 years, we've sent over 650 shoebox gifts, which is amazing! On Sunday in church, we explained more about the appeal. One way you can donate is via the Operation Christmas Child website, and we have our own donation page this year again to make donating even easier! You can find it at <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/18697050> . It costs £20.

See leaflet attached to this email for more information and other ways to donate.

Thank you. If you have any questions, please contact me at jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk

TUESDAY CLUB 7 November 2.30pm in the Parish Centre

Tuesday Club started life in the 1960s when it was called The Young Wives Club. It has been through several incarnations over the years and has now become a group which meets monthly between September and June and is open to everyone. The membership, it's fair to say, is predominately female but everyone is welcome and we do have some interesting speakers. This month we will welcome a speaker from Mercy Ships. Meetings are advertised in the Parish News so if something appeals to you why not come along and give us a try?

Jan Moss

SENIOR SAINTS 2.30pm Wednesday 8 November

This month we meet at Pauline Hole's home, 58 Marlborough Road.

GREEN GREEN

Do the Small Things Well

Each week we will share some of the excellent sustainability tips and ideas that have come out of the survey that so many of you completed a few weeks ago. This week we begin with **Recycling**. RBWM are very happy to take any small electrical items for recycling, whether they are broken or not. Just pop them out on top of or beside your recycling bin on the usual day.

Your Sustainability Team

CARE4CALAIS TOILETRY APPEAL



Asylum seekers face many challenges even after arriving in the UK. They are not allowed to work so do not have money, even to spend on what we would see as basic essentials.

One practical action we can take to help is to donate toiletries.

If you are able to support, please bring your donations and leave them in the box at the back of church.

Thank you!

Claire Foley claire.foley@fit2live.me.uk