

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

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ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

On Wednesday 31 August we celebrate the life of St Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne. The theme of the Gospel on Sunday was humility and true righteousness. True righteousness is found through our relationship with God, our relationship with people, animals and all living beings and the environment itself. We confess our sins, we thank God for our gifts, and we petition for our needs and the needs of those in need.

St Aidan is someone who gives a wonderful example of true righteous and humility. He was sent from Iona to Northumbria to support King Oswald at the Royal Castle of Bamburgh. Oswald is thought to have offered Aidan any part of his land to set up a monastery. Aidan's choice was the Island of Lindisfarne. This place I was fortunate to visit when I was taken by my relatives in Newcastle, Angela, Paul and Raymond to experience the awe of Holy Island in 2014.

This would be an excellent choice for missionary work. The mainland is two miles away across the sands. Twice every day the tide goes down and the monks of the day could work among the people. Twice every day having walked back to the Island when the tide had come in, they could pray. Peace to pray, to study, and to discern and plan the future. Aidan from the Island combined a lifestyle of monasticism with missionary journeys through his concern for the poor and enthusiasm for preaching the word of God. Aidan desired a community that not only talked about God but spoke to God (A relational God that some of our Iranian friends have shared with me in recent weeks).

Aidan and his community lived a life dedicated to God through teaching, sawing wood, farming, milking and all of life was offered to God. There was no division between the secular and the sacred and hands offered for the Eucharist were hands offered to labour. Oswald the King was clearly influenced by Aidan and one Easter he had the opportunity to show he understood Christian values. Aidan had joined Oswald and the people to celebrate a true Easter feast following the strict fast of Lent. Rich food served on rich tableware was about to be enjoyed. Aidan was about to say grace and give thanks to God when a commotion broke out outside. One of the servants reported that beggars and poor people were crying out for food. Oswald ordered all the food, and indeed the rich silverware to be taken to the people. Aidan was said to be thrilled that the understanding of humility, compassion and true righteous had taken place.

Aidan was given money by charitable people. He chose to use it by buying children out of a life of slavery to help them receive education at the school that had been set up at Lindisfarne. The students were taught Latin so that they could read the books at the monastery which would have been in Latin. Of course, they were taught how to pray and to become missionaries by living in community with the monks. Aidan believed that women and girls should benefit too, and he appointed Hild who set up religious houses for women and girls to be educated.

Aidan, as with many clergy of years gone by, would walk miles meeting and talking to people. King Oswin, a relative of the by now dead Oswald chose one of the best horses from his stable to give Aidan as a gift. Aidan took the gift, but it wasn't long before he gave it away to a beggar! King Oswin was not happy. He is said to have told Aidan that if you want to give horses to the poor, 'I have plenty of poor-quality horses to give away'. Aidan is said to have replied 'My Lord King,' 'surely you can't mean to tell me that that foal of a mare is more important to you than a beggar, a child of God?' Aidan clearly saw in his fellow people, children of God. There was another side to the humility of Aidan in this story which was he did not want to sit above people upon a horse but to stand alongside them. True humility shining through by example.

There are amazing and wonderful stories of the power of prayer in Aidan's life. The example of his prayer though was not to attempt to compel God to action but rather to see prayer as a channel through which God's help would be able to flow to the people's need.

Towards the end of his life Aidan gave thanks to God for Columba and the saints of Iona, for the monks of Lindisfarne, the generosity of Oswald, of Oswin and many others who influenced and blessed him in his life. Aidan died on the 31st August 651 having touched and influenced many peoples lives. We give thanks for his example of humility and true righteousness.

(For those interested in the Northern Saints see 'Aiden, Bede, Cuthbert Three Inspirational Saints by David Adam). This book has helped with the article above.

The Archdeacon of Berkshire, Stephen Pullin, alongside the Associate Archdeacon, Liz Jackson, have sent the following information in the light of the challenges that will likely be faced as a result of the squeeze on finances. The Archdeaconry has partnered with Berkshire Age UK to bring resources to those affected by the crisis.

1. Age UK online benefits checker
2. Information Sheet on how to check your benefits entitlement
3. Summary of recently announced cost-of-living grants
4. Age UK information booklets on topics including benefits and support
5. Advice and support on heating your home, insulation and grants for new boilers (including home visits where needed) from Better Housing, Better Health
6. Advice for people of working age from Citizens Advice

East Berkshire 0808 278 7914

Wokingham 03003301189

Reading 01189 9502829

West Berkshire 01635 546605

Advice for people over retirement age 0118 959 4242

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Thursday 1 September *2.00pm Season of Creation service at St Joseph's Church, Maidenhead – we are all invited to join Churches Together at this service*

7.00pm Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room consolidating the first 5 weeks of material

8.00pm Choir Practice

Sunday 4	10.00am The Parish Eucharist for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Celebrant & Preacher: Fr John <i>2.00pm Visit Maidenhead Mosque. All welcome to a presentation followed by refreshments. See WAMCF website for full details.</i> 6.00pm Sundays@6 returns with Compline on zoom at St Luke's. See their website for up-to-date link
Monday 5	9.15am Morning Prayer in Church
Tuesday 6	9.15am Morning Prayer in Church <i>7.00pm Multi Faith Dialogue at Maidenhead Synagogue</i>
Wednesday 7	10.00am Requiem Eucharist Celebrant: Fr John <i>10.45am Tai Chi Class in the Parish Centre</i>

ADVANCE DATES: There are now sign-up sheets at the back of Church for anything which needs to be signed up for!

Friday 9 September: 10.00am Tiny Saints returns in the Parish Centre

Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND & RIDE & STRIDE SEE PAGE 6 FOR FULL DETAILS

Saturday 10 September 9.00am: The beginning of a four-week course looking at issues of Sustainability. This course has been chosen by the Sustainability group and will begin with a breakfast of croissants and fruit with coffee/tea. We will then watch a short 10 minute film each session followed by questions to discuss.

Sunday 11 September 4.00-5.00pm each week in the Birinus Room: Children's confirmation classes. It is exciting that we have 5 possible children's candidates for our Confirmation with Bishop Olivia on Sunday 20 November. The course will run each week (Except when Sundays @4 intervenes) in the lead up to the Confirmation.

Saturday 1 October South Coast trip to Berwick, in East Sussex. This trip has been arranged with the Revd Peter Blee, vicar of 7 Sussex churches near the South Downs. The trip will focus on Berwick where remarkable work has taken place and will be followed by a walk between Berwick and Alciston which is part of the Cuckmere Pilgrim Path that Peter has created in recent years. We will arrive in Berwick at 11.00am for tea and coffee followed by a talk on Berwick church followed by worship.

Between 1-2pm we will share a pub lunch at the Cricketers in Berwick village. 2-3pm – Pilgrim walk from Berwick to Alciston. 3.00pm Contemplative worship at Berwick followed by tea and depart for Maidenhead at 4.15pm returning home around 6.30pm. There will be a sign-up list at the back of the church in the near future.

Sunday 2 October 10.00am Harvest Festival Eucharist followed by an auction of harvest goods. Following the auction there will be a harvest ploughman's lunch to enjoy.

Sunday 30 October 10.00am Eucharist to celebrate our Patronal Festival of All Saints. Our Associate Archdeacon, The Revd Liz Jackson will be our guest preacher as we give thanks for the marvellous floor restoration work that has taken place. Following the service, we will share hospitality with guests involved in the project. Following the drinks at the back of the church there will be a church community meal at the

Gandhi Restaurant at 12.30. Again, we will ask people to sign a list at the back of church if they wish to share in the meal.

Sunday 20 November 10.00am Confirmation here with Bishop Olivia who will be baptising and confirming both children and adults. She will also present the Bronze Eco-Church award to the congregation.

Sunday 27 November Advent Sunday 12 noon to 3.30pm – The Christ Child Market in the Quadrangle. The Salvation Army Band are booked to play carols sharing the Christmas story from 3.00pm. We do need a few more people on the planning group and will require a good number of volunteers on the day to look after the stalls.

Fr John will also be leading a Bible Study in the Autumn as well as leading a Pilgrimage to Walsingham from Tuesday 20 September to Friday 23 September. This will be the first Pilgrimage from All Saints since 2018 to the place where so many of us have enjoyed services of deep spiritual meaning and wonderful hospitality.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray this week for the community at All Saints, that we might be people who seek to be humble, righteous and live compassionate lives. We give thanks this week for St Aidan who was a missionary Bishop who lived a humble life and sought to support the poor and educate the young.

We pray for all charities that are attempting to support people facing challenges brought about by the cost-of-living crisis. We give thanks for the Berkshire Archdeaconry and its partnership with Berkshire Age UK. We pray to for those supporting charities overseas. We remember at this time those suffering as a consequence of flooding in Pakistan.

As teachers, students and all people working in education we pray for all those making a new start. We pray for students beginning new schools, new classes and moving onto colleges and universities. We remember all those from the refugee community that are seeking educational opportunities. We pray that all those who begin school and places of education will feel welcomed and feel a sense of belonging.

We give thanks for Care4Calais and the wonderful volunteer base that has been set up to support refugees across the country. We give thanks for Sue Wright and her ministry enabling the church community to work in partnership with the charity in supporting people seeking a new beginning in this country.

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, that they would be able to live in peace and for their common life to flourish again. We remember all those places in the World where there is violence and warfare, including South Sudan, Afghanistan and the Middle East, and for displaced peoples across the world. May leaders of our Nations seek peace and the common good.

We pray that as we continue to discover what it is to be a welcoming community, we pray for all those who visit our church seeking comfort, fellowship, forgiveness and belonging.

We pray for the forthcoming Heritage Weekend. We give thanks for George Street's vision of a church that offered a place for worship to the glory of God, education of the young and pastoral care.

We pray for Edward Brophy on the anniversary of his Baptism.

We pray by name for Suzette, Danielle, Fr John Chadwick, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Mikhail, John Hicks, Birmta Zadinane,, Kirsty Banner, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, David Stewart, Tadeusz, Teresa, Leigh Hutchison-May, Elaine See, Viv and Andrew, Larisa Stephenson, Soheila, Sue Nordberg, Jane Baldery and the family of Vicki Axten.

We pray for the recently departed, among them Roderick MacLennan, Carol Aitkin, Maureen Hill, Kathleen Bristow and Vicki Axten. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We remember all those who mourn the death of a loved one at this time.

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

Fr Jeremy

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 4 SEPTEMBER THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE Philemon 1 - 21

I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL Luke 14: 25 - 33

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Jesus, Priceless Treasure *Flor Peeters*
Opening Hymn: AM 135 Take up thy cross the Saviour said
Gradual: AM 489 From heaven you came, helpless babe
Offertory: AM 487 Christ is the one who calls
Communion: AM 747 O God, you search me
Closing Hymn: AM 531 Above the moon earth rises
Postlude: Tuba Tune *N Cocker*



Heritage Open Days and Ride and Stride – 10 and 11 September

As in previous years the Church will be open to welcome visitors and offer guided tours as part of the national Heritage Weekend. This is a lovely opportunity to share the beauty of our church with the wider community (we have had visitors coming long distances in the past) and, especially this year, to highlight the fantastic work carried out on the church floor. All are of course welcome to attend at any time.

The programme is:-

Saturday 10 September Church open 10.00 to 16.00. Guided tours at 1030; 1300 and 1500. At 14.30 Relf Clark will give a 30 minute organ recital– please see his programme details in the appendix to the Parish News Issue 118

Sunday 11 September Church open 13.00 to 16.00. Guided tours at 13.30 and 15.00. Eucharist and refreshments at 10.00.

If you click on Heritage Open Days 2022 on the web you can find not only All Saints but all the other open events in the country, by for example post code or county.

The Berkshire Churches Trust “Ride & Stride” will also take place on the Saturday when we will welcome visitors “riding and striding” to raise money through sponsorship for their own churches. We will be organising a walk for any one from All Saints who would like to take part, and there will be a sponsorship form at the back of the church in support of the walkers’ efforts. Half of any money raised will come back to All Saints.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for volunteers to act as Stewards, to help welcome visitors to the church and provide drinks for weary travellers. Please do sign up if you can offer an hour or so on either of these days. We will be sponsoring the Stewards for Ride & Stride too.

Ken Smith and Stella Harding

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.