

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL

MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

On the 27 April, Rod Broad, and Sibo and Darren Pimm and myself took part in a morning with Bishop Olivia at Dedworth church on the subject of children's, families and youth ministry. Bishop Olivia began the morning by saying that each of God's creation is precious and of infinite value. Young people are not to be seen as resources but as children of God. We must value and care for children and young people. With this view in mind Olivia challenged churches to have in place toddler groups, children's groups, youth clubs, baptism and confirmation classes, develop contact with schools and encourage the young to become disciples.

The Church of England has largely lost contact with the young and we need to discover the missing generations. We were asked the question has the church lost young people to the I-phone? As Altwood School has as its vision we need to encourage children to live life in all its fulness. To be able to live life in all its fulness children and young people need community, guidance and self-belief and value. Rod, Sibo and I will be meeting shortly to consolidate the ideas from Dedworth and then encourage those people we have at All Saints who desire children's and young people's ministry to grow to meet to plan the pathway to a deeper relationship with the missing generations.

I preached on the 5 May at All Saints the following sermon.

'I joined a packed audience of people at the Maidenhead Synagogue to hear the latest speaker of the Berkshire Council of Christians and Jews on Wednesday evening. the guest speaker was Shaun Fletcher, BBC presenter on Countryfile, Sunday Morning Live and Songs of Praise. He is an ambassador for both Beating Bowel Cancer and Young Minds UK. The title of his talk was his life, religious journey, passionate causes and media roles.

Shaun Fletcher turned out to be an excellent speaker and a very honest and humble man. He spoke movingly of his mother's death through bowel cancer, which she had kept quiet from him until near the end of her life. His son's struggle with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, and his need of support from Psychiatric hospitals was also shared. Shaun's faith journey was encouraged by a close friend who took him to All Souls in London to take part in the 'Christian Explored' course. He found faith and 'gave his life to God'. Shaun married a Welsh lady and due to the fact, that following a few drinks at his wedding he had promised to learn Welsh he did just that with the support of BBC Wales in Cardiff where he worked in journalism and presenting.

Shaun mentioned that at points in his life he had been 'Chasing the wrong thing until he found faith'. At question time I asked him on the basis of his support for 'Young Minds UK', the fact that his son suffered with mental issues and that he himself had 'chased the wrong things' what advice could he give me for an assembly at Altwood School that I was giving on the subject of wellbeing and compassion? Does the image of the media send out the wrong messages to young people? It was a similar question that I asked Richard Coles, musician,

priest and writer about the validity of a celebrity priest? Coles struggled in his reply, but Fletcher was honest. He said 'I understand your question but you not going to find the answers that you might want from me. He felt that young people go through phases of life. He himself 'wished he had known then what he knew now.'

It is an important subject and the local school know this only too well. My assembly for what it is worth had singing in the shower, a walk with my friend John from Reading to Silchester, (Physical activities are great for mental wellbeing), watching a film (The story of Amy Winehouse though not a good example of a life of wellbeing), and reading a good book in my case the Richard Harris novel about Vesuvius. Other examples included drawing a picture, dancing, and keeping oneself hydrated. Drawing, dancing, and drinking more water do not feature highly on my gifting or my priorities in life but you see the importance of these activities.

The school in their assembly title to me had linked wellbeing with compassion. I looked back on my life (As I had been encouraged to do in Durham with people working with Asylum Seekers around Europe) and shared how teachers at school, an excellent church youth club with relationships of trust were formed and the people who influenced my vocation had played an important part in my life. I shared with the students the walk I took through Sunderland which was to act as a 'Mirror' upon my life, the woman at 'Sunshine Corner' who gave community, connectedness and encouragement to a Pakistani family waiting 19 years for Asylum, and other people from Russia, and South Africa. She employed a young man with Downs Syndrome' and the lady from Pakistan. The shop owner gave me a leaflet 'My Sisters Kitchen' a community food project 'We rise by lifting others.' Cooking as a tool to educate, empower and connect. This would aim to help peoples with well-being and self-esteem>

On the 22nd May our Welcome group will meet to return to looking at the course 'Everybody Welcome.' This course looks at welcome leading to belonging. The challenge the Church of England is facing is how do we make children, families and young people feel welcomed leading to belonging? Once Darren, Sibo and Rod have met we will send an invitation to Sundays @4 leaders, Young Saints and Tiny Saints leaders and any other interested parties to discover our next steps. Mei our new PCC member and helper at Tiny Saints mentioned how her friends at St Mary's, St Peter's and St Luke's have plenty of activities for families and young people. As you can read in the reports that David Morgan has attached to this edition of Parish News we do provide Tiny Saints, Young Saints and Sundays @4, alongside Open the Book, assemblies, classes, church visits, governorships, and partnership with Jo Ellington (Chaplain in Altwood) in schools. However, the deep relationships I had through a church youth club is not part of our offering.

John's gospel continues the theme of the true vine, the farmer, and the branches, where we can love our neighbour and produce 'fruit that will last!' God gives life sustained and transformed by the vine (Jesus) and the sap (The Holy Spirit) that produces fruit. Catherine of Sienna discerned from prayer that she could not give back love to God as he had given her. All she could do was love her neighbour to show her love for God.

Bear Grylls who is a lead for the Scout movement says 'connectedness, belonging are at the heart of human living'. You can be a billionaire but without friends, family and community you are not rich. Grylls says society demands that we are 'sorted'. If we are constantly on I phones looking for hearts, thumbs up signs, and numbers of followers what life does that bring? If we truly know God's love, we can be the people God desires us to be.

We are a welcoming community, though not all who visit this church find belonging. Faith gives us a relationship with the God of love, forgiveness, and kindness because it is rooted in the vine and nourished by the sap. Can we discover a way of sharing that relationship with the young?

There are some pictures at the back of church. Young people at Sundays @4 have drawn the vine and the hands of connectedness and then written about the people they are praying for. Following the drawing and painting we prayed using incense for the needs they had brought forth. One young person had drawn a man giving flowers to a woman. I asked him his prayer intention. He said, 'There are too many lonely people in the world.'

As the humble Shaun Fletcher said, ‘there’s no easy answers but we should desire to try and share the journey.’ This may lead to fruit that will last and young people, children and families may find belonging within the church.

If you are not able to support ministry to the young practically, please pray for the ministry to families, children, young people and our schools.

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

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 9 May	10.45am Baptism/Confirmation Classes in the Birinus Room 3.00pm <i>Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 4.00pm Confirmation Class on Zoom
Friday 10	10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre 3.00pm Confirmation Class on Zoom 6.30pm Meeting of those involved in the Deanery Day on Children, Families and Youth Ministry in the Birinus Room
Sunday 12	10.00am Family Eucharist to celebrate the Ascension Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 12noon- 8.00pm Parish visit to Keble College, Oxford
Monday 13	8.50am Assembly at All Saints School on Responsibility 9.30 am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 14	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.30am Meeting with RBL to finalise planning for the 80 th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings 1.30pm Chapel and Chats at Altwood School <i>7.00pm Boyne Hill Infant School Governing Body meeting</i>
Wednesday 15	10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 11.30am Service at Normanhurst Care Home: Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock 2.00pm Service at Larchfield Care Home : Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock <i>3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School</i> 7.30pm Standing Committee meeting in the Birinus Room
Thursday 16	11.00am-3.30pm Fr Jeremy at Ministerial Development Group meeting for those supporting curates at Oxford <i>3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 4.00pm Confirmation Class on Zoom 7.30pm Deanery Synod at St Luke’s. There will be talk about the ministry of Anna Chaplaincy looking at spiritual care for elderly people. 8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 17 May	9.00am Boyne Hill Infant School Assembly on Ascension and Pentecost 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
Sunday 19	10.00am The Parish Eucharist for Pentecost Sunday- At the beginning of the service the congregation will be invited to receive prayer for personal renewal and anointing with the Oil of Chrism. This is a powerful time within the church community as we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us in our callings as Christians. Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 12 noon Holy Baptism Please pray for Robyn Little, her parents and godparents 6.00pm Sundays@6 Choral Sung Compline at St Luke's Church
Tuesday 21	9.30am Morning Prayer 1.30pm Chapel & Chats at Altwood School 7.30pm The first meeting of the new PCC of All Saints in Birinus Room
Wednesday 22	10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School 7.30pm-9.00pm Meeting of the Welcome Group in the Birinus Room

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 30 May **7.30pm** Corpus Christi at St Stephen and St Agnes Spittal Church, Windsor. The Revd Canon Sally Lodge has invited us to share this service of thanksgiving for Holy Communion. The hope is that we might alternate a shared Eucharist for Corpus Christi over the coming years.

Sunday 9 June 10.00am Eucharist to mark the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, Kohima and Monte Cassino with the Royal British Legion.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

As we move towards Pentecost this month and celebrate the wide variety of people from around the world that bless our worshipping community we pray:

Powerful God, we hear so many languages around us, we meet people with such very different lives from our own. But your Holy Spirit transcends our languages and our differences. It calls us out to worship you. With the blessing of your Spirit, we can be one with all, going forward in your power, serving you as you deserve. Amen.
(Prayer from Roots resources)

Prayer for The Spirit;

As we wait in silence, Fill us with your Spirit.

As we listen to your word, Fill us with your Spirit.

As we worship you in majesty. Fill us with your Spirit.

As we long for your refreshing. Fill us with your Spirit.

As we long for your renewing. Fill us with your Spirit.

As long for your equipping. Fill us with your Spirit.

As we long for your empowering. Fill us with your Spirit. (Prayer from Common Worship Times and Seasons)

We pray for all of us at All Saints as we pray and discern the way forward to engage with young people, children and families. May your Holy Spirit guide us to see how we might form relationships with families, young people and our schools to help your people know the transforming power of God's love for us.

We give thanks for those who give their time and talents for Baptism preparation, Tiny Saints, Young Saints, Sundays @4, Open the Book, assemblies, school visits and governance in schools.

We continue to pray for the way of peace in this world of unrest. We continue to hold before you the people of Gaza, Israel, Iran, and the surrounding areas and for each child and adult. We hold within our community the people of Iran who are worried about relatives and friends, and we pray for too for those from our congregation with families in Israel, Lebanon and South Sudan. We pray for the time when weapons of war are turned into ploughshares and when nations no longer lift up sword against nation and peace is found. We pray for the United Nations as they seek unity and solidarity in the world.

We pray over the coming weeks for our new PCC and for the trustees of our church decision making to be filled and guided by the Holy Spirit as we seek to fulfil God's mission within our local communities and the wider world. We pray too for the Welcome Group as it seeks to encourage the wider church community to see how we might help people find a sense of belonging and opportunities to build friendships within All Saints.

We pray for those in need of God's healing; Danielle, Christopher, Sylvia Dennison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Joseph White, Moreiza Seraj, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Jim Goff, Gill Deane-Williams, Vera Shaw, Krisztina Baloch, Abbas Heidari, Azita Heidari, Arash Rezaei, Elham Nekunam, Doreen Bramble, Doris Winn, Nick Kirk, Heidi Webb, Masouma Hassani, Akram Taj-eddin, Mahmoud Saimi, Abdul-Quadir Taj-e-din, and Abolfazi. May these people know God's loving and healing presence.

We remember the recently departed, and all our departed loved ones whose anniversary of death falls at this time. We pray for Eve Clark, and Maryin Chandler. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SENIOR SAINTS WEDNESDAY 8 MAY 2.30pm

Looking forward to seeing you at Carole Deverill's home in Laburnham Road.

Margaret Hill

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 12 MAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

COLLECT

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

N T READING Acts 1: 1 – 11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying[a] with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with[b] the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

The Ascension of Jesus

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

GOSPEL Luke 24: 44 -

Jesus said to the disciples, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

MUSIC

Prelude:	Llanfair M Archer A Year of Praise 25 Hymn Preludes for Organ
Opening hymn:	228 Hail the day that sees him rise
Gradual hymn:	230 Holy forever and ever is God
Offertory hymn:	593 At the name of Jesus
Communion hymn:	713 Lord of hopefulness
Closing hymn:	225 Clap your hands all your nations
Postlude:	Miles Lane <i>P Leddington-Wright</i>

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 19 MAY PENTECOST

COLLECT

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

N T READING Acts 2: 1 – 21

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, ‘Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia,

Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

Peter Addresses the Crowd

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

GOSPEL John 15: 26 - 27 & 16: 4b—15

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

MUSIC

Prelude:	Prelude on Down Ampney	H G Ley
Opening hymn:	238 Come down, O love divine	
Anthem:	O Breathe of Life	A Bullard
Offertory hymn:	237 Christians, lift up your hearts	
Communion hymn:	241 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire	
Closing hymn:	258 O thou who camest from above	
Postlude:	Improvisation on 'Veni Creator Spiritus'	J Cook

PARISH NEWS NEWS

Tanya has kindly agreed to produce and issue the Parish News in May, but it will be fortnightly on 22 May. Anything for either of these issue to her (allsaintsboynehill@gmail.com) by the Monday before please.



2024 CHRIST CHILD MARKET SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER

We are delighted to tell you that we will be holding the Christ Child Market on Saturday 30 November this year – a change from the previous Sunday event.

Please put the date in your diaries or calendars and look out for more information later in the year on how you can get involved in, or contribute to, this wonderful community event which also helps raise valuable funds for the church.

And do speak to either of us if you would like to find out more about joining the Organising Group.

Fr Jeremy & Stella Harding

WAMCF WOMENS' GROUP Tuesday 21 May 7.30pm at St Edmund Campion

Ladies of all beliefs and none are warmly invited to the next meeting

Talk and discussion groups: *The Dignity and Worth of Women*

Further details from: sally514@btinternet.com www.wamcf.org



AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP DONATING TOILETRIES TO CARE FOR CALAIS IF YOU CAN.