ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD PARISH NEWS

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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

On a recent trip to Windsor with Monika and my mother we visited Waterstones bookshop. This is the one type of shopping, alongside food shopping, that I am happy to take part in. I can spend hours browsing books particularly with a holiday on the horizon and an opportunity to read the latest Robert Harris thriller or perhaps Stuart Broad's take on 'Bazball' (English cricket's attempt at playing entertaining and winning cricket which seemed to work until the recent tour of India).

My mother kindly offered to buy a book for me but rather than offer me the choice she picked up 'The Abuse of Power' by Theresa May. My initial response wasn't as enthusiastic as perhaps it should have been. I do hold our local MP in high regard and Theresa's service to this country as Home Secretary for six years and Prime Minister for three years highlight the fact that she is an outstanding politician. Of equal significance for those of us living in Maidenhead has been Theresa May's contribution in providing service to her constituents. Theresa with the excellent support of her husband Sir Philip May will regularly be seen supporting the needs of people. Their presence at nursing homes, hospices, Christmas community meals to name but a few examples, have shown a compassionate model of politics. All the same those of you that know me well will know that I enjoy an historical thriller and any sports book on football, cricket or rugby!

We left Waterstones with your vicar holding onto a copy of my mother's suggested choice of book and at this point I must admit that The Abuse of Power' is worth a read. The paperback copy that I have has a preface (Added in March 2024) which highlights both the Post Office and Factor VIII blood scandals. The second of these awful miscarriages of justice involving blood used in the 1970's through to the 1980's taken from the USA and other countries that carried the risk of HIV and hepatitis C. In 1990 in my first-year training for the priesthood at St Stephen's House, Oxford I shared a pastoral placement with Fr Paul Martin in Ringland, South Wales. Fr Paul shared with me the heartbreaking story of 7-year-old Colin Jones who died with AIDS in January 1990. The suffering this little boy went through alongside the lifelong battle that his parents have gone through in trying to seek justice is heartbreaking. On a personal level although I didn't become directly involved in the injustice, I did share further placements in London with London Lighthouse and CARA two organisations that worked with people living with HIV/AIDS.

To Theresa May's credit she set up a blood enquiry in 2018. The book continues by looking at the abuse of power in Parliamentary Abuse, social media, Brexit, Hillsborough, Grenfell, Windrush, Modern Slavery as well as a number of other high-profile cases and on the international front situations such as Afghanistan and Ukraine and Putin. In the final chapter the former Prime Minister writes about 'The answer is service'. The theme of service is of course a religious one as those of us following texts from Mark's gospel and the first book of Samuel last week will know.

In 1 Samuel 3.1-10 we read about the call of Samuel. The call comes at a time when the Ark of the Covenant was kept in the temple at Shiloh but few seemed to care. The old priest Eli was concerned that no one would

take over from him and he was wondering if God was present. Eli had in the past received a visit from Hannah asking for a blessing so that she might have children. Now that she had five with Samuel the eldest, she had given him to Eli as thanksgiving to God to work in service at the temple. Samuel was not a priest, but he got the temple ready for services. One night he had the experience of a calling. On the first two occasions of God's call Samuel fails to understand the significance. On the third occasion with the wisdom of the older man Eli told Samuel to reply to God 'speak Lord, your servant is listening.' God was leading Samuel to be the priest that would replace Eli. In the next chapter Israel suffers a military battle at the hands of the Philistines and the Ark is captured. This is seen as a loss to Israel and to God. Eli's two son's die in battle and Eli collapses and dies. Samuel takes over the Shrine, but his authority is seen as spiritual, a sacrificial life of long service to the community, motivated by his faith in God.

Later Samuel would go on to advise the people to avoid the election of a King that seeks power but one that shows leadership that serves and judges fairly. He would lose this particular argument.

In Mark's gospel chapter 10: 32-45 we discover James and John who ask to share Jesus' glory, one at the right hand and one at the left of their great hope. The problem is that they both (Like all the other disciples and many of us today) misunderstand the nature of Jesus' power. Jesus' vocation is clear from Isaiah (Chapter 40: 55) that a suffering servant will bring hope to Israel and the World. The cross will challenge political power. The Kingdom of God will turn the idea of power and glory upside down. James and John see the future where they find power over those that have made them vulnerable. Jesus tells them of his baptism and their baptism. St Paul will explain that through baptism we will die to self that we may live in and for Christ.

In the final chapter of Theresa May's book, she provides an answer to the abuse of power by writing that service should be at the heart of leadership in politics and we could argue in all areas of life to enable the voiceless and powerless to be heard and supported. In Pope Francis' 'The Church of Mercy' where he sets out his vision for the Church, 'The Lord wants us to belong to a church that knows how to open her arms and welcome everyone.' In one chapter he writes about the 'Leprosy of Careerism.' 'You must be free of your own fulfilment or the recognition you might receive' so that we might serve Christ's flock with pastoral charity.

As the country goes to the polls in the near future may we all seek people in leadership who seek to serve the common good and be a church that has open arms to all who seek God's compassionate love.

Finally, we commemorate people who made the ultimate sacrifice of service by giving their lives that we might have freedom as on 9 June we remember the 80th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings.

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

Fr Jeremy

SAD NEWS

It was with much sadness that we heard of the death of Doris Winn who was a regular worshipper at the 8.00am BCP Holy Communion for many years. Doris was the sister of Kath Horne and the sister-in-law of Rita North both regular worshippers at the 10.00am Parish Eucharist. We give thanks for Doris' service as a member of our community over many years. Her funeral service will be in Church on Friday 21 June at 2.00pm.

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 6 June 3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School

4.00pm Confirmation Class on Zoom

8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 7 9.00am Assembly at Boyne Hill Infant School

10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre

7.00pm Rehearsal in Church for Sunday's service

Sunday 9 10.00am Eucharist to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Normandy

Landings

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Address: Councillor Neil Knowles (formerly Mayor of Windsor

& Maidenhead, ex Household Calvary & Helicopter Pilot)

Following the service cakes will be provided by members of the Royal British Legion.

Monday 10 7.00pm Wedding Rehearsal in Church

Tuesday 11 9.30am Morning Prayer

7.00pm Meeting in the Birinus Room to discuss a potential Youth Club.

Wednesday 12 10.00am Holy Communion

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

11.30am Service at Nomanhurst Care Home Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock 2.00pm Service at Larchfield Care Home Home Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock

2.30pm Senior Saints (see p 7)

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

7.30pm Bracknell and Maidenhead Visitation at All Saints, Dedworth

Thursday 13 3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School

4.00pm Confirmation Class on Zoom

8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 14 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre

Saturday 15 3.00pm Marriage of Jason Gratton & Samantha Palmer in Church

Sunday 16 10.00am The Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism for the Third Sunday After Trinity

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

6.00pm Sundays@6 Taizé Service at St Luke's

Tuesday 18 8.50am Assembly at Altwood School on the Theme of Justice

9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 19 8.50am Assembly at Altwood School on the Theme of Justice

10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

PRAYER INTENTIONS WITH VARIOUS THEMES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Ripple Effect

I have been challenged to pray into situations I am privileged as parish priest of All Saints, Boyne Hill to be part of. As a congregation we are supporting Ripple Effect and last year our Harvest Festival auction and Lent lunches raised money supporting garden twinning in rural Migori, Kenya. This year our Lent lunches donations supported the work of Zambian farmers. I was invited by Ann Hatton, Community manager of Ripple Effect to join their prayer group including Mele, The Zambian Office manager, Fred who co-ordinates work in Kenya, the acting Bishop of Coventry, Ruth who is covering from her position as Bishop of Taunton, Paul Stuart the CEO of Ripple Effect and 58 other people either from Africa of from supporting agencies and communities in Britain.

The prayer morning was an amazing experience of small actions leading to Ripple Effects. Fred told us that 13 projects are in place across 6 African countries helping 1.3 million people. The support comes from parishes like All Saints to large charities like UNICEF.

Paul Stuart reflected on his recent trip to Rwanda and Zambia. Paul showed three photos. The first of a farmer called Beatrice who is teaching sustainable farming but just as importantly changing minds. Teaching people that sustainable living is possible even in Africa and that you can look after your family and the land. Paul's second picture was a reminder of the genocide that took place 30 years ago in Rwanda. There was a sign at the time 'Rwanda is dead'. Paul has witnessed fantastic community work that is giving Rwanda hope. One lady farmer has shared her skills with 28 other people. Some Ripple!

Paul's third picture highlighted the desperate plight of Zambia which has severe drought. Six million people face risk of hunger. 43% of maize crop has been lost. The MP's and Community leaders are so appreciative though of the support of Ripple Effect.

Bishop Ruth shared a reflection of the feeding of the 5000 from John's gospel. She reminded us of Andrew pointing to a young boy with 5 barley loaves and two fish. Jesus took, blessed, broke and distributed. At the end the fragments were gathered and filled 12 baskets.

- 1. Boldness The Bishop asked us to notice the little boy who gave his small gift that was blessed. She worked with an Asylum seeker from Pakistan once who gave her £5 towards reuniting another Asylum seeker with his daughter. The man from Pakistan had little but shared his gift.
- 2. Small gifts can be blessed by God. Did the boy in the bible encourage others to share their gifts. No less a miracle said the bishop.
- 3. Broken fragments Nothing is lost with God. Even when situations seem challenging God is present.

We then had a time of prayer. Melie who was in darkness on the screen because of a lack of power in Zambia prayed for food security. She asked us to pray for Zambia facing drought, Kenya floods, Rwanda in drought, and Burundi with floods. Pray for us to change our lifestyles to bring more stable weather.

Another Zambian prayed for the pain of the world. He asked us to pray for Gaza, Zambia, Sudan, for the leaders of the Nations. He asked us to pray for the UK elections, for peace in Mexico following the elections, for the alliance in South Africa following elections and that peace will reign.

Finally, I gave thanks for our Asylum seekers from Iran who have brought vibrancy to our community. Some supported the Lent lunches by cooking soups that raised donations that we sent to support sustainable farming in Zambia. This will feed people through sustainable farming and help some children to go to school. I said this was the vulnerable through small gifts helping the vulnerable.

Please use these reflections for your own prayers as we continue as partners to the Ripple Effect.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

We continue to pray for those in need of God's healing; Daneille, Christopher, Sylvia Denison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Joseph White, Moreiza Seraj, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Gill Deane-Williams, Vera Shaw, Kristina Baloch, Abbas Heidari, Azita Heidari, Arash Rezaei, Elham Nekunam, Doreen Bramble, Nick Kirk, Paul Latham, Heidi Webb, Masouma Hassani, Akram Taj-eddin, Mahmoud Saimi, Abdul-Quadir Taj-e-din, Mahmoud Tabkhi and Karen Harvey. May these people all know God's loving and healing presence.

We remember the recently departed including Jim Goff and Doris Winn and all our departed loved ones whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, Kohima, Monte Cassino

O God of the nations, as we look to that day when you will gather people from north and south, east and west, into the unity of your peaceable Kingdom, guide with your just and gentle wisdom all who take counsel for the nations of the world, and that all your people may spend their days in security, freedom, and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

This last week we have been privileged to hear the stories of those who are still alive who experienced firsthand the D-Day Landings that we may learn from those brave people who helped free occupied countries and protected the freedom of people in our country too.

Remember too though Lord, those whose stories were unspoken and untold. We remember the many graves in Normandy and other parts of the world which act as a reminder of the people who lost their lives in bringing freedom, many of them young in years.

Remember, Lord, those whose minds were darkened and disturbed by memories of war. We remember those who suffered in silence, and those whose bodies were disfigured by injury and pain.

Father of all, remember in your mercy, and look with your healing love on all your people, living and departed. On this day we ask that you would hold forever all those who suffered during the D-Day landings, at Monte Cassino and at Kohima. We pray for those who returned scarred by warfare, those who waited anxiously at home, and those who returned wounded, and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss. Remember, too, those who acted with kindly compassion; those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades; and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world. And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord; grant us peace in our time, we recall the people of Gaza, Israel, Ukraine and Russia, South Sudan and Sudan and other parts of the world where there is unrest. We long for that day when people of every language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

In the letter of Paul to the Ephesians we find hope in God's promised future. No longer will people be foreigners or strangers but accepted into a new community. Both Jew and Gentile will be part of the family of Christ. Let us pray that we will no longer view the world through hostile eyes but see each other made in God's image. God who through his incarnation, his life, his death and new life bring transformed life through his Holy Spirit to us all. Let us pray thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven where we see each other no longer as enemies but as neighbours. AMEN.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 9 JUNE THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMANDY LANDINGS

COLLECT

O God our light and our defence, breathe your gentle Spirit over the wastes of our world. Protect our memories from the infection of hate, that we may live free from fear and resentment. May the light of Christ lead us out of the valley of the shadow of death to paths of reconciliation as we hold in mind the places of the world in conflict and peace for the sake of the world your Son came to save. Amen.

NT READING Ephesians 1: 11 - 23

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope in Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason. I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Chorale Prelude 'Eventide' C H H Parry

Opening hymn: 579 I vow to thee, my country

Anthem: The Lord's my Shepherd B Chilcott

Offertory hymn: 746 O God, our help in ages past Communion hymn: 623 Eternal Father, strong to save

Closing hymn: 10 Abide with me

National Anthem: 578 God save our gracious King

Postlude: Fugue in E flat Major BWV 552 J S Bach

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 16 JUNE THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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. Amen.

N T READING 2 Corinthians 5: 5 – 10 & 14 - 17

Brothers and sisters, we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord – for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL Mark 4: 26 — 34

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he got into a boat and began to teach them using many parables. Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.' Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

MUSIC

Prelude: Spring Song A Hollins

Opening hymn: 769 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Anthem: Thou Visitest the Earth M Greene

Offertory hymn: 493 Hope of our calling

Communion hymn: 155 Unless a grain of wheat shall fall

Closing hymn: 212 Now the green blade

Postlude: A Trumpet Minuet A Hollins

SENIOR SAINTS WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2.30pm

All welcome to come along to Pauline Hole's house, 58 Marlborough Road.

Margaret Hill, Group Leader

DO THE SMALL THINGS WELL

No matter how tiny your garden or balcony you can make a real difference to our wee fellow creatures. Your hanging basket is a whole new world for them to explore!

For the more adventurous, why not go for an eco-award of your own? Just follow the link to see how you can have a go. You don't need a garden the size of Monty Don's to win! https://wildlifegardensawards.org/
Good luck!

Your Eco-team



REMINDER - EASYFUNDRAISING

Fund raising is easy!! Of course it isn't but using easyfundraising is :-

Easyfundraising works with over 8,000 organisations and retailers online and has all the ones that you would want (Amazon,M&S,John Lewis ,Boots,.....)

You simply sign up and each time you purchase online All Saints receives a percentage donation . To date for the 18 members of the congregation who have signed up All Saints has received over £600. Easyfundraising makes its money by charging the brands registered a commission that they are happy to pay because people are visiting their websites.

It is easy to sign up – visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/cause/allsaintsboynehill/ or visit the All Saints Website and follow the link by clicking on "click here".

The cause you want to support is All Saints Church Boyne Hill Maidenhead if you go in via another easyfundraising link.

Why not sign up today and start the donations for All Saints?

Jeremy Nordberg



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