

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 227 28 MAY 2025

NEXT ISSUE 11 JUNE 2025



Dear Friends and Parishioners of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

On the 6th Sunday of Easter, we had the text from John 5: 1-9 of a man who waited 38 years to be healed! The text set me on the following journey as we baptised Shadan, an asylum seeker from Iran.

At 17 years of age in November 1982 I began work at South Wales Electricity Board. My mother had worked at St Mellon's, Cardiff from the early 1970's to help to afford to bring up my brother Tim and me. My mother had excellent support from my grandparents and later from the church community of St John's, Rogerstone.

I remember working summer jobs at the office in St Mellon's. I was quite happy having a little money, and able to go out on the town in Newport and very occasionally Cardiff with a few friends visiting pubs and nightclubs. On that November day in 1982 I recall being asked alongside a handful of other new beginners at the Board to meet with Roy Jenkins who I believe was the Deputy Chief Accountant of SWEB at the time. Roy Jenkins was old school; you worked hard to achieve and indeed this man had an impressive career. The only words I recall from the meeting were things like did I know anything about the electricity industry and why was I seeking a career in accounts? From memory I failed to utter a single word in response! As I left the room Mr Jenkins put a hand on my shoulder and said, 'Don't ever get a chip on your shoulder son.'

Although Roy Jenkins was a highly professional man, I don't think he was a prophet. However, nearly 8 years later and only one promotion following many interviews I was blaming other people. I was on one occasion offered a promotion to the heady heights of CA6 from CA4. The interview being slightly less disastrous than normal (I may have uttered one or two answers clearly on this occasion.) led to me being asked by one of the interviewers, "Jeremy, would you like this position on what will be a new department or wait a month or two and gain the promotion where you are?" I chose to stay and needless to say didn't get the position later when the post where I worked came up. I can recall blaming the manager at the time for offering me the later post! Of course, the truth was that I was showing a lack of enthusiasm and highlighting lethargy. Yes, I studied but not with much enthusiasm, passed the ONC and HNC studies but I was never going to pass professional accountancy exams because deep down I had no desire. Instead, I blamed others.

Compare that attitude with a female priest who is taking on the role of animator/ facilitator for the Oxford Diocese. Some of the animators were lamenting that curates seem unable to fix their diaries. How are they going to run parishes said one animator? This led to a discussion on the thought that many new curates are neuro diverse. The female priest retorted, wait a minute. 'I am neuro diverse. I could barely put together a sentence when I felt called to the priesthood.' I had to learn techniques to survive to be able to answer God's call.'

In the Gospel of St John chapter 5: 1-9 we discover John telling us about a pool called Bethesda. Around the pool (Which I visited on Pilgrimage in 2009) the sick gather to wait for the movement of water. It was viewed as a place of angelic presence as the waters were troubled. This was perhaps a sign of the Holy Spirit, of the divine breaking through to the human need, of light breaking through the darkness. The first person who

entered the water following the divine presence would be healed.

By the pool a man was found who had been ill for 38 years. When the man is asked by Jesus do you want to be made well, his answer is not yes but instead he blames others. Pope Francis in his book, 'A Gift of Joy And Hope' writes 'The man's sickness and sin is pessimism, sadness and apathy.' He spent 38 years complaining about others and has done nothing to help himself. As I said to the congregation when I was preaching this message I would have loved this man to have met my mother! My mother would have said 'smile and the world smiles with you, cry and you cry alone.' My mother could be incredibly infuriating if you were seeking sympathy that she felt her sons were not deserving of. Maybe the reason for this side of her character was that she had overcome huge hurdles and problems with the help of my grandparents, the church and some kind people at SWEB. My mother had worked hard and learned to drive a car to make sure we were looked after. Admittedly it had at times been nerve-wracking in the car when my mother first took to the roads but that led to us going to football matches and holidays in Dorset and Hampshire.

Pope Francis in his book leads us to another healing story in John 9. Here, a man born blind is overjoyed upon his healing and spoke to the doctors of the law defending Jesus not once, not twice but three times. His parents are asked who healed him on the sabbath but although admitting he was their son denied knowing Jesus. Their son however knows costly grace and defends the man who has healed him.

Francis says 'Fog surrounds the soul and suffocates it. Modern people have become used to this fog, greyness living with no hope, expectations or joy'. Back to John 5 and the man who, even when he is healed, doesn't exactly shout or dance for joy and in verse 15 points the finger at Jesus when the doctors of the law asked who cured him.

Some famous people of the church (Tertullian and Chrysostom) seek a baptismal motif in this story. Maybe, maybe not but Francis sees that water is strength and life. Jesus certainly used it to regenerate through baptism. Washing, cleansing, life enhancing. Apathy is a neutral sin writes Francis, perhaps like Dietrich Bonhoeffer's 'Cheap Grace' as against his 'Cost of Discipleship' Costly Grace.

The joy of the person healed in chapter 9 is not found through material wealth or things. True joy is born out of encounter. Only last week Bishop Mary recounted how she had told a group of teenagers that she was on Facebook and Instagram. One student said don't worry about that, we want authentic encounters. Speak with us. Living in relationship with others, a feeling of being accepted, understood and loved is what young people desire. It is hearing someone say, 'You are important to me.' It is hearing Jesus say at our baptism 'You are my beloved son/daughter.' Dare we say in our church it is asylum seekers /refugees getting up and walking. Realizing that they live in troubled times and are seeking a better life. Shadab, as you have left your family and your country to seek a better life, I hope that on this your baptism you can hear the words of Jesus, "You are my beloved daughter", and live this life with joy and hope and not with pessimism, sadness and apathy left to blame only others.

May you all be blessed by God's love this Ascensiontide and Pentecost,

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 29 May 6.00pm AllSorts at St Mary's
Ascension Day 8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 30 **No Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre**

Sunday 1 June	10.00am Parish Eucharist to celebrate the Ascension Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Jeremy Young Saints meet in the Birinus Room??? 3.00pm Week 1 of the Children's Confirmation class in the Birinus Room <i>6.00pm Sundays@6 Desert Island Discs at The Church of the Good Shepherd</i> <i>The Revd Sally Lynch, who is retiring this summer, will be interviewed on her favourite songs and the links to her faith story.</i>
Monday 2	9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 3	9.30am Morning Prayer 1.30pm Chapel & Chats at Altwood School 2.30pm Tuesday Club Cream Tea in the Birinus Room & Garden 7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Parish Centre
Wednesday 4	10.00am Requiem Eucharist Fr Jeremy <i>11.30am Service at Clara Court Nursing Home</i> <i>3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School</i> <i>7.00pm Episcopal Visitation at Greyfriars, Reading</i>
Thursday 5	<i>3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School</i> <i>6.30pm Young Adults' Confirmation Course (Week 2) in the Birinus Room</i> 8.00pm Choir Practice
Friday 6	<i>9.00am Assembly for Ascension & Pentecost at Boyne Hill School</i> 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre 6.00pm Young People's Film Club & pizza evening in the Birinus Room
Sunday 8	10.00am Parish Eucharist for Pentecost Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Anne Dellar Following the service we will share cakes that have been made, or purchased, and donated to the church. <i>3.00pm Street Angels AGM at St Peter's</i> 4.00pm Week 2 of Children's Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room
Tuesday 10	9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 11	10.00am Eucharist for Barnabas the Apostle Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School 6.30pm Young Adults' Confirmation Course (Week 3) in the Birinus Room

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 5 July 9.30am – 12.30pm Saturday Morning Get-together in the Parish Centre See p 7 for more details
Saturday 12 July 6.30pm Renaissance Voices Concert in church See p 8 and attached flier for more details

PRAYER INTENTIONS

As we look forward to Pentecost, we encourage our community to receive prayer for personal renewal and anointing with the oil of chrism. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide each one of us in our calling as Christians.

As we move towards Pentecost, we celebrate the wide variety of people from around the world that bless by their presence our worshipping community.

Powerful God, we hear so many languages around us, we meet people with such very different lives from our own and yet the Holy Spirit transcends our languages and differences. It calls us 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 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 we 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 here at All Saints as we pray and discern the way forward to engage with young people, children and families. We give thanks for the small signs of growth as young people seek questions and meaning seeking an authentic way of leading the Christian life. We pray for the confirmation classes and for the Holy Spirit to guide us to see how we might form relationships with families, young people and our schools to help people know the transforming power of God's love.

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

We pray for our Sustainability and Safeguarding groups as they prepare the Open morning in the Parish Centre on Saturday 5 July. We pray that more people will see the need for church communities built on trust and value, where we love God and neighbour and see ways in which we can use our skills to grow the Body of Christ at All Saints.

We continue to give thanks for our Asylum seekers and Refugees who have brought vitality to our community. We pray for them as they continue to go through interviews, seek jobs and hopefully find homes to live in. May they flourish and live life in all its fullness.

We pray for peace within the world. We hold before you the peoples of Ukraine, Russia, Gaza and the Holy Land, South Sudan and Sudan, India and Pakistan and all parts of the world where there is unrest. We pray that peace may be found.

We ask for your continuing blessings on Georgia Hathaway, Reggie Craythorne-Lee, Hannah Bellman, Robyn Little, Albert Aquillina, Coraline Bernard and Emelia Bolygo around the anniversary of their Baptisms.

We pray for those in need; Daneille, Sylvia Denison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Vera Shaw, Nick Kirk, Heidi Webb, Massouma Hassani, Akram Taj-eddin, Mahmoud Tabkhi, Diana Monari, Abdul Ghader Tajeddini, Barbara Ann-Bourne, Beryl Dorton, David Morgan, Elek Bolygo, Edite Zadinane, Caithlin, Jack, Emily, Jessica and Catherine. We pray for Tadeusz and Lynda. We pray for Sylvia Denison and her daughters and their families as they grieve for Reg, who died on 27 May.

We pray for the recently departed including Reg Denison, John Lovie and all our departed brothers and sisters. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 1 JUNE 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

NT 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 during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying 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 the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' 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 – 53

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:	Salutis Humanae Sator II	<i>C Mawby</i>
Opening hymn:	228 Hail the day that sees him rise	
Anthem:	Christ is the World's True Light	<i>W K Stanton</i>
Offertory hymn:	227 Crown him with many crowns	Diademata
Communion hymn 1:	732 My Jesus, my Saviour	Zschech
Communion hymn 2:	844 Laudate Dominum	Taizé
Closing hymn:	223 All hail the power of Jesu's name	Miles Lane
Postlude:	Miles Lane	<i>P Leddington Wright</i>

WORSHIP FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY 8 JUNE

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

NT READING Acts 2: 1 – 21

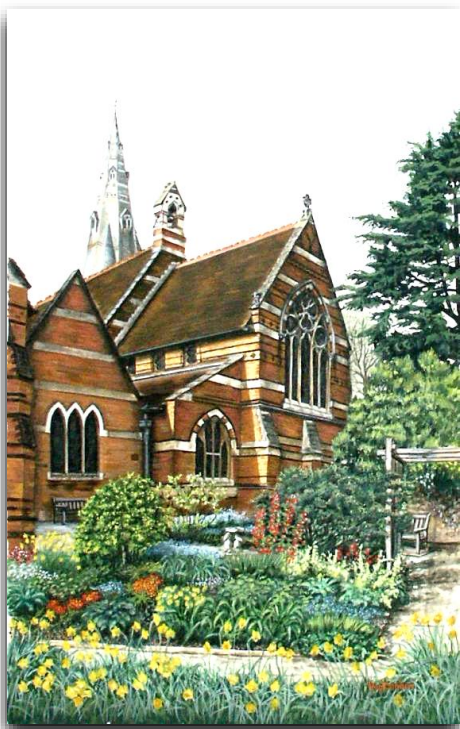
When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them 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 their native language. 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.' 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 14: 8 – 17

Philip said to Jesus, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

MUSIC

Prelude:	Prelude on Down Ampney	<i>H G Ley</i>
Opening hymn:	238 Come down, O love divine	
Gradual hymn:	358 Be still, for the presence of the Lord	
Offertory hymn:	264 The spirit lives to set us free	
Communion hymn:	241 Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire	
Closing hymn:	246 Holy Spirit, come, confirm us	
Postlude:	"Chanson de Matin" arranged for piano and Violin (played by Mei Bolygo)	<i>E Elgar</i>



REG DENISON, ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

It is with much sadness I share the news of the death of Reg Denison on Tuesday afternoon. Reg and Sylvia shared 65 years of Christian marriage, and were a fine example of hospitality and love for their family and the church community. It was a privilege to share the Last Rites with Reg with all his family surrounding him in love as he died peacefully and was received into the loving arms of his Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Many of you will remember peeping into Reg's studio at the end of the Parish Centre and being amazed at the variety of subject matter. He painted both Fr Norman and me to add to the All Saints clergy collection in the Birinus Room. Every year he painted a church scene which he donated as a raffle prize and some of them became notelets and Christmas cards. A very talented man and very modest.

Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course. Please keep Sylvia and their family in your prayers.

Fr Jeremy

TUESDAY CLUB 3 JUNE 2.30pm IN THE BIRINUS ROOM

Our final meeting of the 2024/5 season will be in the Birinus Room and, weather permitting, in the Birinus Garden (see above). We'll enjoy catching up with each other over a cream tea with no interruptions from speakers tiresomely demanding our attention! *Jan Moss, Group Leader (for now)*

SATURDAY MORNING GET-TOGETHER IN THE PARISH CENTRE - 5 JULY 9.30AM - 12.30pm

Do join us for this Saturday Morning get-together – it's a great opportunity to input into the running of the Church and find out more about our Stewardship Group and our Safeguarding at All Saints. There will be light refreshments and also an opportunity to win a prize.....

The topics for this occasion will be **Stewardship and Safeguarding**.

Stewardship - we will be revisiting and sharing the results of the survey we ran in 2024 on how people view our Church; some of you contributed to this, and your views and contributions on how things are now will help with moving ahead. We are also keen to get the views from newer members of the congregation.

Safeguarding - I think we all feel All Saints is a safe place and that we are following God's command to protect and support the weak and the vulnerable - children and adults, in our community. We will be sharing exactly how safeguarding works in our church and the Diocese and helping make sure you are comfortable with what you can do if you do come across any behaviour or situation that worries you. Please come and share your thoughts about this and how we can make it our church's mission to make sure everyone feels safe, and that we have safeguarding at the heart of our way of life at All Saints.

Each session will last approximately one hour with light refreshments in between.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church; please add your name if you are able to join us, for catering purposes

Jeremy Nordberg, Stewardship Group and Stella Harding, Parish Safeguarding Officer

DOING THE SMALL THINGS WELL

Renew- Dare we imagine a future 'where young people from rural and urban communities work together to build a regenerative future that is good for people and the planet?' A pipe dream? No! A reality here in the UK amongst a growing number of young farmers with a fresh outlook that does not rely on petro-chemicals and soil-destroying old ways to produce our food. Good news indeed! Find out more at www.emergentgeneration.co.uk

Your eco-committee letting you know of the latest developments in planet-friendly farming.

PARISH NEWS NEWS

Tanya has very kindly agreed to produce the next two editions of the PN so anything for the 11 June edition to her by Monday 9 June and for the deadline for 25 June will be Monday 16 June

Jan Moss

APCM 28 APRIL

A draft copy of the Minutes is attached to electronic version of this issue. They are for information only and will not be formally approved until the next APCM in April 2026.

Joanne McMullen, PCC Secretary

RENAISSANCE VOICES CONCERT 6.30pm SATURDAY 12 JULY Flyer attached

Featuring the choir, instrumentalists and soloists in the ever-popular Gloria by Vivaldi, Concerto for two violins by J S Bach, Beatus Vir by Monteverdi and other choral works. The musicians are directed by Paul Leddington Wright.

Tickets are £18, £16 in advance (renaissancevoices.co.uk or 01628 624429) under 18s are free. The ticket also includes a light supper after the concert. The concert starts at 6.30pm.

Brian Graves