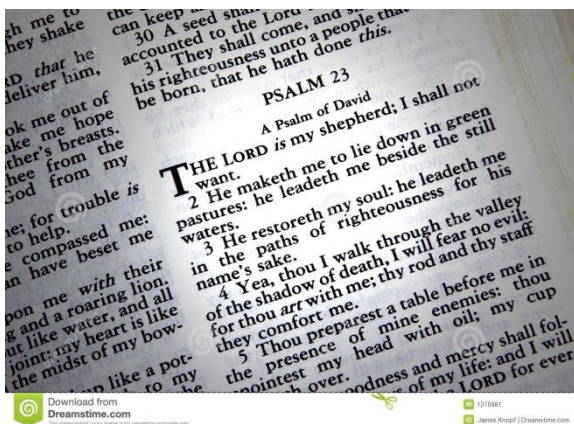


**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL  
MAIDENHEAD  
PARISH NEWS**  
**[www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk)**  
**Issue 140 1 FEBRUARY 2023**



**Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,**

I wonder, how often do you read the psalms, or a psalm? There are 150 of these poems of worship and reflection, and they are found almost exactly in the middle of the Bible.

At Morning and Evening Prayer the Church of England cycle of readings has been giving us psalms appropriate for the season of Epiphany just coming to an end. In our Bible

Study sessions, we have been discovering how quotes from the psalms pop up in the Gospels, sometimes without us even noticing it. And the Psalms were an intrinsic part of the worship that Jesus would have known and taken part in.

In terms of psalms for Epiphany, perhaps the most widely known is Psalm 96, which contains the verse:

“O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, let the whole earth stand in awe of him.”

These words are familiar to us through J S B Monsell’s well-known Epiphany hymn which takes up the words ‘O Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness’ in its opening line (hymn 103 in our church hymn books). Other psalms too have found their way into hymnody – including ‘The King of love my shepherd is’ (Psalm 23), ‘All people that on earth do dwell’ (Psalm 100), ‘Praise my soul the king of heaven (Psalm 103). Psalm 19 (‘The heavens declare the glory of God’) is one of my favourite psalms, along with Psalm 24 (‘The earth is the Lord’s and all that therein is: the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein’) – wonderful reminders of God as creator of all that is, and of our responsibility to care for his wonderful creation. Psalm 22 (‘My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me’) is always associated with Christ’s passion, yet it ends with great words of hope and victory – just as the passion became the way through to resurrection and new life.

Some of the language can be both poetic and memorable - in Psalm 32, God urges us to ‘Be ye not like to horse and mule, which have no understanding’, and in Psalm 84 the writer proclaims ‘I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.’

We don't now encounter the psalms much in our worship, unless you follow Morning and Evening Prayer. Within this fascinating and moving set of poems and songs to God we find expressed the whole range of human feelings and emotions, and all the ups and downs of life common to all of us. The psalms help us to express and work-through before God all the things we experience and the feelings we have, the difficulties and worries we face and the joys and blessings we celebrate. Through them, we know that there is nothing we experience that others in the past (and present) haven't also experienced, and we pour out our innermost thoughts in the conscious presence of God and in knowledge of his all-encompassing love and care for us. There are psalms of hope set in the midst of despair, there are psalms of joy in the recognition of God's blessing, and psalms of trust in the midst of God's consolation alongside us. You will probably remember Psalm 23 'The Lord is my Shepherd' (or, alternatively, 'The Lord Shepherds Me') with its words of strength and encouragement, even in the valley of the shadow of death, but there are so many other wonderful psalms to explore.

Maybe one day we will go back to having a Gradual Psalm regularly on a Sunday morning so we become acquainted once again with the psalms in worship – but countless people, past and present, have found the psalms to be a valuable source of inspiration and hope in their own personal life of prayer and reflection.

If you would like to explore the psalms more, and use them in your times of quiet and prayer, I strongly



recommend 'Reflections on the Psalms' by Church House Publishing, which has for each psalm a short reflection by a well-known theologian or spiritual guide (including our own Bishop Steven Croft) and a short prayer to use alongside the psalm.



The very last verse of the very last psalm, Psalm 150, rings out:

Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord !

*Fr John*

## RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

### Thursday 2 February

#### The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

11.00am Funeral of Ramon Lobb in Church

3.00pm *Open the Book at All Saints School*

7.00pm Class in the Birinus Room for those seeking Baptism and Confirmation

8.00pm Choir Practice

### Friday 3

9.30am *Eucharist at Burnham Abbey*

10.00am **Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre**

1.45pm Funeral of Gail Brown in Church

### Sunday 5

10.00am **Parish Eucharist for the Third Sunday Before Lent**

**Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy**

### Monday 6

9.30am **Morning Prayer**

## Tuesday 7

### 9.30am Morning Prayer

2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre (see p5 for details)

7.30pm Sustainability Group Meeting at the Vicarage

## Wednesday 8

### 10.00am Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

9.00am Hatha Yoga in the Parish Centre

11.00am Bible Study in the Birinus Room

11.00am Tai Chi in the Parish Centre

7.30pm Deanery Synod Meeting in the Church

Refreshments will be served at 7.30pm. The evening's main agenda item will focus on the resources Parishes across the Deanery are using for Bible studies. We hope that a good number of people from our congregation will attend to hear about the other parishes and to offer a welcome to people from Windsor and Maidenhead.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

**Saturday 25 February** Wales v England 6 Nations. For the first time since 2020 we will be able to watch the rugby together at the Vicarage, and share a curry afterwards.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the country of south Sudan, and for Archbishop Justin Welby, Pope Francis and the Moderator of the Church of Scotland as they make a joint Pilgrimage of Peace to that country on 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> February. For the people of South Sudan and for relief from conflict, flooding and famine.

During the South Sudan visit the three church leaders will meet the country's political leaders, hold an open-air ecumenical prayer vigil for peace and meet with people displaced by the conflict.

The Archbishop will be accompanied in South Sudan by his wife, Mrs Caroline Welby, who has made several previous visits to South Sudan to support women in the Church in their role as peacebuilders, particularly the wives of South Sudan's Anglican bishops and archbishops.

Mrs Welby comments that the women of South Sudan are "incredible women of strength", many of whom bear the trauma of displacement, sexual violence and the daily fear of mistreatment in their own communities.

For the people of Ukraine, for peace with justice in that land. For all places of conflict, including the Holy Land.

For our King and Government. For integrity in public life, and for a sense of service towards the poor, the marginalised, the vulnerable and the homeless. For our criminal justice system especially proper funding for rehabilitation and the care and resettlement of offenders, that they may find a path away from criminality. For the Deanery Synod, meeting here next Wednesday.

We pray for those of our congregation and Parish in any kind of need at this time. We pray by name for Michael, Kirsten and Maddy; for Suzette, Danielle, Paul Latham, Jenny Chua, Doris Winn, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Tadeusz, Teresa, Leigh Hutchinson-May, Silvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes, Marnos, Gordon Kerrison, Lorraine Ansell, Emilia Clark, Ruby Doughty and John Handcock. May they know the healing peace and presence of Christ, and we pray and give thanks for those who bring them care and comfort.

We pray for the recently departed: Larisa Stephenson, Ramon Lobb, Gail Brown, Gerald Newth, Akram, Daniel Smith, Giles Haslam and Mike Wilkinson. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for their families and friends and for all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

## **WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

### **COLLECT**

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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.

### **O T READING Isaiah 58: 1 - 9a**

Thus says the LORD: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

### **GOSPEL Matthew 5: 13 – 20**

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

## MUSIC

Prelude: Sicilienne *G Fauré*

Opening Hymn: AM 721 Love divine, all loves excelling

Gradual: AM 42 Longing for light, we wait in darkness

Offertory: AM 519 Sometimes a light surprises

Communion: AM 466 The peace of God comes close

Closing Hymn: AM 379 God has spoken – by his prophets

Postlude: Grand Choeur in D *A Guilmant*

## TUESDAY CLUB 7 FEBRUARY 2.30pm IN THE PARISH CENTRE

The return of an old friend of the Club; Graham Horn. This time to talk about somewhere, I suspect, few of us have been: Mount Kilimanjaro. Even if you have no head for heights and can't remember when you last saw your pickaxe and crampons why not come along and join us for what should be an entertaining afternoon.

*Jan Moss, Group Leader*

## SUPPORTING ALL SAINTS CHURCH - ON-LINE GIVING

It costs All Saints approximately £2,500 per week to maintain the current level of parish activity - without the generous time freely contributed by our volunteers this cost would be much more.

If you feel that you are able to assist and help support All Saints financially, with either a one-off donation (via card), or, most beneficially, set up regular giving by direct debit - this can easily be arranged on the recently set-up All Saints Page on the Parish Giving Scheme site, accessible from the top section of the All Saints Website, and also directly at:-

[https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/boyne-hill-all-saints-  
maidenhead/](https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/boyne-hill-all-saints-maidenhead/)

Alternatively, for a quick connection, use the QR code below:-



Please also consider if you can help support All Saints Church through donating time and talents – the Church relies upon our teams of volunteers to operate and provide services to the community.

More details are in the attachment – a big thanks to all of our supporters.

*Rod Broad, Hon Treasurer*

## FLOWERS FOR 2023

There may still be a few weeks available on the Flower Sponsors' Board on the table at the back of the Church. Would you please give your Sponsor donation, prior to your chosen week, to Stella Harding and inform her of any colour or flower preference you might have, and we will do our best to accommodate. If Stella is not available, please feel free to use one of the envelopes with the board and hand it into the Church Office.

*The Flower Team*

## **PUBLIC INFORMATION SECTION**

From May 2023 you will need to have photo ID to be able to vote at a polling station. More information on <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id>

## **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.**