

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL  
MAIDENHEAD  
PARISH NEWS  
[www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk)  
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**Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,**



Fr John with Bishop Steven at his ordination as Deacon, Christ Church Cathedral 1 July 2017

This Sunday will mark the last time that Fr John will celebrate the Parish Eucharist with us before taking up his new post as Associate Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone. We are looking into hiring a minibus or a mini coach to take people who are interested in supporting Fr John at his licensing on Thursday 21 March at 7.00pm.

In this week's Parish News, I thought it would be appropriate to look back and celebrate the last two years that Fr John has served with us at All Saints, Boyne Hill. Fr John returned to this parish in 2022 having served his curacy at Cookham and covering the three churches in the Parish of Stubbings, in Maidenhead, a challenging role during which he led the people through the Covid pandemic.

Having known Fr John since 2005 I knew we were benefitting from a priest who is deeply spiritual and who would care about the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Interestingly Fr John brought into his Candlemas sermon the real presence of Christ as he is a man who values sacramental worship. Fr John, I believe, values the Eucharist as the central act of worship that brings together the Body of Christ, the People of God into communion with God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and with each member, called to be a light to the world. His profound sense of reflection, thoughtfulness and prayer has been shared not only at the Eucharist but also at Evensong and Benediction. As we heard at Candlemas John's sermons are well prepared looking at the scriptures with thought and prayer before interpreting them for us, the worshipping community.

Fr John has valued the pastoral opportunities that have come his way. His preparation for the occasional offices of holy baptism, holy matrimony and funerals is thorough and supportive to the people receiving his ministry. At baptism Fr John has made time to visit families seeking to have their child baptised at the church and has played a large part in supporting the baptism preparation team. At each service John has provided gentle encouragement, and letters and emails have been received recording appreciation of the care provided by John in helping them enjoy their special day. The same level of support has been given to couples getting married at the church and again appreciation for Fr John has been received for the way he has given guidance to couples beginning Christian marriage together. Funerals have provided Fr John with

the opportunity to preach the Christian Resurrection hope and walk alongside bereaved people. The All-Souls Requiem Mass last November showed Fr John connecting with people's pastoral needs.

Since Fr John arrived in the parish, working alongside Jeanette Lock and me, the parish's ministry in Care Home services has developed and grown. I know that both Normanhurst and Clara Court residents and staff enjoy his visits with Jeanette. Fr John has prepared well for these Care Home visits and by offering communion at people's homes.

Significantly, Fr John has helped the ministry of Welcome within our church. Trips to Oxford have been arranged, gatherings to thank people in various areas of ministry at All Saints have been planned and welcome cream teas to newcomers at our church organised. As part of the welcome group Fr John has helped plan a diary of events throughout the year and more people, I think have found a sense of belonging within the church community. The church with the new notice boards and flowers looks more open during the week and we do find people coming into the church to explore Street's wonderful building.

Fr John, during his working career, worked with distinction in the field of climate change and renewable energy and as we have journeyed towards becoming an Eco-Church, he has given good insight and encouragement at meetings and through sermons.

As we are all aware one of the key areas of ministry at All Saints since Easter 2022 has been our support to Asylum Seekers from Iran. Fr John has made every effort to befriend these vulnerable people and over coffee and hospitality and shared conversation with many of them.

A good number of you have benefited from Fr John planning and leading parish pilgrimages to Walsingham in Norfolk, continuing the long tradition of our parish visiting England's Nazareth. This is a place where many of us have enjoyed spiritual renewal and friendships have grown within our community.

Fr John has been a good colleague to me during his time at All Saints, a time that has provided one of the most stimulating periods in my life as a parish priest. There has, in my opinion backed up by a number of other people's comments, been a vibrant atmosphere at All Saints over the last few years and it has been wonderful that Fr John has been here to support both me and the church community during this time.

We are, of course, sorry to see Fr John leave us, but at the same time we offer our prayers to him as he seeks to lead the Parish of St Michael and All Angels and by doing so will be serving the wider liturgical and pastoral needs of the Church of England.

Thank you, Fr John, and may God Bless you in the next stage of your ministry,

*With our prayers,*

*Fr Jeremy and the people of All Saints.*

## RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

- Thursday 1 February**      *8.50am Assembly at Altwood School on the Theme of Respect*  
11.00am Baptism Class in the Birinus Room  
*3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School*  
8.00pm Choir Practice
- Friday 2**      *8.50am Assembly at Altwood School on the Theme of Respect*  
**10.00am Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre**
- Saturday 3**      10.30am Baptism Preparation in the Birinus Room
- Sunday 4**      **10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Second Sunday Before Lent**  
Celebrant: Fr John for the last time before he leaves for Maidstone  
Preacher: Fr Jeremy  
It would be lovely to see a good congregation to celebrate with Fr John.  
  
*6.00pm Sundays@Six Taizé Service at St Luke's*
- Monday 5**      *8.50am Assembly at All Saints School on the Theme of Wisdom*  
**9.30am Morning Prayer**  
7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Birinus Room
- Tuesday 6**      **9.30am Morning Prayer**  
2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre. See below
- Wednesday 7**      **10.00am Requiem Eucharist**  
Celebrant: Fr Jeremy  
*11.30am Service at Clara Court Nursing Home*  
*3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School*  
*7.30pm Deanery Synod meeting at Windsor on the theme of School Chaplaincy with Revd Charlie Kerr the Diocesan advisor for chaplaincy in schools and the Revd Jo Ellington the chaplain at Altwood Academy.*

### ADVANCE NOTICES:

**Tuesday 6 February 2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre**

This week we welcome a regular and very popular speaker, Graham Horn, for another of his interesting talks. This time it's entitled *An Heir and a Spare* – hmmm, no, can't imagine what that's about. All welcome to come along and find out.

**Saturday 10 February** The annual big match at the vicarage and, of course at Twickenham 4.45pm England v. Wales. Food will be served at half time.

**Tuesday 13 February 11.00am** Funeral service for Janet Emerson in church. We keep David and his daughters Sophie, Katie and Rachel in our prayers. We pray too for Fr Norman and Rebecca.

**Friday 16 February 11.00am** Requiem Mass for Gwen Burkitt in Church followed by a cremation service at East Hampstead Park, Bracknell at 1.00pm. Please keep her daughters Mary and Sarah in your prayers.

**Thursday 21 March 7.00pm** The Licensing service for Fr John as Associate Priest at St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone. There will be a sign-up list for those wishing to travel to Maidstone to be present at the service.

## **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

We offer up to God the search for peace in the troubled parts of the world. We pray for the end to bloodshed in the Gaza, Israel, and surrounding countries in the Middle East. We pray for Ukraine and the search for peace following two years of unrest. We recall at this time the troubles in Sudan, South Sudan, Iran and other places of violence and oppression. We pray for all asylum seekers and refugees in our town and at church. It is a worrying time for many of them as they are forced to move from Maidenhead and the communities that have supported them. May they find jobs, homes and acceptance in this country and be able to live life in all its fulness.

In the winter season we continue to call to mind the needs of the homeless and those suffering poverty. We give thanks for the Sue Brett Foundation and Foodshare as they seek ways to support those in need.

We continue to pray for our church community as we seek to become an Eco-church. We pray for our link with the Ripple Effect charity as they continue to support sustainable farming in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia. We look forward to our Lent soup lunches as we try to raise funds to support sustainable farming.

We pray at our Eucharist this weekend for Fr John as he celebrates the Eucharist with us for the last time. We give thanks for his ministry within the liturgy, providing pastoral care, enabling us to become a more welcoming community and the support and encouragement he has offered to many of us. We ask for God's blessing on Fr John's next stage in ministry in the parish of St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone.

We pray for those of our parish and congregation in any kind of need or distress at this time and especially for Danielle, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Birmta Zadinane, Edite Zadinane, Heidi Webb, Tadeusz, Christopher, Sylvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Eddie Sheppard and Carol Sheppard, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Simon Cowdrey, Joseph White, Morieza Seraj, Scopas Lado, Mageret Ego, Jim Goff, Gill Deane-Williams, Simon Fullarton, Vera Shaw, Abbas Heidari, Audrey Burch, Anne Pennock, Doreen Bramble and Helen Jackson.

May they all know the healing peace and presence of Christ. We pray for those who bring help and healing to those in need, those caring for loved ones at this time and for staff and residents of care homes in or parish.

We pray for the recently departed; Gwen Burkitt and Janet Emerson and all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

## **CHURCH FLOWERS FOR 2024 – HAVE YOU LEFT IT TOO LATE? JUST A FEW DATES LEFT**

The Flower Sponsors' Board for 2024 is available on the table at the back of the Church; and we would be pleased if you would like to add your name against a week you would like to sponsor. It's a very appropriate way to remember loved ones we no longer see or to celebrate anniversaries, that special birthday or occasion. Sponsoring a week ensures that we can have flowers in the church on that Sunday and relieves the PCC funds of any cost whatsoever. We are sure you are aware of the pleasure the flowers give to everyone and would like to thank you in anticipation for your continued support.

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*

## WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

### COLLECT

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen.

### EPISTLE Colossians 1: 15 - 20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### GOSPEL John 1: 1 - 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

### MUSIC

Prelude:	Rondo Da Chiesa <i>P Hurford</i>
Opening hymn:	754 O worship the King
Gradual hymn:	342 Word of God, renew your people
Intercession Response:	404 Listen to our prayer
Offertory hymn:	532 All creatures of our God and king
Communion hymn:	681 In heavenly love abiding
Closing hymn:	810 Thou whose almighty word
Postlude:	Processional <i>W Mathias</i>

### DO THE SMALL THINGS WELL

Recycle- some things are just too good to recycle and can bring a lot of pleasure to someone else. I'm thinking here of a good book, a jigsaw or a board game with no missing pieces. Perhaps someone in Church would love to have it? When we share these things with people we know we also share the pleasure of discussing them - what made that book so great? -that jigsaw so hard? - that game so funny? Happy sharing from your eco-team!

*Anne Sweeney*



## LUNCHTIME RECITAL IN CHURCH GIVEN BY THE DRYADS DUO 1.00pm WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY ADMISSION FREE

We are pleased to welcome the locally-based Dryads Duo to All Saints who will present an attractive and accessible programme of music for violin and piano.

Formed in 2010 by violinist Carla Santos and pianist Saul Picado, in recital the Dryads Duo aim to create a coherent combination between the lesser known and the standard repertoire providing the audience with a sense of ownership and freshness, always conveying their engaging sensibility, complicity and love for the music performed ([www.dryadsduo.com](http://www.dryadsduo.com)).

In this recital they will play the 3 Romances Op 22 by Clara Schumann; Sonata BWV 1017 by J S Bach, and the well-known Sonata by César Franck.

As it also Ash Wednesday it will be preceded at 12.15pm by the first of our Lenten Soup lunches with donations going to Ripple Effect, the charity we supported last year. <https://rippleeffect.org/>



### AND SPEAKING OF LENT - HOW ABOUT SOME FILM EVENINGS?

We will be showing films with a sustainability theme on four Wednesday evenings during Lent (21 and 28 February and 6 and 13 March). If you are interested, please put the dates in your diary and more details will follow shortly (ie timings and venues). We haven't finalised the films yet, so please let Jenny Wilks or Jo McMullan know if you have any suggestions.

*The Sustainability Group.*

### CARE4CALAIS TOILETRY APPEAL

Asylum seekers face many challenges even after arriving in the UK. They are not allowed to work so do not have money, even to spend on what we would see as basic essentials.

One practical action we can take to help is to donate toiletries.

If you are able to support, please bring your donations and leave them in the box at the back of church.

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