

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
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Issue 173 11 October 2023



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Since Holy Week and Easter of 2022, we have, as a congregation, had the privilege of getting to know and sharing a journey of faith with people seeking asylum from Iran. We are now of some of these people receiving news that they are being allowed to stay in this country. The challenge for many of these friends of ours has only just begun. They now have the daunting prospect of finding work and somewhere to stay as they try to establish a new life in Britain.

As many of you will know Sue Wright and the team from Care4 Calais have undertaken remarkable work supporting asylum seekers, but they now have the challenge of trying to work alongside organisations like Food Share, Maidenhead Football Club, the Brett Foundation, and some of the churches in the town as they try to provide for refugees' wellbeing. Other contacts have been made with the Job Centre who are trying to offer support and our own Jenny Wilks who will use her experience and skills in the area of CV writing and finding contacts for potential jobs. This coming Saturday Jenny will begin the first part of a 3-week class on building up experience of writing CVs and improving interview technique. I know of one or two people in our congregation trying to use their contacts to find training and job opportunities.

With all this in mind I have written the following TOPIC for Maidenhead Advertiser.

A headline in The Advertiser (September 29) read 'UK public among the least likely to place importance on work.' The article concluded that these attitudes should not necessarily lead to low productivity levels seen in the UK, which are much more about skills development, technological and other investment. At a party-political conference last week one person said that there are 1,000,000 unfilled jobs in the UK.

Firstly, let me say that if the British public are desiring a better work/life balance in the way we view life then I would happily agree. People who are obsessional about work can cause harm to their wellbeing as well as loved ones who are impacted by apparent single mindedness.

I would like, though, to point to the positive nature of work. In the Bible there is a text in Luke 20.1-16 that will annoy those who value meritocracy. It is a story that speaks about a compassionate employer. The employer gives work on his farm at harvest time to workers at five different times of day. The people who work the last couple of hours of the day are rewarded in the same way as those who have worked all day!

The employer showing grace and grace wants all the people, even those who were found at the end of the day without work, to be valued and have a wage to put food on the table for his/her children. This is the key that work can give self-worth and a meaning to a person's life. Just speak to one of the Iranian Asylum Seekers turned refugees at our church.

At schools in our community sometimes there is the question of whether we should support children struggling with education by potentially stunting the growth of highfliers. In the eyes of the compassionate employer, maybe an asylum seeker from Afghanistan, Iran or Eritrea or a child struggling at the beginning of their educational journey, deserve the opportunity to find employment that gives them self-worth, value, and the hope of building a life.

Can individuals, companies, our education system help the most vulnerable in society develop skills (many of the Iranians I know have plenty of skills) which may lead to not only some of those million jobs being filled but young people from this country and abroad finding self-worth? Maybe the compassionate employer like Jesus himself shows that compassion and grace have intrinsic value.”

What careers have you enjoyed and found valuable in your life? Do you still have contacts that may be of value to people seeking work at this time? Thank you to those making every effort to help support people within our community.

May we all share God’s love this week,

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 12 October	11.00am Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room 1.00pm Manor Green School visit to the Church 3.00pm <i>Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 8.00pm Choir Practice
Friday 13	10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
Saturday 14	10.00am CV writing and support with finding jobs in the Birinus Room with Jenny Wilks 7.30pm Concert in Church. Tickets can be purchased at the door.
Sunday 15	10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Speaker: Nigel Cohen from Foodshare 12 noon Iranian Soup lunch with bread in the Parish Centre. Arash will be offering a traditional soup from his country. All donations will go to Food Share.
Monday 16	8.50am <i>Assembly at All Saints School</i> 9.30am Morning Prayer 2.15pm Celebration of Life of Stanley Brown in Church
Tuesday 17	8.50am <i>Assembly at Altwood School</i> 9.30 am Morning Prayer 7.30pm <i>Deanery Synod at the Soltau Centre, Stubbings</i> <i>Speaker: Bishop Olivia</i>
Wednesday 11	8.50am <i>Assembly at Altwood School</i> 10.00 am Eucharist to celebrate St Luke Celebrant: Fr Jeremy 11.00am Tai Chi in the Parish Centre

Wednesday 11

11.30am Service at Clara Court Care Home

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

7.30pm Meeting of the Sustainability Group in the Birinus Room

ADVANCE NOTICES

Sunday 22 October 4.00pm Sundays @4 – Saints and Sausages – Come and share a service looking at the life of the Saints followed by Hotdogs.

Sunday 29 October 10.00am Eucharist to celebrate the Patronal Festival of All Saints when our guest preacher will be Fr Nicholas Cheeseman who oversees vocations for the Diocese.

Following the Eucharist, you are all invited to share in the Patronal Festival celebration lunch at the Gandhi restaurant. The meal will be made up of two chicken dishes, two lamb dishes, mixed grills with rice and naan breads. There will be a special desert for us to celebrate the occasion.

The cost of the meal is £25 per person and you will need to sign the list at the back of the church. To confirm your booking, you will need to pay by cheque or cash to one of the Churchwardens on a Sunday following the Eucharist on 15 and 22 October or by paying Tanya in the office throughout the week. The last day for booking will be Wednesday 25 October. Once you have paid for the meal you will be issued with a receipt which is your ticket.

Should anyone wish to order a vegetarian meal please can you make this clear on the sign-up form at the back of the church.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for peace in the conflict in Israel and Gaza. We pray for those who have lost their lives, for families still seeking those missing and for all those suffering as a result of the conflict. May there be a move towards reconciliation and peace. We pray too for the situation in Ukraine and a move towards peace in the conflict with Russia.

We pray for our guest speaker, Nigel Cohen, this weekend as he shares with us the charity work of Food Share. We give thanks for the people who support Foodshare as they try to support people within Maidenhead in real need.

We pray too this weekend for the work of Christians Against Poverty as this charity tries to support and help people who find themselves in debt. We pray that more people suffering hardships will be released from the stress and fears of debt.

We pray for all Asylum Seekers and refugees in our town of Maidenhead and across Britain who are facing the threat of being made homeless and jobless. We give thanks for those at the Local authority who are working alongside Care4Calais, Foodshare, Slough Refugee Council, Maidenhead Football Club, the Brett Foundation, and the churches across the town who are trying to provide for refugees and Asylum seekers wellbeing.

We pray for those within our parish in time of need. We pray for Michael, Kirsten, and Maddy; for Suzette, Daneille, 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, Janet Emerson, Liz Holloway, Hugh Boulter, Simon Cowdery, Charlie and Jess, Joseph White, Moreiza Serja, Abbas Heidari, Scopas Lado, Mageret Ego, Jim Goff, Andrew and Sue Fleet and Gill Deane-Williams. May they all know the healing peace and presence of Christ. We pray for those who bring healing to those in need, those caring for loved ones and for staff and residents of our care homes.

We pray for the recently departed, especially Tessa Armstrong, Stanley Brown, and Eva May Pauffley, and for the departed members of our own families. We pray for all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 forever. Amen

EPISTLE Philippians 4: 1 - 9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 22: 1 - 14

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

MUSIC

Prelude: Ewing *G Thalben-Ball*

Opening: 569 The kingdom of God is justice and joy

Gradual: 800 The Lord's my shepherd

Offertory: 683 Jerusalem the golden

Communion: 334 In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

Closing: 652 Guide me, O thou great redeemer

Postlude: Processional *W Mathias*

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

It is time to collect in the boxes for counting. I can offer you a variety of options, so please choose whichever is most suitable for you.

- Send a cheque (made out to 'The Children's Society') to me at the address below
- Bring your box when you attend church service on Sunday or Wednesday. If I am not there either ask to leave it in the Parish Office or drop it at my house.
- Bring your box straight to my house.
- Phone me if you need your box collected from your house.

You all have my phone number on your box so please call if you need further clarification, assistance or want to discuss anything with me.

My address: 46, Boyn Hill Road SL64HJ

Many thanks for your continued support. It makes a real difference to hundreds of children and enables the Society to continue their work.

Anne Clark

THE STORY OF SCRIPTURE

Do you enjoy making connections between different parts of the Bible? Or wonder about the different characters who populate the Bible stories? Or perhaps you just wished you knew the story of the Bible better?

Oxford Diocese have put together a course "The story of scripture" designed to show the whole sweep of the story of the Bible. The course includes videos, exploration of bible readings, questions and quizzes. The course has 6 units, and can be followed at home at your own pace, or as part of a small group.

To access the course go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-story-of-scripture-tickets-714535022487?aff=oddtcreator> and click "Get Ticket".

If you would like to follow the course yourself, just click on the link above. If you might like to follow the course as part of a small group at All Saints, just let me know and if there is enough interest we could do that.

Fr John

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.

Thank you!

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