

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 14

17 June 2020



Dear parishioners and friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

I begin the week with the news (page 3) of Revd Judith's decision to move to the Roman Catholic Church as she continues her Christian Pilgrim journey through this life in the presence of Our Lord. Judith and Ron have been wonderful members of our community and in Judith's case she has for the majority of my time at All Saints offered outstanding support and encouragement to myself and I am sure many of you the congregation. We will all miss Judith's love for God which comes across through her outstanding sermons and spiritual and pastoral care. We will miss too her wonderful stories and experiences from around the world.

The good news is though that Judith and Ron will keep contact with us whenever they are in the country. They will continue to support us as friends and we for our part will keep the two of them in our prayers as they embark on the next part of their Christian pilgrim journey. I use the idea of pilgrimage because as you know I am fond of walking them, I enjoy blogging about them but most importantly in the act of pilgrimage we grow closer to each other and more in touch with our own lives and we recognise the intimate relationship we share with the trinitarian God of Love. In following our journey through life, we begin to understand how we are called to be the people that God called us to be. 'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire' said Catherine of Sienna and that is what Judith and Ron have helped us at All Saints to do. Although Judith has travelled the world, we know that Judith is a person proud of her Welsh roots and so from St David we will try to continue 'to do the small things well.'

Thank you, Judith and Ron for the support, encouragement, Christian love and example you have given us. We will miss you, but we will journey forth knowing that we are sharing the same pilgrim journey that will ultimately take us back to God and the heavenly banquet.

May God continue to bless you Judith and Ron, with our love Jeremy, Monika and the people of All Saints.

You will find in this newsletter a sermon from me that reflects upon the journey we are making through these times in prayer. Different communities are using modern technology to share services via Zoom and recordings and the church of the Diocese and the Church of England are highlighting the value of both local and the wider dimension of being a pilgrim member of the Body of Christ. You will also read of the idea that the Jesuits followed, that we can see God in each other, and the creation that God has given us to enjoy. My sermon though reflects too, upon our personal journey with God which at times requires us to be honest with God and let him know our true, inner feelings.

In the coming weeks we will continue to work towards offering All Saints as a place to pray and then God willing, at a later time, as a place to share the Body of Christ in Word and Sacrament. Please if you are going to pray in the church follow the guidelines that we will offer before opening. These will include at the very least;

1. If you are showing symptoms of the virus, please do not attend. Stay at home and self-isolate and use the recordings, the Thursday night prayer and the many other resources open to you.
2. You must follow the social distancing guidelines which at present say 2 metres (3 steps) between individuals or those from separate households. A household is a person or a group of people who live together.

3. You must bring a mask or use one provided for you. Use the hand sanitiser or better still provide your own.
4. If you would like prayer resources, please bring your own. The new blue booklet that Jeanette and I have distributed offers prayers that can be used but please take them away with you following your prayer time.
5. There will be clear signage as to where you can sit. There will be no food or drinks available, neither there will be available toilets and hand washing facilities.

We of course want you to take the opportunity to worship in this wonderful building, but we want you to be safe. If you are at risk and are in a vulnerable grouping please think carefully before visiting the church.

We are hoping to be ready to open at the end of the month on Wednesday mornings from 10am to 12 noon and on Sundays at the same time.

We continue to seek governors to serve at All Saints School. This is a key role within the community, and it be great to fill at least one of the positions that are vacant.

I have spoken about pilgrimage and prayer time in this newsletter and I am hoping that you have opportunity to pray using the resources in this letter, the collect, readings, sermon and music with notes are provided.

If you have internet access, please see All Saints website where you can find the link to the outstanding services offered by both the Oxford Diocese and the Church of England. The dialling for the Diocesan service is 01865 920930

I have with the help of Monika and Rod been recording more modest and humble homegrown recordings which may be of use.

Night Prayer Thursdays 8.00pm – 8.30pm on Zoom

Why not join me for Night Prayer on Zoom? You can download Zoom for free, and you join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75976544021?pwd=Q1pJVtIpTytOdHg0VXhSRGxWRzIzZz09>

Meeting ID: 759 7654 4021

Password: 5rHziv

We'll be using the simple service from the Church of England prayer books we've been issuing. It begins on page 24 and finishes on page 30. Or use this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer>

Bishop Steven's blog can be found at <https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/>

My own more light-hearted ramblings can be found on the All Saints website.

Over the coming weeks I hope to try to develop some small group settings. Perhaps following a bible study or simply a coffee morning. Please let me know if you would be interested.

For those of you using the blue prayer book for Morning Prayer here are the readings for the week.

Friday: Psalm 31, Joshua 24: 1-28, Luke 12: 41-48

Saturday: Psalm 42, Joshua 24: 29-end, Luke 12: 49-end

Sunday: Psalm 49, Deuteronomy 11: 1-15, Acts 27: 1-12

Monday: Psalm 44, Judges 2, Luke 13: 1-9

Tuesday: Psalm 48, Judges 4: 1-23, Luke 13: 10-21

Wednesday: Psalm 50, Judges 5, Luke 13: 22-end

Thursday: Psalm 57, Judges 6: 1-24, Luke 14: 1-11

Prayer Intentions

We continue to pray for Mike and Lorraine Ansell and that God's loving presence is with them as Mike continues his treatment.

Pray for Nick Moss, as he continues on his road to recovery. We pray for Louise his wife and their children George and Lucy. We give thanks that Mike and Jan are able to see Nick and that they can enjoy family time.

Pray for Charles Pickett, good friend of Rene Wilson who died recently

We continue to pray for the Government and Bishops as they make important decisions during the Pandemic.

Pray for Funeral Directors as they continue to support people in times of bereavement.

As some children and teachers return to the classrooms, we pray for them and we continue to pray for children and parents sharing learning at home. We pray for Boyne Hill, All Saints, Altwood, Larchfield, Claires' Court, Highfield and Desborough schools.

We remember all those who had planned weddings and baptisms at All Saints Church this summer. We look forward to sharing the sacrament of marriage and Holy Baptism in the near future at All Saints.

We pray for our NHS and Health Care Workers and give thanks for their dedication to their work. We remember John Bolodeoku, Helen Broad, Joanne Hawkes, Karen, Carole Nicholson, Richard Stafford, Eleanor Kershaw, Ricky and Dagma Powley, Magda Gozdek and Emmanuel.

We give thanks for the wonderful ministry of our Pastoral Care team led by Jeanette. This group give support to the community of All Saints through phone calls, emails, food shopping, and other practical support and acts of kindness.

We remember our Nursing homes of Boyne Grove Day Centre, Clara Court, Normanhurst and Larchfield. We pray too for our congregational members that are now living in care homes.

We pray for our Senior Saints, Tuesday Club, Young Saints, Tiny Saints and All Sorts. We give thanks for the commitment of members and leaders.

Eucharist

Lord's Prayer

As our Father taught us, so we pray

One of the most moving occasions on a trip to the Holy Land is at Nazareth where pilgrims are invited to share the Lord's prayer in their own language.

Fr Geoffrey Howard gives a mere half page to the famous prayer that Jesus taught us. In those few words he writes 'I say to my children, if you do something shameful, never be frightened of owning up to me. I may disapprove but I will never turn my back on you. what you have done, however much it hurts me, I will never reject you.'

Howard points out that if he a sinner who sometimes has neglected his children can forgive and show mercy so will the God of mercy. 'If I steal, go to prison, or become an alcoholic, or many other crimes the Bishop might defrock me, my family and congregation might disown me but there is one to whom I could still turn.'

Bishop Steven Croft in his pilgrim journeys on the Lord's prayer reflects upon the world where we are expected to be perfect by the images around us and we tend to put ourselves down. We are encouraged to try to project a false self. Instead our Bishop tells us that we should look to the fifth line of the Lord's prayer which gives us permission to be less than perfect and to fall short. , 'If Jesus hopes that his disciples will use this prayer daily, 'then Jesus clearly believes that we will all need to seek forgiveness every day. Our lives can begin from a place of honesty: we are imperfect.'

Bible study

Read Romans 6: 1-23

The book of Exodus tells the story of how the children of Israel were enslaved in Egypt. God heard them crying in misery in Egypt, so he sent Moses to bring them out. God led them through the Red Sea to Mount Sinai where they left behind their life of slavery. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness, but God continued to lead them by his presence until they entered the promised Land.

Question 1 Tom Wright wrote this commentary some years ago. I wonder if the idea of feeling exiled or alone meets our needs now in this time of Covid 19 and the feeling that all that we knew has changed? Can we feel God's presence with us now?

Question 2 How do verses 6-14 describe the true identity of a believer?

Wright continues to look at the rhetorical question 'should we sin?' and in verse 15 we are told 'by no means'. In verse 16 we are slaves to sin and death. Paul then says that believers are no longer slaves to sin but slaves to God which ends in eternal life. They should then use their bodies, their lives for the good of God and bringing something of his light to the world. I wonder if like me you feel more comfortable with the idea that we might be members of Christ's body. In other words, adopted brothers and sisters of Christ? This might mean that we desire to respond to God's grace in love rather than the sense of being forced. Leave you to think about this.

Important Notice about Scams

There is a worrying aspect to life at the moment where people are being scammed. Please be careful when answering your phone or replying to emails that you know the identity of the people trying to make contact. It is an unpleasant side to life and particularly with the many modes of communication. If you are unsure, do not respond. Ask a friend for a second opinion.

May you all be blessed by God's presence this week.

Fr Jeremy

News from The Revd Dr Judith Thomas

In my last sermon, I wrote

" The disciples are commissioned for a journey and -so are we. Our journey of faith. No-one else can make it for us. It will take bendy ways, it will take us up hill and down dale. Not everyone will understand how and why we walk it, but walk it we must as we follow the cross-carrying Christ. "

It is in the light of this, that I want to let you all know that after much discernment and complete peace, I am going to become a Roman Catholic.

I have loved my ministry and the good old C of E. I have loved All Saints and all of you - the members. Fr Jeremy has been so gracious and welcoming to let me carry out my ministry as a priest here, I have loved and valued so much his continuous collegiality, I know that I too have contributed in small ways. So, it is in that light that I go forward. This decision doesn't feel like relinquishing what I had as an Anglican priest but expanding my faith dimensions. No - one was more surprised than me when this 'Divine Nudge' started many years ago and the words were always - 'Not yet.'

Ordained in the States since 1994, since 2004 as a priest in the Diocese of Oxford, ministry has taken me all over the world. I have lived in countries where denominational boundaries hardly exist, it was more important to be a Christian in a non- Christian country. In my faith journey, Covid has provided crisis and opportunity. The push from above - this time however " Get on with it! Now the time IS right "

I will not be leaving the planet!! Who knows when churches will be open again for services and fellowship – I look forward to seeing you in person at that time.

Blessings,
Judith

Worship for Sunday 21 June THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sounds of Worship Brian Graves

What a complex and challenging Gospel we have today! It contains the eye-catching passage where Jesus says: “You must not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a young wife against her mother-in-law; and a man will find his enemies under his own roof.” This passage is a stark challenge, but as the rest of the Gospel describes, our salvation is not about who we are and what we do but is governed by the love and mercy of God. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus is the living proof of that salvation. In other words, we are all equal in the eyes of God, regardless of our position in human society. This theme of equality before God, is also apparent in the communion model of worship and community which Fr Jeremy has been leading at All Saints and it is the basis of the choice of music today.

“Give thanks with a grateful heart” AM 639. This hymn was written in 1978 by Henry Smith. The song was his only published worship song out of 300 unpublished compositions. It was written during a protracted search for work after graduating from university. He also suffered from a degenerative condition that eventually left him legally blind. While at his church in Williamsburg, Virginia, his pastor inspired him with a reference to how Jesus made himself poor to make others rich through him. When Smith started performing the song in church, a visiting United States Military officer took the song to Europe, from where its popularity spread.

Why should this short hymn stand-out? First the words go directly to the point that rich or poor, strong or weak, salvation comes through our faith in the Lord. This faith is a source of joy and thanksgiving. Secondly, the musical structure reverses what one might consider to be the expression of the words. The first verse (which is repeated) one would expect a joyful up-lifting musical line to express joyful thanksgiving but instead, is pitched low in the voice which gives it an understated feeling. However, Smith puts a long duration note for each occurrence of the word “Thanks” which emphasises the key message of the verse. The second verse is then pitched higher and to give power to the words and again Smith elongates key words for emphasis, i.e. “Now” “Strong!” “Rich” “Done” and “us!”. The economy of words and simple musical means make this a memorable and effective hymn.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us!"
And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us!"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W XtWlf3fZRw>

An anthem we have sung several times at All Saints is “Love Divine All Loves Excelling” by Howard Goodall (Published in 2000) and the words are appropriate for today’s gospel theme. Although his “Vicar of Dibley” theme music is far better known, (see Sounds of Worship Easter 4) Goodall displays the same characteristics of a flowing melody which puts musical emphasis (longer notes, higher pitches) to coincide with the metric stresses in the words. The last two

verses he uses a so-called canon effect, that is the melody is sung by the voices separately starting a few beats after each other. It creates not only an echo effect but also interesting harmonies.

The words are from the famous hymn written by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and first published in 1747. They start with invoking Jesus as the means of divine love, then moving in verse 5 and 6 to invoking the holy spirit to sanctify our lives and in the last two verses God the Father as the source of life on earth and in heaven.

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
2. Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
3. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast,
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest.
4. Take away the love of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Sets our hearts at liberty.
5. Come almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
6. Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
7. Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
8. Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and Praise.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl10mQgDJ_o

The final hymn is "I come with joy" (AM 448) written by Brian Wren (1936-). Wren studied French literature at New College Oxford and theology at Mansfield College in Oxford. He was ordained in 1965, he was pastor of the United Reformed in Hockley and Hawkwell, Essex, from 1965 to 1970. He worked for the British Council of Churches and several other organisations involved in fighting poverty and promoting peace and justice. This work resulted in his writing the books: "Education for Justice" (1977) and "Patriotism and Peace" (1983). With a ministry throughout the English-speaking world, Wren now resides in the United States where he is active as a freelance lecturer, preacher,

and full-time hymn writer. "I come with joy" perfectly describes the communion model of community and equality before God.

The tune is "St Botolph" by Gordon Slater (1896-1979). Slater was an organist who was successively organist at St Botolph's, Boston (Lincs), Leicester Cathedral and Lincoln Cathedral. This hymn tune is very simple in outline, the pitch of the tune ascends to higher levels during the course of the first three lines of words and gently comes back down to earth in the final line. The harmonisation is masterful, providing appropriate harmonic colour and melodic interest in each part throughout.

1. I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.
2. I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.
3. The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.
4. Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpBs0b8Nnzs>

COLLECT

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth; send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OT READING Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah cried out: O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughing-stock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, 'Violence and destruction!' For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, 'I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,' then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: 'Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. 'Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him.' But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

EPISTLE Romans 6: 1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of

the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Matthew 10: 24 - 39

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

SERMON Fr Jeremy

I write this text on Monday 15th June. If I am honest, I am struggling at this time in the Pandemic. I am not alone as I have discovered talking to another priest this morning. There is I think and not just for clergy the worry about what the future holds. The faith that I hold to, the belief in word and sacrament shared by a community physically is being challenged at the moment. This is of course due largely to the Pandemic but equally because we are now looking at being a different church. A church that is not reliant upon the gathered physical community but rather seeing the beautiful cathedral that is God's creation. This idea that is being used by the Diocese is of course correct and is a healthy view of the world created after all by God. The Jesuit style of prayer and living life clearly views living the Christian life as if we believe God is at work and is present in creation and in us, his created beings. However, we do need to gather (Pray God soon for Eucharist physical gathering).

At the Diocesan conference on Saturday we heard that the Government had got it wrong. It didn't understand that church is about people and mission and doing things out there in the community. Loving God and neighbour. Of course, that is right, but I think the Government is listening to people on this issue that says we need to gather. Gerard Kelly writes in 'Whole Life Worship' a London Institute of Contemporary Christian publication 'that we are asked today between joining together in services or sending out in mission'. 'It seems that we are being asked to choose between inward focus and outward flow, between gathering and dispersal. This feels dangerously close to asking a dying patient if he would prefer to breathe in or out. We can and must do both'.

So as I listened to people share wonderful stories from churches that are offering food parcels in there thousands, that some are reaching 100's people virtually on zoom, recordings or live streaming, that people are running courses at home to help people grow in faith we need to say alleluia. We need too though to hear the stories of struggle and heartache, the concerns of those who need to know that even in despair God is calling us to listen to his voice so that we might discern what he is calling us to do. It is here that we still need to pray for gathered community so that we can be inspired, empowered and sent out to the communities that we serve.

Ironically now I am going to change direction. I am moving from the communal gathering and partaking of the Body of Christ to become his light in the world (we cannot physically do this at the moment) to seeing our response through Jeremiah. His name is linked to mine and he is thought to be one of the more grumpy characters in the

Bible! Jeremiah was a prophet to Judah in the years before Israel was exiled to Babylon. He had to warn the people of the time that their behaviour was leading them away from God's covenant and would leave them exiled from the God they believed protected them. Of course, God still was present for them in the exile and we should find comfort at this time of the pandemic that God is with us in the beautiful temple of his creation but also in our own personal lives. Jeremiah, in chapter 19 says that the people, including senior people are like a broken pot that cannot be mended. Jeremiah is punished for his outspoken words and faces the stocks and is publicly humiliated. How does Jeremiah respond following his outburst? He prays to God. But not a nice gentle prayer group time of prayer but an honest exchange with God of what he is feeling. This has to be private prayer. People would not like this type of praying at the Eucharist or even for that matter at Zoom! This is when you are angry or in despair or frightened by the future. Then it's no good sharing that with others (I probably shouldn't in this sermon) as far from giving comfort it might offend.

Walter Brueggemann in a wonderful sermon on Jeremiah writes that Jeremiah was not praying a list of things he wanted, or the people needed, neither was he praying for forgiveness though we all need both these prayer intentions. Here in chapter 20 Jeremiah is seeking energy, freedom and courage for his ministry. He knows that there is a cost to be a Christian and sharing God's message with others and he wants to know that God is with him. This is personal prayer at its deepest point of need. When I was in London in 1992 doing a pastoral placement at London Lighthouse and CARA two organisations that ministered to people living with HIV/Aids I would hear men and women who came to faith through angry fights with God in prayer. Why me? Why has this sickness come to me and ruined my life? What did I do to deserve this? In honest arguing with God people came to faith.

Jeremiah for his part says in verse 7 that it is God that has encouraged him to speak out and now God has left him a laughing stock! He can either speak out and be rejected, (The words smile and the world smiles with you, cry and you cry alone) or he can stay quiet and burn up inside leading we are told in the modern world to mental health issues. Instead Jeremiah turns to God who has led him to this place to strengthen him through these difficult times. This has to be personal prayer as it is too painful for the community to perhaps bear. The text tells us that Jeremiah like many of us today who feel life is so full of stress and strain and tension finds solace in the very God he is angry with. God will not take all his suffering away, but he will be present with the prophet. Of course, Jeremiah does drop back into depression in verses 14-18 but he recovers again. This is the path we take, that close honest walk with God to face the trials of life. That beautiful line from Matthew in today's text gives us hope of that presence. Verse 29 of Matthew chapter 10 says 'How much would you get for a couple of sparrows?' Not much. However, 'Not one of them falls to the ground without the father knowing about it.' He cares about us all so let us at this time use our private prayer to talk to him. Shout and scream if it helps and you don't feel like seeing God in his beautiful cathedral or indeed in church.

A few years ago, when things were not great in my life, I went to experience cognitive behavioural therapy. This is where we try to free ourselves from hurt or negative feelings that Jeremiah felt, that people in London living with HIV and Aids felt in the early 90's and maybe some of us are feeling now in this time of Covid19. Why has God put me through this suffering? Two ways of answering. One is directed to the past, I am being punished and the other is towards the future 'What is it that God wants me to do in the present and in these circumstances? When I did the course, I was asked to think. If you are walking down Castle Hill in the rain and you call out to another person (Your friend) and they keep their head down and ignore you. Do you go home and feel upset and rejected or do you phone the person up and invite them for tea (Social distancing these days)? You might find they too were feeling down, their thoughts elsewhere and they were thrilled to share your hospitality.

Jeremiah and Matthew tell us that life does have a purpose, and we are loved by God and that we have a part to play in his future. That will be noticing God at work in his people and in his creation (God's beautiful Cathedral), and gathering to be joined with God in Eucharistic worship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit and one with each other to be strengthened to go out. Finally, though we need that individual conversation with God that however painful and angry, tells us personally God cares for us and has a plan for us.

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

YOUNG SAINTS AT HOME

We have put together another lesson plan, including a story and activity, for parents or carers to lead a session with their children. This lesson is about **The Peace** and **the plan is attached to the newsletter**. If you have downloaded any of these lessons for your children do let us know by contacting Jenny Wilks at jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk or Louise O'Dwyer Barnard at lodwyerbarnard@hotmail.co.uk. We really would value your feedback!

WAMCF LADIES' GROUP Tuesday 23 June from 7.30 – 9.00pm on ZOOM

To reflect on the impact of the pandemic on creation.

You may like to have a photo of some aspect of creation that speaks to you on your device ready to share

Bring your own coffee!!

You don't have to have Zoom on your device, just click on the link (I will have my mobile and phone at hand for anyone who was problems to call).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88335793768?pwd=ZzlPQ0ZLUjZJSW16TGcyNlEyR2ltUT09>

Meeting ID: 883 3579 3768

Password: 176134

The Revd Sally Lynch 01628 783033

INSPIRATIONS

Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive.

C S Lewis

It was in a church service in Munich that I saw him, the former SS man who stood guard at the shower room door in the processing centre at Ravensbrook. He was the first of our actual jailers that I had seen since that time. And suddenly it was all there - the roomful of mocking men, the heaps of clothing, Betsie's pain-blanching face. He came up to me as the church was emptying, beaming and bowing. 'How grateful I am for your message, Fraulein,' he said 'To think that, as you say, he has washed my sins away'. His hand was thrust out to shake mine. And I, who had preached so often to the people in Bloemendaal the need to forgive, kept my hand at my side. Even as the angry, vengeful thoughts boiled through me, I saw the sin of them. Jesus Christ has died for this man; was I going to ask for more? Lord Jesus, I prayed, forgive me and help me to forgive him. I tried to smile, I struggled to raise my hand, but I could not. I felt nothing, not the slightest spark of warmth or charity. And so again I breathed a silent prayer. Jesus, I cannot forgive him. Give me your forgiveness. As I took his hand the most incredible thing happened. From my shoulder along my arm and through my hand a current seemed to pass from me to him, while into my heart sprang a love for this stranger that almost overwhelmed me.

And so I discovered that it is not on our forgiveness, any more than on our goodness, that the world's healing hinges, but on his. When he tells us to love our enemies, he gives, along with the command, the love itself.

Corrie ten Boom The Hiding Place

We can easily manage if we will only take each day the burden appointed to it. But the load will be too heavy for us if we carry yesterday's burden over again today and then add the burden of tomorrow before we are required to bear it.

John Newton

To God your every want in instant prayer display; pray always; pray and never faint; without ceasing, pray.

Charles Wesley

When written in Chinese, the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents 'danger' and the other represents 'opportunity'.

John F Kennedy President USA

Please send them to nordbergjs@aol.com or

Sue Nordberg, Twelfth House, Ray Mead Rd., Maidenhead SL6 8NJ

REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

We are told lockdown restrictions are being eased in stages. This is supposed to be one tentative step at a time to allow people to interact in limited circumstance, to work and now to shop while limiting opportunities for the virus to spread. Not everyone seems to have got the message. While some people are shielding themselves at home or abiding strictly by the rules if they do go out, others appear to act as if the whole pandemic is over.

On Sunday my elder daughter and I drove to Cookham for an early evening walk. As we came down the hill onto Cock Marsh and approached the river Thames we could see several large groups seated on the grass near the riverbank. Some were drinking beer from plastic cups. They were mostly young. The largest gathering was of around 20 people, all seated very close to one another. Not much social distancing there.

We walked past, or rather through, them to follow the tow path and soon found the source of the plastic cups. A pub had set up an outside kiosk to sell ice creams and off-sales of beer, with a carefully designed one-way system and clear signs telling customers they could not eat ice creams or drink beer on the premises. The pub scrupulously followed the rules. Many of its customers, gathering in large groups a stone's throw way, did not. Meanwhile the large pub forecourt facing the river was taped off. Dozens of tables and chairs, all well beyond two metres apart, were empty.

Foodshare Needs

The Maidenhead Advertiser always has a list of things most needed each week, and there are food drop-off points all over Maidenhead; **see attachment [foodshare drop-off](#) on Newsletter Issue 8** to find one near you.

On the Web + YouTube

There is a growing library of music to be accessed through our website. Please save this link in your browser

<https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/information-children-and-familie/services/holy-week-2020-easter-services-use-home/>

And if you're missing the church why not take a virtual tour by going to

<http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/welcome-about-all-saints/3d-virtual-tour-all-saints-church/>

Catch up with Fr Jeremy videos at:

<http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/welcome-about-all-saints/what-we-believe/fr-jeremys-video-reflections-vicarage/>

All Saints YouTube Channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnPQFuQQ-Yb0ffFuT1Mjv8A/>

There are now twenty recordings plus six music tracks in the channel.

Raise donations for All Saints Church, Maidenhead, at no cost to yourself, whenever you shop online:-

A few years ago, All Saints signed up with easyfundraising who collect small donations from selected on-line shopping, at no cost to the shopper.

During this time the Church has raised £256 and has 15 registered supporters.

If you have not registered please do consider doing so, especially with the current amount of on-line shopping taking place – it is very easy at:-

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintsboynehill/>

A wide range of on-line shops are signed up to this. More information can be found above or on our website at:-

<http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/welcome-about-all-saints/giving/easy-fund-raising/>

A big thank you to those who are already registered and contributing, at no cost to themselves, we hope that more people will join.

Rod Broad Treasurer

PS from the post-Covid frontline

Last Monday it was 3 months to the day that our son, Nick, first showed symptoms of what turned out to be a very nasty dose of Covid-19. Little did anyone anticipate that in June he would still be in hospital recovering. He is doing well now; lots of physio, and he doesn't want for determination. Interestingly at the Downing Street briefing on Tuesday they were talking about a drug they trialled to see if it helped with Covid-19; Nick was one of the earliest people to take part in the clinical trial of Dexamethasone. What with that and his brain scans going round the world as so few people have yet presented with the stroke-type symptoms he had it looks as if some good may come out of all this as well as his recovery.

Mike & Jan Moss

	The Peace
Introduction	<p>In church each sunday during the middle of the service we say something called The Peace. There are lots of different ways The Peace is introduced but it usually ends with something like this:</p> <p>‘The Peace of the Lord be with you always’</p> <p>‘And also with you’</p> <p>‘Let us now share with one another a sign of peace’</p> <p>At this point everyone usually stands up and starts shaking hands with each other , friends and strangers alike. They might give people a hug or a peck on the cheek. They often say Peace or Peace be with you.</p>
Activity	<p>Why is it so important to share Peace with others? Why do we do it in church?</p> <p>We share the Peace for lots of reasons. It is a reminder of God’s love for us and of Jesus’ instruction to love our neighbour as ourselves. It is a reminder that we are part of something bigger, a family, a church, a community and children of God. It is also a reminder that we can do very small things that make a huge difference to people, all of those small acts of peace make a happy church where people know that they are loved and cared for even if at other times they might feel lonely or sad. Long ago (even before Father Jeremy was born) a handshake itself was a sign of peace because you cannot hold a sword and shake hands at the same time!</p> <p>What other reasons can you think of that sharing a sign of peace might be important.</p> <p>Now we can’t give each other a sign of peace in church, we can’t even go to church! Even when church finally re-opens, giving the Peace may look a bit different for a while. It is likely that there will be no hugging or handshaking for a while. But in times like this when everything is changing and people are worried about lots of things, giving a sign of peace is even more important.</p> <p>With a grown up take a walk around the roads where you live. What signs of peace can you see? They are everywhere!</p> <p>It could be the pictures of rainbows in people’s windows - the rainbow is a symbol of God’s love, of the hope for peace that came after the flood.</p> <p>It could be pictures of thanks to NHS staff or other people who help us.</p>

It could be a beautiful garden that someone has planted to bring joy to their neighbours.

It could be a painted pebble hidden by a stranger with a message of goodwill (we found some lovely ones hidden near the Symons medical centre)

It could be the Food share boxes that people have placed outside their houses to help collect food for people who need it.

Try and think of as many signs of peace as you can - talk about them with your grown-up.

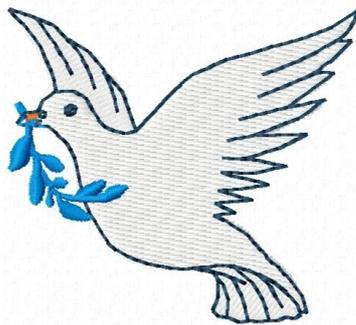
How can you give a sign of peace?

Try one of the following things this week to share a sign of peace:

Make a thank you card for someone who helps you - it could be your teachers, the postman / woman or the people who collect your bins (it could even be a special card for your dad or someone who is a dad to you, for father's day).

Ask a grown up to help you sort out some spare tins or other food for a neighbours foodshare box. Or sort out some old books or toys and ask a grown up if you can leave them in a box outside your house for other to take. You can make a sign to say people are welcome to help themselves.

Think about some symbols of peace that you could draw a picture of and out in your window. It could be a dove, a candle or even a rainbow:



Try and share the peace with the people in your house (as long as no one is ill).

As you do these things think about the peace that you are spreading. These small actions are helping to spread God's love to your family, neighbours and community.

Closing Prayer	<p>God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation, but the world feels strange right now. The news is full of stories about Coronavirus. Some people are worried that they might get ill. Others are anxious for their family and friends. Be with them and help them to find peace. We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists, and all who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill. Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us. Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.</p> <p>Amen.</p>
----------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------