

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD**

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 78 20 October 2021



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

I have decided to include in this week's Parish News the sermon from last Sunday. We are at a crucial stage in our ministry at All Saints church as we look forward to the floor restoration project concluding in mid to late November. When we return to the church building, we all hope that people might consider returning to roles they once had and perhaps too we may find new people looking to offer their skills and talents to the community. The readings from Isaiah 53.4-12 and Mark 10.35-45 offer us a challenge to follow Christ.

A couple of weeks ago Sue Stannett kindly gave me and Monika the film 'Twelve Years a Slave.' It's not an easy watch but tells the true story of Solomon Northrup, a free black man from upstate New York in the 1840's, who is abducted and sold into slavery. Facing cruelty at the hands of a brutal slave owner the viewer sees the evil and terror of treatment towards slaves and a complete lack of respect for fellow human beings.

Towards the end of the film a character played by Brad Pitt who is fighting slavery enables Northrup to be reunited with his family in an incredibly moving scene. During the film there are depictions of the bible being used to support the appalling behaviour towards people of a different colour and race.

Within the readings we find Isaiah's moving suffering servant, who acts as a picture through which we can read Jesus' crucifixion. Written during the Exile in Babylon in 586/7 BC it offered hope that the chosen people of God would return to the Promised Land. For Christians this suffering servant points to the hope that a Saviour would freely make sacrifices as God's servant (Not in my mind a slave) to bring New Life.

In the gospel James and John aspire to hierarchical leadership and status, but they are challenged by Jesus. Jesus at his own baptism has been told that he is God's beloved son. However, this would lead to a suffering messiahship. This baptism would lead to a dying of self to win victory for humanity, by bringing us into relationship with a loving God. This God says to each and every one of us 'You are my beloved sons and daughters, with you I am well pleased.'

We too go through the waters of baptism to be people who live not for self but as members with gifts and skills that are valued for the building of community and communion. Oneness with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and oneness or unity with each other. How we might respond is offering back love to the love we have received in Christ. This is servant leadership not slavery.

Ways in which we might respond:

- A. Witness – Every Christian should desire to pass on the faith given at baptism and the whole community is called to witness in conversation about faith. This can be found in catechesis (teaching Sunday School, Tiny Saints, young Saints, Confirmation Classes, Alpha courses) when we are encouraging children and adults towards the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

- B. Liturgy – Archbishop Stephen Cottrell once said that people should see the liturgy as the work of the people rather than words on a page. I would add that the words on the page leap up and punch us in the face, hopefully without knocking us out so that we are able to live them sacramentally. The re-ordering of the building can lead to a re-ordering of the liturgy that re-orders the way we live our lives.

Brian Graves our Director of Music has read 'Creating Uncommon Worship' by Richard Giles the former Dean of Philadelphia Cathedral which looks at worship that leads to belonging and then response. This worship has the priest at the altar facing the people. It has the people in an ideal world close to and around the altar, ready to step forward to take their part in the liturgy, representing life. This is the idea of Yves Congar, a French Dominican Friar best known for his influence at the Vatican II for reviving interest in the Holy Spirit for the life of individuals and the church. He encouraged the leadership of the priest but that people could all respond to their calling from Baptism. The priest might be at the heart of mission but there will be times when others within the community have better skills. An exchange of leadership can lead to a healthy church. Within the service, musicians, readers, people of prayer, servers, people offering hospitality and welcome all play their part. In life we all have gifts to support the ministry of the church and the wider community and world. We partake of the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ. (Henri de Lubac)

We all then are called to live our Christian vocation not in my mind as slaves but willingly responding in love to the love first shown us. We have set challenges and it is really encouraging that groups are set up for Sustainability, Schools Ministry, Worship, Welcome that leads to belonging, Young Saints and how we look after our buildings as places of mission which is important. How we do work to build finance that supports ministry, and how we find the extra level of office work is crucial. (Sue Wright is doing a wonderful job not only learning the role but going on courses that will help herself and those who follow her.)

Finally, not all of us will do great things but we can do small things with great Love. (Mother Teresa). When we see the world, it can seem overwhelming, we can feel useless but let us all do small things in love. We start by helping people in the places we live, but also following on from the marvellous WaterAid gifts at Harvest we can support Operation Christmas Child again this year.

We may want to try and discern if we are called to follow Christ by giving time to All Saints as we return to church next month. Jesus calls us to serve, and we should pray the words of St Ignatius of Loyola. 'Teach us to give and not to count the cost.' May we finish by giving thanks for Sir David Amess MP who through his life of faith and politics gave willingly.

Advance notices:

Sunday 31 October 4.00pm 'SAINTS AND SAUSAGES' celebration in the Quadrangle.

We will celebrate our Patronal Festival with a 10.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre and then by celebrating the lives of the Saints over a BBQ. Please join us to sing great festival hymns and celebrate the lives of the Saints. All welcome.

Wednesday 3 November 10.00am Requiem Eucharist for All Souls

If you would like the name of a loved one remembered at this service please sign the list in the Parish Centre or tell the Parish Office (01628 621933 or allsaintsboynehill@gmail.com)

Sunday 28 November

10.00am Eucharist to mark the beginning of Advent and the celebration of 100 years of the ministry of The Royal British Legion.

2.00pm - 5.00pm our first ever Christmas Market with music, food, drinks and Christmas Stalls in the Quadrangle. We are hoping that the service will be celebrated once again for this day at All Saints Church. See page 8 for lots more details, and ways in which you can get involved.

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Thursday 21 October 3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School

Friday 22 October 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre

**Sunday 24 October 10.00am Eucharist for Bible Sunday in the Parish Centre
Also on Zoom.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83933190898?pwd=ZXJsY1RMUIFBUE3FYclY3aVpuVUJlZz09>

Meeting ID: 839 3319 0898 Passcode: 919539

6.00pm SUNDAYS@SIX ON ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83960514349?pwd=YUxYSVZSVjF1cDVTdS85cDRlZm95UT09>

Meeting ID: 839 6051 4349

Passcode: 945101

Monday 25 October No Night Prayer

Last week's service for St Luke was the last in our series. Thank you to all those who have supported and prayed at Night Prayer on Thursday and Monday evenings for the last eighteen months.

Wednesday 27 October 10.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre

Congratulations this week:

To Andrew and Sally Stafford on the arrival on 18 October of their granddaughter, Ada Patricia Alexander-Stafford, and to Ada's parents, Rich and Charlotte.

To Gwen Burkitt as she celebrates her 99th Birthday on 22 October!

PRAYER INTENTIONS

From the Roots resources:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: Help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. (BCP)

We pray this week for our Care Homes including Normanhurst, Larchfield and Clara Court. We pray for the people who live there and for those who care.

We pray for the Sustainability group that will meet this week to plan for the coming year and seek to become an Eco Church. We pray for the COP 26 meeting in November in Glasgow that World leaders will take seriously the challenges of Climate Change and encourage all of us to make the small changes that will help to sustain God's world.

We pray for all those in need at this time. We remember Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Roger Baldery, Dave Hill, his wife Eliza, Dave's parents, Ann and Chris, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Joan Poolman, Marjorie Pocock, Terrie Freshwater, Doreen Hill, Vivienne Patterson, John Hicks, Christel Kirschner and Ronan Singh Dharwar.

We pray for the recently departed and all our departed loved ones and for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. We remember Fred Hill, Jacqueline Cottee Smith and David Amess. MP May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Charlie Mackesy, as we respond to God's love with love, 'What do you think success is?' asked the boy 'To love,' said the mole.

May we all be blessed by God's love this week,

Fr Jeremy

Worship for Sunday 24 October Bible Sunday

Sounds of Worship

Brian Graves

Today's readings explore two facets of the importance of the Word of God. In the Gospel Jesus shows that he is the living Word of God. We enjoy the benefit of the written record of the life and works of Christ described in what we call the New Testament. However, for Jesus he needed to show to his contemporaries that the Old Testament, is pointing towards his coming on earth. Belief in the written word comes through belief in the life of Jesus himself.

The Epistle makes a different point, that we need to keep faith with the written word and example of Jesus' life to avoid being led astray by teachers who "tickle our ears". Also, to use the power of the written word to support us through all the challenges, hardships and opportunities of life.

The first hymn conveys the message of the Epistle, it is "Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking" AM 387 words by Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (1902 – 1983) set to the tune Sussex, an English traditional melody adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 -1958). The words are simple and direct with a simple rhyming scheme for the ends of the 1st and 3rd and 2nd and 4th lines. This simplicity and clarity of meaning possibly reflect Gaunt's professional career as a schoolmaster and clergyman. A man of many talents he was also a very good sportsman.

Gaunt was educated at Tonbridge School and at King's College, Cambridge. While still at school he played first-class cricket for Warwickshire for a number of matches between 1919 and 1921. Subsequently, he became a schoolmaster and was assistant master at King Edward's School, Birmingham and at Rugby School. In 1937, he was appointed as headmaster of Malvern College and was in charge for 16 years, including the years of the Second World War when the school buildings were requisitioned by the UK government and the school relocated first to Blenheim Palace and then to Harrow School.

Gaunt resigned from Malvern in 1953 and went to Winchester College as assistant master and chaplain; he became a deacon in 1954 and a priest the following year. In 1963, he left the school to become full-time sacristan at Winchester Cathedral and was made precentor in 1967; he was made a canon in 1966 and became canon emeritus when he retired in 1974.

I have been unable to unearth much information about the tune Sussex, other than it is an English folk song which Ralph Vaughan Williams adapted and introduced into the First Edition of the English Hymnal in 1906 to the words "Father hear the prayer we offer. The tune is also well-suited to the direct urgency of the words of "Rise and hear!"

1. Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking,
as the gospel words unfold;
we, in all our age-long seeking,
find no firmer truth to hold.
2. Word of goodness, truth, and beauty,
heard by simple folk and wise,
word of freedom, word of duty,
word of life beyond our eyes.
3. Word of God's forgiveness granted
to the wild or guilty soul,
word of love that works undaunted,
changes, heals, and makes us whole.
4. Speak to us, O Lord, believing,
as we hear, the sower sows;
may our hearts, your word receiving,
be the good ground where it grows.

"Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking"

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Rise and hear! The Lord is speaking AM 387 Sussex

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvBvrlIht8>

The second hymn turns words into actions by proclaiming our faith in Jesus, it is "We have a gospel to proclaim" AM 507, words by Edward Joseph Burns (b1938) set to the tune Fulda by William Gardiner (1770 – 1853)

This hymn arose out of the Burns' involvement in the life of the Blackburn Diocese where he served all his ministerial life. The Bishop of the Diocese made a call to mission to focus the parishes on their responsibility in this field. The call centred on four meetings in every area which focused on the four key facets of Christian understanding, the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and the Ascension. The hymn was written for these meetings with the four points being taken up in turn in the four inner verses.

The composer of the tune Fulda, William Gardiner, was renowned for being an advocate of the music of Beethoven which led to the first performances of Beethoven's music in England. The tune was published in Gardiner's first collection hymn tunes called "Sacred Melodies" in 1815. He published a second collection in three volumes between 1838 and 1853.

1. We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout the earth;
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing His glory, tell his worth.
2. Tell of his birth at Bethlehem
not in a royal house or hall
but in a stable dark and dim,
the Word made flesh, a light for all.
3. Tell of His death at Calvary,
hated by those He came to save,
in lonely suffering on the cross;
for all he loved his life he gave.
4. Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
that we might share His victory.
5. Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified.
He sends his Spirit on his Church
to live for him, the Lamb who died.
6. Now we rejoice to name Him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

We have a gospel to proclaim AM 507

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXlojQCipg4>

"We have a gospel to proclaim"

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COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that through patience, and the comfort of your holy word we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good

work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

GOSPEL **John 5: 36b - 47**

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent. You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?'

SUPPORT NEEDED FOR RE-ORGANISING THE FURNITURE ETC IN THE CHURCH

Many thanks to those who are helping this Saturday, 23 October, to remove the platforms from the church that are no longer required.

We require even more help on Friday and Saturday 5 and 6 November please.

On those days we need to move the pews, altars and other furniture from the west end into the main body of the church to allow Cliveden to stain and polish the parquet flooring, starting at 9.30am on each day.

Detailed plans have been drawn up as to where the items can go but in brief we are committed to holding a baptism service on the Sunday afternoon, 7 November, for seventy guests so our first steps will be to place an altar at the front, with the portable font, and seven rows of the long pews on either side of the central aisle.

The grand piano will also be positioned back in its usual place and the remaining pews together with those pieces of furniture which are normally at the west end will be placed mainly in the side aisles. The organ will not be available.

As each item is moved it will first need to be dusted, for which microfibre cloths will be available.

Further, the Parish Centre has been offered to the baptism party on the Sunday morning to prepare for a party in the afternoon so we are going to hold the 10.00am Eucharist in the church using the pews already set out for the baptism.

The church will not however be as you would expect, with much furniture concertinaed together, the chancel not in use and with no refreshments afterwards.

I am sure however that you will welcome the opportunity to worship in church, particularly if, as I hope, you will have helped on the previous two days.

Please let me know that you can help to clean and set up on the Friday or Saturday. If you cannot manage the two days in full please tell me of any time you can spare.

Ken Smith



RETURN OF THE CHOIR

In anticipation of the re-opening of the church towards the end of November, I will re-start choir practices from Thursday 4 November in the Parish Centre from 8.00pm to 9.00pm.

We have been in touch with the “pre-pandemic” members of the choir. However, I want to take the opportunity to invite anyone who is new to the church or more established members of the congregation who might be interested in joining us either to send me an email (b.graves.clock@btinternet.com) or see me after a Sunday morning worship to explore how to get involved.

In the first instance we will be working on some of the weekly hymns and music for Christmas. This year, in addition to preparing for “Nine Lessons and Carols” on Sunday 19 December we are planning on singing some carols at the Christmas Market on Sunday 28 November.

After such a long period of silence, it would be great to make our Christmas celebrations as musically joyful as we can!

Brian Graves



ALL SAINTS CHRISTMAS MARKET SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Work is progressing on well on our Christmas Market; now we want to share with you all what is planned and to invite everyone to take part in what we hope will be a lovely event and a special way of inviting people to our beautiful Church, after our time away.

- There will be a good range of stalls including our own crafts and cake stalls, the tombola and raffle. And we have invited a few external "makers and producers" to have their own stalls; these will include Neals' Yard (products to be provided by Tanya Fullarton), honey, chocolate, jewellery, cured meats, bunting packs and gift hampers. There *may* be space for additional stalls if anyone knows of any other "makers and producers" who can offer Christmassy themed items.
- We will have the very popular "Spin the wheel for a bottle", and a craft area in the Parish Centre for children to enjoy themselves.
- The Royal British Legion will be with us and we will have music from our own Church Choir and the "Tuneless Choir".
- We will be selling mulled wine and beer and there will be a BBQ and Indian food, the latter through the generosity of the Maidenhead Sikh community; we will be laying out tables in the Parish Centre for people to sit at and enjoy their food
- And most importantly, Father Christmas will be paying a visit to our grotto in the Birinus Room, to meet the little ones!

To help make this a success we will need the help of the All Saints community and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be able to:

1. Help run a stall
2. Serve the Indian food
3. Assist Father Christmas - elf costumes welcomed!

Please contact Stella (07738 179710) or let Fr Jeremy know if you would like to help with any of these.

4. Make a cake(s) and /or mince pies
5. Donate a prize to the raffle
6. Donate items for the tombola - lots of those needed please!
7. Lend a gazebo - several of these needed please),

Please contact Stella, Jayne (07782 286158) or Tanya Fullarton (07870 244067 about any donations so we can arrange to collect them from you.

There is a helpful map on the noticeboard showing the proposed layout of stalls on the day; we are making good use of the Quadrangle and there will be stalls in the Church too.

Now that we have the basic elements of the day in place we need everyone's help, please, to make it a success.

Fr Jeremy, Jayne Chapman, Tanya Fullarton, Stella Harding



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL

We are going to be taking part in this appeal for the 9th time this year. Last year we donated over 60 boxes as gifts for children around the world who don't have much. This wasn't quite as high as our total of 100 in 2019 but was still amazing! The coronavirus pandemic is causing even greater hardship for some children and their families, and this is one way to show God's love and bring some joy. Please read the attached note for details of how you can contribute. We have our own donation page on the OCC website this year to make donating even easier! You can find it at <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/5605bb90#form> If you have any questions, please contact me at jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk.

REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

Any commuter will, I'm sure, report the same thing. Rush hour trains to London are busy again. Boarding at peak times from Maidenhead station can mean, once more, standing room only in the carriages.

For those of us who have grown used to finding a seat for every journey, and even the next-door seat remaining empty due to social distancing rules, this is quite a gear shift. Generally, however, we know intuitively that these are signs of increased economic activity that will contribute to greater prosperity.

One current feature of commuting, though, is troubling. Frequently, I look around carriages and see around two thirds of passengers are without masks. I find this maddening. Announcements ask all travellers to wear a face covering. Notices say the same thing. Yet the majority ignore this.

I would rather not wear a mask, either. It makes my glasses steam up as I try to read a newspaper or book. It's a fiddle when I want to sneeze. But my comfort or convenience is not the point. I wear a mask as a courtesy to others: to staff, to fellow passengers.

I know that some members of our parish have been shielding due to health conditions. Two of my friends, men in their fifties, have blood cancers. Their Covid-19 vaccinations did not work. They feel vulnerable. When they see people not wearing masks in public places, they feel at risk.

For those of us fortunate to have good health, wearing a face covering is a small contribution to greater public protection and confidence.



Operation Christmas Child was formed in 1990 when Dave Cooke from Wrexham saw the horror of children in Romanian orphanages. He asked his friends to help fill a truck with toys and drive it to Romania.

OCC is now the world's largest Christmas project run by Samaritan's Purse. Since 1990, more than 168 million children in over 160 countries have experienced God's love through the power of a shoebox of gifts.

Packing shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal has become an important part of our ministry in recent years and, speaking with Father Jeremy and others in our community, we agreed that we don't want to stop the support we give to these children. This will be our 9th year of taking part. In 2019, we donated over 100 boxes. Last year, in spite of it being during the COVID pandemic, we donated over 60 boxes.

As the global pandemic continues, the lives of children and families have been turned upside down and, now more than ever, boys and girls around the world need to experience hope and joy, and a shoebox gift offers just that!

We plan to follow the same model as last year. There are 3 ways that you can contribute:

Shoebox Online - you can select your gifts online and Operation Christmas Child will pack and send your shoebox for you. We have our own page this year to make it easy and to track how many boxes we send. Click on this link <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/5605bb90> (or copy this link into your browser) to pack a shoebox or go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> for more information. It costs £20.



Donation –If you're not keen on the online option, you can make a monetary contribution. You can do this by making an online bank transfer or writing a cheque to the church - or by giving cash. Cheques or cash will be collected from church on Sundays. **Please mark any donations clearly as being for the 'Shoebox appeal'.**

Your own shoebox –You could pack your own complete shoebox. Some of you have done this previously. Go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> and choose 'How to pack a shoebox' for more information. As you may remember, there are some items not allowed and these are listed on the website – and it may give you some inspiration too! The nearest drop off point is Braywick Nurseries, 41 Braywick Rd, Maidenhead SL6 1DX. Dates to be confirmed but likely to be 15-22nd November. Please don't bring your shoeboxes to the church.



A reminder of the project

There are a number of videos on the Samaritan's Purse website which give stories about the children who receive the boxes, but here is my favourite. You may remember it, as we've shown in several times in church.

WOW! video <https://youtu.be/i7g4C4k7UTw>

A simple heartfelt gift, packed with love and fuelled by prayer can mean so much to a child and their family – and enables us to share God's love and bring joy to children around the world.

We hope that you can support this project again this year – and please let me know if you send a box online or drop one off, so I can let you all know the number of boxes we donate.

Thanks, Jenny Wilks

jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk