

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk
Issue 192 28 February 2024



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

This Lent I have been encouraging you all to follow the 'Come and See' The Way of Love. As I write this letter, I have been influenced in my thoughts by day 14 of Bishop Steven's meditations and the focus, as well as the voice of Charlie Kerr who has been leading amazing ministry in our school's chaplaincy across the Diocese. The way my mind spins from one theme to another makes listening to one of my sermons feel like a 10 minute spin in a tumble dryer but the erudite thoughts of the bishop and Charlie have taken me back to a 1970's hit 'Moonlight Shadow' by Cat Stevens and as today is George Herbert's festival, a reflection on the wonderful poet/priest that I studied at school and indeed at St Stephen's House theological College in the early 90's.

We begin with the bishop's reflection on the way of love through surely the best-known psalm of scripture. Steven shares with us the idea of psalm 23 demonstrating 'Our love for God in prayer and worship.' 'Psalm 23 offers us profound and beautiful words of love which we say back to the God who loves us. The psalm turns around two beautiful images of shepherd and host.' The bishop reminds us that the constant love of God is found with us through the stress and strain of life, in times when we feel alone and lost and in times of deep sorrow.

In the second part of the psalm Bishop Steven encourages us to see the welcome God provides at his own table, 'to offer strength and joy and to abide and be at home with the Lord, both in this life and the life to come.' To those of you worshipping at All Saints even if your head might be spinning out of a incoherent sermon, you may be heartened by the joy of knowing the God of Trinitarian presence in communion at the Lord's table as we celebrate being members of the Body of Christ and rejoice too in the hope that we have, in being present with the Mystical Body of Christ in the life to come.

Charlie has left me writing this letter with Cat's voice and the tune of 'Moon Shadow'! I played it on YouTube and it was a big mistake. I can't get the tune out of my mind! Charlie tells us 'Being followed by a moon shadow is rare – a moon full enough, a sky clear enough – plus a ground crisp with white frost – allows for such a moment. Walking towards that celestial light, our moon shadow follows us. In the wan Spring sun, look for your shadow today and recall the words of the Psalmist: 'May goodness and loving mercy follow me.'

I read about the reason that Cat Stevens wrote his song. He had grown up in a big city but during a visit to Spain he had found himself in a more natural environment. There he saw the moon, unobstructed by artificial lights. He saw his shadow, as cast by the moon in water nearby. This filled him with wonderment and serenity. The song is an appreciation of life even in heartache. If he loses his hands,

eyes, legs, mouth, and teeth, even if he loses all his essential functions he can find hope. Of course, there is exaggeration, but the idea is that finding the 'Faithful Light' eg the moon shadow will bring him the simple joys of life like seeing his own shadow in the moonlight.

If you are still with me, we move to George Herbert. I do not possess a poetic bone in my body, but Herbert sends tingles down my spine. He was a man who having spent many years feeling he was unworthy to be a priest yet led his parishioners in a deeply spiritual way. He believed in public and cooperate prayer found in the church. The daily offices were said, and the bells rung as farmers came to a halt with their work as they acknowledged the priest at prayer even if they could not be present.

Herbert believed in the sacrament of Holy Communion and that God was present. He believed too that all things might become sacraments to us, meeting places between God and humanity. He believed that even the most menial tasks might become divine if they were made with love.

Bishop Steven, Charlie Kerr, share with Herbert that the Christian life is one to be made in union with God. Cat Stephens shares a different faith journey of Islam and is said to devote his life to philanthropic causes. The link though is the thin place that marks our journey through life. I too discovered this in Northern Spain on pilgrimage to Santiago. As I walked alone towards the city of Burgos on one late summer, early autumn morning with the sun at my back I saw that wonderful city in the distance. I took my Nokia phone out and tried to take a photo of the city. A couple of weeks later I looked back at my photos to find one that made no obvious sense, at least on first viewing. What I thought would be one of Burgos, instead showed a shadow casting my body straight down the Roman way! That was the moment after so many difficulties in my life that I had felt close to God. I remember that morning shedding tears of joy and a lightness of heart though I had no idea of the image of the photo I had taken.

Psalms 23 and the image of shepherd, host and God's love find meaning perhaps in Herbert's 'The Call'. The words come from the heart of a life which did indeed partake of the unity and joy which comes from God.

'Come, my Joy, my Love, my heart;

Such a joy as none can move;

Such a Love, as none can part;

Such a heart, as joys in love.'

May we all be blessed by God's love this Lent.

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 29 February

3.00pm *Open the Book at All Saints School*

4.00pm Baptism Class in the Birinus Room

7.00pm Stations of the Cross with Jo Sheppard & Fr Jeremy *Journeying with Refugees* These stations were written by young people on the plight of refugees.

8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 1 March

Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre

Saturday 2

9.00am – 2.30pm *Marriage Preparation at St Luke's*

Sunday 3

10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Third Sunday of Lent

Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Jeremy

Young Saints meet in the Birinus Room

12 noon Baptism of Jake Lee Doyle

Please pray for him, his parents and godparents.

6.00pm Sundays@Six Eucharist for St David's Day

Do join us to celebrate the Patron Saint of Wales and to enjoy Welsh Cakes!

Monday 4

9.30am Morning Prayer

7.30pm *Young Saints Leaders meet at the Vicarage*

Tuesday 5

9.15am - 10.30am Visit from Boyne Hill Infant School

2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre (see p)

7.30pm Standing Committee Meeting in the Birinus Room

Wednesday 6

10.00am Requiem Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

11.30am *Service at Clara Court Care Home: Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock*

12.15pm Lenten Soup Lunch in the Parish Centre. Proceeds to the Ripple Charity

7.00pm *Film Evening at Mike & Jan's, Woodstock, Boyne Hill Avenue See p 4*

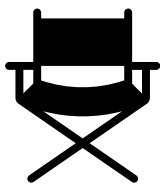
ADVANCE NOTICES:

THURSDAY 21 MARCH 7.00pm FOUR PLACES LEFT ON THE MINI-BUS FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!

The Licensing service for Fr John as Associate Priest at St Michael and All Angels, Maidstone. For those who would like to attend the service we are providing a mini-bus which will leave All Saints at 3.30pm and will return home about 10.30pm. I hope there will be time when we arrive at Maidstone for some refreshments before the service and refreshments will be provided by St. Michaels after the service. The cost of the mini-bus will be no more than £30 and at the time of writing only 4 seats remain available. Please contact Sue Stannett if you would like one – sastannett@gmail.com. if anyone would still like to give a donation to his farewell gift please do so to the Churchwardens, John or Ken.

TUESDAY CLUB 5 MARCH 2.30pm IN THE PARISH CENTRE

Our speaker is Megan Maltby from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission,, who will be speaking about the history of the organisation as well as its on-going work. Visitors always welcome at our meetings.



LENT FILM EVENINGS

Films with an environmental theme to be followed by a short discussion.

Please come and join us.

Still to come:

Date	Film	Location
6 th March 7.00 pm	2040 (2019) Motivated by concerns about the planet his 4-year-old daughter would inherit, Damon Gemeau embarked on a global journey to meet innovators and change makers in the areas of economics, technology, civil society, agriculture, education and sustainability.	Mike and Jan's
13 th March 7.00 pm	Gorillas in the Mist (1988) The story of Dian Fossey, a scientist who went to Africa to study the vanishing mountain gorillas, and later fought to protect them. A 'golden oldie' with Sigourney Weaver.	Mike and Jan's

Mike and Jan's house: Woodstock, Boyn Hill Avenue, SL6 4HA (phone 07779 967969) Between Westmorland Road & Bishop Court

The Sustainability Group.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

As we journey through Lent with 'Come and See' we give thanks for the promise of Psalm 23 of God's constant love throughout our lives, in those times of stress, the times when we feel alone and those periods of sorrow.

We give thanks too this week as we contemplate the welcome of God to his table to receive his gift of new and transformed life. We pray and give thanks out of our love for God who shares his love with us.

We pray this week for those who are preparing for Baptism as they begin to understand what it might mean to become a member of the Body of Christ. We pray that each person who will be baptised in this church whether child or adult will come to know that they are loved by God. We pray for Jake Lee Doyle to be baptised on Sunday and for Kaitlyn Malkin (Rod Broad's granddaughter), Luke Follett and Clara Pang on the anniversaries of their Baptisms.

We continue to give thanks for the Lent lunches and for the fellowship we are enjoying over delicious homemade soups. We give thanks too for the generosity of people making donations towards the Ripple Effect charity and the sustainable farming training they are providing.

We continue to pray for peace in the troubled parts of the world. We pray for the end to bloodshed in Gaza, Israel, and other parts of the Middle East. We pray for peace in Ukraine, and we continue to be mindful of the troubles in South Sudan, Sudan, Iran, Afghanistan and other places of violence and depression. We continue to pray for asylum seekers and refugees, some of whom are leaving hotels and the communities that have supported them. We pray that they may find opportunities for jobs, homes and places of welcome in this country and that they may live life in all its fulness.

We pray for the Tiny Saints, The Open the Book teams and for our Young Saints and Sundays at 4 volunteers. We give thanks for the time and skills offered to help the young people in our community to discover a little more of God's love for them.

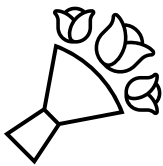
We pray for the new Head teacher who will be appointed to lead Altwood School from September 2024. May that person be blessed by God as they seek to lead a Christian School with Christian values and vision to help students and staff to live life in all God's fulness.

We pray for St David and the Church in Wales this week. As we celebrate St David's Day in Church on Sunday evening, we give thanks for the Saint who challenged us all to do the small things well.

We pray for those in need at this time. We remember Daneille, Christopher, Sylvia Denison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Joseph White, Morieza Seraj, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Jim Goff, Gill Deane-Williams, Simon Fullarton, Vera Shaw, Abbas Heidari, Azita Rezaei, Arash Rezaei, Elham Nekunam, Doreen Bramble, Doris Winn, and Nick Kirk.

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 within our parish.

We pray for the recently departed: Helen Jackson, Cheryl Brookes, Eddie Sheppard and Bishop Alan Wilson and all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time. We pray for Jo and Carol Sheppard at this time.



MOTHERING SUNDAY POSIES

We shall be making the posies for Mothering Sunday on Saturday 9 March at 10.00am in the Parish Centre. We are always grateful for as much help as possible, so please come along if you can. A selection of small pieces of greenery are required, such as Heather, Pittosporum, perfumed leaves (rosemary etc.) are particularly welcome, so if you, or your neighbours, have any that can be spared, please bring them with you or leave them at the Parish Office on Friday morning, 8 March.



EASTER LILIES

If you would like to sponsor lilies for Easter Day in memory of a loved one, please put your name on the list on the table at the back of the church. This is a lovely way to be involved in making the church look really beautiful for this Queen of Festivals. Unfortunately, the price of flowers has increased dramatically over the past few years, and it is anticipated that the lilies will cost around £6.00 per stem this year. We need to place our order by Sunday 10 March at the latest; so please put your name on the list by that date. Payment can be made using the pre-printed envelopes which are also on the table at the back of the church to be handed to Stella Harding or the Church Office.

The Flower Team

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 3 MARCH THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

10.00am

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

O T READING Exodus 20: 1 – 17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. 7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

GOSPEL John 2: 13 - 22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

MUSIC

Prelude:	Pieces for Musical Clock No VIII & I	<i>J Haydn</i>
Opening hymn:	2 Christ, whose glory fills the skies	
Gradual hymn:	634 Firmly I believe and truly	
Offertory hymn:	667 I danced in the morning	
Communion hymn:	156 We sing the praise of him who died	
Closing hymn:	761 Praise the Lord of Heaven	
Postlude:	Fantasia in F Minor and Major	<i>W A Mozart</i>

6.00pm

Preludes:	<i>Cantilene</i> , Sonata yn D leiaf, Op 148 <i>Rheinberger</i> Preliwd ar Song 13 gan Orlando Gibbons <i>Healey Willan</i>
Opening hymn:	721 Love divine, all loves excelling
Gradual hymn:	792 The God of love my shepherd is
Offertory hymn:	676 Immortal, invisible, God only wise
During Communion:	Offrymddarn <i>Thomas Tomkins</i>
Closing hymn:	652 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer
Postlude:	Preliwd yn E leiaf, BWV 548 (i) <i>J S Bach</i>

SUNDAYS@SIX EUCHARIST FOR ST DAVID'S DAY

RENAISSANCE VOICES CONCERT IN CHURCH DIRECTED BY PAUL LEDDINGTON WRIGHT



JOY- sorrow – HOPE Saturday 9 March 6.30pm

Tickets £18 (£16 in advance, under 18s free) Includes a light supper after the concert

<https://www.renaissancevoices.co.uk/tickets/> or 01628 624429

Renaissance Voices' concerts have become a regular feature at All Saints. This one features choral music, readings and hymns charting the journey from Christ's birth to resurrection. The programme highlights, the Annunciation, Candlemas, the season of Lent, Palm Sunday, Passiontide and Easter resurrection. This thoughtful concert complements other activities at the church as part of our Lenten preparation for Passiontide and Easter.

The choir is directed by Paul Leddington Wright who was formerly Director of music at Coventry Cathedral and principal conductor of the BBC TV programme Songs of Praise.

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.

Claire Foley claire.foley@fit2live.me.uk



DO THE SMALL THINGS WELL

Reduce waste - by sharing your excess seeds with others and having a good chinwag at the same time. Maidenhead seed swap is on Saturday 2 March this year at the Eco Action hub in the Nicholson centre. No need to grow 500 lettuces when you can swap 400 of them for a couple of aubergines. See www.ecoaction.co.uk for more info and an eye-catching poster.

Your Eco-Church committee

