

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

On Saturday I attended the Diocesan Synod at Holy Trinity Church, Hazlemere, High Wycombe. I have had the privilege of hearing how the Diocese and the wider body of the Church of England faces the challenges of the 21 century. Feedback from General Synod and the presidential addresses of Bishop Steven Croft have encouraged thought, reflection and debate over subjects such as sustainability issues, artificial intelligence, and the value of work to name but a few covered over the six years I have been a member. Last weekend focussed on the desire to grow the contact churches have with children, families and schools following the dramatic decline in the numbers of children in churches since the Pandemic.

The importance of children's and youth ministry has always been important, and Bishop Steven highlighted how he himself had benefitted from a minister setting up a youth club that met originally for three young people. That led to Bishop Steven finding a call to answer God and has led to his fulfilling Christian life and ministry. For my own part my experience of pastorally caring curates with personalities of humour and adventure that supported our parish churches of St Basil's with St John's and St Anne's in Newport South Wales brought so much joy to my brother Tim and me.

In the mid 1970's my parents divorced, and my mother decided to take her two sons to church. I can't, if I am honest, remember too many sermons or indeed Sunday School classes, but I can remember the relationships formed with Fr Jeremy Winston, Fr Paul Martin and superb lay people like Heather Hansen and Ian Hambleton who gave so much of their free time to young people. Heather organised and planned holidays on narrow boats in parts of the Midlands and camping holidays in the Gower Peninsula which will always hold fond memories for me. Heather also organised groups of young people to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme that led to many life enhancing experiences. It is true to say that the two priests and Ian Hambleton played a large part in my vocation to feel called to be a priest and that has led to me living a life of real blessing.

With this background I have to write that I am concerned with the figures presented at Synod on Saturday. 42% of parishes have less than 5 children. 10% have 5-10 children, 9% have 10-20 and 6% have over 20 children. I am not clear about the other group of parishes not represented in these figures, but my fear is that there are parishes without any children. All Saints, Boyne Hill would, on a typical Sunday, fall into the bracket of under 5 children on a Sunday morning. The news is not quite as bad as the Synod is projecting, in my view though, due to midweek activity. Andrew Anderson-Gear who has been a wonderful servant of Oxford Diocese as a youth minister, Diocesan Youth Adviser and leading the general mission of the church through such avenues as Partnership in Missional church provided

evidence that the church should focus on home, school, church partnerships and building intentional discipleship pathways.

These pathways can be found through building relationships with young families at groups like Tiny Saints. By having the link with baptism preparation with a toddler group and then offering the links to Young Saints, Sundays @4 and our contact with our local schools. The Open the Book bible stories have enabled the parish to reach out to 500 children weekly and now with Revd Jo Ellington providing chaplaincy at Altwood good relationships are being made with students and teachers. As a parish we have excellent input into education through our school governors and recently four people from All Saints were involved in the appointment of a new head teacher at Altwood.

The challenge for our parish is not I believe trying to achieve more around children's and youth ministry but to discover more leaders and helpers to continue what we already provide.

Please consider if you have time and the willingness to share with young people at Tiny Saints or indeed as a member of the excellent Open the Book teams within our parish. May I take the chance also to thank our leaders working at Tiny Saints, Young Saints, Sundays @4 and all those engaged in school's ministry.

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

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 14 March

11.00am Baptism Class Rehearsal
12.30pm Deanery Chapter Meeting at St James the Less, Stubbings
3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School
7.00pm Stations of the Cross with Jo Sheppard using Pope Francis's *Stations of Mercy*
8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 15

Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre
1.45pm *Comic Relief* at Boyne Hill Infant School

Sunday 17

10.00am Parish Eucharist for Passion Sunday with Holy Baptism
Please pray for Karen Harvey, Parang Tajeddin, and Mohammad Ali Tabkhi
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Jeremy
Young Saints meet in the Birinus Room

6.00pm *Sundays@Six Stations of the Cross at St Luke's*

Monday 18

9.30am Morning Prayer
9.45am – 10.30am *Class at Boyne Hill School on the these of Forgiveness*
11.30am Funeral of Eddie Sheppard in Church
7.30pm *WAMCF Ladies' Group Meeting at St Luke's see p 5*

Tuesday 19 March

8.50am *Easter Assembly at Altwood School*
1.30m *Chapel & Chats at Altwood School*

Wednesday 20 March

8.50am Easter Assembly at Altwood School

10.00am Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

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

2.00pm Service at Larchfield Care Home; Fr Jeremy & Jeanette Lock

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Parish Centre

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday 24 March

Sundays @4 4.00pm Children's Stations of the Cross followed by Hot Cross buns and crumpets.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

As we gather today, make us mindful of the wonderful variety of people and experiences in our church community, in our local community and in our nation and wider world. In our gospel today we give thanks for the Greeks who desired to live life in all its fulness with Jesus as active members of the Body of Christ. May we all discern our God given gifts to play our part as Baptised members of All Saints.

We pray that we may prioritise our ministry to children, families, and schools. We pray for more people to play an active role in our ministry to Tiny Saints, Young Saints, Sundays@4, our schools ministry through Open the Book. May this church be a place of welcome to people of all ages.

Loving God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing among the nations; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children. We pray in particular for the people suffering through war in Gaza and Ukraine and for all Asylum seekers and refugees seeking support in this country.

We continue to give thanks for our Lent lunches and the chance to meet with others over homemade soups. We give thanks too for the Ripple Effect Charity we are supporting and for the sustainable farming that they are helping people to learn.

We give thanks today for the Holy Baptisms we celebrate for Karen Harvey, Parang Tajeddin, and Mohammad Ali Tabkhi. May they play their part as baptised Christians and use their God-given gifts to build the Body of Christ.

We pray for Darren and Sibio this week as they seek God's blessing upon their married life and celebrate their two families coming together as one. May Darren and Sibio enjoy many happy years of married life that will be blessed by God.

We pray for Fr John as he prepares to be Licensed as Priest in Charge of St Michael's in Maidstone. May God bless him in his ministry to the people of the parish of St Michael's.

We pray for those in need at this time. We pray for Caleb Curtis-Smith as he recovers from surgery and pray for a full and speedy recovery. We continue to pray for Daneille, Christopher, Sylvia Dennison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Joseph White, Moreiza 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 all 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; Eddie Sheppard, Bishop Alan Wilson and Keith Whiteside and all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time. We pray for Jo and Carol Sheppard at this time.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 17 MARCH PASSION SUNDAY

COLLECT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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

EPISTLE Hebrews 5: 5 – 10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL John 12: 20 – 33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

MUSIC

Prelude:	Chorale Prelude O Welt, ich muss dich lassen <i>J Brahms</i>
Opening hymn:	748 O Jesus, I have promised
Gradual hymn:	658 Help us, O Lord, to learn
Offertory hymn:	707 Lift high the cross
Communion hymn:	155 Unless a grain of wheat shall fall
Closing hymn:	612 Christ triumphant, ever reigning
Postlude:	Guiting Power <i>P Leddington Wright</i>

All Saints Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at Boyne Hill Cricket Club, Highway Road, Maidenhead SL6 SAE on Monday evening 22 April 2024

Programme:

6.30pm bar opens. Fish and Chip Supper served. Must be ordered and paid for in advance. Sign-up sheet now at the back of Church.

7.00pm Meeting of Parishioners to elect two Churchwardens,

7.10 pm APCM with speakers, reports and elections to PCC and other roles.

The guest speaker will be Rev Jo Ellington Chaplain of Altwood School

After the APCM, there will be a short meeting of the newly elected PCC. Open to PCC members.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for those who wish to register for the APCM

Notices of elections will be issued shortly.

David Morgan, PCC Secretary



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

THE MARLOW PLAYERS PRESENT *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST*

Thursday 6 – Saturday 6 April 7.30pm at Great Marlow School Hall, Bobmore Lane, Marlow SL7 1JE

Doors open 7.00pm

Tickets: Adults £15 School Students £6

All together now: "A HANDBAG??!!"

Oscar Wilde's final play and a sparkling masterpiece of witty repartee and ironic satire on the hypocrisy and superficiality of social manners in England in the 1890s. Jack Worthing, the baby in the handbag, Miss Prism, the governess and Dr Chasuble a High Churchman are swept aside by Lady Bracknell, in search of a wealthy son-in-law, a part hungered for by every actress (and some actors) since the unforgettable Dame Edith Evans whose horrified scream of "A Handbag?!!" made this the most recognisable line in any play after "to be or not to be" . A great chance, to see this live, not to be missed!

To access the Box Office press Ctrl and click mouse using this link [Box Office](#)

Andrew Stafford

WAMCF LADIES GROUP next meeting Monday 18 March 7.30pm at St Luke's

All welcome to hear about the Revd Joan Hicks' recent visit to Guatemala.

THURSDAY 21 MARCH 7.00pm THERE MAY BE PLACES LEFT ON THE MINI-BUS FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!
The Licensing service for Fr John as Priest in Charge of 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. 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.

COX GREEN LUNCHEON CLUB

There are places for people to enjoy a freshly cooked two course meal at Cox Green Community centre every Tuesday lunchtime. The meal is normally served from 1.00pm. You can be sure of a warm welcome; for more information contact Pam Hitchcock on 01628 825157