

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 55 21 April 2021



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

The sermon that you will find in this week's Parish News was preached on the Third Sunday of Easter and speaks about how we are to be an Easter people partaking the Body of Christ that we might become the Body of Christ within our communities. During Songs of Praise on Sunday, apart from the comedian Frank Skinner speaking powerfully about his faith and indeed his prayer life, we heard Archbishop Stephen Cottrell ask that the Anglican Church should offer a Christian presence within every community.

As the 98th Archbishop of York he said that we have learned to appreciate each other differently. We are not so individualistic neither do we measure ourselves by the size of our house, car or salary. Instead, says Stephen, we 'are measuring ourselves by the size of our hearts.' We are called as communities to rediscover our humanity, and love God and neighbour and build new communities with a new sense of belonging.

The second part of All Saints Boyne Hill's vision is welcome and encouraging people to discover a sense of belonging so that we might as a community share gospel values with others. As we have been planning the work for the floor at All Saints we have once again been challenged to think what impact a Christian community at Street's wonderful building makes on the surrounding needs and challenges. During the Pandemic we saw the value of many people making every effort to connect with people who needed company via a phone call, offering to purchase food and sometimes medical supplies. The local authority was impressed and encouraged us with financial support and offered contacts of other organisations that were supporting the community. One of them was the Magpies, the local football club of Maidenhead United who, apart from wanting to entertain by playing football, wanted to support people in need.

Ken Smith and I have been communicating with our local councillors Cllr Stuart Carroll and Cllr Gurpreet Bhangra of Boyne Hill ward. We have been able to work well with them supporting the vaccination rollout and discovering ways in which we can support the wider community. The councillors are going to support next year's plan to work with our three church schools and the Bishop of Reading to discover more ways that young people can play their part alongside us in the sustainability and conservation issues that the world faces. This project will be taking place around late June or early July 2022.

Within the community we have Jeanette and the pastoral care team offering support to the Care Homes, a number of us are committed members of the Street Angels and All Sorts. Moving forward we would like to see All Saints continuing to build contacts with the community. The councillors to this end invited us to a

gathering of community stakeholders involved in various areas of need and support. Ken and I met via zoom with people representing community learning, people attempting to support older people with loneliness and isolation, members of a local Rotary group that has supported large numbers of people through the Pandemic, people supporting Food Share and a local resident and a mother from Tiny Saints who organises a keep fit group that also do community projects. In this last example we find people running to a venue or house to keep fit then taking part in a piece of work!

In Dedworth we heard that the community there has already established a Climate Group with tree planting and low cost bikes, a food network that brings together food distributors and Adult Learning courses. The key role of these community groups will be to identify needs, understand the issues and agree the support we can offer together.

Over the summer we will be worshipping within the Parish Centre, perhaps sharing services within the quadrangle and finding ways of linking with our families. We look forward to reopening Tiny Saints and returning to some of our traditional community activities like the parish fete and the Salvation Army community singing at Christmas. The Quadrangle makes a great venue for a potential Christmas Market and these are all ways alongside our excellent links with schools that we might continue our community ministry as we return to All Saints Church in September.

If any of you reading this Parish News would be interested in community projects like the schools sustainability project next year or sharing some of the potential links made through the borough please let me or Ken know. Let us partake of the Body of Christ to become the Body of Christ by loving God and neighbour and building communities with a new sense of belonging.

Fr Jeremy's Sermon preached at All Saints on 18th April Third Sunday of Easter Text Luke 24: 36b -48

Last week I spent time listening to a conversation between Dr Paula Gooder, Canon Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral and Rowan Williams the former Archbishop of Canterbury. The subject of the conversation was on the understanding of the Resurrection.

One of the first questions posed by Paula to Rowan was 'Can you live without the Resurrection?' Williams responded by saying that 'one can live but not as a Christian. Jesus is not just a Saint or a hero from the past but is alive and still active in the world today. If he has died and there was no resurrection, then he would be like so many good people who have been chewed up by political life. Whereas Christians believe that God lives on in the life of Jesus.'

By believing in the resurrection, we can see the world through different lens and with hope replied Gooder. Williams agreed but added that 'Jesus is also in the struggle, hardship and suffering of life.' This means that there is hope for us even in the darkest of times. The illustrious duo went on to discuss the resurrection stories found in the Gospels and the letters of St Paul. Williams felt that Luke has more to tell on the resurrection stories, and Gooder reflected that the Road to Emmaus is her favourite resurrection story. I would agree as anyone who has listened to me speak about this text on the communion model of the church. If you are offered one text to speak about the Christian faith it would be this wonderful account from St Luke. It is key to our text this morning as it leads us to the part in Luke's story where he tells of Jesus asking the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit so that they (we) are able to live as St Augustine says as 'An Easter People with Alleluia as their song.'

The story of Emmaus is fascinating as it highlighted that the resurrection was a new experience that no one had experienced before. The Emmaus account highlights this as it describes the early Apostles downhearted as they have witnessed 36 hours of brutality and cannot find any trace of their loved one's body. In this story we move from belief in a good man to the belief in the son of God who has won the victory for us. We move as the Body of Christ, as a people who are an Easter people with Alleluia as their song.

As we recount the story, we hear the early Apostles feeling broken hearted as they have experienced loss and Jesus asks them why they are downhearted. The apostles reply by asking Jesus, who they do not at this point recognise, 'Are you the only one in the whole of Jerusalem that has not heard the news?'. Jesus then opens the scriptures to them and explains that the saviour will go through three days suffering before rising to new Life. The apostles are still caught up in misery until they welcome him into their lives and share hospitality with him. This is one of the key parts of All Saints vision - our challenge to be a community of welcome and hospitality that enables others to feel a part of our community, and then desire to give as a disciple of Christ. (Perhaps one of the most significant paintings used at All Saints has been the Holman Hunt *The Light of the World* viewed at Keble College, Oxford that shows humanity being invited to welcome Jesus into their lives.)

Last week I met with a lovely man from St Mary's Church who, as I write this text, is testing his vocation with the Church of England to become a priest. The potential ordinand asked me to explain the sacramental understanding of the church. This text from Emmaus is a beautiful place to start. Jesus took bread, blessed it, then broke and distributed the bread. When he broke the bread the disciples' eyes were opened and their hearts burned within them as they thought back to the opening of the scriptures. This is the moment when we think about the primordial sacrament of Jesus showing us the love of God. The incarnate God is seen in Jesus coming among us as a baby boy who grows to be the man who gave his life that we might have new life. At the breaking of the bread we witness, alongside the apostles, the fact that Jesus has indeed won the victory over death and as he disappears from their eyes we, like them, are drawn into communion with our risen Lord and will now be charged to live as members of his body in the world. As St Augustine says we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song. This is clearly a text that speaks about word and sacrament. The divine word of God coming alive in sacramental living.

The movement towards our text this morning is a continuation of Luke's account of this Easter story. We now find that the early Apostles are sharing their news. They are probably emotionally exhausted and at the same time joyful. However, as Jesus appears among them they are terrified and some even think he is a ghost. Jesus points to his physical wounds and then, to prove his physical resurrection, he asks to share food with them. They offer him food and he eats broiled fish. Jesus returns to the scriptures and preaches to them about Moses, the prophets and the psalms. We can perhaps imagine him speaking of Passover leading to the new Passover of his death and resurrection, the suffering servant of the prophets called to save the people of God and the psalms of lament, suffering, joy and thanksgiving enabling us to experience God in our lives.

Jesus then sets the charge. 'I am sending you to preach a gospel of repentance and forgiveness to all the nations starting with Jerusalem. I am sending upon you what the Father promised the Holy Spirit.' The physical resurrection is important. This is not our hopes, feelings, imagination and emotions trying to generate a make-believe Jesus but rather a physical Jesus resurrected to offer us hope and the imagination to see God in all things as the Jesuits would say.

Jesus has indeed risen in divine glory, but he is also in the earthly reality of hospitality and welcome. The thin place that is the Eucharist is the place where he offers the gift of New Life and we are invited into

communion with the trinity of love to partake of the body of Christ to become the Body of Christ to the World.

As the community of All Saints Church Boyne Hill looks forward to playing our humble part in Christ's mission may we have confidence that we are indeed an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Thursday 22 April 10.30am Coffee Morning on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81404382998?pwd=Wkp0SmY3MGxhNFdHSTRJNTRWSDkvdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 0438 2998

Passcode: 466266

All you need is a cup of coffee or tea and perhaps a biscuit or two. Then feel free to share a conversation.

8.00pm Night Prayer for the Eve of St George's Day on Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 759 7654 4021

Password: 5rHziv

Psalm 126, 2 Timothy 2: 3-13. Hymn: And Did Those Feet in Ancient Time

Sunday 25 April 9.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom (note earlier time and new link)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87434475947?pwd=ZlJWOU9RZlFNaTVoYXZpYUR4Lzd1>

Meeting ID: 874 3447 5947

Passcode: 783477

11.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre.

No need to book. It will also be possible to watch on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912814977?pwd=VFNmL1hzME1ROVFcW1oSXNFa1NpUT09>

Meeting ID: 859 1281 4977

Passcode: 702902

6.00pm SUNDAYS@SIX ON ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83960514349?pwd=YUxYSVZSVjF1cDVTdS85cDRIZm95UT09>

Meeting ID: 839 6051 4349

Passcode: 945101

Night Prayer with Fr Jeremy and Jeanette and the communities of The Church of the Good Shepherd and St Luke's

Monday 26 April 7.30pm Prayer Group on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85011600714?pwd=Y0x2VWpMQ3JFUStsQ0plbEFLOEQrQT09>

Meeting ID: 850 1160 0714

Passcode: 553120

This group, following the example of our successful 'Church on the Move' from a decade ago, focusses on an area of mission that we would like to pray for. If you have anyone you would like us to pray for please let Fr Jeremy know.

Wednesday 27 April 10.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre

From Sunday 2 May there will be two Eucharistic Services in the Parish Centre at 9.30am and 11.00am. There will be no need to book. One of them will be available on Zoom: timing to be confirmed. There will be no Morning Prayer on Zoom.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Diocesan Link for the Eucharist please see the front page of our website. The Diocesan resources can be found without internet on 01865 920930.

A prayer of thanksgiving from ROOTS

Lord, a year ago your house was not a fold in which we could meet. Confined to our homes, we prayed as a silent wolf prowled the world, a pandemic that threatened us all. We thank you for watching over us, and for those who were safely delivered. It was a testing time Lord, but yet there was community. We thank you for the proof that your church has no walls, as we learned to reach out to one another and still to worship – but in different ways.

We thank you for all those in our communities who had been taken for granted, overlooked, not considered of great importance, but on whom we came to rely upon to save lives. We thank you that our values were tested, and that we saw what really matters. Good Shepherd, who knows suffering and sacrifice beyond our imagining, we thank you that we are here today, enfolded in your love. Amen.

We pray for all those who have lost their lives during the pandemic. We remember too all those who have served on the frontline. We continue to hold in our prayer those living with the impact of the virus physically and mentally. We continue to pray this Eastertide for hope as we slowly move out of Lockdown.

We continue to hold within our prayers George Hutchison, Mandy Rogers, Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Sister Mary Philip and Roger Baldery. We continue to pray for Louise O'Dwyer Bernard's family at the loss of her sister Kelly.

We pray for the recently departed Joyce Glover and James Trump and all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.
May we all be blessed by God's love this week.

Fr Jeremy

Worship for SUNDAY 25 APRIL THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sounds of Worship

Brian Graves

The fourth Sunday in Easter celebrates Christ the good shepherd. This is a familiar story with clear message about the protection, redemption and spiritual nourishment provided by the love of God.

The Psalm for the day is Psalm 23. I have chosen the metrical setting of this Psalm and secondly a hymn which focusses on the redemptive power of Jesus.

Psalm 23 must be one of the most frequently used of all the psalm texts and the version I have chosen is perhaps the most widely used of the metrical versions, it is “The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want” AM 799 words taken from the Scottish Psalter (1650) set to Crimond the melody possibly by Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836 – 1887) or David Grant (1833 – 1893).

This hymn requires little introduction. Its power to evoke the comfort and protection of God is very powerful and is a reflection of the enduring qualities of the Psalms themselves. Sadly, the use of the original Psalms texts generally has declined in church services but they remain alive in metrical versions and hymn adaptations, such as “The Lord’s my shepherd”.

However, the fame of this particular setting in the late 20th century is almost entirely due to the tune Crimond, which has relatively recently become associated with these words. Crimond was sung to this text by the Glasgow Orpheus Choir, under Sir Hugh Robertson, in the early years of radio broadcasting. It was chosen for the wedding of Princess Elizabeth in 1947 and for the Silver Wedding of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1948 and became widely known and loved from that time on. In many books the tune has been credited to Jessie Seymour Irvine, but more recent research has suggested that it was almost certainly by an Aberdeen composer, David Grant¹.

Jessie Seymour Irvine was the daughter of Alexander Irvine, Minister of Crimond, Aberdeenshire. After an apparently uneventful life, she was buried in St Machar’s Cathedral, Aberdeen. She was possibly the composer of the tune Crimond, found in the Scottish Psalter (1929). In many books the tune appears as ‘melody attributed to Jessie Seymour Irvine’, although when it first appeared in William Carnie’s, *The Northern Psalter and Hymn Tune Book* (Aberdeen, 1872) it was attributed to David Grant (1833-1893). In 1911, Irvine’s sister Anna claimed that the tune had been written by her sister Jessie and that Grant had only harmonized it, but her recollection (written many years after her sister’s death) was disputed by others. The matter is still in some doubt, although an article by Sir Ronald Johnson (1988) assesses the evidence and comes down firmly in favour of Grant as the composer².

1. The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.
2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e’en for his own name’s sake.
3. Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

The Lord's my shepherd AM 799 (Crimond) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syJFsLZmO8o>
The second hymn is "Happy are they, they that love God" AM 653 words by Robert Seymour Bridges (1844 – 1930) and Charles Coffin (1676 – 1749) set to Binchester by William Croft (1678 – 1727)

Charles Coffin a French academic and poet wrote the original text in Latin, which was translated by Robert Bridges. Thus, the structure of the hymn and rhyming scheme are possibly lack the flow of the original text. However, the sentiment of the hymn is clear and well expressed. The text draws on several biblical references but the theme is closely linked to that of Psalm 23.

Despite the diversity of the biblical references, the hymn is coherent as it evolves from the statement in the first verse about the commitment and joy of receiving salvation through the crucifixion of Christ. To importance of prayer and praise in verse 2. Then describing the protection from evil in verse 3 and welcoming protection of Jesus in verse 4. Before finally expressing the resurrection hope of eternal heavenly life in verse 5.

The tune is Binchester written by William Croft (1678-1727). Although he was an exact contemporary of Charles Coffin, it was not until the 19th Century and the Yattendon Hymnal compiled by Robert Bridges that the English translation and tune would have become connected.

Charles Coffin was principal of the college at Beauvais, 1712 (succeeding the historian Rollin), and rector of the University of Paris in 1718. In 1727, he published some of his Latin poems, for which he was already noted, and in 1736 the bulk of his hymns appeared in the Paris Breviary of that year. Simultaneously, he published them as "*Hymni Sacri Auctore" Carolo Coffin*, and in 1755 a complete edition of his works was issued posthumously in 2 volumes.

William Croft was born at the Manor House, Nether Ettington, Warwickshire. He was educated at the Chapel Royal under the instruction of John Blow and remained there until 1698. Two years after this departure, he became organist of St. Anne's Church, Soho and he became an organist and 'Gentleman extraordinary' at the Chapel Royal. He shared that post with his friend Jeremiah Clarke.

In 1707, he took over the Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal post, which had been left vacant by the suicide of Jeremiah Clarke. The following year, Croft succeeded Blow (who had lately died) as organist of Westminster Abbey. He composed works for the funeral of Queen Anne (1714) and for the coronation of King George I (1715). Croft's Funeral Sentences were sung at George Frederic Handel's funeral in 1759 and have been included in every British state funeral since their publication.

1. Happy are they, they that love God,
whose hearts have Christ confest,
who by his cross have found their life,
and 'neath his yoke their rest.

2. Glad is the praise, sweet are the songs,
when they together sing;
and strong the prayers that bow the ear
of heaven's eternal King.
3. Christ to their homes giveth his peace,
and makes their loves his own:
but ah, what tares the evil one
hath in his garden sown!
4. Sad were our lot, evil this earth,
did not its sorrows prove
the path whereby the sheep may find
the fold of Jesus' love.
5. Then shall they know, they that love him,
how all their pain is good;
and death itself cannot unbind
their happy brotherhood.

Happy are they, they who love God AM 653 (Binchester) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zckq2QqbzDo>

- 1 JRW. "The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 20 Mar. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/t/the-lord's-my-shepherd,-i'll-not-want>>.
- 2 JRW. "Jessie Seymour Irvine." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 20 Mar. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/j/jessie-seymour-irvine>>.

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 5 - 12

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

GOSPEL

John 10: 11 - 18

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a

hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

QUENCH CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP HAS REOPENED: Monday to Saturday 11.00am – 4.00pm

Please support them if you can; they have an excellent selection of cards and gifts for all occasions as well as the books.

RNIB April Quiz Answers attached

Don't forget Christian Aid Week: 10th - 16th May

FOODSHARE NEEDS are in the Maidenhead Advertiser each week.

REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

I started a new job this week. And the process felt very unusual.

Instead of putting on a suit, catching a train to London and making my way to an unfamiliar office, I sat in my front room and turned on a computer. It was a laptop that arrived by special postal delivery. I was sent a password and links to a new email account.

Unfortunately, the link had a 48-hour time limit; when I tried to log on, it had expired. I dispatched an apologetic message from my own email asking for help. For my first 45 minutes in the new role I was unable to do anything more than read documents on the organisation's website.

When I did, I grappled with an unfamiliar email system with several dozen messages, more on a separate messaging platform, a couple of dozen calendar invitations to video conference meetings and many documents awaiting my attention.

So it felt odd, compounded by the fact of being employed by people I have not met in person. But all these unusual elements – facts of life as most people work from home because of the coronavirus pandemic – were offset by the welcome of my new colleagues.

When I couldn't figure out how to do things and asked for help, they explained in a cheerful, friendly way. We had introductory video meetings. Many sent messages of welcome. They have worked productively in this way for many months.

The experience has reinforced for me how adaptable people can be and how resilient when faced with challenge.