

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 20 29 July 2020



Dear Parishioners and friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

As we continue to face the struggles caused by the Pandemic many of us have been forced to think about our health and wellbeing. In the early part of Lockdown, Monika, Lilly and myself were all benefitting from extra exercise. Lilly and I did our own half Marathon within the vicarage garden to help raise money for charity as well as keep fit and Monika started using her exercise bike which had been positioned in a spare room unused for 3 years since we thought it might be a good idea to purchase. The exercise within the home and garden was complemented by walks with Lilly the dog. We were also trying to eat healthy food following various recipes. I know we are not alone as I have heard of many of our congregation walking and cycling miles to keep fit.

I can only speak for myself and Monika, but our mental strength and physical activity has dipped. We have not been able to continue with the high levels of activity. This is disconcerting when we listen to the Government tell us that over-eating and shortage of exercise is a contributing factor to vulnerability when facing the Pandemic. Bishop Steven has picked up on this theme in his latest podcast. The Bishop of Oxford has found himself an on-line running coach via a Nike app by the name of Chris Bennett. Bishop Steven has progressed from jogging 5km to 10 km in more recent times. However, the bishop is not just recommending jogging for his congregations but encouraging us to discover inner strength from our faith as we face the challenges of the Pandemic in the autumn. He tells us that schools, churches, the NHS and the economy are going to face a demanding autumn and winter. He asks where will our help come from?

To discover an answer Steven continues his study of the letter of Paul to the Philippians. If we study the Acts of the Apostles as a number of the congregation at All Saints have in recent years, we discover in chapters 21-28 the terrible hardships Paul went through as a disciple of Christ. However, in Philippians Paul writes about encouragement and strength that he finds in Christ without lamenting his struggles. In Chapter one of Philippians, Paul offers thanksgiving to Christ for giving us the strength to engage with the world. In chapter two Paul tells us that when we face the simple and complex questions of the future, we need to follow Christ who in the incarnation showed humility. Christ became a humble baby who grew to be the man that gave his life that we might find new and transformed life. He became the servant that washed feet rather than a powerful human king. We need to discover a common mind found through humility to discover the future for All Saints.

In chapter three Bishop Steven highlights the fact that Paul discovers the inner strength needed for us as disciples. Yes, we need sleep, exercise, a holiday and good relationships but we need to know Christ. His incarnation, the cross and the resurrection lead us to being saved and because of this the life of the church says Steven should firstly be about celebrating what God has done for us. Paul sounds like he is boasting when he says that he can have confidence in himself as he has been blameless to the law, but he knows that he cannot earn favour with God, he cannot earn salvation. He knows that it is in Christ we are drawn into union with God and the hope of new life. We discover in Romans how this victory is won for us but in Philippians we discover a more simple and pastoral offering. Steven tells us that the greatest treasure found here is not forgiveness or even new life but rather relationship with Christ. By knowing Christ, we become who we were meant to be. We need to know our need for God as I shared in last weekend's sermon in church, we need to find the pearl of great wisdom and value. Steven reminds us that Paul

found humility on the Road to Damascus and that led him to follow (run) a life that was costly. Read Philippians chapter 3 verses 7-11 to know what Steven is pointing to in Paul. Then read verses 12-16 to find the image of running the race with the prize a call to the heavenly banquet with Jesus. As we walk, jog, cycle or run through this life we will stumble as it is tough. But in humility if we discover Christ and the incarnation, his death and resurrection and the communion he offers us we will be walking, running, jogging and perhaps dancing as the Africans prefer to the tune of his Spirit. So where will we find our strength moving towards the Autumn and beyond? Steven suggests Psalm 121 for confirmation to what Paul has offered as coaching advice to us in Philippians. 'I will lift up my eyes to the hills; from where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.'

Christine Pocock

Chapter one of Philippians tells us of the need for thanksgiving. Within our own community at All Saints I would like to give thanks to Christine Pocock who has shared the journey of faith in communion with God and with each one of us, and has played her part in discipleship by her dedicated ministry as sacristan for many years. The role of sacristan is varied and involves commitment of time, energy, Christian welcome and a deep faith. The role involves week in week out preparing the church for worship to take place. This is getting the church ready on the day of services and checking our supplies and making orders to our suppliers. For weddings and funerals Christine has offered support to families and served at these occasions helping the church to provide services that reflect joy and celebration at weddings and support and care at funerals. At Baptisms Christine has provide welcome and support to our baptism families. This is the beginning of the Christian journey and the welcome and support we offer families at this point is not forgotten.

All of us I suspect are looking forward to the time when the All Saints community can worship Jesus in thanksgiving at Christmas, the major festivals and the climax of our faith Holy Week and Easter. I personally give thanks to Christine for the hours of her time spent unseen preparing the church day by day through that glorious week that is Holy Week. Each service is different and requires time, thoughtfulness and love and devotion for the worship to take place.

We would have been thanking Christine in church at this time as she retires from her role. Instead I thank you Christine from myself and the community of All Saints in this newsletter.

With our love, Fr Jeremy & the community of All Saints.

Resources

Eucharist 10.00am 2nd August – The Eighth Sunday after Trinity using Eucharistic prayer B

Eucharist 10.00am Wednesday 5th August using Eucharistic Prayer G

If you have internet access, please continue to use the Church of England and Oxford Diocesan resources. The dialling for those without internet can be found on 01865 920930.

Night Prayer Thursdays 8.00pm – 8.30pm on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75976544021?pwd=Q1pJVltpTytOdHg0VXhSRGxWRzIzZz09>

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>

You should have received a copy of this helpful blue book but if you haven't please let me know.

The readings for this Thursday are Psalm 18. 1-20, 2 Corinthians Chapter 13 and the Song 454 from Ancient and Modern (Our new Book) Love is his word, love is his way.

If you are using the blue Church of England booklets for morning prayer the readings are:

Friday July 31st Psalm 19, 1 Sam 13.5-18, Luke 22. 63-end – St Ignatius of Loyola

Saturday August 1st Psalm 23, 1 Sam 13.19- 14.15, Luke 23. 1-12

Sunday August 2nd Psalm 85, Song of Solomon 5. 2-end, 2 Peter 1. 1-15

Monday August 3rd Psalm 30, 1 Samuel 14. 24-46, Luke 23. 13-25

Tuesday August 4th Psalm 36, 1 Samuel 15. 1-23, Luke 23. 26-43

Wednesday August 5th Psalm 34, 1 Samuel 16, Luke 24. 44-56a

Thursday August 6th Psalm 150, 1 Kings 19. 1-16, 1 John 3. 1-3 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Prayer intentions

Lord we pray this week for people who have little or nothing: for those trapped in their situation, and can't see the bigger picture, or even any tiny glimmer of light.

We pray for people who are hungry: for parents who struggle to feed their children, ad themselves. We thank you for the work of food banks, and pray that they would have the resources to continue to meet so many needs.

We pray that you would give us an appreciation of our food: The work that goes into producing and distributing it. Teach us not to be wasteful, but to preserve and to pass on the goodness of your earth.

We continue to pray for Nick Moss and Rosemary Tyson as they continue their recovery at home. We give thanks to God for his loving presence with them at this time.

We pray for schools, churches the NHS and the economy as we face this demanding Autumn. We pray that we may centre our lives on Christ so that we may find strength to persevere and face the challenges ahead.

We continue to give thanks for the pastoral care team and the support they are offering through phone calls and acts of kindness.

We pray for all frontline workers who support us. We remember from our own congregation our NHS and healthcare workers John, Helen, Joanne, Karen, Carole, Richard, Eleanor, Ricky, Dagma, Emmanuel and Magda.

We pray for our small groups including Tiny Saints, Tuesday Club, Young Saints, All Sorts and Senior Saints. As the Senior Saints begin to gather again in small groups for cream teas and fellowship, we give thanks for their support for one another.

We pray for the Nursing Homes of Boyn Grove, Clara Court, Normanhurst and Larchfield. We give thanks that families can once again visit their relatives in Care Homes.

We pray for all those suffering in any way as a consequence of the virus and the Lockdown. We remember the thousands of people who have lost their lives and the loved ones who have lost someone dear to them. We pray for all those worried about their ability to keep their job, to provide for their family and to retain self-worth and value in their lives.

3. The Prayerful Dimension

Following on from the first two parts of being a 'Small Christian Community' by our understanding of Communion, and then 'The Kingdom of Heaven' we now contemplate the prayerful dimension. O'Halloran begins by writing that many churches have wonderful activities for the elderly, the sick, the handicapped, the youth and those in need but the activity can leave leaders and contributors feeling like 'squeezed out lemons'. We need writes O'Halloran;

- A. The Word of God
- B. Prayer
- C. Private prayer
- D. The Eucharist

- A. The Word

This means of course reading and listening to the bible being interpreted. However, O'Halloran is quick to point out that it is also about listening to people's life experiences of the bible coming alive for us. The Bible is not a question of learning knowledge but how does it help, challenge or comfort me? An example would be Bishop Steven using Paul's letter to help in our challenges with the Coronavirus at this time. Equally the Dwelling in the word of Partnership in Missional church helped us to listen to each other interpret the word speaking to us. Bible study is important too. In small groups listening to each other perhaps using a commentary of someone like Tom Wright can be helpful. We can learn alone but equally we learn from listening to each other in humility.

- B. Prayer

We can use spontaneous prayers straight from the heart, but this can take time to develop the confidence to share this. By listening to a story from scripture we can be inspired to pray. For example, read Matthew 25. 31-40 and you may pray says O'Halloran 'Almighty God, help us to realise the dignity of every human being. Help us Lord to treat all your people with respect. May we assist them when they are in need.'

We can use (as some are) shared morning and night prayers. The gathered community praying together whether in the physical or virtual way. Having prayer at meetings is important. We are asking that God be present in our meeting. We are showing humility by believing and indeed knowing that we need the Holy Spirit at work within us to discern the way forward and to use our combined gifts in a helpful way.

- C. Private prayer

There is no one way of praying. We need to find time simply to wait before God. On July 31st we remember St Ignatius of Loyola. In his Spiritual Exercises we are offered various ways to pray. One we are using at Night prayer is called the Examen. We give thanks for the day just gone. Recalling things that we are grateful for. We review the day and try to notice where we felt God's presence and where we accepted or turned away invitations to grow in love. We recall in sorrow any actions for which we are sorry. We may seek forgiveness for things we have said or done that hurt people. We ask for God's grace to see God's presence more clearly the next day.

Another helpful idea might be having a structure to our day. Many people found this helpful in the Lockdown by having a simple plan. Spending time in prayer, time cooking a meal from scratch, walking and noticing God's beauty, enjoying a hobby. With prayer I noticed in Kenya people prayed throughout the day keeping in mind God's presence. Giving thanks for the opportunities of a new day, thanks for food, and at the end of day for the opportunities we received to share God's love.

Another way of prayer that might be helpful is a mantra. Reciting Maranatha (Come Lord Jesus) over and over is an example.

D. The Eucharist

Just a few thoughts when so much could be said. One the unity found in the Eucharist. It is about Thanksgiving for what God has done for us. Coming among us humbly as a baby boy, who gave his life that we might have new life. That life given leads us to live in his spirit.

Secondly as O'Halloran points out and as I believe is at the heart of ministry the celebration of unity found in the Eucharist. We are one with God in the trinity of love and one with each other. This is challenging though. It means we are one with all those around the world that share this meal. We are too at one with all those who have gone before us within the Mystical Body of Christ. If we believe this, we are to remind ourselves of those in need throughout the world and locally. There is a practical side to unity. There is participation within the Body of Christ not merely passivity. Some people are appreciating worshipping with the wider body that is the diocese or the Church of England on line. I have even heard of Catholic people worshipping with people abroad on-line. This is wonderful to recognise the Body of Christ world-wide. However, when we are feeling safe again do not forget the small, local community that physically gathers and is part of the wider church.

Questions

1. At All Saints do we have a prayer dimension? Read Luke 18. 1-8 and Luke 6. 12-16
2. What does the Eucharist mean to us? John 6. 41-58 and 1 Corinthians 10. 16-17.
3. Do we relate the word of God to life? James 1. 22-25

Next week we will look at O'Halloran's understanding of Small Communities with the title 'Permeated by Love'.

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

Fr Jeremy

Worship for Sunday 2 AUGUST THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sounds of Worship **Brian Graves**

Today's Sounds of Worship selection is based on the Gospel theme of the well-known incident of the "feeding of the 5,000". This story illustrates the nurturing of the soul through Christ's teachings and healing the sick and the nourishment of the body through the miraculous propagation of the loaves and fishes.

The first hymn is "O God of Bethel, by whose hand thy people are fed," AM 744 to the tune Dundee. The words are by Philip Doddridge (1702-1751).

Doddridge wrote over 400 hymns most of which were based on his sermons and used as a means of making their message more memorable for his listeners. This hymn is not directly referencing the gospel reading, although it is very relevant. The reference to Bethel, which is the Hebrew name for the House of God. It is first mentioned in Genesis Chapter 12, v 8 as being near where Abram pitched his tent, means that the hymn is based on the Old testament view about the protection of people of faith rather than the specific story of the Gospel. However, the theme of the hymn is that ultimately faith in God will sustain us spiritually and physically through all the ups and downs of life.

Philip Doddridge was a Non-conformist Church minister and academic. Having been orphaned at an early age he received guardianship and educational opportunities by two patrons, the second of whom was the Headmaster of the private school at St Albans, which he attended as a young teenager. Despite an offer by a rich patron to prepare him for ordination in the Church of England, Doddridge chose instead to remain in the Non-conformist Church. For twenty years he pastored a poor parish in Northampton, where he opened an academy for training Non-conformist ministers and taught most of the subjects himself. Doddridge suffered from tuberculosis, and when Lady Huntington,

one of his patrons, offered to finance a trip to Lisbon for his health, he is reputed to have said, "I can as well go to heaven from Lisbon as from Northampton." He died in Lisbon soon after his arrival there.

The tune Dundee first appeared in the 1615 edition of the "Scottish Psalter" published in Edinburgh by Andro Hart. Called a "French" tune, Dundee was one of that hymnal's twelve "common tunes"; that is, it was not associated with a specific psalm. The tune has a harmonisation that was published in Thomas Ravenscroft's "Whole Booke of Psalmes" (1621). The tune's name comes from the city of Dundee, known as the "Scottish Geneva" during the era of the Scottish Reformation.

Thomas Ravenscroft (c. 1588 – 1635) was an English musician, theorist and editor, notable as a composer of rounds and catches, and especially for compiling collections of British folk music.

Little is known of Ravenscroft's early life. He probably sang in the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral from 1594, when a Thomas Ravenscroft was listed on the choir rolls and remained there until 1600 under the directorship of Thomas Giles. He received his bachelor's degree in 1605 from Cambridge.

Ravenscroft's principal contributions are his collections of folk music, including catches, rounds, street cries, vendor songs, "freeman's songs" and other anonymous music, in three collections: Pammelia (1609), Deuteromelia or The Seconde Part of Musicks Melodie (1609) and Melismata (1611), which contains one of the best-known works in his collections, The Three Ravens. Some of the music he compiled has acquired extraordinary fame, though his name is rarely associated with the music; for example, "Three Blind Mice" first appears in Deuteromelia.

1. God of Bethel, by whose hand
thy people still are fed,
who through this weary pilgrimage
hast all our fathers led;
2. Our vows, our prayers, we now present
before thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
of their succeeding race.
3. Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.
4. O spread thy covering wings around
till all our wanderings cease,
and at our Father's loved abode
our souls arrive in peace.
5. Such blessings from thy gracious hand
Our humble prayers implore,
And thou shalt be our covenant God
And portion evermore.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_036HxIYRw

I have chosen "Lord I Trust Thee" by G F Handel (1685 1759) as an anthem which the choir has frequently sung and is relevant to the theme of spiritual and physical nourishment.

The piece is a short chorus taken from Handel's setting of the Brockes' Passion. Barthold Heinrich Brockes (1704-1760) first published his libretto for the Passion story in 1712. It was set by many composers during the early 18th century, including the one by Handel. Handel was resident in London in 1712 and little is known about why Handel

set Brockes' text and where it received performance in the UK but it is known that it was performed in Hamburg in 1719. The text of the chorus is:

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee.
Ah! thou friend of man, restore me!
On thy loving grace relying,
For the bread of life I'm sighing.
Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease,
Fill my heart with joy and endless peace.
When the breath of life has left me,
May my soul be blended with thee.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4esjh8zGBMQ>

The concluding hymn is "Praise my soul the king of heaven" AM 766 words by Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) set to the tune Praise my Soul by Sir John Goss (1800-1880). Although based on Psalm 103, Praise my soul encapsulates the Psalmist's praise for the protection God provides to all who believe in Him.

Henry Francis Lyte, M.A., son of Captain Thomas Lyte, was born at Ednam, near Kelso and educated at Portora (the Royal School of Enniskillen), and at Trinity College, Dublin, of which he was a Scholar, and where he graduated in 1814. During his University course he distinguished himself by gaining the English prize poem on three occasions. At one time he had intended studying Medicine; but this he abandoned for Theology, and took Holy Orders in 1815, his first curacy being in the neighbourhood of Wexford. In 1817, he moved to Marazion, in Cornwall. There, in 1818, he underwent a great spiritual change, which shaped and influenced his subsequent life, the immediate cause being the illness and death of a brother clergyman. Lyte says of him: "He died happy under the belief that though he had deeply erred, there was One whose death and sufferings would atone for his delinquencies, and be accepted for all that he had incurred;" and concerning himself he adds:

"I was greatly affected by the whole matter, and brought to look at life and its issue with a different eye than before; and I began to study my Bible, and preach in another manner than I had previously done."

In 1819 he moved from Marazion to Lymington, where he composed his "Tales on the Lord's Prayer" in verse (published in 1826); and in 1823 he was appointed Perpetual Curate of Lower Brixham, Devon. He held that appointment until his death. Two of Lyte's most famous hymns were written during his time at Brixham, one was "Praise my Soul" the other, "Abide with me" which was written shortly before his death in 1847.

Sir John Goss was an English organist, composer and teacher. Born to a musical family, Goss was a boy chorister of the Chapel Royal, London, and later a pupil of Thomas Attwood, organist of St Paul's Cathedral. After a brief period as a chorus member in an opera company he was appointed organist of a chapel in south London, later moving to more prestigious organ posts at St Luke's Church, Chelsea and finally St Paul's Cathedral, where he struggled to improve musical standards.

As a composer, Goss wrote little for the orchestra, but was known for his vocal music, both religious and secular. Among his best-known compositions are his hymn tunes "Praise, my soul, the King of heaven" and "See, Amid the Winter's Snow".

From 1827 to 1874, Goss was a professor at the Royal Academy of Music, teaching harmony. He also taught at St Paul's. Among his pupils at the academy were Arthur Sullivan, Frederic Cowen and Frederick Bridge. His best-known pupil at St Paul's was John Stainer, who succeeded him as organist there.

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing?
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress;
Praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia!,
Glorious in his faithfulness.
3. Father-like, he tends and spares us,
well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia, alleluia,
Widely yet his mercy flows.
4. Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise with us the God of grace.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDe0ABw5IHs>

COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever; we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OT READING Isaiah 55: 1–5

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

NT READING Romans 9: 1–5

I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit. I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Matthew 14: 13-21

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and

were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

SERMON Fr JEREMY

On 17th November 2013 I was preaching at the church acting as the Cathedral in Voi, Kenya. It was a service of the Eucharist. At the offertory there can be a chance for people to share what they have when they do not have money to give. It is the custom to tithe although poverty is high. Some people therefore share the food that they are able to grow so that they have offered a gift to God. When this happens, the food is auctioned, and the money raised goes into the offertory. A lady from the congregation offered a pawpaw which is a delicious fruit that we shared for meals, either breakfast or a dessert for the evening at Bishop Sansom's house. On that morning, another lady bought the offered fruit and then presented it to me, the preacher. I am not sure to this day that I deserved the kindness, but I am convinced the two acts of generous giving go to the heart of today's gospel.

In Matthew's version of the Feeding of the 5,000 we find Jesus taking five loaves of bread and two fish and then he blesses them and breaks them before offering the food to the crowds. We receive this gift and offer it to others. This is the Eucharist, this is the greatest gift we are offered in life. New and transformed life, one that is in the company of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A relationship of love. The gift we offer of money, time, energy, love, skill with words, artistic gifts or maybe the wonderful ability to make people laugh is returned by God at the Eucharist following our Lord's death and resurrection, multiplied.

This is more than feeding people physically. This is a meal that brings unity and hopefully harmony. This is a meal that looks back to Passover and the freedom of the Israelite people with Moses from Egypt to the Promised Land. This is the meal that reminds us of Jesus' Last Supper with his friends before giving his life that we might find new life with him. This is the meal that unites us with the trinity of love and asks us to reflect that love to the world. This is the meal that offers mystical union with all our departed loved ones and all the Saints who have gone before us to the Heavenly banquet.

O'Halloran writing in his book 'Small Christian Communities' says this is a 'clarion call to Christians to be the body of Christ, and to the whole world to be a community of brothers and sisters in the image of the Trinity'. He goes on to say that the Eucharist demands a world where there is collaboration and equality between people. You can make a case (maybe one that is uncomfortable) that says the eucharist is not just spiritual, but political, social and economic. My words are found in the brackets!

If we return to the offertory from Kenya, we are reminded that the gifts brought to the altar are God's and we offer them back. In some Sri Lankan churches families take turns to make a chapatti that will become Christ's body writes Timothy Radcliffe. When we bring our money, we reflect our working week, giving thanks says Radcliffe for our ability to earn a living. What we are given back is a gift far more than we offered. The gift of new and transformed life. We partake of the Body of Christ to become his body in the world. We recall our Baptismal promises having received this gift to channel God's love, to walk in his light, to rejoice in his love and reflect his glory. We are to cause 'Ripples of goodness'.

There is an African proverb that tells us that the hand that gives is always upmost and the hand that receives is always lower. Maybe that was what I was learning in Voi as the two ladies gave me their gift. God wants human dignity too. Every human should find that dignity and maybe God offering the women that chance to give food and money reflected that.

In this time of the Pandemic we need to think about people who are struggling. Whether that is putting food on the table, dealing with loneliness, the loss of value and self-worth, the loss of someone loved, the sense of depression. As Christian people we know that we are loved by God. Let us ripple out acts of love to let others know they are loved. Some people have reflected on John's gospel and the little boy offering the food. This perhaps encouraged others to do likewise. Some feel this reduces the remarkable miracle of God's abundance. I wonder. Perhaps the world would be a better place if we followed the boy. Whether we are worshipping as the gathered community physically in church or whether we are receiving spiritual communion on-line it should lead to practical support. The

highlight of my mother's Easter was when her next-door neighbour cooked her a delicious roast lamb dinner. I have heard stories from the church community of people receiving cards of kindness, gifts of chocolate and flowers during lockdown. As we hear the gospel message this week can we find small acts of kindness that will encourage the local community to know that they are loved by God.

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

YOUNG SAINTS AT HOME

See Issue 17 for the summer programme.

THE GALILEE PROJECT (Floor project update)

In Parish News 16 I reported that we had been granted £10,000 by Berkshire Churches Trust, which we support through Ride and Stride. I can now let you know that we have been awarded £3,750 by Allchurches Trust, a sum towards the upper end of the majority of their grants as they like to respond to as many church applications as possible.

These awards are being given in the knowledge that the congregation is demonstrating by their pledges how supportive they are of the work. However, there are signs from a number of grant giving trusts that they are now prioritising pandemic-orientated work so your pledges and donations are ever more important. Thank you for your support.

There is a website called Explore Churches which is sponsored by the National Churches Trust, from whom we are waiting for the results of a grant application (not expected until November). All Saints is now on that website, which you can see by following this link:- <https://www.explorechurches.org/church/all-saints-boyne-hill>. Please have a look at it, and once you are on the website you may well want to start looking at other churches locally and in other parts of the country. They make for very interesting reading.

Ken Smith

PATHWAYS

The latest edition of Pathways, the free quarterly magazine from the Diocese, has exceptionally been published online this time. Its topics focus on the Environment and Creation and provide plenty of food for thought.

You can download it by following this link:- <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways-pdf-version/>.

This edition will not be widely available in printed form but the Diocese says "We will be doing a small print run so that people can order individual copies from store.oxford.anglican.org when we re-open the online store (date to be confirmed). We will charge a small amount for postage and packing." If you want to take advantage of this please contact the address yourself.

Ken Smith

FINAL INSPIRATIONS

Act as if everything depended on you; trust as if everything depended on God.

St. Ignatius of Loyola

True prayer is asking God what he wants.

One of the highest of human duties is the duty of encouragement. It is easy to laugh at men's ideals; it is easy to pour cold water on their enthusiasm; it is easy to discourage others. The world is full of discouragers. We have a Christian duty to encourage one another. Many a time a word of thanks or praise or appreciation or cheer has kept a man on his feet. Blessed is the man who speaks such a word.

William Barclay

Have you ever been hurt and the place tries to heal a bit, and you just pull the scar off it over and over again.

Rosa Parks Civil Rights activist

Don't bother to give God instructions, just report for duty.
Hold everything in your hand lightly, otherwise it hurts when God pries your fingers open.
This is what the past is for! Every experience God gives us, every person he puts in our lives is the perfect preparation for the future that only he can see.
Corrie Ten Boom

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.
Stand up straight and realise who you are. That you tower over your circumstances. You are a child of God. Stand up straight.
Maya Angelou

'Many people want to serve God' said the sign outside the church 'but only in an advisory capacity'.
Tom Wright *Revelation for Everyone*

And finally, saving the very best til last :
Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire Keep far our foes, give peace at home : where thou art guide, no ill can come.
The Prayer Book *Ordering of Priests*

Thanks to Sue Nordberg for compiling these each week from Issue 5 until now.

REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

The week after restrictions on overnight stays lifted we looked for a holiday. Most properties we wanted were reserved. At last we booked an apartment in Norfolk. When a confirmation email arrived and a second with directions we were very excited. The night before our departure I found another.

Attached was "important information regarding your booking" it said. I opened the attachment. "We are contacting you to give you an update on your holiday which unfortunately will not be able to go ahead as planned." What? It was sent at 4.21pm, when I was working. The company's office was now closed. I telephoned the landlord. His wife said there had been "a double booking" and hung up when I asked if we were going on holiday or not. I called back. The landlord was at least sympathetic but told me: "I don't have a contract with you."

At 9.00am the next morning, bags packed in the hallway, I rang the holiday company. After waiting in a queue for twenty minutes my wife's phone rang. An apologetic company representative offered a refund or an alternative property. We looked up what was left, the places nobody wanted. One was very grand and more than twice the price of ours. Too expensive, she said. Another was much cheaper, a little soulless but alright. She would check availability and call back, she said. Twenty minutes passed. It must have gone, we told each other. Finally she rang. Yes, we could have it, departing a day later with a tiny discount. We were going on holiday after all.

QUENCH REOPENING HOURS

Quench Bookshop in Queen Street is owned by a local Christian charity. It provides active Christian witness and stocks a great selection of cards, books and gifts. The shop is subsidised by regular donations from Christians in Maidenhead. The shop has now reopened on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10.30am until 3.30pm. Do please give Quench as much support as you can.

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