

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

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ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

It is Monday 27 June as I write this copy of Parish News. If you are one of those people that pretends a deep interest in other people's holiday snaps this might not be for you especially as this is not in picture form but words!

I begin by sharing my brief talk at Burnham Abbey on this beautiful Monday morning as I proudly showed my stunningly beautiful gift of a rosary from Medjugorje, the curious Marian shrine which only in 2019 was given official recognition as a place of pilgrimage by the Vatican. Monika bought the gift for me on our visit to the place where six young people claimed to have seen and spoken with a beautiful young woman on the mountainside above the village, who later claimed to be the Virgin Mother. Whatever the truth of the apparitions, pilgrimage is now made a large scale. It is said one million people journey to Bosnia-Herzegovina to experience Medjugorje each year.

Thanks to Monika's friends, Jurek and Iwona, who drove us from Croatia to the border at Neum to make the crossing into Bosnia, both Monika and I can claim to have experienced not only Medjugorje but Mostar, a town that was bombed during conflict in 1992-95. Here the sixteenth-century Turkish bridge, blasted into oblivion has been rebuilt alongside the Old Town which has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO. Back to the talk this morning at Burnham. We commemorated the Bishop Cyril of Alexandria, who it is said 'when he contemplated Jesus he could see God, offering his presence to sinful humanity especially when he offered Christ's flesh and blood in the Eucharist.' (A History of Christianity by Diarmaid MacCulloch). Cyril was a follower of Athanasius who had fought hard for the equality of persons in the Trinity. However, 'a tactless priest' (MacCulloch's words) called Nestorius was chosen as Bishop of Constantinople. Nestorius attacked the belief that the Virgin Mary or Bearer of God 'Theotokos' as nonsense. 'The word of God is the creator of time, he is not created within time.' Mary was then bearer of a human not the son of God, claimed Nestorius. Cyril fought the battle and at the Council of Ephesus in 431 the title of 'Theotokos' or Mother of God, was affirmed.

Back to our experience of walking the mountainside above the village of Medjugorje. It was according to Monika's Fitbit 3000 steps up a steep climb over uneven rocks and stones in intense heat. When we arrived at the statue of Our Lady and the Crucifix we found hundreds of Polish, Albanian and Italian pilgrims praying. Some were on their knees in prayer at the feet of Mary, others venerating the cross of Jesus. There was total silence as people sat praying. Some pilgrims were elderly and struggling in the heat but determined to pray like Cyril. 'When he contemplated Jesus he could see God, offering His presence to sinful humanity.' As we descended the mountain, I became aware of a language I recognised. It was a group of Scottish pilgrims

being led by a young woman praying the rosary. I found myself joining in Hail Mary, Full of Grace..... as I carefully descended.

We travelled back to Croatia and the coastal town of Brela. This town of great beauty on the Adriatic coast offered not just blissful peace but religious belief. On arrival we enjoyed goulash on the recommendation of a local lorry driver. Before eating his portion of tender beef in sumptuous sauce he made the sign of the cross. We travelled to our apartment, overlooking the sea run by a family who provided hospitality to their guests. Everyday freshly baked cakes or drinks were offered. We were taken one morning to buy fresh mackerel and tuna steaks. Our host walking with the aid of a stick caused by a gunshot wound when in the army in the war of 92-95. That evening he cooked the fish on a outdoor BBQ.

A wonderful holiday that enabled us to experience too the faith of a people that experienced Jesus as their Saviour, the one who came to earth as a vulnerable baby boy to join the human with the divine.

GOOD NEWS

Ann & Chris Rawlings and their family are delighted to announce that their son-in-law, Dave Hill, has completed his treatment and is now in remission and under observation in the future. They are so grateful for the prayers of everyone and would like you to know how much they were appreciated.

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 30 June *3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School*
8.00pm Choir Practice in the Church

Friday 1 July **9.15am Morning Prayer**
10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre

Saturday 2 10.00am Baptism Preparation

Sunday 3 **10.00am The Parish Eucharist for Thomas the Apostle**
Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy

4.00pm Sundays@4 A Service for All on the theme of Thankfulness followed by a BBQ. Soft drinks will be served but please feel free to bring your own wine or beer.

Monday 4 10.30am Visit of Manor Green School
1.30pm Visit of Manor Green School
7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Birinus Room

Wednesday 6 *9.00am Assembly on "Changes" at Boyne Hill School*
10.00am Requiem Eucharist
Celebrant: Fr John
1.30pm Visit of Manor Green School

Thursday 7 **9.15am Morning Prayer**
1.30pm Visit of Manor Green School
3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School
8.00pm Choir Practice in the Church

Friday 8	9.15am Morning Prayer 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre 1.30pm Visit of Manor Green School
Sunday 10	10.00am The Parish Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity Worship for All Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy 12 noon Holy Baptism Please pray for Cora Murray Williams Butler-Cole, her parents and godparents
Tuesday 12	<i>9.00am Open the Book at Larchfield School</i> <i>12.30pm Christian Union at Altwood School</i>
Wednesday 13	10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those engaged in managing the economic well-being of our world, and especially in our own country. We pray for economic policies that protect the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalised. We pray for the work of the UK charity Christians Against Poverty, and other organisations that seek to help those in financial difficulty. We pray for Maidenhead Foodshare, those who work there, those who support it, and those whom it serves.

We continue to pray for the people of the Ukraine, that they would be able to live in peace and for their common life to flourish once again. We acknowledge with pain and anguish the sinfulness of humanity that causes such suffering, and we acknowledge other places of violence and warfare, including Sudan, Afghanistan and the Middle East, and for displaced peoples everywhere. We pray that the leaders of nations would seek the common good and work for peace with justice.

We pray for our school visits and services at All Saints over the next couple of weeks. We pray that students, teachers, support staff, governors and parents will find a place of welcome.

We pray for our Stewardship group as it seeks to encourage the congregation of All Saints to find ways to discern their gifts and talents and to discern the ways of giving of our lives to the one who first loved us. Following St Thomas may we be people who have the courage to follow Christ, to ask questions of faith that enable us to grow in our love for God.

We pray for our PCC as it gathers to plan the mission of our church. We pray that our PCC will be guided by the Holy Spirit. In planning for the future may we have vision, in matters of finance, we ask for responsibility and generosity, in dealing with people, give us love. Help us Lord to advance your Kingdom.

We pray for our Sustainability group as we continue to discern ways to become a Church that cares for God's creation.

Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for Suzette, Danielle, Fr John Chadwick, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Mikhail, John Hicks, Roger and Jane Baldery, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Carol Atkin, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Rene Wilson, Roderick MacLennan, Eddie Sheppard, David Stewart and Rachel. May they know God's loving and healing presence. We pray for any in our parish who

need God's loving grace and healing touch at this time. Ann & Chris give thanks that their son-law, Dave Hill, is now in remission following his lengthy treatment.

We remember the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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

Fr Jeremy

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 3 JULY ST THOMAS, THE APOSTLE

COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, who for the firmer foundation of our faith allowed your holy apostle Thomas to doubt the resurrection of your Son till word and sight convinced him: grant to us, who have not seen, that we may also believe and so confess Christ as our Lord and our God; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE Ephesians 2: 19 - 22

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

GOSPEL John 20: 24 - 29

Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Prière à Notre-Dame *L Boëllmann*

Opening Hymn: AM 702 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Gradual: AM 622 Dear Lord we long to see your face

Offertory: AM 806 There's a wideness in God's mercy

Communion: AM 725 Make me a channel of your peace

Closing Hymn: AM 291 Christ is made the sure foundation vv 5,6 & Dox

Postlude: Postlude No 2 (Set 1) *C V Stanford*

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 10 JULY THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

COLLECT

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE Colossians 1: 1 - 14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

GOSPEL Luke 10: 25 - 37

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Postlude No 1 (Set 1) *C V Stanford*
Opening Hymn: AM 604 Brother, sister, let me serve you
Gradual: AM 575 When I needed a neighbour
Offertory: AM 510 Will you come and follow me
Communion: AM 466 The love of God comes close
Closing Hymn: AM 818 To God be the glory
Postlude: *Exurgat Deus P Hurford*

MAIDENHEAD CARE COMMISSIONING SERVICE HERE TUESDAY 19 JULY 7.30pm

You are more than welcome to be part of this service. The Maidenhead Choral Society are singing the Ukrainian Prayer by John Rutter. Rutter wrote this at the start of the conflict. Our Churchwarden, John Bolodeoku, is speaking on Insights into Covid Testing. This will be an abridged version of the address he gave to the APCM last April. The hymns are all easy to join in. The service will be followed by refreshments. It is traditional for the host church to provide refreshments and Jan and I will be co-ordinating this. If you would like to contribute a cake or help to serve, please let Jan know.

Mike Moss, Maidenhead Care Trustee

FOODSHARE

In these hard times Foodshare are more in need of our help than ever. Each week in the Maidenhead Advertiser there is a list of items most wanted.