

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

Issue 59 19 May 2021



**PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 7.30pm
MONDAY 24 MAY ON ZOOM. SEE p 4 FOR JOINING INSTUCTIONS**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

The third week of the 'Everybody Welcome' course focusses on the theme of 'A welcoming God' and his welcoming people. The course starts with a bishop and his wife (returning from their package holiday!) popping in on a service. Having taken their seats, the bishop is asked by the churchwarden to move places! I know our churchwardens would never do this and indeed I have never had a parish that has been visited by a bishop on holiday, but I guess I know where the author is coming from. Are we genuinely thinking of the newcomer when they arrive?

There are four parts to this section:

1. Initial welcome
2. The worship event
3. Welcoming the children
4. Caring for people after the service

We begin with the Initial welcome:

This is the role of the sidesperson in most Anglican churches. Sometimes the job is about handing out lots of material. Hymn books, prayer books, orders of service, notice sheets, extra sheets of paper with the 'really' modern song on it and the appeal for funds for the clapped-out photocopier. It doesn't mention 'Clapped out vicar at least!'. One of the issues raised in the book is how much eye contact do we have as we hand out the bits of information and do we help the person find a seat and offer support should they need it with the booklets and cards they have been given. I spoke to a family recently who said how good All Saints was as a church community with this ministry.

The course focusses on the primary role of the sidesperson to make people feel at ease. At this point the church is associated with a visit to the dentist! If the dentist is human, smiling and reassuring then the anxiety level drops. My own view on this is that I hope people do not view worshipping at church as similar to a trip to the dentist and neither do I trust a dentist that smiles at me as he/she is about to engage a drill

within my mouth! However, I do understand the point of engaging with the people as they enter the church and particularly newcomers.

It is also helpful to have a welcomer outside the church and I know that Ken has made a real effort in this area of ministry. We have had new boards produced that also tell people that they are welcome to join us. The real skill is knowing which people would like to be introduced to a regular who might (If it were necessary) show them through the booklets and hymn books. This can of course be enhanced by the priest leading the service. It is helpful to have different age groups of welcomers (Although this of course depends on the make up of the congregation). Having welcomers' badges with names has been introduced by some churches. Welcomers should be relaxed and sensitive to the needs of the person. Again, All Saints does support well on issues of pastoral care. Not only have laity frequently helped someone who has been distressed about something, but they have also asked myself, or another person with pastoral responsibilities to help. Clearly being in church in good time to set out the books and pew sheets etc, enabling good conversation with people entering the church can help.

2. The worship event

Whether you agree with the authors of the course that worship is an event it is important that we enable people to feel welcomed and part of the service. Clearly the worship leader plays a big part in this as does the music, sermon, intercessions and activities. There needs to be opportunity for people to experience genuine encounter with the living God. We have tried in recent years to offer new hymn books with a wider cross section of music and new service booklets. Of course people experience worship in different ways but feeling part of the worshipping community by feeling able to join in the singing and prayer activities and sometimes an interactive sermon can help.

Areas covered are:

- A. Good leadership – is the worship leader clear and helpful in leading people through the service?
- B. Good structure – do we make it clear what is going on and how long it might last?
- C. Good sermons – The course says that people prefer good sermons to short ones though bad sermons that are long might not fit the bill. I am not asking for feedback on this item at this moment!
- D. Good music – Course material says, 'Quality matters more than style but sincerity more than professionalism.' The hymns 'need to be chosen thoughtfully.' We do try to get this right but of course it is never easy to meet everyone's needs or tastes. Perhaps trying to offer variety of music which people feel comfortable to join in with is important.
- E. Genuine warmth – Again this is largely down to the leader of the service. However, I would add that if others involved in the service are engaging then newcomers will perhaps be inspired by their fellow worshippers.
- F. Accessibility – 'Some people respond spiritually to a cultivated sense of awe, wonder and mystery'. However, this is not the same as being unclear about explaining parts of the service.
- G. Gospel-richness – Are we preaching and worshipping in a way that engages us with the life of Jesus?
- H. Connecting with culture – Do we relate our worship in the prayers and sermon or perhaps our music by relating to the contemporary world? John Bell has been a significant song writer for music that speaks into needs. Are we 'generous in spirit' or do we share and lead worship as if we would prefer to be reading the Sunday papers?
- I. Trinitarian focus – It's said that if people understand the relational side of being Christian, of a fuller understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit then people might feel more inclined to respond to God in worship.
- J. All involved – can we enable people to feel part of the worship.
- K. Creativity – Particularly in worship for all but I would imagine that using different ways of communicating the word can help.

3. Welcoming the children

The course makes clear that this is the responsibility of all people not just 'specialists.' 'The principal failure of the Church in recent decades has been our failure to invite, welcome, integrate, nurture and disciple the children. Most of us would prefer to have young families and children worshipping with us but to what extent do we invest time, love, expertise, prayer and money in them. There are notes on this which I will photocopy for the new PCC. As a starter though we have a short Sunday afternoon worship planned on the 30th May at 4pm. Anyone happy to welcome or help with the BBQ would be much appreciated.

It is clear that we need to find worship, alongside our Tiny Saints and Young Saints, that enables young people to know the love of Jesus in their lives. We do have opportunities through our links with schools, and our Tiny Saints to make contact with families.

4. Caring for people after the service

This is crucial. One adult person who came to All Saints in past years when answering our Branding questions said 'You invited us to stay for coffee, but you did not speak to us or introduce us to someone. This of course is not just the role of the priest but again an example of the community (welcomers) noticing people. Good welcome might lead to newcomers being interested in routes to 'Belonging' which we will look at next week.

SAD NEWS

It is with deep sadness that we heard of the death of George Hutchison following a brave battle with cancer. Over the last couple of months George has been well looked after at the new Thames Hospice. He was enjoying his sport on television including snooker and football right up until the end. George was a much loved member of All Saints who, in my early days, here was an enthusiastic member of the nurture course 'Emmaus'. George was a regular worshipper and told me how much he appreciated the members of the congregation. He will be missed by many of the children who, at the Peace, received not only 'the peace be with you' but a Mars Bar or Twix! George, realising the value of church life to him, enabled others to attend when they were not able to drive themselves. George, for many years, brought John Elliott to All Saints so that a man who would go on to reach 101 years of age could worship the God he loved. We keep within our prayers Ursula, Leigh and Sarah and their families. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

George's funeral will take place at Amersham Crematorium at 3.30pm on Wednesday 26 May, and his family would like to invite members of the congregation to attend. Any donations in memory of George will go to the Thames Hospice.

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Thursday 20 May

8.00pm Night Prayer

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

Meeting ID: 759 7654 4021

Password: 5rHziv

Psalm 139 and Luke 8. 26-39. We will listen to Bernadette Farrell's version of Psalm 139

Sunday 23 May PENTECOST

9.30am Eucharist in the Parish Centre

It will also be possible to watch on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82847310425?pwd=VW1QK2xxYTQyNWg2bGN4Smt5b3VLUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 4731 0425

Passcode: 960719

11.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre.

6.00pm SUNDAYS@SIX ON ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83960514349?pwd=YUxYSVZSVjF1cDVTds85cDRlZm95UT09>

Meeting ID: 839 6051 4349

Passcode: 945101

Joining with the communities of The Church of the Good Shepherd and St Luke's

Monday 24 May A MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS & THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE VIA ZOOM AT 7.30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89893013369?pwd=ZU5ja2NrNmpxMjQ5eVFOemRPR2Rydz09>

Meeting ID: 898 9301 3369

Passcode: 242825

The Agenda, the Minutes of the 2020 Meeting, the Report & Accounts and the Church Annual Report have already been circulated.

It will be good to see as many people as possible at this important meeting.

Wednesday 26 May

10.00am Eucharist in the Parish Centre

7.30pm Everybody Welcome Course (See Fr Jeremy's Introduction)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82056018434?pwd=MTRFeVVlVlTQrWGtla2Y3Sm5VeEhXQT09>

Meeting ID: 820 5601 8434

Passcode: 586093

HEADS UP FOR Thursday 27 May

No Night Prayer, but at 7.00pm on Zoom

The Revd Dr Judith Thomas will be sharing her personal spiritual journey with St Edmund Campion.

Please confirm your place on the [Event page on the St Edmund Campion website](#), if you can, or join on the night using the [Zoom link on the church website](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

From 'Roots' worship resources

Forgive us, Creator God, when we have not heard your voice in the song of the birds and rustle of the leaves.

OPEN THE EARS OF OUR HEARTS

When we have not seen you in the grandeur of the mountains and rhythm of the waves: OPEN THE EYES OF OUR HEARTS

When we have not rejoiced at the vibrance of spring or colours of Autumn: UNLOCK THE JOY IN OUR HEARTS

When we have stifled your Spirit and confined your love: DEEPEN THE LOVE IN OUR HEARTS

Forgive us, and release in us the true Spirit of Pentecost

TODAY AND ALWAYS. AMEN.

Living God, thank you for the energy of Pentecost, for the promises fulfilled, for the lives changed, for the hearts touched, for the power unleashed, for the overflowing of your Spirit into our world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

We continue to pray for the 'Everybody Welcome' course as we continue to discern the way that we as a congregation can help people to discover a sense of belonging with the community.

We pray and give thanks for the wonderful community ministry of the Royal British Legion to all service people and their families as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

We continue to hold within our prayers Ursula, Leigh and Sarah on the loss of George, Christine on the loss of her brother Tony, and Duleep and Dinali on the loss of Neila. We pray for Mandy Rogers, Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Sister Mary Philip, Roger Baldery, Albert and Dave Hill. May the Lord's loving presence be with them.

We remember the departed loved ones, Jane Fostekew, Neila De Silva, Tony, and George Hutchison. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Charlie Mackesy 'Tears fall for a reason and they are your strength not weakness.'

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

Fr Jeremy

Fr Jeremy's Sermon preached at All Saints for Ascensiontide

Texts Acts 1: 1-11, Luke 24: 44-end and John 17: 20-26

We discover from our texts this morning that Luke following his resurrection story of Jesus appearing to the Disciples on the Road to Emmaus and his appearing to them in the breaking of the bread at the supper now asks them to pray and wait for the Holy Spirit to empower them to be his body in the world. In the Acts of the Apostles, we discover that the early church baptised as Christians or 'people of the way' that live Christlike lives to share the news of his resurrection and reflect his light to the world.

In John 17 we find Jesus' prayer that the people (us) will believe in him, and that we may be one as the father is in him and Jesus is in the Father and they are in us. The Father and the Son are in us through the power of the Holy Spirit that unifies us and enables our individual giftings to be used for the benefit of the community. This community is both local but also the world-wide Church.

To be Catholic means universal, the church world-wide, sharing the good news and passing the baton (Light) on. Sue Stannett and Anne Sweeney are looking forward to meeting with baptism families in the Autumn. I

have been privileged to be sharing baptism/confirmation courses on zoom since last October with three adults. One of these men would like to be baptised with his daughter this October. At the Baptism courses we explore the idea of passing the baton on to the next generation. The individual candle is placed in the flame of the Paschal Candle and given to the newly baptised. They are called alongside us to go out to be a light to the world.

This idea stresses the importance that we all should be one and reflect that unity and love to others. This happens most completely at the Eucharist. (sadly, it is where we gather to share Christ's gift to us that has been denied us in parts of the Pandemic). We receive the gift that the Lord shares with us, his gift of love through his death and resurrection, through his body and blood. We are joined with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and with each other. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit (which we pray for now) to build community or communion.

This means that we all have responsibilities to live the gospel. All of us are baptised Christians and confirmed Christians, given gifts of the Holy Spirit to help build the community or the Body of Christ. This hopefully leads to us seeing our role to work together at All Saints on the challenges we have, creating worship that inspires, that offers a welcome to the community that values the people who come to the church. The 'Everybody Welcome Course' that highlights the need to help all people feel a sense of belonging, where people can make friends and can grow to become disciples.

The local community finds strength too by working in partnership with the people of other churches. The special relationship we have with St Luke's and the Church of the Good Shepherd as we share Sundays @6 on zoom or in churches, the marriage preparation and the mission activities like Riding Lights theatre company and the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity which helps us to discover ways in which we can live the Christian faith together.

Churches from other Christian traditions have been wonderful co-workers in the vineyard through sharing the ministry of Street Angels and Open the Book which again highlights the value of ministering together (In the way Jesus prays in John 17: 20-26) to share the good news of the Gospel.

Working in partnership with our schools as governors, as welcomers when schools visit us for services and looking forward to sharing the sustainability project next year. The community Jesus inspired is viewing the world-wide church too. The OAK project has helped clergy to be trained in Kenya, which has enabled over 80 new church communities to spring up in the Taita Taveta Diocese. We have been able to help with this significant growth. Within our own town of Maidenhead, we have developed excellent relationships with the Royal British Legion that this weekend celebrates 100 years of helping people and their families who have served this country. We look forward to continuing this link. Working with other churches to share the ministry of All Sorts and in the past sharing a community meal in Larchfield are other examples of sharing gifts.

Let us think for a moment on the understanding of ministry. The role of the bishop or priest is not a hierarchical one but one of 'concentric circles'. As baptised Christians we all have a role to play, using our gifts to help the community. There are times when I as the priest might lead but there are other times when others of you can step forward with greater gifts to help in leadership and planning. Examples will be in sustainability of the buildings as places of worship and mission, in education, in understanding branding, in supporting pastoral care, in singing, serving and offering hospitality. At the end of this month, we need people to help run a Sunday BBQ for families. If you look back over the year so many of you played your part to make people feel connected through phone calls, getting food for people and indeed medical supplies following the example of Maidenhead Care which has done this type of work for more than 30 years.

Jesus' prayer that we be one as he is one with the father and the spirit is fundamental to our understanding for mission. Next week at Pentecost we will pray that the Holy Spirit is present with us. The oil of Chrism used at baptism and confirmation and priesting will be brought forward. The oil of Chrism, blessed by the Bishop for the renewal of God's people for adults and children to be equipped and empowered for service. This year we cannot physically touch with the anointing, but we can pray.

At the end of the service this weekend we would normally light our candles from the paschal candle as a sign of the climax of Easter, as spirit filled people who go out to the world remembering our baptismal promises to be a light to the world. We will not perhaps be able to physically light them this year, but we can in many other ways be a light to the world so that the world may believe.

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

Worship for SUNDAY 23 MAY PENTECOST

Sounds of Worship

Brian Graves

Pentecost is a celebration not only of how Jesus' ministry is transferred to the disciples through receiving the spirit of truth from God the Father but also as a challenge to each of us as to how we receive and use the spirit of truth.

The first hymn is a direct plea to receive the power of the holy spirit and the second speaks to how we can use the holy spirit in the world, community and our own lives.

So, to the first hymn which is "Come down, O Love divine" AM 238 words by Bianco Da Siena (d. 1434) translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833 – 1890) set to Down Ampney by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The words are full of spiritual insight, praying for the Holy Spirit to effect a transformation of the old self into a new one, freed from earthly passions, loving, humble, and yearning for God. The tune seems to fit the alternating short and long lines perfectly¹.

Little is known of Bianco da Siena's life. He was born at Anciolina, a small village north-west of Arezzo, Tuscany. In 1367 he joined an Order of Lay Brothers, the Jesuates, established by the Blessed John Colombinus of Siena (the Order was abolished by Pope Clement IX in 1668). He is said to have lived in Venice for some years, and to have died there. His hymns remained in manuscript until they were published by Telesforo Bini, entitled *Laudi Spirituali del Bianco da Siena, Povero Gesuato del Secolo XIV* (Lucca, 1851), containing 92 Laude. Four of them were translated into English by Richard Frederick Littledale. The first of these 'Discendi, amor santo': 'Come down, O Love divine' has become widely known because of its setting by Ralph Vaughan Williams to his tune Down Ampney (named after the village of his birth in Gloucestershire) in the first edition in 1906 of *English Hymnal*².

Richard Frederick Littledale was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he had a distinguished career (BA 1855, MA 1858, LL.D, 1862). He took Holy Orders, and was curate of St Matthew's, Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich (1856-57), and curate of St Mary the Virgin, Crown Street, Soho, London (1857-61). In 1861 he retired from the parish priesthood through ill health, although he continued to hear confessions until the end of his life (he was said to have heard more confessions than anyone in the Church of England except E.B. Pusey). He devoted his time to writing and was a prolific translator of hymn texts (from a number of languages), writer of hymns, and editor of hymn books.

He also wrote copiously and controversially on religious topics. He believed that the Tractarian principles should find visible expression in ritual and church furnishing: as early as 1857 he published *The Application of Colour to the Decoration of Churches*³.

1. Come down, O Love divine,
seek out this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

2. O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3. Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

4. And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far surpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till we become the place
where in the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Come down O love divine AM 238 Down Ampney <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edK3Vv7Qwo4>

“Come down , O Love divine” Music: From The English Hymnal, 1906
Music © Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press
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The second hymn is “Father, Lord of all creation” AM 630 words by Stewart Cross (1928 – 1989) set to the tune Abbot’s Leigh by Cyril Taylor (1907 – 1991).

The first verse of this hymn reminds us of God the creator of all things and that our own lives and capacities are provided by His grace. The second verse tells of the sacrificial nature of God’s love through the life of Jesus Christ and the example to be followed by the Christian community of selfless love and equality. The third verse takes us to the importance of being draw together as a community through the power of the Pentecostal spirit. The use of language here is very reminiscent of that of “Come down O love divine”.

Like Richard Littledale, David Stewart Cross was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. He was made deacon on Trinity Sunday 1954 and ordained priest the following Trinity Sunday both times by Noel Hudson, Bishop of Newcastle, at Newcastle Cathedral. His first post was as a curate at Hexham. From 1960 to 1963 he was Precentor of St Albans Cathedral then moved to Manchester to serve St Ambrose Church in Chorlton-on-Medlock.

From 1968 to 1976 he was a producer and broadcaster for BBC religious broadcasting at Manchester, which included a TV Songs of Praise from Blackburn Cathedral, whose diocese he would later serve as bishop.

In 1976 he was ordained to the episcopate by Stuart Blanch, Archbishop of York, first serving as suffragan Bishop of Doncaster. Then in 1982 he was appointed diocesan Bishop of Blackburn, serving until his premature death from cancer in 1989.

1. Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
height and depth beyond description
only life in you can prove:
you are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.
2. Jesus Christ, the Man for others,
we, your people, make our prayer:
help us love - as sisters, brothers -
all whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;
where no selfishness can sever
there you love the world may see.
3. Holy Spirit, rushing, bringing
wind and flame of Pentecost,
fire our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
never more to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
God, through us your love make known.

Father Lord of all creation AM 630 Abbot's Leigh

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7FAu0c_-NY

"Father, Lord of all creation" Words From Mrs Mary Cross. Music: From The BBC Hymn Book 1951

Words: © Used by permission of Mrs Mary Cross Music © 1941, Oxford University Press

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- 1 JRW. "Come down, O Love divine." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 23 Apr. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/c/come-down,-o-love-divine>>.
- 2 JRW. "Bianco da Siena." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 23 Apr. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/b/bianco-da-siena>>.
- 3 JRW. "Richard Frederick Littledale." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 23 Apr. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/r/richard-frederick-littledale>>.

COLLECT

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 2: 1 – 21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their native language. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

GOSPEL

John 15: 26 - 27 & 16: 4b—15

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

The following report was missed out of the Church Annual Report:

All Saints Web Site and Social Media 2020

<https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/>

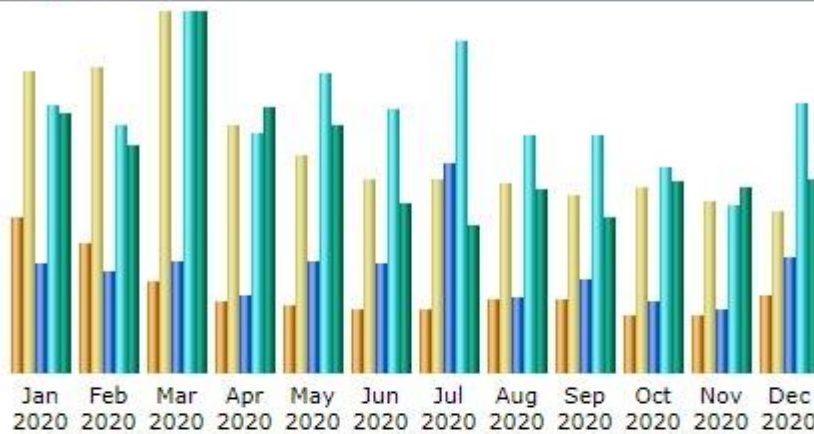
With the CoronaVirus/Covid-19 pandemic closing the Church the use of the website became an important source of information.

The front page was (inelegantly) modified to give, amongst others, access to Covid information, the Diocese and the Church of England on-line services page, updated Church information along with a new YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnPQFuQQ-Yb0ffFuT1Mjv8A/videos>) being established, together with new website pages and regular links to Church and Service recordings made by Fr. Jeremy (of which there are now some fifty recordings available on-line).

This was supported by regular promotion and information posts on both of the Churches Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBoyneHill>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/AllSaintsBHill>) pages.

Later in the year the sites were used to promote the 3D Virtual Tour of All Saints (<https://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk/welcome-about-all-saints/3d-virtual-tour-all-saints-church/>) for the Heritage Open Days.

Monthly history



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2020	2,229	4,304	11,683	28,916	1.32 GB
Feb 2020	1,858	4,372	10,996	26,646	1.16 GB
Mar 2020	1,292	5,160	12,063	38,922	1.84 GB
Apr 2020	1,021	3,530	8,405	25,936	1.36 GB
May 2020	957	3,119	11,926	32,242	1.26 GB
Jun 2020	891	2,768	11,880	28,501	883.09 MB
Jul 2020	902	2,770	22,498	35,844	771.55 MB
Aug 2020	1,058	2,699	8,018	25,529	955.93 MB
Sep 2020	1,032	2,549	10,152	25,698	811.78 MB
Oct 2020	830	2,664	7,677	22,084	1003.40 MB
Nov 2020	807	2,459	6,712	18,057	970.28 MB
Dec 2020	1,106	2,312	12,386	29,160	1012.12 MB
Total	13,983	38,706	134,396	337,535	13.20 GB

Interestingly the two most downloaded items (pdf's) remain "the stories of some of the fallen of WW1" talk and the "research into the fallen of WW1".

The excellent informative weekly Parish News is also hosted on the website, along with back issues of these (and prior pewsheets). The extended Parish News distribution reduced the need for the website to be used for Church information, although it has still been used extensively for general information and queries.

From the usage graph above the peak usage early in the year can be seen, which has gradually reduced as the year progressed and the weekly Parish News became established.

March is especially interesting; although it did not have the highest number of unique visitors it did experience the highest number of visits per unique visitor (4), along with 30 pages visited per unique visitor and the high amount of bandwidth used (which would have been due to a high number of document downloads).

This leads to the question of where to and what next, and who will be able to do this?

As a reminder. the site was kindly constructed by Martin Whitehurst, who has now moved, and is based upon a Content Management System (CMS), and uses a purchased template from "Presence Church", which is designed for Church Use. As such its overall structure and look and feel is fixed. As web-site technology has moved on, as has the original site designer, it is prudent for the Parish to expect to consider a replacement site and to be prepared to allocate resource to build, migrate and maintain a new site. Maintenance of the existing site will become increasingly problematic. (The use of the website during the Corona Virus crisis exposed its limitations) and it is strongly advised that a sponsor is identified who will be able to introduce a more modern version of the website. As always this will depend upon the page and information owners taking responsibility for the areas they are involved in.

In order to ensure that the site remains current and informative with accurate calendars it has been designed for the leaders/page owners/calendar owners to directly maintain their own pages/calendars. However, this has not been happening, with few people initially taking responsibility for their areas of ownership, which means that some of the pages are not as current and/or useful as they could be. The writer agreed to maintain, on a limited basis for a short period, as much as possible until this was resolved. Sadly no-one in the Church currently maintains any of the pages or the calendars on the web-site and this is not a sustainable situation.

There is also an issue with training, which Martin offered, however few people took advantage of this, which means that people are not in a position to carry out content management for their areas.

Training people would now be difficult as no one has full control of all of the features of the site. It was planned (pre-Covid) to arrange for the calendars to be maintained (as originally planned) by the Office Administrator; hopefully this can be actioned when the Church Office opens again. The writer is prepared to continue, in the short term, to assist the PCC with content updates, as long as these are provided to the writer in a usable form and as long as the PCC identifies, within a maximum of a 12 month period (extended due to the pandemic), an appropriate resource, along with a timed plan and support from page owners, to introduce a new website.

For interested persons there is an explanatory video, provided by Martin, on YouTube for new and potential users of the website. This is very interesting and informative, and it is worth viewing at: -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-5dG3MvOxoncjs3SuOmggg>

(Please note that there are direct links to the YouTube video, along with the All Saints Facebook page and Twitter feed on the front page of the website.)

Following Martin's move away Simon Fullarton kindly took over maintaining the technical and infrastructure aspects of the website. This includes organising and managing hosting (bandwidth availability) and back-ups.

The website has tremendous potential for development which depends upon people having both the time and motivation to do this. With development the site can, amongst other uses, be used to proactively send out information when uploaded to people who have requested this. Using these features, along with rota and other information, would help reduce Parish administration time whilst also improving communication for our congregation along with promoting All Saints to new visitors.

Facebook

In conjunction with the website we also have an All Saints Church Facebook page which can be seen at: - <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBoyneHill> Please do visit. Many thanks to Jayne Chapman who has kindly taken on an admin role and is helping to keep the site interesting with relevant posts. This has certainly improved the content of this page.

We have also periodically used the Facebook page for (paid) promotions; typically for the Heritage Open Days and Major Festival programmes.

Twitter

There is also an active Twitter feed at: - <https://twitter.com/AllSaintsBHill> Please do visit. This is kindly being maintained by Julia Wakeling and has attracted 105 "followers". (Slightly down from last year).

Future

Overall the website and social media activity, as well as acting as a vehicle for communication, give All Saints a great opportunity to both spread the Word of God and to help make the Church attractive to people of all ages.

It is hoped that we can generate enthusiasm and support to both maintain, and develop, this important channel of communication in today's society.

R J Broad E&OE 11th April 2021



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 9 – 16 MAY

300,000 STEPS x 2

It's probably not too late to sponsor David or Joan.

Rev David Downing has taken up the challenge to take 300,000 steps to raise money for Christian Aid. He would be very grateful for sponsorship for this challenge; the money raised will go to help make sure people who are suffering the most from climate change are getting the support they need through Christian Aid. You can contact Rev David directly at revmandm@gmail.com or sponsor him directly at

www.facebook.com/donate/137225505049642/

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green has also taken up the challenge so if you would prefer to sponsor the Revd Joan Hicks, some of her family and one of her Churchwardens then

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/chogs-300000?channel=status> is the link. This doesn't offer you the opportunity to send a personal message but if you like you can email revjhicks@gmail.com

PSALMATHON SUNDAY 16 MAY - A note from the Organiser

There were 75 readers in all from quite a wide area including Cardiff, Shropshire, Peterborough, Essex and London as well as little old Marlow and our surrounding region. It was great to hear a diversity of voices, a range of translations and even (you will have missed this if you were not there in the last hour) two psalms read in Welsh. Absolute poetry!

As you know, we were supporting Christian Aid with this event and it certainly gave us the pleasure of a very special focus to our Christian Aid week. At the time of writing almost £4,900 (including Gift Aid) has been raised from this event, and we know there is a little more to come. So the total will definitely be more than £5,000 for Christian Aid. A great result!

Martin Ashford

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.

WAMCF WOMEN'S GROUP Monday 24 May 7.30pm on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84369552849?pwd=cW5PV0hiTU9iVFBVYVpmSjQ0UmJnUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 6955 2849

Passcode: 272010

Reflecting on 40 years of WAMCF so come with your memories – however recent or distant.

We will also introduce a project to create a wall hanging between us so you may like to have pen and paper to jot down your ideas.

FOODSHARE NEEDS are in the Maidenhead Advertiser each week.

REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

I was in a meeting when my phone went 'ping'. Lots was happening at that moment: a strategy discussion, a problem to fix, a host of other things. When I could, however, I took a quick peek at my phone. A parent can never quite hold off from the instinct to check everything is okay.

The message took me by surprise. It was from our GPs' surgery: 'You have been invited to book your second Covid-19 vaccination.' I couldn't hold back. Right away I clicked on the link and booked the first slot I was offered, an early afternoon appointment just four days later at Maidenhead town hall.

My first jab was administered in mid-March so I hadn't expected to be offered the booster vaccination for another month. When the day came, the news was full of reports of the rapid spread of the Indian variant of coronavirus and some public anger at people who refused to be vaccinated in communities at greatest risk.

And yet when my turn came it was all so low key. I cycled into town and found no queue for the Desborough Suite. A friendly volunteer took my temperature and ushered me straight in. I had my jab five minutes early. I was told to rest for 15 minutes and, watching from my plastic chair, noticed at one point that three of the five vaccination tables were inactive: the nurses were sipping coffee or scrolling on their phones. Volunteers stood inactive.

But what a triumph the vaccination programme has been. I am so grateful.