

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

## PARISH NEWS

[www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk)

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### Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

In this week's news I would like to share with you a blog about Captain Sir Tom Moore, then ask a question that seeks to clarify and plan our priorities. Let's begin with that wonderfully humble man who Archbishop Stephen Cottrell wrote about in the Church Times. Sir Tom's 'courage and determination to step out and make a difference inspired a nation.' I called this blog 'Probably the best century ever completed!'

Back in Lockdown one, I wrote a blog called 'He's reached 99, one more for his century!'. The blog was written about a man who had not been known to the majority of us (unless you were avid Blankety Blank viewers!) but the gentleman concerned would become one of the best known and well loved people of the last year and perhaps any year. His name is Captain Sir Tom Moore. I would imagine that Captain Tom is now one of the most recognisable people in Britain if not the world due to the most amazing last year of his life. I recall watching Sir Geoffrey Boycott making his 100<sup>th</sup> 100 at Headingley, Leeds with a gorgeous on-drive for 4 against Australia when England won the ashes in 1977. That was some innings in a magnificent career but even Sir Geoffrey would say that Captain Tom's last run was even more spectacular.

Captain Sir Tom Moore in his 100<sup>th</sup> year set out to walk 100 laps of his garden to raise £1000 for the NHS. He succeeded and with gift aid has reached about £39,000,000! Later last year he was knighted by the Queen at Windsor Castle, shared a number one single with Michael Ball (You'll never walk alone), was awarded the 'Pride of Britain' award the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Helen Rollason Award, had flypasts by the RAF on his hundredth birthday, received 150,000 birthday cards, has two books 'Tomorrow Will Be A Good Day' and '100 Steps' written for children. There is I hear also going to be a film about his life and Sir Tom wants either Michael Caine or Anthony Hopkins if they are prepared to 'age up!' I go for Hopkins for the Welsh connection.

Of course, Captain Sir Tom Moore was also in early life a British Army Officer who fought in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in Burma between 1939-1946 and was a businessman. It is remarkable that this man who showed such commitment and endurance in going for goals (assembly to Boyn Hill infants) that he achieved all that he did for the NHS. What is equally powerful though is the humble way he shared his success and encouraged others to follow suit. The stories of children battling disabilities and inspired by Sir Tom to walk or jog distances they never thought they could achieve to raise money for charities was inspiring. I heard too of adults that were inspired. Only this week on Radio 5 Live I heard Nicky Campbell interview the great Scottish Rugby Union Lock forward Alastair McHarg, who played 40 odd games for Scotland in the 60's and 70's and who has gone through difficult times himself speak about how Captain Tom has inspired him to raise money for charity. This is the wonderful gift that Captain Sir Tom Moore leaves us with which is the 'Ripple Effect'. The fact that his desire to help the NHS and seek the common good in such a humble and powerful way has led people across the world to be uplifted in this most challenging of years.

Finally, Darren Gough, the former England and Yorkshire fast bowler told Talk Sport listeners this week about his half hour interview with Sir Captain Tom. Sir Tom told Gough about his delight in receiving an honorary membership of the MCC which to a cricket loving man born in Keighley, Yorkshire was such a thrill. There is no doubt that as Captain Sir Tom Moore leaves this life he leaves to a standing ovation on reaching his century and so much more. As a footnote Captain Tom would be delighted to have heard today of England's brilliant win over India in the Test Match with a Yorkshireman Joe Root scoring 218.

Moving now to a question that was raised at an on-line leadership course I joined a few weeks ago. The course run by CPAS an Anglican organisation that specialise in leadership has set up courses for during Lockdown and coming out of Lockdown. Questions have arisen from parishes around the country which I will use in the coming weeks to help us plan our priorities.

The question this week 'With all that is going on, how can we continue to reach out/engage our community, including the schools? And what are the emerging needs?

It's a good question and one that Jeanette Lock asked in our prayer group meeting on zoom this Monday. Jeanette asked how can we support children in their education at this time? We have already thanks to you the readers of this newsletter raise £1500 towards iPad's for children. We are still offering Open the Book stories and recorded assemblies. I am pleased to write that we have good representation on school governing bodies.

The key to Jeanette's question though is can we ask schools to report to us on how we the members of All Saints might help in anyway? This maybe through listening to a child read as some of our congregation have done over the years in person. One area we can support is through encouraging children to think about the world in which we live. Last week I wrote a sermon that reflected on our need to think about the way we sustain God's gift of life to us. Bishop Olivia is heading up groups to look at sustainability issues within the church. I have invited Boyn Hill and All Saints to take part in a similar event to our 2007 mission which involved a huge Earth Balloon. Jane the head of Boyn Hill is enthused and has asked Altwood and All Saints to take part. We could be looking forward to another mission event next year between the schools and All Saints Church.

### **Street Angels**

This Thursday Street Angels celebrates 10 years of ministry in Maidenhead. We give thanks for the people who have supported people in need on our streets on Friday and Saturday nights over that period of time. We reflect upon the lollipop ministry, the flat shoes offered and the listening ear and safe journey home ministry. There are too, the many conversations shared with people who needed support.

### **Ash Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

Finally our Ash Wednesday service this year will be on zoom in the form of Lent Morning Prayer with the litany and Imposition of Ashes. If you would like to take part in this service, please join us on zoom at 10.00am. The link is in Resources on page 3. If you would like to share a symbolic act, then please burn your Palm Cross from last year and use the ash during the service. If anyone needs a Palm Cross, please let me know and I will provide one.

In next week's newsletter I will share with you the plans for Lent and Holy Week.

## RESOURCES THIS WEEK:

### Thursday 11 February

#### 7.00pm Art Course Part 2 on Zoom with Matt Firth

The final part will look at Northern Renaissance Art from The Netherlands.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85756336207?pwd=OUZiYzMrQXhTeEVQR0p0eIYyRThHdz09>

Meeting ID: 857 5633 6207

Passcode: 793540

#### 8.00pm Night Prayer on Zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75976544021?pwd=Q1pJVTlpTytOdHg0VXhSRGxWRzIzZz09>

Meeting ID: 759 7654 4021

Password: 5rHziv

### Sunday 14 February

#### 10.00am Morning Prayer for the Sunday next before Lent

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89125977023?pwd=R0FaSjNMK2ExNnoyVGZXNTZ4cHhwdz09>

Meeting ID: 891 2597 7023

Passcode: 369388

For the Diocesan Link for the Eucharist please see the front page of our website. The Diocesan resources can be found without internet on 01865 920930. The Church of England's new resource 'Daily Hope' which includes comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections can be found on free telephone 0800 804 8044

#### Monday 15 February 7.30pm Prayer Group on Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 850 1160 0714

Passcode: 553120

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

#### Wednesday 17 February ASH WEDNESDAY 10.00am Lent Morning Prayer and Ash Wednesday Liturgy of Penitence and Imposition of Ashes

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82821645579?pwd=VE5WTjA0QWVndW5YYzI0R0VwZjdkZz09>

Meeting ID: 828 2164 5579

Passcode: 292991

Please note that there will be no coffee morning this Wednesday, but it will return next week.

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep in your prayers Jeanette Darke, Daniel Honey, and all those whose anniversary of death falls at this time.

We remember Captain Sir Tom Moore and his family.

Please keep Jackie, Sarah, Joshua, Margaret and Jo in your prayers at this very sad time following the tragic death of Daniel.

We continue to pray for Mandy Rogers, Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Sister Mary Philip, Roger Baldery and Mark.

We give thanks for the return to health of Ann Clark's mother Doreen as she returns to her family and home.

We give thanks for the safe birth of Jeanette's granddaughter Tawny. We pray for Simon and Sarah on the birth of their daughter.

We pray for Chris Harding studying in the Lebanon.

We continue to pray for the NHS workers and those from our community involved in the vaccination programme, especially Jeanette and Dianne. We give thanks that over 12 million people have now received their first vaccination.

We pray for Food Share as they continue to provide for people struggling to offer food to children.

We welcome Lindy as she begins life living at the Alms Houses. We pray that Lindy will be happy in her new home.

We give thanks for The Street Angels and for 10 years of ministry to the people of Maidenhead on Friday and Saturday evenings.

We pray for Food Share as they continue to provide for people struggling to offer food to children.

We pray for the Nation and this week our schools. We pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives. We give God thanks for the sacrifice and commitment of teachers and all those involved in serving children and young people in education. We pray that all might be nurtured and cared for.

### Prayer for the Nation:

Loving God, at this time of crisis when so many are suffering, we pray for our nation and our world. Give our leaders wisdom, our Health service strength, our people hope.

Lead us through these parched and difficult days to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Pray the Parish:

The list of streets in our Parish was attached to Issue 41: this week we remember the ones beginning with G.

Church of England to 'Pray for the Nation' via the link below.

[https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/202011/15348%20PftN%20Booklet\\_6th%20PROOF.pdf](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/202011/15348%20PftN%20Booklet_6th%20PROOF.pdf)

Gracious God, as we remember before you the thousands who have died, surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion. Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair, and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

Finally, if anyone would like to see an interview between myself and our local councillors on the importance of the vaccinations please see All Saints Website. Or use one of these links: FaceBook <https://fb.watch/3uIccDHP6X/> or YouTube <https://youtu.be/AjwhzJFSsfk>

From Charlie Mackesy

'Sometimes I worry you'll realise I'm ordinary,' said the boy. 'Love doesn't need you to be extraordinary,' said the mole.

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

*Fr Jeremy*

## **Worship for SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY The Sunday next before Lent**

### **Sounds of Worship                  Brian Graves**

This is the Sunday when we are reminded of when Jesus, accompanied by Peter, James and John, is transfigured into a blazing white image and meets Elijah and Moses. Peter wants to create structures to memorialise this event. However, the words of God, emanating from a cloud, and Jesus' command "not to speak of this until after he is risen from the dead" show that the connection is with the heavenly future, not past and present events on earth.

The two hymns I have chosen to mark this event dwell on the light and hope that Jesus brings to the world. The first is "Christ whose glory fills the skies" AM 2 words by Charles Wesley set to the tune Ratisbon, based on a melody from Werner's *Choralbuch*, published in Leipzig in 1815.

Written by the great hymn writer Charles Wesley, this text was published in three verses in *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, compiled in 1740 by Charles Wesley and his brother John. James Montgomery called it "one of Charles Wesley's loveliest progeny."

Titled "Morning Hymn" by Wesley, it is unusual in that it does not contain the customary reference to the previous night's rest or to the work and dangers of the day ahead. The text begins by placing the focus entirely on Christ, the "light of the world," the sun of Righteousness who rises with healing in his wings"; he is the "Dayspring" and "Daystar." Thus the "light of Christ" is to fill our lives and lead us forward "to the perfect day."

Johann Gottlob Werner (1777-1822) was successively organist at Freiburg Cathedral, cantor and organist of Hohenstein and organist and music director at Merseburg Cathedral, which is a few miles west of Leipzig. He published his *ChoralBuch* (Hymn tune Book) in 1815 in Leipzig which included his hymn tune "Ratisbon." In 1818, he published Eight Chorale Preludes for Organ in also in Leipzig.

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
Joyless is the day's return,  
till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
  
3. Visit then this soul of mine,  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, radiance divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

The second hymn is "Lord, the light of your love is shining" AM 719 words and music by Graham Kendrick (b1950).

Better known from the opening line of the song's refrain "Shine Jesus shine", this is a worship song that is based on the theme of Jesus as the light of the world. The refrain contrasts the blazing fire of the holy spirit in each and every heart with the all-enveloping flow of mercy and grace to draw people into a community of God. This is perhaps Kendrick's best-known song and has retained its popularity since it was first published in 1987.

Kendrick is a prolific Christian singer, songwriter and worship leader. He is the son of Baptist pastor, M. D. Kendrick and grew up in Laindon, Essex and Putney. He now lives in Tunbridge Wells and is a member of Holy Trinity with Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells.

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining:  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth you now bring us:  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,  
fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow  
flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word, Lord  
and let there be light!*

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness:  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness:  
shine on me, shine on me.  
*Refrain*

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
so our faces display your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory:  
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:  
shine on me, shine on me.

*Refrain*

“Lord the light of your love is shining” words and music by Graham Kendrick

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## COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 4: 3 – 6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

## GOSPEL Mark 9: 2 – 9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

## SERMON Fr Jeremy

Last Sunday Jeanette received the joyful news that she was a grandmother for the second time. Her son Simon and his wife Sarah were able to share that special news of the birth of their baby daughter Tawny, weighing in at 9lb 3oz! Those that I have spoken to following the birth of a new baby speak of the absolute thrill or if you like the 'Wow' event of their life. I guess it is one of those spine-tingling events in life that is life changing.

Recently I was given by Stella Horne a film to watch called 'Ladies in Lavender'. Two of my favourite actresses Judi Dench and Maggie Smith star in the film set in Cornwall in 1936 and is a heart-warming story of unfulfilled dreams and unrequited love. The sisters (played by Dench and Smith) discover a castaway on the beach where they live and nurse him back to health. The castaway is a young man from Poland (Stella said that Monika might enjoy the film too) who happens to have a gift. He hears Maggie Smith's character playing the piano badly and asks instead if he can hear the violin played. A man from the village obliges but his ability is limited. The young Polish man takes the violin and plays the instrument with such beauty that the sisters are filled with a sense of awe (As is the viewer of the film). It is a spine-tingling moment.

Today's gospel reading offers us the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus invites his three closest disciples Peter, James and John to go up a mountain with him. The disciples are dazzled by Jesus' appearance and this will be a spine-tingling experience that they will never forget. In contrast to the voice that we hear that spoke to Jesus at his baptism, this time God speaks directly to the disciples and tells them to listen to him, before they head back down the mountain. This mountain top experience has provided a glimpse of the glory of God, but it is a passing experience.

Peter responds to this 'Wow' moment by trying to hold onto it. On the mountain top he wants to find the resources to build dwellings, so that they can stay together in God's presence. It was never going to happen this way though and Jesus and the disciples would need to return to the hurly burly of ministry and everyday life. They will see Jesus heal people and give his life that brings new and transformed life. They will come to realise that they will become members of his body the church, the people of God who will be spirit filled to reflect his light to the world.

In January 2009 during a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with parishioners from St Matthew's, Bethnal Green and All Saints, Boyne Hill we experienced the 'wow' in the flesh. I celebrated the Eucharist on Mount Tabor and Fr Kevin Scully gave the address. We sang two hymns 'He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster and at the conclusion of the service 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! To the tune Carlisle. This was the beginning of a pilgrimage during which pilgrims who experienced those 10 days will say that they had many 'Wow' experiences in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, The River Jordan, and sharing the Eucharist at Emmaus. Of course, we all need to come down from the high of these spiritual journeys to live spirit filled lives.

The important aspect in life is perhaps to notice the wow moments and give thanks for them whether it is an obvious religious experience or perhaps an experience where God showed himself through music, creation, art, acts of love or any other example of as Jesuits say 'seeing God in all things'. Whether we have had the unexpected or intense awareness of the glory of God where like Peter we want to hold onto it for ever or not we need to listen to God and notice God in our everyday lives. This can lead us to be 'contemplatives in action' as the Jesuits claim and that was the key for the disciples. They needed to listen to God, to notice God in their lives, to be aware of his glory so that through his spirit they might change the world for good.

During Lent we are all invited to discover a 'Personal rule of Life' so that we may reflect Christ's love to the world. We will be invited to pray and seek God's will by participating in the life and worship of the church. We will seek to read and reflect on the scriptures and open our lives to the Holy Spirit. We hopefully can discover a way to enjoy God's gifts with gratitude and live by the teaching of Jesus. We may desire to give generously to others and to the mission of the church. We will perhaps seek forgiveness and offer forgiveness and discover a balance between work and rest. Hopefully as we move through this time of the pandemic, we will become a church community that shares Jesus' glory with others by serving those in need. We will shine his glory by challenging injustice and perhaps by seeking ways of caring for his creation.

I invite you all this Lent to share the Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything' on Wednesday evenings. It may be a time when we can notice the 'Wow' experiences in life like the birth of a new-born, and notice God in the everyday experiences so that we can be lights for Christ. The Hymn 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Which some of us sang on Mount Tabor finishes:

"Tis good, Lord, to be here!

Yet we may not remain;

But since thou bidst us leave the mount,

Come with us to the plain.'

In the name of the Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit.'

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

Amen



## FOODSHARE NEWS

Lockdown means an increasing need for Foodshare. Please see [www.foodshare.today](http://www.foodshare.today) for places you can donate and what's most needed each week. The needs are also in the Maidenhead Advertiser each week.

## REFLECTION by Greg Hurst

Pottering in the garden a week or so ago I began to notice things. Buds were swelling on trees and shrubs. Bulbs appeared. Daffodils were taking shape. I took great heart at these signs of growth. It won't be long, I assured my family and mother-in-law, until spring. Take heart! We can endure this lockdown.

Then came the Beast from the East, the blast of icy weather from Ukraine and the Black Sea, plunging us into successive days of sub-zero temperatures. On walks and cycle rides my fingers and toes throbbed with cold and I blinked through swirling snowflakes. It felt as if we had been dragged back into the depths of winter.

Taking a break from my desk in the middle of one day I rode my bike to Ockwells Park, locking it and putting a plastic bag over the seat to keep it dry from falling snow. Very few other people were about. Areas of familiar woods looked strikingly different with a thin carpet of snow.

In one thicket I spotted a large rabbit, bustling in brambles beside icy flooded ground. A majestic heron took flight in a wood. I stood by a ditch watching a shoal of small fish in the cold clear water. Towards the end of my walk I came face to face with a roe deer buck. We regarded each other for a full minute before he bounded off into woodland.

How nature restores and invigorates. I experienced a sense of wildness as well as great beauty. I returned refreshed, despite the cold.