

**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 edition the main piece will come from Jenny Wilks as she reflects upon COP 26 and the theme of Sustainability. Please read Jenny's piece and discover how All Saints church will be trying to become an 'Eco-Church'.

This week we will have marked All Saints and our Patronal Festival, All Souls as we remember our departed loved ones and we look forward to Remembrance Sunday on the 14<sup>th</sup> November as we reflect upon those who gave their lives so that we might have freedom. This weekend we will focus on remembering creation and how we might value and protect the gifts that God has given us. We will pray for the countries represented at COP 26 and for the decisions that they will hopefully make towards creating a better world and start to think how we as individuals and small communities can play our part.

On All Saints Day I thought about the time I ran or more accurately jogged the Reading Half-Marathon in 2010. I was helped in no small part by Mike Moss who gradually over time built up the distances covered so that on the day I could cope physically. On the night before the race Reg, my mother Molly and I were invited to join Mike and Jan for a healthy meal in readiness for the following day. That evening Mike announced to me that he was going to join me on the run. I was thrilled because I had someone who was an experienced distance runner alongside me to pace me for the 13 mile journey.

The next day as we waited outside Reading Football Club ready to begin the run, I was excited, but filled too with a sense of apprehension. There was at the beginning the temptation to run too hard, but Mike knew how to run at a pace that was achievable but at the same time being able to run to the best of one's ability. Some people went too fast and faded or came to a halt with only a minority able to run the distance at a good pace. At various stages people cheered the runners on and bands were playing to give atmosphere. Then we arrived within the football stadium which has hosted Premier League games to be cheered on by family, friends, and general well-wishers. It was a great feeling to cross the finish line.

Another similar experience was the 500 mile pilgrimage across Northern Spain in 2013 to Santiago. Again, Mike and Jan had trained with me to get used to walking long distances with a rucksack on my back. The Christian journey is like a distance run or pilgrimage. It is a journey made in the company of 'a great crowd of witnesses.' There are those from scripture like Abraham through the prophets, disciples and Apostles to the Saints and the unnamed heroes and heroines throughout the ages. In the pilgrimage unlike the race, you are not completing but rather helping each other on the journey and sharing stories and hospitality. This is

perhaps the best way to view us as the Pilgrim People of God as we journey through life together towards God and the Heavenly Banquet.

We need to travel light for the journey and packing my rucksack for hours on the Sunday before leaving was perhaps one of the most significant parts of my preparation. Only allowing yourself the items you will really need will stop the damage to knees and the blisters caused to feet. In life we don't want the heavy weights of anxieties about trivial concerns, greed of money at all costs at the expense of others, valuing only ourselves and not those around us. We also need to be patient. On pilgrimage if you race you miss the conversations, the hospitality and can gain blisters and exhaustion and simply not enjoy the experience. Christian living can be like this, and we can see people filled with burning energy at the beginning of their journey of faith before burnout and loss of faith. It is surely better to share a more gradual journey of faith enjoying the people and experiences we have and noticing God at work in them and continuing in faith to the Kingdom.

It is important too that we journey 'With all the witnesses to faith around us like a cloud, we must throw off every encumbrance, every sin to which we cling and run with resolution the race for which we entered our eyes on Jesus, on whom the faith depends, from start to finish.' (Hebrews 12.1) We keep our eyes fixed on Jesus looking to the great cloud of witnesses cheering us on with encouragement and looking forward to the welcome that we will receive at the end from the Saints, our loved ones and the one who through the cross and resurrection made it all possible. We will go through struggles in life, but we will journey in the presence of Christ, all the Saints and those on earth that are our fellow pilgrims, encouraging one another, staying connected and building one another up.

As we return to worship at All Saints in the coming weeks ready for mission, let us journey together in faith seeking a deeper unity, despite disagreements minor and major that are part of every family living life as if the best is yet to come.

## RESOURCES THIS WEEK

<i>Thursday 4 November</i>	2.45pm Open the Book at All Saints School 8.00pm Choir Practice in the Parish Centre
<i>Friday 5 November</i>	9am All Saints Assembly at Boyn Hill Infant School 10am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
<i>Sunday 7 November</i>	10am Eucharist in Church - as we pray for the COP 26 UN climate conference in Glasgow 12 Noon – Holy Baptism – Alicia Evelyn Stockbridge
<i>Tuesday 9 November</i>	9am Open the Book at Larchfield Primary School 1.30pm Altwood Christian Union 2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre – all welcome to join us to hear a talk from Hearing Dogs for the Deaf
<i>Wednesday 10 November</i>	10am Eucharist in the Parish Centre
<i>Thursday 11 November</i>	2.30pm Open the Book at All Saints School

## ADVANCE NOTICES

<i>Sunday 14 November</i>	10am Eucharist in Church – Remembrance Sunday
<i>Sunday 28 November</i>	10am Eucharist to mark the beginning of Advent and the celebration of 100 years of ministry of the Royal British Legion & from 2-5pm our first ever Christmas Market

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

As the United Nations climate conference, COP 26, continues in Glasgow, let us bring our prayers to God, who created the earth and all within it.

We pray for world leaders that they may all work together, through the decisions taken, to protect the planet and all who live within it.

We pray for the Church: may we discern our roles and tasks arising from the decisions taken at COP 26 and take action to achieve them.

We pray for the world; that our collective actions will begin the long process of repair to the damage we have caused, and that God will help us become better stewards.

We pray for our parish of All Saints, Boyne Hill that decisions taken will in our parish life will help us live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the earth and all life within it.

We pray for all those in need at this time. We remember Danielle, Nick, Fr John, Roger Baldery, Dave Hill, his wife Eliza, Dave's parents, Ann and Chris, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Joan Poolman, Marjorie Pocock, Terry Freshwater, Doreen Hill, Vivienne Patterson, John Hicks, Christel Kirschner, Ronan Singh Dharwar and Phil Grummet.

We pray for all the recently departed and all our departed loved ones and for those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. We remember Anne Clark's father, Fred Hill. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Charlie Mackesy – I know this has been used by me recently but in the week of COP 26 as Fox, Boy and Mole look out over creation 'So much beauty we need to look after.'

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

*Fr Jeremy*

## Sustainability at All Saints by Jenny Wilks

You can't turn on the television or radio at the moment without hearing about COP26, climate change and sustainability. This gathering of world leaders has the potential to stop us doing irreparable damage to our planet. Action is much needed, as you will be aware.

Caring for God's earth is increasingly being seen by Christians as a key priority. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Pope Francis and the Ecumenical Patriarch have issued a joint statement on climate change. One of the Diocese of Oxford's main focus areas is responding to the climate crisis and the broader environmental crises facing our planet, spearheaded by Bishop Olivia. The Diocesan Synod

has committed the Diocese to a wide-ranging plan of practical action, prayer and advocacy, including a move toward a net-zero target by 2030.

We at All Saints have a role to play in this.

Here is an update from the recently formed Sustainability Group (Fr Jeremy, Jenny Wilks, Jo McMullan, Ken Smith and focusing on our schools Anne Sweeney, Dianne Farmiloe and John Bolodeoku) on what we've been discussing and planning, and how you can get involved.

We looked initially at 3 areas:

- **Worship and community:** *Bringing the themes of creation and environment into services and other church activities - as well as raising awareness of those small positive changes we as a congregation can make in our day to day lives.*  
The intention is to keep this topic on the agenda throughout the year in teaching, music and other activities (but not to the detriment of other areas of liturgy). We've already celebrated Climate Sunday and Harvest (with proceeds of the auction going to Water Aid).
- **Buildings and land:** *Investigate ways in which the management and use of the church buildings and surrounds might become more sustainable.*  
The good news is that there are already areas where we are taking positive steps e.g. buying our energy from a company using 100% renewable energy, but there is more to do.
- **Schools:** *linking with them to understand how we can support their sustainability agendas.*  
The hope is to bring all three schools together with the church community in June 2022 around World Environment Day to celebrate the great work they have been doing.

To give us a framework, ideas and a way to measure our progress, the PCC has agreed that we register for EcoChurch. This is an initiative run by A Rocha UK to encourage churches to become more environmentally aware. It is supported by the Church of England. Churches demonstrating a commitment to sustainable action are awarded with one of three levels of EcoChurch award. This will also give us some momentum! It looks at our practice in the following areas:

- Worship and teaching
- Buildings
- Land
- Community and global engagement

We have taken some small steps but there is a lot more we can do – with your help.

We will be organising a session in January (date to be confirmed) where we would love as many people in the congregation as possible to join us to harness ideas from everyone. Please do join us if you can.

This Sunday, in the middle of COP26, Fr Jeremy will focus on sustainability. Bishop Olivia will be at the conference and has spoken about this in a recent interview. [Listen to the full interview with Bishop Olivia](#) and she has suggested keeping the following in your prayers.

- Pray for the conference hosts, for wisdom, guidance, and ambition for UK negotiators and Alok Sharma, COP26 president.
- Pray for faith leaders attending the conference.

- Pray for peaceful and fruitful discussions between world leaders.
- Pray for world leaders to make bold commitments to combat climate change.
- Pray for protection and support for developing nations most affected by climate change.

If you'd like more information from the Diocese on the Environment, take a look at:

Diocese of Oxford <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/mission-ministry/making-a-difference/environment/>

EcoChurch <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/eco-church#na>

And if you have any ideas on how we as a church, community or individuals can make a difference, please contact Jenny Wilks or Fr Jeremy.

## Worship for Sunday 7 November The Third Sunday before Advent

### Sounds of Worship Brian Graves

As we approach the end of the Church's year, the gospel reminds us of the start of Jesus' ministry on earth and how he invites the first disciples to follow him. Jesus announces his mission with the immortal words; "The time has come; the kingdom of God is upon you; repent and believe the gospel."

The message is clear and inspired the first followers to join him. That gospel message lives on and the two hymns I have chosen reflect on the theme in slightly different ways. The first, "And can it be" by expressing personal commitment and salvation through a life-changing belief in Jesus. While the second, "O thou camest from above" describes how the holy spirit can be a driving force to find a new life through Jesus.

And so, to "And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Saviour's blood?" AM 588 words by Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788) set to the tune Sagina, from Thomas Cambell *The Bouquet*, 1825.

"And Can It Be" was written in 1738 to celebrate Wesley's conversion to Christianity. It is fitting to use it to illustrate the theme of commitment to Christ.

It was originally published having six verses, when it was re-published a few years later by Wesley, one verse was removed which has been the convention ever since. The recording linked below however, also omits the second verse. The first two verses on the recording explore both the contrast between the glory of heaven that Christ came from and the suffering he endured on earth as well as the mystery of the love that motivated him to make that journey. In verse three we are reminded how God brings us to salvation in language that is based on Peter's experience in Acts 12:6-11, where God sent an angel to open the prison doors and loose Peter's chains. The final verse is a jubilant celebration of our new state in Christ and the privilege of communion with God that we enjoy.

Thomas Campbell was born and lived in Sheffield. In 1825 he published *The Bouquet*, a collection of tunes composed and adapted to Wesley's Hymns which included 23 tunes, all of which were given botanical names, the most well-known is Sagina (Pearlwort).

1. And can it be that I should gain

an interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! how can it be  
that thou, my God, should die for me?

2. He left His Father's throne above -  
so free, so infinite his grace -  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race,  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me!
3. Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
thine eye diffused a quickening ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth and followed thee.
4. No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

And can it be AM 588 Sagina

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQeIGbKqiw8>

The second hymn is also by Charles Wesley, it is "O thou who camest from above" set to the tune Hereford by Wesley's natural grandson, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810 – 1876)

This hymn was first published in *Short Hymns on Select Passages of the Holy Scriptures* (1762), the fourth hymn in a series of twenty-one on Leviticus. It was in two 8-line verses, prefaced by the text 'The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar, it shall never go out. — vi.13.'

It was turned into four 4-line verses by John Wesley in the 1780 *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists*. The hymn takes a relatively uninteresting verse from Leviticus, describing the duties of Aaron and his sons, and turns it into a remarkable expression of Christian experience. In the 1780 *Collection* John Wesley included this hymn in the section '*For Believers, Working*', which suggests that he saw it as beginning with the Holy Spirit and ending with practical religion ('acts of faith and love').

As with other Charles Wesley hymns of this period, it has an astonishing number of New Testament references, which transform the Old Testament source. Particularly clear are the references to the descent of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost (Acts 2: 3), the image of fire in Luke 12: 49, the 'acts of faith and love' from 1 Thessalonians 1:3, and 'stir up the gift' from 2 Timothy 1: 6 (also from the Collect for the twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity in the Book of Common Prayer)<sup>1</sup>.

1. O thou who camest from above

the fire celestial to impart,  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
on the mean altar of my heart!

2. There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return  
in humble prayer and fervent praise.
3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work, and speak, and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
and still stir up the gift in me.
4. Ready for all thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat;  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make the sacrifice complete.

O thou who camest from above AM 258 Hereford

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJ6pmSEzJ5A>

1. Timothy Dudley-Smith. "O thou who camest from above." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 23 Oct. 2021.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/o/o-thou-who-camest-from-above>>.

## COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

## O T READING JONAH 3: 1- 5 & 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

## GOSPEL MARK 1: 14 - 20

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

## NOTICES

### **YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU**

#### **SUPPORT NEEDED FOR RE-ORGANISING THE FURNITURE ETC IN THE CHURCH AND "ALSO" BRASS CLEANING**

Many thanks to those who have so far volunteered to help this coming **Friday and Saturday 5th and 6th November.**

On those days we need to move the pews, altars and other furniture from the west end into the main body of the church to allow Cliveden to stain and polish the parquet flooring, starting at 9.30am on each day.

Detailed plans have been drawn up as to where the items can go but in brief we are committed to holding a baptism service on the Sunday afternoon, 7 November, for seventy guests so our first steps will be to place an altar at the front, with the portable font, and seven rows of the long pews on either side of the central aisle.

The grand piano will also be positioned back in its usual place and the remaining pews together with those pieces of furniture which are normally at the west end will be placed mainly in the side aisles. The organ will not be available.

As each item is moved it will first need to be dusted, for which microfibre cloths will be available.

Further, the parish centre has been offered to the baptism party on the Sunday morning to prepare for a party in the afternoon so we are going to hold the Eucharist in the church in the morning using the pews already set out for the baptism.

The church will not however be as you would expect, with much furniture concertinaed together to allow Cliveden to have clear space for working at the west end, the chancel will not be in use and there will be no refreshments afterwards.

**In order to finally restore the church to its normal state we would hope you could find some time to help on some further dates with moving and cleaning..**

**Saturday 13 November, from 10am. As Cliveden continue working we want to use this day to see if there will be yet more furniture and fittings that we can place in their permanent positions.**

**Thursday and Friday 18 and 19 November, from 10am. The church must be completely restored by the evening of Friday 19 November when Cliveden will finally depart. To do so we plan to work on these two days to ensure it is ready.**

Please let me know if you can help.

**BRASS CLEANING** Many of our candlesticks have been stored in the sanctuary for months whilst the floor is being done. They are dusty and in need of polishing. If you would like to help with brass cleaning the job can be done any time by using the Birinus room and the time can be fairly flexible to suit you.

Please let me know if you can help here also.

*Ken Smith*





## RETURN OF THE CHOIR

In anticipation of the re-opening of the church towards the end of November, I will re-start choir practices from Thursday 4 November in the Parish Centre from 8.00pm to 9.00pm.

We have been in touch with the “pre-pandemic” members of the choir. However, I want to take the opportunity to invite anyone who is new to the church or more established members of the congregation who might be interested in joining us either to send me an email ([b.graves.clock@btinternet.com](mailto:b.graves.clock@btinternet.com)) or see me after a Sunday morning worship to explore how to get involved.

In the first instance we will be working on some of the weekly hymns and music for Christmas. This year, in addition to preparing for “Nine Lessons and Carols” on Sunday 19 December we are planning on singing some carols at the Christmas Market on Sunday 28 November.

After such a long period of silence, it would be great to make our Christmas celebrations as musically joyful as we can!

*Brian Graves*

## ALL SAINTS CHRISTMAS MARKET, SUNDAY 28th NOVEMBER

We’d like to invite everyone to take part in what we hope will be a lovely event and a special way of inviting people to our beautiful Church, after our time away.

- There will be a good range of stalls including our own crafts and cake stalls, the tombola and raffle. And we have invited a few external "makers and producers" to have their own stalls; these will include Neals' Yard (products to be provided by Tanya Fullarton), honey, chocolate, jewellery, cured meats, bunting packs and gift hampers. There *may* be space for additional stalls if anyone knows of any other "makers and producers" who can offer Christmassy themed items.
- We will have the very popular "Spin the wheel for a bottle", and a craft area in the Parish Centre for children to enjoy themselves.
- The Royal British Legion will be with us and we will have music from our own Church Choir and the "Tuneless Choir".
- We will be selling mulled wine and beer and there will be a BBQ and Indian food, the latter through the generosity of the Maidenhead Sikh community; we will be laying out tables in the Parish Centre for people to sit at and enjoy their food
- And most importantly, Father Christmas will be paying a visit to our grotto in the Birinus Room, to meet the little ones!

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be able to:

1. Help run a stall
2. Serve the Indian food
3. Assist Father Christmas - elf costumes welcomed!  
**Please contact Stella (07738 179710) or let Fr Jeremy know if you would like to help with any of these.**
4. Make a cake(s) and /or mince pies
5. Donate a prize to the raffle
6. Donate items for the tombola - lots of those needed please!
7. Lend a gazebo – (several of these needed please),
8. Lend a Christmas tree and/or some decorations



Please contact Stella, Jayne (07782 286158) or Tanya Fullarton (07870 244067) about any donations so we can arrange to collect them from you.

There is a helpful map on the noticeboard showing the proposed layout of stalls on the day; we are making good use of the Quadrangle and there will be stalls in the Church too.

Now that we have the basic elements of the day in place we need everyone's help, please, to make it a success.

*Fr Jeremy, Jayne Chapman, Tanya Fullarton, Stella Harding*



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL

We are going to be taking part in this appeal for the 9<sup>th</sup> time this year. Last year we donated over 60 boxes as gifts for children around the world who don't have much. This wasn't quite as high as our total of 100 in 2019 but was still amazing! The coronavirus pandemic is causing even greater hardship for some children and their families, and this is one way to show God's love and bring some joy. Please read the attached note for details of how you can contribute. We have our own donation page on the OCC website this year to make donating even easier! You can find it at <https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/5605bb90#form> If you have any questions, please contact me at [jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk](mailto:jwilks@jwa-consultancy.co.uk). See how easy it is!

*"I went online at my Granny and Grandpa's house; I chose to make a box for a girl who is the same age as me, and I enjoyed choosing things she might like. There was already some stationery and toiletries; then I chose a cuddly toy, a wind-up torch, a musical instrument, a hat, some sunglasses, some things for her hair and a slinky because they're fun! I wrote a message to say I hope she enjoys them and wish her a Happy Christmas." Will Moss aged 7.*

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Calling all Children's Society Box Holders. Collection will be challenging again this year due to closure of the church building and my personal circumstances of not being able to attend services regularly. So I think we can do this in a number of different ways as listed below.

- Send a cheque (made out to 'The Children's Society') to me at the address below
- Bring your box when you attend church service on Sunday or Wednesday. If I'm not there either ask to leave it in the Parish Office or drop it at my house (only 500 yards down the road.)
- Bring your box straight to my house.
- Phone me if you need your box collected from your house if you are unable to go out.

You all have my phone number on your box so please call if you need further clarification, assistance or want to discuss anything with me. My address: 46, Boyn Hill Road SL6 4HJ

Many thanks for your continued support. It makes a real difference to hundreds of children and enables the Society to continue their work.

*Anne Clark*