

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

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NEXT ISSUE 11 DECEMBER



Dear Friends and Parishioners of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Just over a week ago the Makin review made the headlines and led to the Archbishop of Canterbury resigning in response to the Church of England's 'cover-up and inactivity to the abuse of boys by John Smyth'. On 16 November we shared Safeguarding Sunday, and this is my sermon based on the gospel for the day from Mark 13.1-8.

'As many of you know I was given a book by my mother of the former Home Secretary and Prime Minister of this country called 'The Abuse of Power'. In the book Theresa May showed how the abuse of power had led to devastating results for individuals and had significantly damaged the trust in public institutions. Examples include the health service through the 1970's into the 90's with the Factor 8 Blood scandal which led to people including children being infected with HIV/AIDS, the Hillsborough football scandal which would lead to questions about policing and other people responsible for people's safety and the Post Office to name but a few.

I became aware of the blood scandal through becoming aware of the deaths of a couple of young children in Newport, South Wales which led me to share a sponsored walk to Walsingham to raise money for families impacted and following this I took part in a pastoral placement at CARA and London Lighthouse two organisations that supported people living with HIV/AIDS in the early 90's.

The Hillsborough football disaster led to many losing their lives and one Tony Bland being kept alive on a life support machine for an extended period of time. This would lead me to writing a paper In Christian Ethics at college in 1993 on when life might have ended and when was it right to let parents mourn? The Post Office scandal (Brought to the public's attention by the ITV program) led to innocent people losing their livelihoods and in some cases being sentenced to serve time in prison.

In the week leading up to Safeguarding Sunday we were all left shocked, saddened and angry that the Anglican Church had been laid bare to similar criticism by the Keith Makin report. This report concluded that 'A Desire to protect the institution, and of individuals, shaped the response of those who knew of the abuse.' One priest before he died told the review 'I thought it would do the work of God immense damage if this were made public'. The case concerned John Smyth, A Reader of the Church of England who abused 115 children and young men across three countries over five decades.

From 2013 people at the highest-level enabled Smyth to continue his abuse until his death in 2018. This was caused by 'The inaction of Clergy within the Church of England.' (I quote the report in both cases.) So, we begin by apologising to the victims and survivors for the terrible abuse suffered by them. We lament the appalling suffering people have experienced and we pray that we the church both in terms of the hierarchy and all of us who make up the Body of Christ may find a way to safeguard the people (Many vulnerable) who attend our churches, schools and other activities.

In our set gospel today, we hear about the temple. Tom Wright takes us back to David (1000 years) in Jerusalem in 2 Samuel 6-10 where it is said the lame and blind will keep you out. As a consequence, the vulnerable would be kept out of the temple. The temple was a place of God's presence where sacrifices were made and where the stone tablets of the covenant relationship were kept. It was where goats and bulls as well as Passover lambs were sacrificed to signify deliverance and atonement. Jesus would stop these small sacrifices because he would provide the one true sacrifice of His body on the cross. He would go through pain, suffering and agony and provide an example of servant leadership before providing new and transformed life.

When Jesus left the temple in Matthew's gospel movingly, he found the blind, lame, small children and widows in the crowd. The needy were welcomed, the vulnerable would be valued and loved. Jesus' body would be the temple, and we the baptised members, Spirit filled would share his love with the world. In Mark chapter 12 we find the great commandment Love God and neighbour. These are not two commandments. You cannot love God without loving neighbour. Loving God means loving neighbour which is safeguarding. We want for our neighbour what we desire for ourselves.

Being a member of the Body of Christ (His Temple) is about guarding people's safety. A mother and daughter of this community encouraged me to make phone calls this week to a son and a daughter of two vulnerable people. The daughter texted me to write 'Thank everyone at your church, as it gives mum so much pleasure and a sense of warmth and belonging.'

Add to this the pastoral visits to vulnerable people, bereavement visiting, hospital visits, toddler groups, children's clubs and the support of Asylum seekers then we can see within this community love of God and neighbour. This church and the whole church of God must encourage honesty and openness where people are respected, valued and nurtured.

We are the Body of Christ, we have a brilliant safeguarding officer, church leaders, children's workers, each of us can be eyes and ears to vulnerable people. We need to spot signs of risk and harm, being prepared to take action, to report concerns and to make sure those concerns are taken seriously. Safeguarding is not an evil word. All of us will be vulnerable at some stage in our lives. Our physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual care are all important.

Our community should have a culture where we respect and value children and young adults, and vulnerable adults. All of us should offer respect and dignity with no intimidation or discriminatory behaviour within a community where people can flourish in a safe and loving environment. Each one of us as baptised members of Christ's Body (His living temple) love God by loving our neighbour as we would want to be treated ourselves. Doing this is safeguarding. The Church of England will have a damaged image. It is up to each one of its churches to rebuild that trust. We can have hope because the head of the Church is Jesus Christ who shows us the way.

May we be blessed by God this fortnight,

Fr Jeremy



IT'S ALMOST HERE ... ALL SAINTS' CHRIST CHILD MARKET:

SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 12 noon to 3.30pm

Some help would be appreciated on Friday afternoon from 1.30pm to set up Santa's Grotto. but the main requirement will be for help from 9.00am on Saturday morning - to put up gazebos and set out the All Saints stalls, to move furniture and to set up the Parish Centre. So if you can spare a little time it will be much appreciated.

Please bring donations of cakes and mince pies on Friday afternoon and any last minute donations for the Raffle and Tombola.

Fr Jeremy, Dianne Farmiloe, Jo McMullen, Tanya Fullarton, John Gay, Stella Harding, Mei Bolygo, Bence Bolygo

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

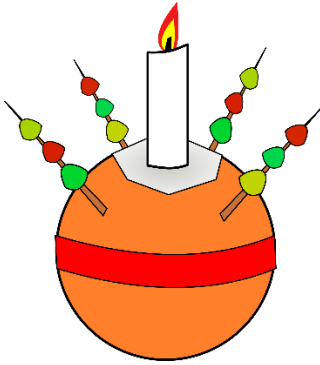
- Thursday 28 November** 3.00pm *Open the Book at All Saints School*
6.00pm *AllSorts Christmas Celebration at St Mary's*
8.00pm Choir Practice
- Friday 29** 10.00am **Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre**
1.30pm Setting up stalls for the Christ Child Market
2.00pm Boyne Hill School Christingle Service in Church
- Saturday 30** 12 noon – 3.30pm **ALL SAINTS' CHRIST CHILD MARKET**
- Sunday 1 December** 10.00am **Parish Eucharist for Advent Sunday**
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Jeremy
- 12 noon **Holy Baptism**
Please pray for Poppy-Rose Sylvia Curtis, her parents and godparents
- Monday 2** 9.30am **Morning Prayer**
- Tuesday 3** 9.30am **Morning Prayer**
- Wednesday 4** 10.00am **Requiem Eucharist** Celebrant: Fr Jeremy
11.30am *Communion Service at Clara Court Care Home with Fr Jeremy & Jeanette*
2.00pm Interment of Ashes of Audrey Burch in the Churchyard
3.00pm *Open the Book at Larchfield School*
7.30pm Sustainability Group Meeting in the Birinus Room
- Thursday 5** 10.00am Boyne Hill School Nurse Group visit the Church
1.30pm *6th Form Bible Study at Altwood School*
3.00pm *Open the Book at All Saints School*
8.00pm **Choir Practice**
- Friday 6** 10.00am **Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre**
Christmas Tree Festival at St Luke's until Sunday
- Saturday 7** 10.00am Christingle making in the Parish Centre
- Sunday 8** 10.00am **Eucharist for the Second Sunday of Advent Christingle Worship for All**
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Jeremy
- 6.00pm *Sundays@Six Taizé Service at the Church of the Good Shepherd.*
- Monday 9** 9.30am **Morning Prayer**
1.30pm Claire's Court School Rehearsal
2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre see p 6.
7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Birinus Room
- Tuesday 10** 8.50am *Christmas Assembly at Altwood School*
1.30pm Claire's Court Christmas Service in Church
- Wednesday 11** 8.50am *Christmas Assembly at Altwood School*
10.00am **Eucharist** C celebrant: Fr Jeremy
1.45pm *Senior Saints Christmas Lunch at the Toby Carvery*

ADVANCE NOTICE

Wednesday 11 December 1.45pm Senior Saints Christmas lunch at the Toby Carvery; for further information contact Wendy Channon on 01628 625701

PARSH NEWS NEWS

The next edition of the Parish News on 11 December will be a bumper edition covering 3 (THREE) WEEKS. SO ANY NOTICES FOR EVENTS UP TO AND INCLUDING WEDNESDAY 1 JANUARY 2025 TO ME BY 12 NOON ON TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER PLEASE jan.moss@btinternet.com



CHRISTINGLE NEWS

There will be a collection for the Children's Society at the Christingle service on Sunday 8 December. (Suggested donations of £1). Helpers will be needed to make the Christingles between 10.00am and 11.30am on Saturday 7 December in the Parish Centre. Please sign the list at the back of the church and add your contact details if you can help, even for a short time. New volunteers are always welcome and the job is quickly completed with lots of help. Thank you.

Anne Clark

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Father God, as we begin this season of Advent, a season of watching and waiting, fill us with your hope that we might be bearers of hope to others. (Prayer from Roots)

We celebrate and give thanks for the 35 people who were confirmed as members of the Body of Christ at Caversham church by Bishop Henry Scriven. We can rejoice in the 16 from All Saints Church that were inspired by the service, and we pray that they may continue to be inspired by the Holy Spirit that they will with us all go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and reflect God's glory.

As we journey towards Advent and Christmas, we pray for all charities trying to support all those in need. We pray for the Operation Christmas Child charity enabling children and young people to experience the joy of Christmas through practical gifts. We bring to mind too the Children's Society who will be supporting young people in challenging situations including homelessness and poverty and the threat of County Lines drug gangs.

We continue to pray for peace in the world. We pray for the Middle East, and we hold in mind the people from our own congregation with families in Lebanon, Israel, and Iran. We pray for Gaza and all those suffering at this time. We pray too for the people caught up in conflict in Ukraine. We pray for peace for the people of Ukraine, Russia and the Middle East.

We pray this weekend for the family of Poppy-Rose Sylvia Curtis who will be baptised at All Saints this Sunday. We pray that her family will encourage her growth within the family of the church. We also remember Mason Curtis, Atlas & Ren Ota and Louie Deeley on the anniversaries of their Baptisms.

We give thanks for the Christ Child Market and for all those who have given their time and energy to plan the day. We pray that many people will come to share in this community event as we begin the journey through Advent and share the joy of the Christ Child who came to share God's love with the world.

We pray for those in need of God’s healing. Daneille, Christopher, Sylvia Denison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Gill Deane-Williams, Vera Shaw, Nick Kirk, Heidi Webb, Masouma Hassani, Akram Taj-eddin, Mahmoud Saimi, Mahmoud Tabkhi, Diana Monari, Arash Rezaei, Abdul Ghader Tajeddini, Barbara Ann-Bourne, Jane Donovan, Elham Nekunam, and Beryl Dorton. May they all know God’s healing and loving presence.

We pray for all who are coming to the end of their journey here on earth and all our departed loved ones whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER ADVENT SUNDAY

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 3: 9—end

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL Luke 21: 25 – 36

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’ Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

MUSIC

Prelude:	Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland	<i>J S Bach</i>
Opening hymn:	47 People, look east	
Advent Candle lighting:	26 v1 Advent candles tell their story	
Anthem:	Zion Hears the Watchmen's Voices	<i>J S Bach</i>
Offertory hymn:	39 Hills of the north, rejoice	
Communion hymn 1:	30 Come, thou long-expected Jesus	
Communion hymn 2:	51 The Lord will come and not be slow	
Closing hymn:	41 Lo, he comes with clouds descending	
Postlude:	Sleepers Wake, a Voice is Calling	<i>S Karg-Elert</i>

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTINGLE

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE Philippians 1: 3 - 11

My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL Luke 3: 1- 6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

MUSIC

Prelude:	Montes et Omnes Colles	<i>C Mawby</i>
Opening hymn:	75 Long ago, prophets knew	
Advent Candle lighting:	26 v2 Advent candles tell their story	
Gradual:	74 Like a candle flame	
Offertory hymn:	42 Longing for light, we wait in darkness	
Christingle lighting	Shalom, my friend	
Communion hymn:	712 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us	
Closing hymn:	27 Colours of day	
Postlude:	Organ Concerto No 5; 2nd Movement	<i>G F Handel</i>

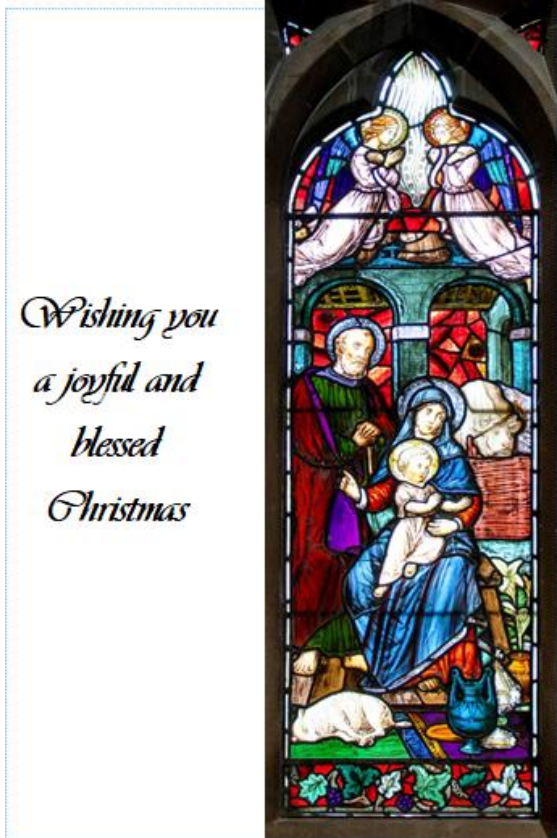
TUESDAY CLUB IN THE PARISH CENTRE 2.30pm MONDAY 9 DECEMBER (Yes, we know it's not Tuesday!)

Our annual festive gathering making Christmas decorations under the watchful eye of Jo and her helpers with seasonal refreshments.

SCHOOLS CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN CHURCH: WELCOMERS NEEDED PLEASE

As usual we are hosting several schools' services in the run-up to Christmas and it's always lovely to have church members present to welcome them. Sign-up sheets are at the back of church now so do look and see if there are any you can help at.

ALL SAINTS CONGREGATION CHRISTMAS CARD



Nativity Window, All Saints Church

We all enjoy receiving Christmas cards each year, and not least we enjoy sending cards to our friends in the congregation, even if we see them every week. Each person who joins in will receive just one card. The card has a picture of the centre panel of the nativity window on the front cover and will include the names of everyone who takes part. (See the sample card at the back of church.)

Donations will go to the Operation Christmas Child charitable appeal.

How it works

1. You decide you want to take part, make your donation (suggested £10) and sign your name on the sheet. (See sign up sheet and donation envelope at back of church). Please ensure you have done this by **4 December**.
2. Your name will be entered in the card under one of the symbols. Cards will be printed during week commencing 9th December and will be **ready to pick up from 15 December**.
3. Your card will contain everyone's name who has contributed.

We hope that you will be keen to reduce waste and try out this new idea. If you have any questions, please ask

Jenny Wilks or Ken Smith

Introduction to Singing



Over the next few weeks, the choir will be preparing Christmas Carols for Nine Lessons and Carols and to lead singing at the Christ Child Market. This provides an excellent opportunity for novice, reluctant and occasional singers to join with the choir to supplement them for either or both of these events in music that will be familiar and accessible.

For many years the choir has been supplemented by singers from outside the Parish for Nine Lessons and Carols so we are accustomed to extras joining us at this time of year. For anyone new to singing, this is an excellent introduction to the pleasure, physical and mental benefits of choral singing.

If you are interested, please get in touch with me after a Sunday morning service or via the Parish Office.

Brian Graves,

CONFIRMATION SERVICE AT CAVERSHAM ON 24 NOVEMBER

Follow the link to watch this lovely service. Ken says that the presentation by Fr Jeremy of the candidates, followed by Sama's Testimonial, can be found about 30 minutes in.

<https://youtu.be/OTxQ3MSc8M>

COX GREEN LUNCHEON CLUB IN NEED OF CLIENTS AND A NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

'The Tuesday Luncheon Club at the Church of the Good Shepherd has, for over 30 years, provided a wonderful home cooked meal for those who enjoy the companionship of others while they enjoy a roast dinner or homemade steak and kidney pie and mash followed by a delicious apple pie with cream. There are many other lovely dishes that my grandmother used to prepare for my brother and me when we were young that I still enjoy to this day.

The Club are asking anyone who would appreciate a meal to join them at 12.30 every Tuesday at The Cox Green Community Centre where people of the Church of the Good Shepherd worship.

Following many years of serving on the luncheon club committee Pauline Hole is stepping down. Many thanks to her for all she has done over such a long period. This means that All Saints is looking for a member of the church to work alongside members of Edmund Campion and the Church of the Good Shepherd in continuing this wonderful community meal. Sadly, if we cannot find another person to continue Pauline's wonderful ministry All Saints will no longer have anyone involved with the meal.

Please speak to me if you feel you can help or indeed if you wish to enjoy a weekly meal.

Fr Jeremy



PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP DONATING TOILETRIES TO CARE FOR CALAIS.

THIS APPEAL IS ONGOING SO DO HELP IF YOU CAN.

Claire Foley

Doing the small things well

Caring for God's creation: The world is fast-changing place and often things pass us by until it's too late to do anything about them. One such thing has been highlighted by WWF that could have a significant impact on climate change and the natural world as we know it - drilling for fossil fuels in the Arctic. <https://www.arcticwwf.org/newsroom/news/arctic-oil-and-gas-the-wrong-solution-to-the-worlds-energy-crisis/> We have no right to interfere in another country's political decisions about meeting their energy needs, but we can pray that they make the right decisions, the ones that God wants for His world and the future of this truly amazing creation of His, made for His glory.

Your eco-committee.