

All Saints Magazine



April 2020

Free

Editorial

Due to the latest Government restrictions on movement and social gatherings and the consequent closure of Churches and meeting places, it has been decided not to produce a printed copy of the magazine this month, but to publish it on our web-site only. Hopefully the restrictions will be lifted in time for the May edition.

To start we have our 'Dear Friends' letter from our Vicar Annette about the response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

This is followed by observations of responses in other places to the virus from Fr. Richard Hendrick.

Our centre spread contains the diary dates for church activities that are planned to take place as soon as the restrictions are lifted, other Notices and the current restrictions on, Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings.

We are holding over the closing date of the March Quiz until the end of the month the church opens again, so no answers yet.

Finally, we have our regular item from the archives so that you have something non-virus related to read that may be of interest.

While we suspend printing the magazine we intend to roll over our sponsors subscriptions into next year. Meanwhile we are providing a new area on our website with links to our sponsors web pages so that you can support them while they continue to support our magazine production.

Dear friends

At the time of writing, one of the biggest current news topics is the spread of the COVID-19 virus, a highly infectious form of coronavirus. The first early reports trickled out in December of cases of a new form of respiratory disease discovered in the Wuhan province of China. Since then, the number of cases has grown significantly. The greatest number remain in China and the Far East, but the virus has been diagnosed in (so far) 40 territories, including the UK, with clusters in countries including Iran and Italy.

The threat posed by the virus in this country has been deemed ‘moderate’, and there is good advice available on how we can help to protect ourselves and our communities. The Church of England has issued its own guidance to parishes on how to respond, and more information can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

As I’ve followed the development of this story, I’ve been struck by how events like this make the world seem very small. Events which start off half a world away and seem very remote, can in a very short space of time draw close to home. Travel to exotic places is so much easier and more common than it used to be. We return home with memories to cherish and expanded horizons – but it’s easy for us to bring less desirable mementos too.

The 17th century poet and priest John Donne famously wrote, ‘No man is an island.’ Sometimes we forget just how connected we are. We need to be sensible and take the public health advice offered (and with due regard to our own vulnerabilities), without becoming unduly anxious. This current outbreak reminds us of our common humanity, irrespective of national borders, economic or social status, or anything else that usually divides us. St Paul describes the church as ‘the body of Christ’ – one body, made of many parts, or members. He says, *If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it* (1 Cor. 12.26). The same could be said of our world: if part of it suffers, we are all affected. Let’s not fear unnecessarily – but let’s all play our part in seeking the health and wellbeing of everyone.

With every blessing

Annette

Lockdown

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number

through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples

are preparing to welcome

and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are.

To how little control we really have.

To what really matters.

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing.

Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM March 13th 2020

Diary Dates for April 2020

Due to the current Government restrictions on movement and social distancing the planned events below are cancelled, however we have provided the dates in case the restrictions are lifted and some of the later dated events are able to go ahead.

Wednesday 1st	9.30-11.00am	Dulverton Rehearsal
	6.45 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 2nd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 3rd	9.30-11.30am	Dulverton Easter Service
Saturday 4th	6.00 pm	Fish and Chip Supper
Sunday 5th	PALM SUNDAY	
	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Palms
Wednesday 8th	11.00 am	Stations of the Cross
	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
	7.00 pm	Tenebrae Service.
Thursday 9th	MAUNDY THURSDAY	
	11.00 am	Holy Communion with foot washing.
	8.00 pm	Holy Communion with foot washing, Maundy Watch
Friday 10th	GOOD FRIDAY	
	10.00 am	Walk of Witness from Clare Corner
	2.00 pm	reflection of the last hour
Saturday 11th	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil.
Sunday 12th	EASTER SUNDAY	
	10.00 am	Holy Communion followed by Easter Egg Hunt.
Wednesday 15th	6.45 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 16th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 19th	10.00 am	Holy Communion with Rev'd Christine Latham
Wednesday 22nd	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
	6.45 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 23th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 25th	4.00 pm	Wedding Kirby/Weightman Concert for Australia bush fires relief fund
Sunday 26th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.15 am	APCM.
	1.30 pm	Baptism, Lois, Logan and Loula
Wednesday 29th	6.45 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 30th	11.00 am	Holy Communion

Parish Pump

The restrictions on Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms is correct at the time of publication. Funeral can take place with a minimum of attendance. Weddings can take place with only the Celebrant, Bride, Groom and two witnesses in attendance. No Baptisms.

The following took place before the restrictions were in place.

Funerals

5th March, Dorothy Pallent.

Weddings

16th February, Bradan Foxley and Lauran Cole.

100 Club

The March prize was won by Rosemary Ball (friend of Betty McDonald).

Quiz Results.

The February Quiz prize of £17.50 was won by Lily Hutchins, whose entry was picked from the correct quiz sheets returned.

Monthly Charity.

This month's charity remains the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

Lent Lunches

Proceeds from the lunches held will go to the Bexley Foodbank.

All Saints Choir

Due to the restrictions, Choir practice has been suspended until further notice.

Easyfundraising

We are grateful to those shopping on-line who support All Saints through Easyfundraising. This month they have raised a further £4.29 just by shopping normally, at no cost to themselves. Details of how to join are now on our website under /About/fundraising. Currently the funds raised are being spent maintaining the Church Roof.

Future Events

The future events remain planned but are now subject to Government and Church of England guidelines on restrictions on gatherings in place at the time.

Thursday 28th May, Christian Aid Lunch.

Saturday 4th July, Family Fun day.

From the Archives – snippets from the April magazine of 1940, price twopence

THE AUMBRY

The Aumbry for the Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament was Dedicated by the Vicar at the Eucharist on Palm Sunday.

Details of the cost are:—

The Faculty, £5 5s.

The Warham Guild:—	£	s.	d.
Aumbry with bronze door	7	18	0
Bronze rod and brackets		7	6
Bronze lamp and white glass	3	3	0
Wrought iron bracket	1	10	0
Inner curtain of cream silk		10	0
Outer curtain of gold silk	1	18	0
Packing and carriage		6	0
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	£15	12	6

Mowbrays for “Argyle Pyx” in which to Reserve £4 17s. 6d

Total £25 5s. 6d.

To this has to be added cost of fixing, for which the bill is not yet available.

Individual contributions to date amount to £26 5s. 6d.

In addition to this the Junior Guild has contributed 10s. and the Senior Guild has promised £1 1s. (this, of course, is in addition to the contributions of individual members of the Guilds).

This brings the total gifts to £27 16s. 6d.

Other gifts have been promised, and it is hoped by these to cover the complete cost and to have a small reserve towards the cost of oil for the lamp.

So far nearly 100 members of the congregation have contributed apart from the Guild gifts.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Number on the Electoral Roll 635.

Easter Communicants, nearly 500.

Number present at Annual Parochial Meeting, 40!!!

There are no entries in the “Church Logbook” for April 1980.

We hope to provide “snippets” from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.