

All Saints Magazine



July 2020

Free

Editorial

The relaxation of Government restrictions on movement and social distancing has allowed limited access to the Church this month so we can start producing printed copies of the magazine again, available for collection from church.

To start we have a 'Dear Friends' letter from our Vicar, Annette about a heightened awareness of racism, triggered by the killing of George Floyd in America.

Then there is another letter, sent to members of the congregation, about access to the church for private prayer, followed by an update now that the church has been partially opened.

We have also included a piece about the financial effect of the lockdown on our church and some information as to how you can help alleviate our current cash flow shortfall.

Our centre spread contains the diary dates for church activities that are planned to take place on-line until the church fully re-opens, other Notices and the current restrictions on Funerals, Weddings, and Baptisms.

There have been a number of funerals during the lockdown period. Here we share with you reminiscences of one of those whom, due to the restrictions, we were unable to pay our respects to in the traditional way.

Next, Victoria and Steve have provided the answers to the TV quiz, included in last month's on-line magazine. It was just for fun, so give yourselves a pat on the back if you got all 20 right.

Finally, we have our regular item from the past that may be of interest.



We thank our regular and new advertisers/sponsors whose support continues to enable us to provide the magazine free.

Smile Lines

Random thoughts on Ageing

"I may look 40, but really I am 18 with 22 years experience"

"Middle-age is when your narrow waist and broad mind begin to change places."

"Just when a mother thinks her work is done, she becomes a grandmother."

Dear friends

I am struggling today with what to write, I know I need to but feel so inadequate to this task.

The Murder of George Floyd was shocking to see, and has opened a can of worms which really has been there for our whole lives.

It was not just a police brutality but a racist crime of the most awful sort. For this man was killed in front of fellow officers and others, those policemen had no shame, they did not listen to his pleas for breath, they overstepped the mark, and all those around did not step in either. His last moments captured forever on the screen could not have foreseen the protests, the riots, the stand-off that this has become.

I can never truly understand the extent of racism because I am white, I am fairly well educated, I have grown up in a world where I do not have to live in fear, where I am not discriminated on sight, where I have been allowed to make my choices and not been told I have overstepped the mark.

But my heart bleeds now for George Floyd, for his family, and friends, for his church and community. My heart bleeds for every person of colour who has been mistreated, discriminated against, passed over, or passed by. For those deemed invisible by those who chooses not to see. I am truly broken for you, my heart goes out to you.

And I am sorry, truly sorry on behalf of my fellow men and women I apologise for not getting it, I apologise for all of those who don't get it, for those who abuse you or hurt you. I am sorry so very very sorry.

Jesus called us to love one another without prejudice and without reservation, to love each and everyone as they are, not after they have jumped through hoops, or done this or that, but just as they are. We truly need to stand together in this new world where we can all be held in God's love, where we make amends for the actions of those around us and where we can all move forwards together.

God Bless

Annette

Dear Friends

You will have seen on the television and in the news that churches are to open up. This has caused some excitement but also a lot of concern as we need to take our time and open up in a safe way that will enable us all to flourish.

We are in the process of setting up our church so that we can open the doors for private prayers, plans for opening for services are not underway yet as we have no guidelines for this.

This will involve a one way system for coming in and out, hand sanitising facilities for everyone, gloves and masks being available for those that want them and for those who will need to be there when we are open to monitor the proceedings.

Church will look a little different and we will need to work with that as much as we can. Social distancing will need to be maintained. We will need your name and address and contact details- these will not be shared with anyone else, but in order to trace you if anyone known contracts the disease, it is essential.

There will be a place where you can light a candle to remember loved ones who have died, to pray for this sick, and to share God's love in prayer. There will be prayers you can use or you can pray your own.

We will also have a drop off point for the foodbank once again.

It is also hopefully a quiet space to sit and pause.

The plan is at the moment to open on or around the beginning of July.

Monday and Friday, 10.00am – 12.00 noon and Wednesday evening 6.30pm-8pm

This will depend on volunteers being available to monitor things and our ability to clean things and wipe things down effectively.

Yours

Annette

Church opening update

It has been decided to open the church for private prayer, as detailed in the Vicar's letter (previous page), from **Monday 29th June**.

The changes to access to comply with social distancing, means that currently the church can accommodate a maximum of 16 people at any one time.

Although primarily for private prayer use, the church being open does mean that dropping off food gifts for the food bank and other charity donations can resume; planned giving envelopes can be dropped off; and copies of this magazine can be picked up and taken away.

Returning to Church

At the time of printing, we understand that churches may be allowed to open from 5th July. However, we also understand that no update to the previous guidance from the Church of England has yet been given as to what restrictions on Services are still in place, so we feel unable to resume Sunday and Thursday Services just yet. (Please check the website for further updates).

Meanwhile, video recordings of Wednesday prayers and Sunday Services will continue to be posted on All Saints Facebook page (accessible from our website).

Re-opening the Church Hall

From the 5th July we are also allowed to re-open the Church Hall, however with hirers being responsible for taking the same recording, hygiene and social distancing measures as are in place for the Church.

This does mean that the kitchen will not be accessible initially.

With these restrictions in place we understand that the Tap Dance Class will be able to re-start on Wednesday 8th July.

Other regular users have been contacted but indicate that, due to social distancing, they are unlikely to be able to resume until September, when it is hoped that the restrictions can be safely relaxed.

Church Finances

Like many other places that have had to close during the pandemic the church is suffering from a loss of income as we are no longer receiving collections on Sunday nor income from our hall. However as we do not qualify for government loans and cannot furlough staff, we still have to meet most of our usual expenses.

Our expenses are currently running between £2,000 -£2,500 per month more than our income and we are likely to have to make further calls on our reserves to meet imminent cash flow requirements.

We are very grateful to those members of our planned giving scheme who pay by standing order and those in the envelope scheme who have recently transferred to this method of giving, as currently this is our only source of regular income. We hope that regular envelope giving can be resumed now that the church is partially re-opened.

We are also grateful to our 23 supporters who have been shopping on-line supporting All Saints through Easyfundraising at no cost to themselves. The total raised is now £592.49, just by shopping normally.

Please be assured of our prayers for all of you at this challenging time.

Diary Dates for July 2020

Due to the current Government restrictions on social distancing, the Church will only be able to open for private prayer for a limited number of people on Monday and Friday, 10.00am – 12.00 noon and Wednesday evening 6.30pm-8pm, depending on volunteers to supervise access etc.

Whilst the Church will be allowed to open from 5th July, there has been no updated guidance on what form of Services can take place, so in the meantime Annette will continue to post video Services using the All Saints Facebook page, accessed from our website, (you don't need a facebook account) details of which are as follows:

Sunday 5th 12.00 noon Sunday Service
First Reading. Genesis 24.34-38, 42-49
Second Reading. Romans 7.15-25a
Gospel. Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

Sunday 12th 12.00 noon Sunday Service.
First Reading. Genesis 25.19-34
Second Reading. Romans 8.1-11
Gospel. Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

Sunday 19th 12.00 noon Sunday Service
First Reading. Genesis 28.10-19a
Second Reading. Romans 8.12-25
Gospel. Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

Sunday 26th 12.00 noon Sunday Service
First Reading. Genesis 29.15-28
Second Reading. Romans 8.26-39
Gospel. Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

We have included the references for the readings and Gospel so that you can follow them.

Please check the website for any change

Parish Pump

Funerals

15th April, Encarnation (Sharon) Humphries

6th May, Terrence Fryer

13th May, Victor John Murphy

24th May, Iris Smith

2nd June, Betty Lavender

From 5th July Weddings and Funerals will be allowed to take place in church. However numbers will be limited. The 2 meter social distancing restrictions will limit All Saints capacity to 16 people.

Still no Baptisms can take place in Church.

The restrictions on Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms are correct at the time of publication:

100 Club

The 100 Club monthly prize draws will recommence when the church fully re-opens with the April to July draws the first to take place.

Quiz Results.

Now that the Church is partially open and the 'shielding' restrictions are being lifted, those who have not handed in their March Quiz have until Friday 31st July to do so. We hope the church is open enough for the draw to take place on Sunday 2nd August, when a new monthly quiz will be available. The current prize fund is £17.

Monthly Charity.

This month's charity remains The Falconer Trust, an orphanage in Zambia.

All Saints Choir

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

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. *Note:* the Family Fun Day, due on 4th July, has been cancelled.

Saturday 26th September, Michaelmas fair.

Sunday 11th October, Harvest festival.

Betty Lavender.

One of the funerals I officiated at during lockdown was for Betty Lavender, born as Betty Pomeroy. She shared with her niece some of her memories of All Saints

Did you go to church?

We went to Sunday school at All Saints church. All the children in the village went to Sunday school. We automatically, progressed from Sunday school to church and as we grew older we had to go to church three times every Sunday. We went to 8am service and were not allowed breakfast until we got home. Then back again at 11am and again at 6pm. My sister Joan and I were both confirmed at the same time, I was 12 and she was 14. On Sunday afternoon the whole family would go for a walk in their Sunday best as did most families. We often went to Chislehurst Common (there were caves there where people went during the bombing in the second world war). We belonged to the kings messengers which was run by the church, we did a religious play once a year, had a Christmas party and met on Saturday afternoon for a bible study, so different from what goes on today. In fact we were in church on the Sunday morning war was declared and I think it was then that our old life and world ended.

Betty was a part of New Eltham and a part of All Saints for a while. Her family really appreciated this and despite there being only the five of us at her funeral, her son has given us a donation of £100. Thank you David Lavender and family.

Annette

June Edition TV Quiz answers

(Just for fun)

1. Who was the presenter of TV quiz show 3-2-1? **Ted Rogers**
2. Which actor portrayed the character Jack Bauer in the TV series 24? **Kiefer Sutherland**
3. How many boxes are used in the U.K version of Deal Or No Deal? **22**
4. Who shot J.R Ewing in the TV series Dallas? **Kristin Shepard**
5. In Doctor Who, who was the creator of the Daleks? **Davros**
6. What was the character name of The Saint? **Simon Templar**
7. In which city was the soap Brookside set? **Liverpool**
8. What was the name of the mascot on TV quiz show Bullseye? **Bully**
9. Which fictional holiday camp was the setting for Hi-De-Hi? **Maplins**
10. What was the name of the car used by the Duke brothers in the Dukes of Hazard? **The General Lee**
11. What is Rachels surname in the TV series Friends? **Green**
12. Who was the sister of Andy Pandy? **Mandy Pandy**
13. Benny Hill had a number one single in 1971 with which of his TV characters? **Ernie**
14. What was the name of the cartoon cat who chased Pixie & Dixie? **Mr. Jinks**
15. Sheldon Cooper is a character in which TV comedy? **The Big Bang Theory**
16. What was the name of the family the Fonz stayed with in Happy Days? **The Cunninghams**
17. Dennis Waterman played which character in The Sweeney? **George Carter**
18. What was the name of the father in Steptoe & Sons? **Albert Steptoe**
19. Which TV character has the sisters Daisy & Rose? **Hyacinth Bucket**
20. "I could be so good for you" was the theme song to which Classic British TV comedy/drama? **Minder**

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

PRAYER IN WARTIME

Here are a few thoughts from an Article recently published by the Archdeacon of Rochester:

Why pray? That is the question, and the answer that we give is not that of argument for or against prayer, nor to deny there are difficulties about prayer which are hard to understand. Our answer is rather based upon experience.

- (1) The fact that Jesus prayed and taught his disciples to do so.
- (2) The prayers of Saints of all ages, Christian and non-Christian.
- (3) That prayer is a natural instinct of man.

It was this last fact that made Dr. Johnson say when he was asked—“What is the strongest argument for prayer!” “Sir, there is no argument for prayer!” What he meant was that prayer is as natural and needful a thing as breathing; as to his belief in prayer, that is witnessed by the beauty of those prayers which he wrote. Here is an example:

“Enlighten our understanding with the knowledge of right, and govern our wills by Thy law, that no deceit may mislead us, no temptation corrupt us, that we may always endeavour to do good and hinder evil”. The spirit of that prayer is “*make us*” rather than “*give us*”.

The King’s Christmas broadcast closed with this inspiring message for 1940:

“And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied ‘Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.’”

How are we to put our hands into the hand of God? There is only one answer—“By Prayer”.

The “Church Logbook” for July 1980 records:

25 Churches celebration (of which All Saints is one) at St. Saviours, Eltham Park. All Saints was actually extended (not built) as one of the 25 Churches to benefit from Bishop Garbett’s appeal.

A course on Lay Apostolate started at All Saints. Lectures given by the Vicar. Not well attended. Some good has come out of them in that at least some of the laity are interested in sharing Ministry.

July 13, 8 a.m. Celebration only at All Saints 53 seater bus went to Centre Court at Wimbledon for the great Celebration Mass. A very moving experience. Bishop Mervyn applauded as he ends his Episcopacy.

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