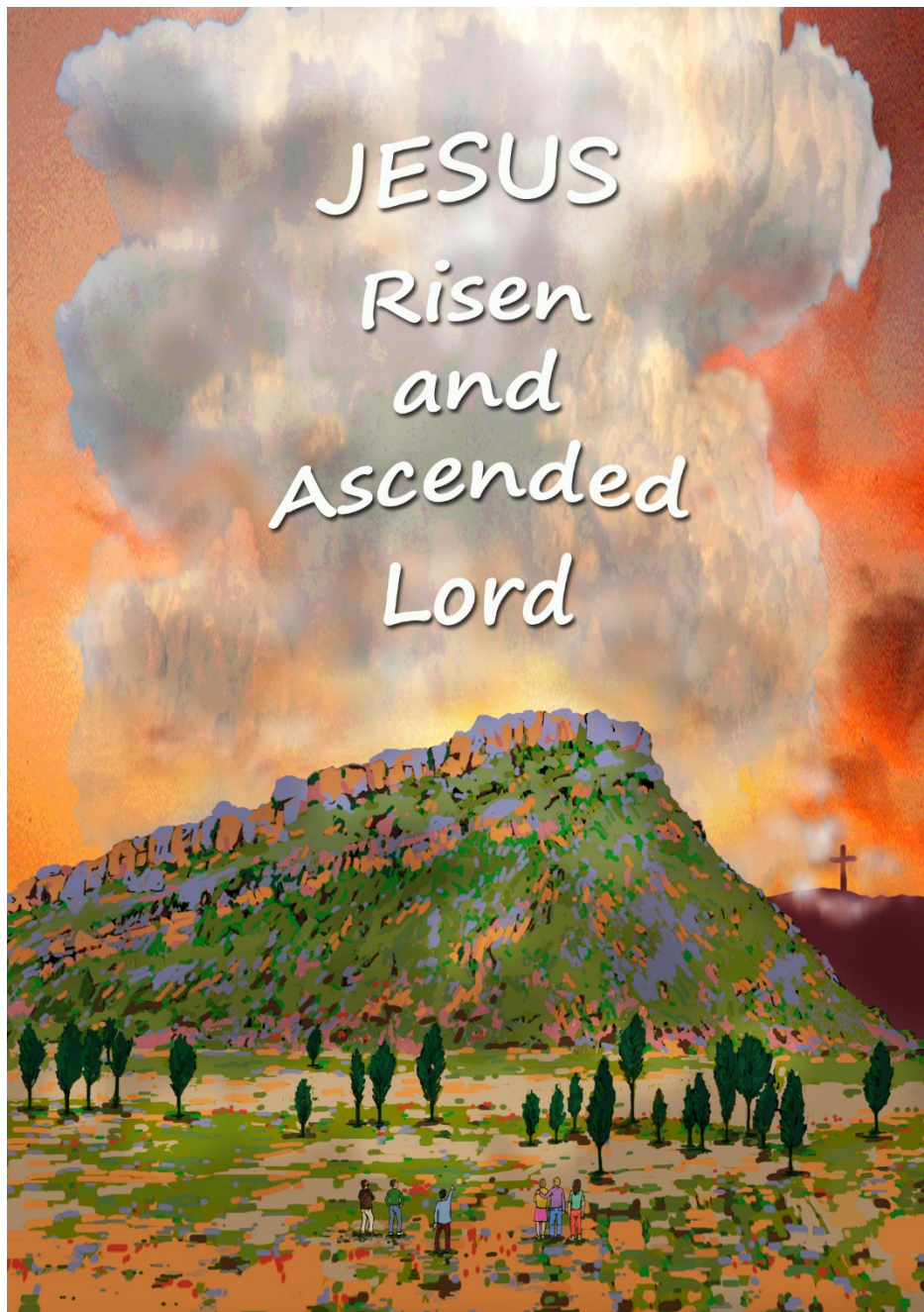


Saints Alive!

***The parish magazine of
All Saints' Church, Kings Heath***



From the vicarage

Dear young friends and neighbours, especially in our Youth Group (but others can listen in),

Your Beautiful Mind

Do you like a game of pool? You're good at geometry, then. Have you been shooting hoops or perfecting a skateboard trick in lockdown? You're good at physics, then. Do you like baking? You're good at chemistry, then. Do you know how to provoke your parents, wind up your sibling or spot when someone's heading for an argument? You're good at history and politics, then. Do you feel a surge of recognition in your gut when those song lyrics just catch exactly what you were feeling but weren't sure why, or do you keep a diary no-one else can see, confiding your deepest feelings? Then you're great at literature.

The fact is, you have a beautiful mind. It is complex, wondrous, skilled and, whatever year you're in at school, whatever set you're in for Maths or French, you are brilliant. You are a miracle.

Another school term is meant to be beginning about now. This term generally has the best weather so, cruelly, the adult political world has decided you should spend most of it inside revising and you should spend the sunniest days in an exam hall. Except it's not like that this year. Exams have been cancelled.

I realise this raises very mixed feelings for a lot of young people. So much of our school and college life is arched towards those short tests. So many expectations are set upon them. They are a source of enormous stress for some and seem like a breeze to others. They cast a shadow of ill-defined obligation in many of our conversations with the adults in our lives. Because we use the results to unlock the door to the next stage of formal education, a great deal seems to hang on them. Having said all that, we can admit there is a pang of disappointment for many now they have been removed. Even if we thought of them as essentially negative, it is disorientating for something to be held up as one of the most important things in our life, shaping our whole future, suddenly to be wiped away. How can that be? Young people do put a huge amount of work, and emotional energy, into managing exams, especially those who find them difficult. It can be a strange feeling suddenly to be without their orientation. One modest blessing in exams, of course, is that they finish. The spaciousness afterwards is something we rightly relish.

Reflecting on this sudden change I wanted to say I am thinking of you processing a no doubt odd mix of feelings. But I also wanted to say that the rest of us need to learn from this. For we have an unreflective, unhealthy attitude to exams in our British educational culture. We need to take this opportunity to relearn what they are for.

My last parents' evening was rather depressing, not because of my son's performance, but because in a dozen interviews with different subject teachers, the conversations were identical and could have all been swapped around without making any difference. With only one exception, they all talked about the method by which an exam would be passed. None of them spoke about their subject. I invited them to, but all they had to say was about technique. In other words, the exams were nothing to do with the beauty of the mind. They were bureaucratic hurdles to be beaten. That is not the teachers' fault. It is all our responsibility as we have given in to the idea that education is a competitive administrative process that beats the love for a subject out of its teachers.

Exams can be very helpful, celebratory descriptors of our learning. They can be a reward. They can help us decide whether we want to pursue something and give us permission not to. They can motivate our learning. They can be good training in navigating stress and in time management. But they are very bad masters. If they batter love for learning out of us and our teachers, they need to be re-evaluated. They should be kept firmly in perspective. I say this as someone who nearly failed English Literature O Level (GCSE) but went on to study it at A Level, because I couldn't resist the subject, and who nearly failed History A Level but went on to study History at university because I couldn't resist the subject. I fear that would not be allowed today.

Your amazing mind cannot be described by a little row of numbers or letters. Irrespective of who gets the highest or lowest marks, the pattern of your mind those numbers clumsily outline is magnificent. For that reason, even without the focus of exams, I encourage you to keep learning, and enjoy learning, in whatever ways you find work for you. Knowing and discovering is wonderful. Wonder-full. God enjoys your enjoyment in knowing. Forgive us if we have obscured that glorious fact with our over-critical, dull, negative mindset that has squeezed the wonder out of learning.

I think of you often, and pray for your friendships still to flourish through careful and imaginative use of technology. I hold before God the frustrations and disappointments, especially if this was to be your last term at your school. I admire your patience and miss your inquisitive, thoughtful company. I look forward to cooking a Sunday evening meal for and with you when we're allowed to gather again.

David

While we are unable to meet in person, do keep an eye on All Saints' Church's website – reflections, music, readings and service sheets are being published on the homepage each week:

www.allsaintskingsheath.org.uk

There is also a private Facebook group for members of All Saints' congregation.

Please contact the magazine if you would like further information about accessing any of these resources.



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Triangulations in isolation

I guess that one of the things that these unprecedented times have given many of us is time: which can of course feel like either a blessing or a curse, depending upon how we are feeling in any particular moment! Another unexpected consequence for many of us perhaps is a unique opportunity to use some of this time to press the 'pause' button and reflect on our lives, our roles and responsibilities, our work, and what are our priorities; in some ways it's like ship's navigator looking at the charts to plot their current position, taking into account the time and tides; the waves and currents that have shaped our course so far and the choices of route that we have made on our own personal life journeys; a process of triangulation, as it were...

For each of us on our own personal journeys to date there will have been many different tides and currents that will have brought us here to our present position; there will have no doubt been storms that we have battled to survive; periods of stillness and calm; times when the wind has been in our sails and helped us progress steadily towards our next goal; times when we have had to battle against a strong headwind or been blown off course; and finally, perhaps the most challenging of times: the doldrums – not a breath of air and we lie still and listless without momentum or direction; desperate for that breath of fresh air to lift us and guide us gently forward in a new direction.

So, if you can forgive me for a final flotilla of nautical metaphors (which are of course somewhat alien here in landlocked Birmingham!): perhaps it's a good time to consider what things in life provide us with safety and protection – our harbours where we can find rest and refreshment; what (or who) are our anchors that stay firm however strong the currents might be trying to pull us away from the shore? Perhaps it may also be a time to go back to the charts and check that the course that we have set (or think we are following) is still the one that we need to follow, or whether it is time to plot a new direction?

I had an opportunity at new year to take some time out (while on a walking holiday in Andalusia – which seems a lifetime away now, of course!) and during that time I identified three particular parts of life that were my harbours but that also provide my compass; they provide much of the meaning, motivation and connection that is such a vital part of being human in in communion with each other. For me these are:

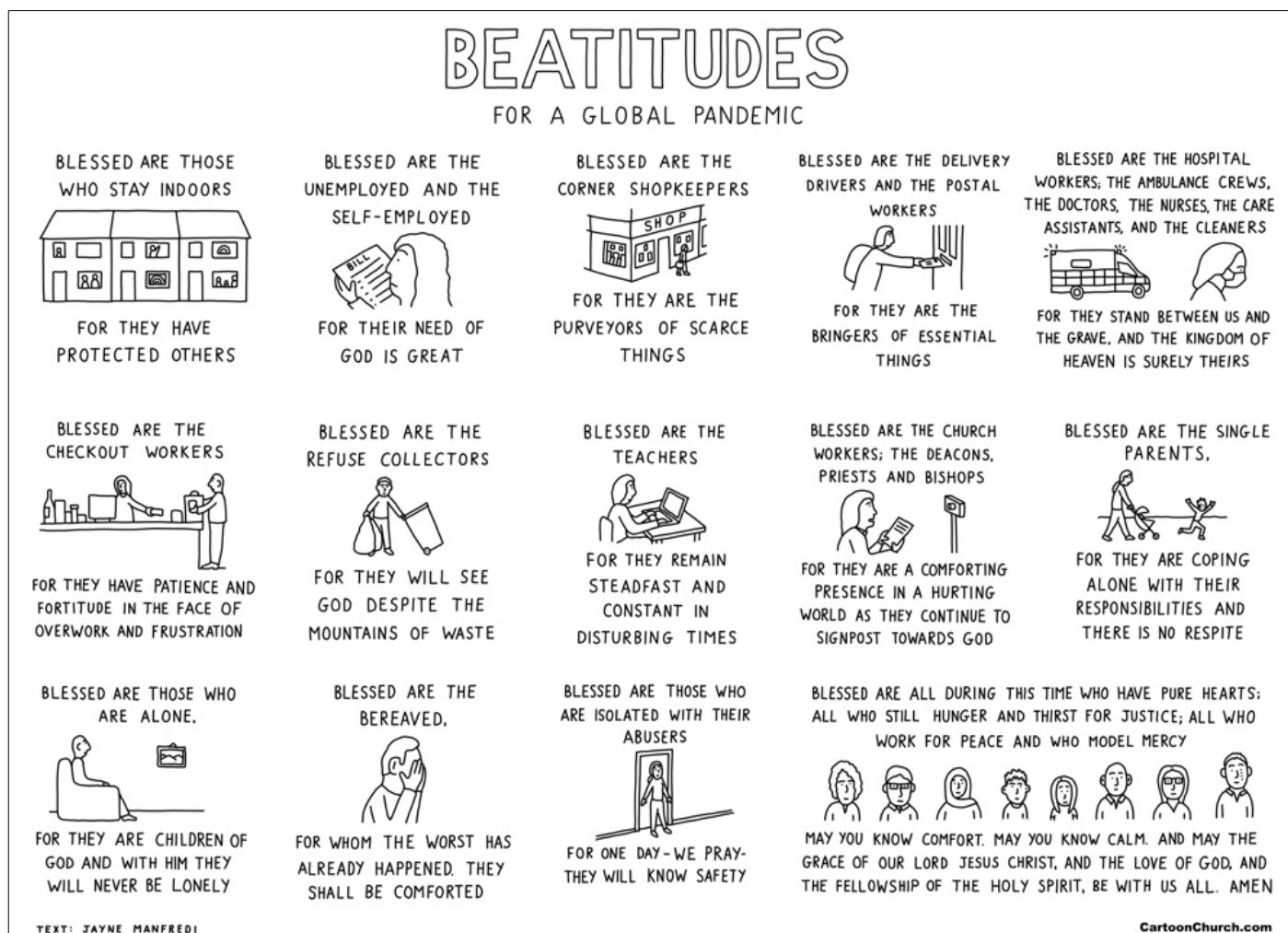
- **Music and singing:** In January 2017 I joined Birmingham City Council choir; I've always enjoyed live music, but as a guitar player I've focused more on the chords and rhythm than on the words and notes! However, when I found myself singing along at one of their concerts and really wanting to join them, I decided to contact the choir leader and the rest, as they say, is history! I can personally testify to the mental health benefits of choral singing and the feelings of wellbeing and the endorphin rush that you get when the voices and harmonies blend and float in the air; as well as the 'laugh out loud' moments when (often as not the baritone section) make a complete hash of something and we have to start again!
- **Cycling and walking:** Being active in the outdoors has been a part of my life since I was very young and perhaps something that I take for granted; however it's taken me a long time to make the mental leap to realise that this are more than just something that I do; this is a core part of *who I am*: active travel and outdoor 're-creation' is something that sustains me; spending time in and with nature and the landscape is one way that I feel connected with the world, with creation and with our creator...

- **All Saints’:** Last (but very definitely not least!) is the unique and special living entity that I discovered and joined one Sunday early in January 2017. At that time I was still living in Kings Heath with Becki Cox: we had tried several other churches in the area but each of those had resulted in something that we had found challenging or that simply didn’t fit with who we were or what we felt important and that we believed in... and then – right on our doorstep – there it was! Here at All Saints’ I felt a sense of belonging from that very first visit, the informal and relaxed atmosphere, the unforced welcome, the humility and humanity; the inclusivity and social conscience that for me are all part of what indeed makes All Saints’ a place to call home; my ‘safe haven’ and the people and place that both sustains and challenges me; this is the community that allows me to explore my faith and allows me to question and articulate this in equal part; where I review where I am at on my life journey, where I check the charts and sometimes need to reset my compass.

There are other parts of life too, with complex links and threads to these three parts of my life, but these anchors are there holding me firmly; the rocks that I hold fast to when I need them most, and the foundations that I can build on when the sands shift beneath my feet with the tides and currents of life and all its challenges.

I hope that for others too this time may provide the chance for reflection and triangulation; the chance to check the charts and, where necessary, reset the compass...

Chris Watts



Know your saints

21 April – Anselm

Firstly this issue we look back to April, particularly as A Song of St Anselm was included as the canticle in All Saints' Morning Prayer service on the 26th of that month.

Anselm is a good saint to remember next time someone asks you to prove that there is a God. His brilliant and original *Proslogion*, written in 1077-8, sets out the ontological proof for God's existence. Nearly ten centuries later, it is still studied by theological students as one of the great philosophical 'proofs' of God's existence.

Anselm was born at Aosta in 1033, the son of a spendthrift Lombard nobleman whom he detested. In time Anselm decided to become a Benedictine monk, and so joined Lanfranc's famous monastery at Bec, becoming prior then abbot. He was loved by his monks, appreciated for his sensitivity and intuitiveness. He remained friends also with Lanfranc, who had gone on to be Archbishop of Canterbury; after Lanfranc's death, Anselm reluctantly agreed to accept the job.

Archbishops did not have press offices in those days, but Anselm made his views on church-versus-king known all the same, and they did not please the monarchs: William II exiled him in 1097 and Henry I exiled him in 1103. Anselm was utterly committed to what he saw as the cause of God and the church, and therefore had no time for temporal politics. Peace between archbishop and king was not achieved until 1106. Anselm spent the rest of his life in England: his theological stance of 'faith seeking understanding' and 'the mind at faith's service' were the keys to his life and teaching.

30 May – Joan of Arc

How far would you go to respond to God's call on your life? When, as the daughter of a peasant family in Champagne in 1426, 14-year-old Joan heard heavenly voices calling her to "save France" from the English, she decided to obey the call, no matter what the consequences. Joan eventually came to the notice of the Dauphin (later Charles VII) who decided to make use of her obvious ability to inspire people – in this case, the French – to fight; and so Joan, dressed in white armour, rode at the front of the French army when they relieved Orléans in April 1429. Her presence and belief in her divine calling to get rid of the English did wonders for the morale of the troops, who loved her even more when she sustained a wound in the breast, and made little of it.

A campaign in the Loire followed, and then in July the Dauphin was crowned at Rheims with Joan at his side, carrying her standard. More battles followed that winter, until Joan was captured and sold to the English. They attributed her success to witchcraft and spells, and imprisoned her at Rouen. She was brought before judges, where her spirited and shrewd defence were outstanding. But the judges declared her false and diabolical, and she was condemned to die as a heretic. She was burnt at the stake in the marketplace at Rouen on 30 May 1431. Joan died as she had lived; with total faith in God and certainty that she was obeying his will for her life. She died with fortitude, looking at a cross and calling on the name of Jesus. Her ashes were thrown into the Seine, and her integrity and courage are have shone down the centuries.

(information adapted from www.parishpump.co.uk)

Christian Aid Week May 2020

Love never fails. Coronavirus impacts all of us. But love unites us all.

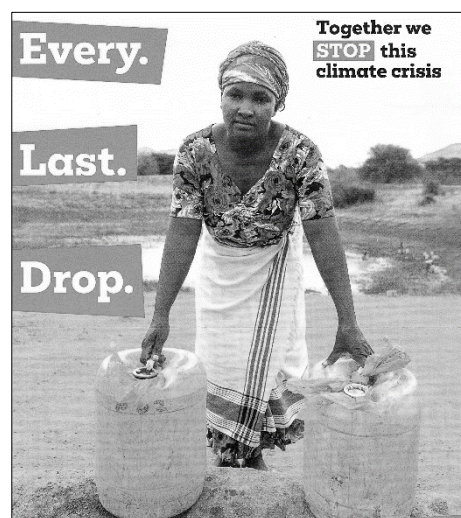
All Saints' has a proud history of supporting Christian Aid. We are the last church in Kings Heath completing house-to-house collections, we have a Big Brekkie, we have held a quiz and we have run events in church. Last year we raised over £2,500. Sadly, none of this can happen this year due to the COVID-19 crisis – however, you can help.

All Saints' also has a history of supporting climate change and trying to make a greener, more sustainable planet. The Christian Aid theme for this year is *Faith's fields of hope – together we **STOP** this climate crisis.*

The story of Rose

Rose is 67 and lives in Kitui, eastern Kenya. When she was a child, Rose remembers how often the rain would fall, giving fruit to the trees and providing plenty of nutritious food to eat. Now drought is robbing her of the chance to farm. She and her family are going hungry.

*Sadly, millions of people in Kenya are desperately struggling to survive the drought; it is a national emergency. "The drought has been so severe," Rose tells us. "We have had three long months without water, and now we have to walk long distances. **We are suffering.**"*



Every day, Rose strives to bring water home for her grandchildren. In the morning, after nothing to eat, she sets out on a long and dangerous journey to collect water. At last she returns home, exhausted from her journey. "Because I am old I can't walk very fast," she says. "When I get home I just rest. I have no energy to do anything else."

This is Rose's climate crisis. *This Christian Aid week we can help Rose and her family survive the devastating drought. Your gifts could help Rose's community build a dam, providing a long-lasting source of water. With a dam full of water Rose would be free from her long, painful journeys. She could grow fresh vegetables for her family to eat. And she could see her grandchildren grow up and live life in its fullness. With every gift, with every prayer, with every voice we **STOP** this climate crisis.*

How you can help:

- Direct debits – you can donate online with a simple form (go to christanaid.org.uk).
- You can call 020 7523 2269 to speak and donate to the Christian Aid giving team.
- I will be sending out e-envelopes to those of you we know.
- There is an online cash donation portal (you can still give by post but there is a delay in processing those donations).

There will be a Christian Aid service live streamed on Sunday 10 May at 1pm with Dr Rowan Williams and a week of Christian Aid quizzes for all the family from that day at 7:30 each evening. Please continue to support Christian Aid's remarkable work.

Des Workman

Thoughts on self-isolation

I am writing this on Friday 24 April. Fridays are exciting because I go shopping on Fridays. Today I joined the orderly queue of elderly people outside Sainsbury's, waiting to be ushered in. I met an old colleague and we exchanged banalities at a distance across the vegetables. Having returned home and unpacked the shopping, I noticed and attacked some large dandelions in the front drive. Why don't I think of them when I do the ones at the back?

Another job to do today will be to check the safeguarding references of a further batch of volunteers for Margaret Healey-Pollett's food distribution service. Always a pleasant task, because people invariably speak warmly about their friends or colleagues who have volunteered to cook or distribute meals.

After that it will be my usual routine of listening to Radio 4 or 4 Extra and crocheting. I sit in the conservatory with the doors wide open and look at my little garden (eight metres square) and note what is visiting today. For many years I have recorded the wildlife that visits for the BTO Garden BirdWatch project, but now it seems even more significant. Yesterday I had a big surprise when I opened the blinds – two mallards swimming in the pond. They stayed until lunchtime and then suddenly flew off. I just hope they haven't eaten the few remaining tadpoles.

The radio, the garden, crocheting and my iPad are what keep me sane, and in touch with the outside world. Perhaps I am more fortunate than many as I am used to my own company after 20 years of widowhood. I can amuse myself and in the past have often gone for a couple of days without meeting or speaking to anyone. Enforced isolation is, I suppose, a different matter.

After three weeks of lockdown my bag of crocheted animals (sold on the Welcome Desk) was nearly full, and had reached over a hundred, so I decided to start on things for the winter Craft Fair. Angels and Father Christmases seemed rather odd in April, but never mind. However, I had no sooner started when I had an email from Mary Miles inviting me to make 64 animals to be put in packs that the Youth Project will distribute to their young people in May. I have nearly finished these now – rabbits, mice, koalas, owls and ducks, all with ASYP embroidered on their backs.

I have mentioned my little garden, which is more of a wildlife haven than a formal garden. Things look after themselves, apart from the aforementioned dandelions and horsetails, against which I wage constant war. Birds come to the feeders, as do a squirrel and an occasional rat. I am also fortunate in looking out on a large patch of sky, and can note the aerial interaction of crows, seagulls and sometimes a kestrel. I was delighted to see a red kite fly over last week, the first time I have seen one in Birmingham.

I keep in touch with friends and family via emails, phonecalls and Facebook. I am gradually getting to grips with Facebook, and it enables me to see what my grandchildren in Solihull and Lincolnshire, and my honorary grandsons (Olly and Josh) are up to. I am full of amazement at their combination

Liszt: From the Cradle to the Pram
Mozart: The Magic Penny-Whistle
Rossini: The Barber of Sheffield
Schumann: Quintet – The Sardine
Walton: Belshazzar's Coffee Morning
Weill: The Twopenny Opera
And finally, the budget Ring Cycle:
Wagner's Semi-Circle

Music matters

Here are a couple of short musical quizzes to keep your brain cells ticking (metronomically or otherwise) over during the lockdown. There are no prizes except for the warm glow of satisfaction when you get some of the answers, or the relief when you hear that they will be published in the next issue!

Some readers will know that I have an in-depth/unhealthy (delete as appropriate) knowledge of the contents of our hymnbook, *Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New*, including the numbers of quite a lot of the entries off by heart... Now, however, is the time to put your knowledge to the test with ten questions about our hymnal – if you have a copy at home, feel free to check your answers as you go along (past issues of this magazine might also help in some cases!); perhaps this will inspire you to look through the book and tell us of any hidden gems that you unearth...

1. *In the book's main section, 'General Hymns and Songs', what is number 1?*
2. *And what is the last in this main section, number 766?*
3. *No entries in the entire book start with Q or X – apart from these, which two letters of the alphabet start the fewest pieces (two each)?*
4. *Leaving aside Anonymous, Traditional, and other sources where a writer is not mentioned, how many authors of text are credited in the book (you can have a point for 10 either way)?*
5. *Which two Scotsmen, one of whom died at the very end of last year, are jointly credited as the writers of 16 hymns and songs in the book, including numbers 101, 325, 733 and 752 which we sing regularly and are set to traditional tunes from the British Isles?*
6. *As an original composer, rather than adapter or arranger, which living person has the most musical entries in the book? (That's the largest number of musical credits, rather than the tunes which you think are the most melodious and pleasant...)*
7. *Apart from Psalms and the four Gospels, according to the hymnbook's Scriptural Index, which book of the Bible has inspired words in the most hymns? (Clue: It's a New Testament book.)*
8. *Which tune appears alongside more texts (six) than any other?*
9. *What is the name of the religious community in France that is the source of 15 of the 31 entries in the 'Chants' section of the book? (Bonus point: What is the name of the composer of all of these chants?)*
10. *Which seasonal entry has verses beginning with the words O, God, See, Lo, Child, Sing and Yea?*

You have me to blame (indirectly) for the brainteaser below too, as my mum sent it to me last year and she in turn had, I think, got it from my late grandmother – certainly that would be appropriate, as Gran enjoyed a puzzle and a tortuous pun... There are 25 gaps in the text, each of which can be filled with the name of a musical instrument. Some are obvious, some are tenuous, and plenty will make you groan when you get them!

It was stifling in the courtroom and the reporter from the _____ was relieved that his seat was not too close to the central heating _____. The only cool person in sight was a child licking an ice-cream _____. The last two cases had been rather boring; one of an accountant who tried to

_____ the company books, then another of those eternal _____ affairs. The next case, however, the robbery at Ye Olde T_____ Bushe, promised to be much more stimulating. Even the _____, his wig a _____ of his office, looked unusually attentive. _____ to the police superintendent, who appeared as first witness, the robbery had been carried out by a local gang. He heard Joe, the leader, say: "_____ window, climb in, and when you have unlocked the back door give a low _____."

Apparently, none of the regulars at the _____ even suspected they were at work; there was too much din assailing their ear _____. One man was trying to _____ise a cruise party with the _____ line, but not arousing much interest. Another group was playing whist, 'helped' by onlookers shouting "_____" at every trick. The innkeeper's wife was _____ing on about her husband's shortcomings, though nobody was listening to her. To complete the scene, while a drunkard rowdily ordered himself another _____ity Rollers records were blaring from the jukebox in the corner. On receiving a phonecall, the local police had _____ all round the area. The thieves were captured the same night, but the _____ remained hidden. The bag o _____ was finally discovered in the holl _____le of an old elm tree.

The prosecutor demanded the sternest sentences for the offenders. "I urge the innkeeper to _____ for life from his pub," he concluded in his speech. "He and his confederates cannot be allowed to _____te the law and _____ way with it!"

Ben Noakes
Music Co-ordinator



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Cookery corner

During the lockdown, David has been helping to provide fuel for our bodies as well as spiritual nourishment, by including recipes at the end of some of the recent orders of service. We are pleased to be able to reprint the first few following his introduction below.

The sermon on Sunday 29 March referred to the jar of anchovies people find at the back of the cupboard when rummaging in lockdown. I therefore included the first recipe below. Typically, recipes generate much more conversation than any theologising, so it carried on:

Passion Sunday: A recipe for two, but I regularly eat it all myself

Finely chop a large clove of garlic. Fry gently in olive oil until just beginning to colour and add four or five chopped brown anchovies from that tin you found in the cupboard. Stir until almost dissolved and add a tin of tomatoes. Simmer gently for 20 minutes or so, mashing the tomatoes, stirring regularly, loosening with a spoon of water if it begins to reduce too much.

Cook pasta for two, drain, and drizzle with olive oil. Serve with the now emulsified rich sauce. A fine grating of cheese (ideally parmesan but, hey, not everyone has that in) and you have a truly delicious dish. It shouldn't need salt because of the anchovies and cheese. A twist of pepper is good.

Palm Sunday

It dawned on me that, if you did the pasta recipe last week, that now means, of course, you have a few anchovies left over in the fridge.

Blanch a few broccoli and/or cauliflower florets briefly, just a minute or two from boiling, then drain. Like last time, finely chop a clove of garlic and fry in a wide flat pan with olive oil until just beginning to colour. Add four chopped anchovies and stir and mash until emulsified. Add the florets and turn, cooking gently for five or ten minutes, until tender enough for your taste. Grind over some pepper and sprinkle with some chili flakes.

Or prepare the same garlic and anchovy mixture, then add shredded cabbage and stir until soft. (Without the anchovies, stir in some cream and paprika for a luxurious cabbage dish.)

Again, take the tough stem out of cavolo nero leaves and stir them in, like the other cabbage.

If you don't like such veg, but do like roast lamb, a couple of anchovies mashed and melted into the gravy near the end is superb.

Easter Day: Treats

As Peter, Paul and Mary meant to sing: "Where have all the flours gone?"

It is curious what has disappeared from our supermarket shelves. I am convinced the amount of pulses bought means any improvement in air quality is soon to be cancelled out by the methane we'll all produce.

tablespoons of flour. Cook these together for five minutes, stirring continually, so it goes shiny, but not brown. Stir the milk in gradually so it is smooth. (It will sputter at first.) The more you stir, or beat with a whisk, the shinier the sauce will be. After 10 minutes or so, stir in two or three tablespoons of tomato puree, some salt and pepper. This makes a pink 'sauce aurore', dawn sauce, as pink as the sky was at 6:00 on Easter Sunday morning.

Bring a large pan of water to boil and put the cauliflower in whole (leaves and base trimmed). Bring back to the boil and simmer for five or ten minutes. Lifting it out carefully, see if a knife goes in the base easily.

Put in on a serving dish and pour over the sauce aurore, and serve in thick wedges. Speaking of wedges, potato wedges are a great accompaniment. If you do not have veggie offspring, excellent. Just eat the lot yourself. It is a treat.

Sunday 29 April: Comfort food – quite a caper at the Vicarage

This week, slightly sheepishly, I was asked: "Can we have fish fingers?" Clearly, comfort food was needed. Fish was the comfort food Jesus chose for breakfast with the disciples in John's account of Jesus' resurrection appearances.

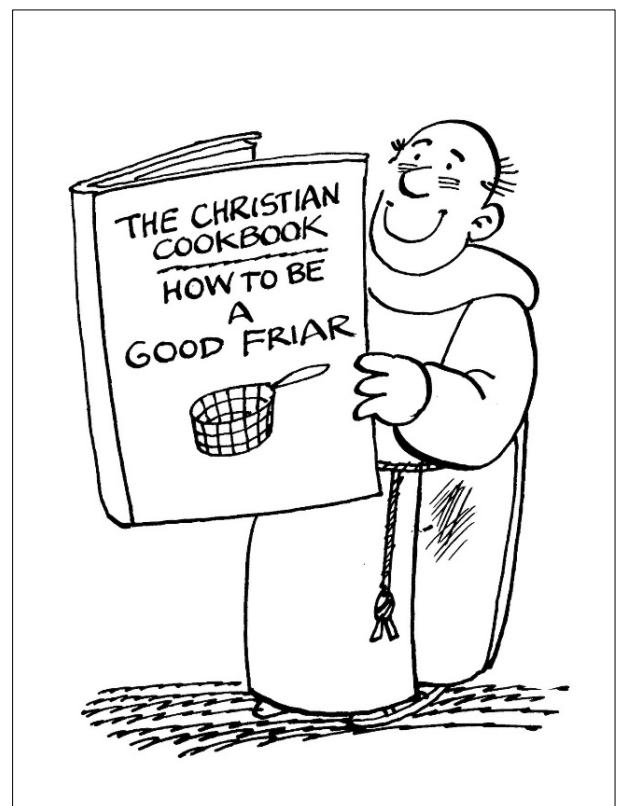
Take some cod, haddock or pollock fillets and cut into fingers, as even-sized as you can. Across or lengthways is fine.

Have ready some beaten egg, well-seasoned, and a plate of fine breadcrumbs mixed with paprika and turmeric. (Apart from being tasty, this makes your homemade fish fingers alarmingly orange, just like the real thing.)

Oil a baking sheet.

Dip the fish in the egg, then roll gently in breadcrumbs and place on the baking sheet.

Drizzle with a little olive or rapeseed oil and bake in a fairly hot oven, checking in 10 minutes and gently turning them over. Another four or five minutes should be enough.



We made some tartare sauce: mayonnaise with very finely-chopped gherkin, dill, lemon zest, capers and pepper. If you have had a particularly disastrous, spiky haircut administered by a well-meaning member of your family, you might like to honour the late spiky-haired Gary Rhodes, who spiced up his tartare sauce with finely-chopped black olives and spring onions.

And the flour? Are we really all baking that much?

Here are Easter treats if you have found flour is, after all, sitting unused in your cupboard. If eggs are scarce, I think the pancake recipe is a very honourable use of one. One is in imperial measurements, one metric, indicating the generation I come from. *In a **very real** sense*, Easter, too, is a pivot, if you will, between two different ways of measuring the world.

(Oh, Lord, please end this isolation before the vicar's lousy theologising gets any worse. Rescue his poor family.)

Rosemary shortbread (rosemary is traditionally associated with remembrance):

Sift and rub lightly together six ounces plain flour, three ounces cornflour, three ounces caster sugar, six ounces butter into a light fine texture. (My hands tend to be warm, so I usually use a mixer).

Take the leaves of a sprig of rosemary and chop finely. Stir into the mix.

Put into a tin and press just lightly to firm it slightly. It should be about 2cm deep. (Adjust the above quantities so you have the right amount for whatever size tin you have. Mine is 18cm square.)

Bake at 180 degrees until pale golden in colour. (Look in about 15 minutes and check.)

Cut into portions in the tin while still hot. Turn out when cooler. Dust with a little more caster sugar.

Chickpea pancakes (from Raymond Blanc's *Blanc Vite*):

This is gluten free. The gram flour you bought ages ago, for you can't quite remember what, is the basis of this delicious batter. It is not merely a flour substitute. The pancakes have a wonderful texture and flavour in their own right.

You need:	1 egg	2tsp honey	80g chickpea (gram) flour
	175ml milk	Olive oil	A pinch of salt

Beat egg, milk, honey and three tablespoons of olive oil. Sieve gram flour into another bowl and gradually whisk in the liquid. Rest for 30 minutes. (That's the batter. It's not particularly strenuous.)

Fry in olive oil. They cook more quickly than flour pancakes.

Delicious with fruit, more honey, maple syrup, the usual treats. Omit honey for savoury pancakes.

Dawn wonder:

Perhaps your vegetarian offspring being confined with you is testing your repertoire. You may have some milk that needs using up. If so, and you find a cauliflower on your shopping trip, make a béchamel sauce.

Bring a pint of milk to a simmer with an onion, a little celery and carrot/carrot peelings, a few peppercorns, a couple of cloves and, absolutely essential, a bay leaf. Simmer for about 15 minutes. Strain the milk ready to mix slowly into a roux. This is made with 50g melted butter and two heaped

Fairtrade Fortnight 2020

Before the lockdown came, I didn't have the opportunity to thank all those who supported Fairtrade Fortnight, helping to raise money for the work of Traidcraft Exchange. This took the form of competitions to guess the number of nuts in the jar or work out which square had the coffee pest, and donations for refreshments at the talk we gave about our Meet the People Tour to Northern India. When added to a donation which we were given following another talk we gave earlier in the year, I was able to send off a cheque for £126. Thank you all for your support.

I have just had an email of thanks (below) from Traidcraft Exchange and I thought you would like to hear how the donations are being used.

Gill Parkin

Dear Gill,

I can't thank you enough for hosting a brilliant Big Brew this year, and for your generous gift of £126! I hope you had a lovely time celebrating with your family, friends and community at All Saints Traidcraft.

Every penny you raised will support vulnerable farmers, workers and artisans around the world to get a better deal from trade. People like Thabiti, a coffee farmer from Tanzania – who can now start looking forward to a fairer return on the hard work he does every day.

Thabiti owns a small plot of land where he grows coffee, bananas, maize and beans. He has a disability in his legs, and with no support for disabled people locally, his disability limits the amount of work he can do on his farm. With three young children to support, earning enough income has always been a huge worry.

"Sometimes we fail to make profit," he says. "I hold my stick in one hand and the plants in the other, so it's very difficult without paying for help."



But thanks to the support of people like you, Thabiti recently joined a Traidcraft Exchange group with other disabled farmers in the area, which has really changed things for him.

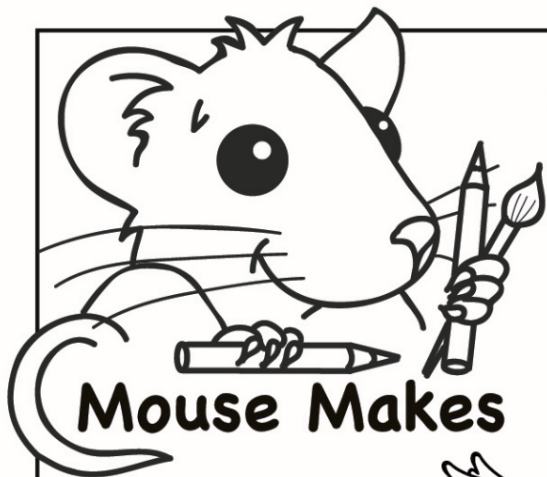
"Being part of the group gives me comfort and really good consolation. I meet with others with disabilities and they're my friends, we accept each other, we accept our disabilities. I value Traidcraft Exchange."

Since joining the group Thabiti has undertaken training in practical skills such as bookkeeping. He has also learned about the many ways that disabled people are stigmatised at family, community and even government level, and how being supported to earn a better living can help tackle this. *"I think this will help us stamp out discrimination,"* he says.

With warm wishes,

Denise

Traidcraft Exchange



"The fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness
gentleness and self control.



If we live by the Spirit, let us also
behave in accordance with the Spirit"



Read
Galatians
5:13-26



How many
other words can you find
using the letters from:

**FRUIT OF
THE SPIRIT?**



U O
N T R V
G R A C E G O D
B T H E L P E A C E
T P A T I E N C E I
J G T R U S T R J
C R L O R D L E E
A K I N D N E S S
L O V E H O N T U
M J E R O D E K S
G O O D N E S S
C A Y M O E L S
O B L E S S I S
N F R U I T G P
D T Y H O L Y H I
A S E L F C O N T R O L
P S E R V E V
A U C O N S I D E R A T E O A R T M I E V E R
E B N I N T E G R I T Y O D Y C A R E S N E
B I C O M P A S S I O N E A C Y A N H T
A T O L E R A N C E S I E L O E I T H
Y G E N E R O S I T Y D T R R N S
F A I T H F U L N E S S Y D Y T
G O O D W I L L P

A M E N
G C H H
R R H E O D
J E E E A P O

Which
symbol goes
with which fruit?



LOVE • CARE • CHERISH • JOY • DELIGHT • PEACE • ACCORD
AGREEMENT • UNITY • CALM • CONTENTMENT • REST
PATIENCE • TOLERANCE • KINDNESS • COMPASSION • HELP
GOODWILL • GENEROSITY • GOODNESS • HONESTY • INTEGRITY
FAITHFULNESS • LOYALTY • TRUST • GENTLENESS • CONSIDERATE
SELF CONTROL • RESTRAINT • FRUIT • SPIRIT • LIVE • SERVE

Getting to know you

We (under normal circumstances) see so many people at church each week, but often we know very little about them. In this regular article interview a person from the congregation is interviewed and we get to know each other a bit better.

What is your name?

Laura Lawson.

What is (or was) your day job?

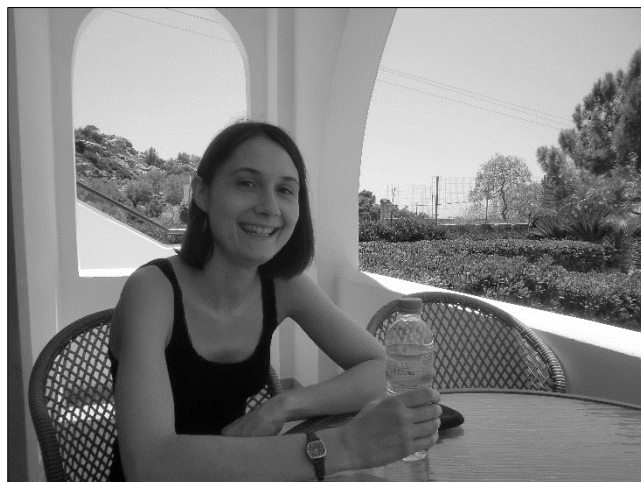
Nursery nurse at St Paul's Trust, Balsall Heath.

How long have you been at All Saints'?

About four and a half years.

What are you currently involved in at church?

Normally I help with tea and coffee. I've rejoined Small Group recently via Zoom!



What has been your most memorable service/event/activity since you've been here?

Mine and Tom's wedding (followed in close second by the *Cinderella* pantomime...).

Do you have a favourite hymn/Bible passage?

Be thou my vision has always been my favourite hymn. I'd probably say Psalm 139 is my favourite Bible passage – very reassuring in times of trouble.

What are you reading at the moment?

Mainly *The Day-by-Day Pregnancy Book*! I'm also enjoying *The Body* by Bill Bryson (would recommend to anyone interested in human biology).

Who from history/literature/film would you like strike up a correspondence with and why?

I don't know if I'm allowed him as he's still alive (!) but I think David Attenborough would be a fantastic person to meet. I could listen to his soothing voice for hours and I find his enthusiasm for natural history and environmental conservation inspiring.

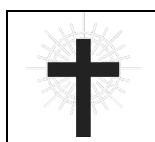
Tell us a joke...

Q: What's the best think about Switzerland?

A: Well, the flag's a big plus...

If you would like to feature on our Getting to know you page, or to suggest people whom we could interview for this, please do get in touch!

From the registers



We remember:

Mrs Jean Barnwell, whose funeral took place at Robin Hood Crematorium on 9 April

Mr Harold McQuaide, whose funeral took place at Robin Hood Crematorium on 28 April

Campus focus

Normally there is so much going on around the church campus each day of every week, and in previous issues it has been interesting to find out a bit more about the different activities that make up part of life at All Saints'. Obviously things are rather different at the moment, but below we hear about the Badminton Club which will perhaps inspire you to go along when the Church Hall is open again.

All Saints' Badminton Club has been in existence since the late 1940s, when members of the congregation played in the 'old' old Church Hall when it was in a building nearly opposite what used to be Woolworths.

When that was demolished to make way for the shops that are now there on the High Street, the club moved into the old Church Hall (I cannot remember when it was built, but there used to be a plaque on the wall in the entrance-way). At that time it was opened up to church members and their friends and acquaintances, and had in excess of 20 members playing on both Wednesday and Saturday evenings on the single court. The chairman was Stan Budd; at that time the rule was white clothing, and feather shuttles were used, which Stan used to repair (as they broke very easily) to save club funds, so a yearly donation could be made to the church – the club has always been non-profit-making. The season ran from the last week of September until the end of May, so that many of the members could then play tennis in the summer at All Saints' Tennis Club; this was originally in Tenbury Road, but when this was sold off the boost church funds one court was built on the curate's garden which was at the back of the old church hall, where the main car park now is.

By the time I joined the club in October 1970, they still played on a Wednesday and Saturday evening, but the club was now open to those fulfilling the previous criteria, plus members of any local church, and we had started using plastic shuttles (which lasted longer but could not be repaired) and clothing restrictions were reduced to wearing predominately white.

In the late 1970s, because of the large number of children coming to church, a Junior Badminton Club was started on a Saturday evening between 5:30 and 7:30, which was well attended by church children and their friends in the age range of 12/13 to 17; members of the senior club used to help out organising games, coaching, making refreshments and keeping things in order. The more regular senior attenders were Don Stacey, John Biddle and me. Snooker and table tennis were also available in the old Church Room for those youngsters waiting between games.

Due to a drop in numbers over the years the club now only plays on a Wednesday evening between 8 and 10pm; the average age has increased somewhat, and some of us are starting to slow down a bit. We currently have 12 members, but could manage a maximum of 16 persons playing during the evening, although there can then be quite a wait between games, which allows for plenty of social interaction. Because the average number attending each evening is about eight, we have to charge a fee of £5 per evening, to cover the hall costs of £40 per week, or you can pay an annual subscription of £120, which saves money if you play on the majority of Wednesday evenings during the season. The season now starts at the beginning of September and can run up to the end of June, but by then the new hall becomes too warm and the outside light makes seeing the shuttle in the hall difficult, plus people find other things to do on warm summer evenings.

If you would like to join our long-established, friendly club, please speak to Des Workman, Daniel Wilson or Steve Brittle, or just turn up to the new hall on a Wednesday evening from 8pm, using the rear entrance to the hall from the small car park. We have members of all ability levels and everyone is welcome – we play mainly mixed doubles, and are happy to accommodate absolute beginners.

Steve Brittle

Laughter lines

Q: Who is the patron saint of copying people into emails?

A: St Francis of a cc.

Q: Did Eve ever have a date with Adam?

A: No, just an apple.

Q: Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

A: Because Noah was always standing on the deck.

Get involved...!

We are intending to keep *Saints Alive!* going during this period of social distancing, for now published digitally and available via the church's website at **www.allsaintskingsheath.org.uk/the-magazine/** (do circulate this link to anyone who you think will be interested).

While there is clearly not very much in the way of current activity on the All Saints' campus, we would love to receive any contributions for forthcoming issues: reflections on lockdown (or indeed another subject!); articles about something that would, under normal circumstances, be keeping you occupied either in or outside of church; reviews of box sets, CDs or radio programmes that you've had opportunity to catch up on or recipes that you've had time to try out; something funny or thought-provoking seen or read; or anything else that you think might be of interest to fellow readers.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Ben & Clare Noakes, Editors

E: saintsalivemagazine@gmail.com T: 07967 730156

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All Saints' Church: a year in pictures

Following on from our (very incomplete) A-Z of All Saints', this feature will provide an equally arbitrary but, we hope, illuminating snapshot of activity in and around the church campus. In each issue, one image will document something that has happened here in the previous month (or two) to build up a record of the annual life of the parish.



This was the notice on the door that greeted anyone visiting All Saints' on Sunday **22 March 2020** – it probably already feels like a distant memory but, as you may recall, around this time the COVID-19 situation was developing very quickly and within a few days schoolchildren were sent home, anyone who could work from home was instructed to do so, and bars, restaurants and 'non-essential' shops were ordered to close.

At that point churches were still permitted to open for private prayer and reflection, on the proviso that social distancing rules were followed, and on this Sunday morning around 20 people came into church for part or all of its 'opening hours'. A few days earlier, at the excellent suggestion of Sarah Baker (and making invaluable use of her software and technical expertise) a few All Saints' singers had recorded the music originally selected for the day, to be circulated via email, the

church's website and Facebook; on the morning of 22 March itself, along with Chris Watts, Martha Ann and Phil, we sang a few hymns and songs during the period of reflection.

We left church that morning hopeful that we would be able to regroup and do the same the following week, but within a few days it was announced that places of worship were also to be closed until further notice. Under these new circumstances all resources for services moved swiftly online and this photo is in fact a screenshot from the 'All Saints Congregation' page on my Facebook feed on Easter Sunday, **12 April 2020**, when David recorded a message from within church having, in lieu of a dawn service, walked the parish boundary at sunrise.

A small group of musicians is continuing to put together

recordings of the readings, songs and hymns for each week; one of the highlights of the Easter Day service was the final hymn, *Thine be the glory*, for which around 50 All Saints' members submitted recordings to Sarah – via email, WhatsApp or even singing into her mobile phone voicemail! Although we are currently apart we hope that this, and the many ways in which others from the congregation are reaching out remotely, will help to keep us all in touch until we are able to meet again.



Who's Who

Worship *(for clergy see back page)*

Children's Worship Co-ordinator	Becky Cuthbert	244 7683
Pre-school Praise (under 5s)	Grace Storey	07813 322697
Little Aztec (reception-year 2)	Martha Ann Brookes	444 5655
Big Aztec (year 3-year 6)	Sue Cockcroft	458 2527
Youth Group (year 7 upwards)	Jenny Warbrick	444 0260
Music Co-ordinators	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156 07929 593097

Church upkeep

Vergers	Liz Haskins	c/o 444 0760
	Paul Smart	c/o 444 0760
Sacristan	Bernice Mattis	c/o 444 0760
Altar Linen	Wendy Ross	444 1423
Head Server	Tony Price	01564 824420
Electoral Roll Officer	Tony Cocks	441 2945
Parish Magazine	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156 07929 593097

Finance team

Treasurer	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Expenditure Officer	Vacant	
Insurance & Investments	Tony Cocks	441 5655
Gift Aid	Philip & Martha Ann Brookes	444 5655
Envelope Giving Scheme	Tony Price	01564 824420

Groups, clubs and organisations

All Saints' Ramblers	Pam Coley	572 3553
	Gill Parkin	604 6127
Badminton Club	Des Workman	443 5292
	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Bible Reading Fellowship	Des Workman	443 5292
Lunch Club	Elizabeth Turner	604 6086
Meditation Group	Daniel Wilson	449 9869
Prayer Circle		c/o 444 0760
Safeguarding & Child Protection	Mary Miles	449 0851
Traidcraft	Gill Parkin	604 6127

Planned giving: All are invited to join the planned giving scheme, contributing by weekly envelope or banker's order/standing order. Taxpayers – please sign a Gift Aid declaration for reclaiming of tax and use of payroll giving if possible. Contact the Finance Team for further information.

Parish Office: For enquiries about baptisms, baby naming services, banns and marriages, please contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment at a vestry hour – 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 10:00-10:30.

Ministry to the sick: Visiting the sick at home or in hospital – please inform the Ministry Team of anyone who is sick. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved and oil is kept for ministry to the sick.

Ministry of healing: Laying-on of hands and anointing – last Saturday in the month at 09:15 as part of Morning Prayer, occasional Sunday evenings (as announced), and at home or in hospital as requested.

Communion of the sick: At home or in hospital, as requested, communion is taken, monthly, to the long-term sick or housebound.

Other ministries: For blessing of homes, celebrations of anniversaries, thanksgiving after childbirth, confession and counsel, please contact the Ministry Team.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Officers	Lay Vice Chair	Secretary	Treasurer
	Stuart Blissitt	Chris Watts, 07980 639856	Steve Brittle, 01905 772171
Members	Martha Ann Brookes	Simon Foster (Reader)	Claire Wesley (Reader)
	Philip Brookes	Brian Miles	Daniel Wilson
	Gill Cole	John Parkin (Reader)	Sarah Wilson
	Andy Cuthbert	Chris Pearce (Warden)	Des Workman
	Tim Cuthbertson	Vivien Thickett	

All Saints' Community Development Company (ASCDC)

Chair	Andy Savage	c/o 444 4579
Facilities Manager	Dave Priday	07732 137772
Centre Co-ordinator & Bookings		443 4579
		ascenquiries@allsaintscentreh.co.uk

All Saints' Community Projects (ASCP)

Chair	Mary Miles	449 0851
All Saints' Youth Project	Vicki Willinger	443 1842

The Robin Centre for Older People

Centre Manager	Paula McGrath	483 4400
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Ministry Team

Vicar	David Warbrick	4 Vicarage Road, 444 0260
Churchwarden	Chris Pearce	07891 924149
Licensed Readers	Simon Foster	c/o 444 0760
	John Parkin	604 6127
	Claire Wesley	444 2778
Readers Emeritus	Mike Cheesbrough	444 5620
	Gill Cole	444 3827
Pastoral Team		c/o 444 0260

Worship

Sunday	08:00	Holy Communion (said)
	10:00	Parish Communion (sung) with Junior Church
		All Age Worship on the first Sunday of the month
	18:30	Evening Prayer
Weekdays	09:00	Morning Prayer (Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri)
	09:15	Morning Prayer (Sat)
	11:30	Holy Communion (Wed)

All Saints' Church, Kings Heath

2 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7RA

Parish Office: 0121 444 0760

parishoffice@allsaintscentrehk.co.uk

www.allsaintskingsheath.org.uk



THE CHURCH
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