

# The Magazine



**February - March 2018**

## Special Services at All Saints'

Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

**Service of Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday**

Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

**All age service for Mothering Sunday**

Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

**Meditation with music and readings for Passiontide: "No story so divine..."**

Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

**Morning Prayer for Palm Sunday**

Thursday March 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at St George's Church

**Maundy Thursday Service**

Friday March 30<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

**Good Friday Mediation**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April Easter Sunday

**8:00am Holy Communion (said)**

**10:30am All-age Holy Communion for Easter Sunday**

These are only the "special services" for February and March. The diary gives details of all the services and events.



## From our vicar

Over the next couple of months we will be observing the season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, 14th February. I hope people will make it a priority to join in worship on that day. Lent is a time of sober reflection, and penitence. It's very helpful to step aside from the world of 'soundbites' and 'tweets' so that we can look more deeply into matters of life and faith.



Matthew chapter 6 is one of the set readings for Ash Wednesday, and it includes the teaching of Jesus about the importance of secrecy in our worship. Secrecy often has negative connotations, when someone is hiding their actions through an ulterior motive. However Jesus taught that secrecy has a vital place in our worship, when it is the opposite of showing off.

Jesus said, "Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven."

This powerful statement leads me to reflect soberly on the times when I look for other people's praise and approval. I want people to think the best of me, so I want them to know about the things I've done which I am most proud of. Jesus' words also direct me to consider whether I am fully committed to pursuing the reward of my Father in heaven.

Jesus applied this teaching to three specific acts of worship, namely, giving, praying and fasting; I'm sure it can also be applied more broadly. What is most striking is that, when I am doing a good deed, but doing it to receive other people's praise, then I will have no reward from my heavenly Father.

The wonderful reality of Christian faith is that, having been set free by Christ from our former self-centred way of life, we can begin to worship God in a way that truly pleases him. Directed by the Holy Spirit we will learn to do our 'acts of righteousness' in secret. The promise of Christ is that "your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

May God bless you richly this season of Lent.

With love,

*Daniel*

## Notes on the PCC meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017

The temporary pattern of worship for the first six months of 2018 was discussed. Some people had expressed regret that there would only be one evensong in this period. The vicar and churchwardens agreed to look at this and see if any accommodation could be made. Bishop Keith is happy with the changes to the pattern of worship.

The PCC was updated on the preparations for the 150<sup>th</sup> Jubilee celebrations in May.

The roof at Hirst Cottage had been fixed and repairs to the stonework were nearing completion.

A Treasurer's report was circulated to the PCC. It contained a proposal to report at a high level month by month using a simplified report rather than the detailed expenditure report that has been used. In the report the treasurer stated that she was unable to replicate the reports in the format previously used in a timely and consistent format and was looking at alternative ways of reporting. Concern was expressed that this would not be adequate for budget setting purposes and that as Trustees the PCC members needed to be aware of the expenditure and detail of the accounts. Assurance was sought that all the data was being held in the financial system as before and more detailed reports could still be generated.

Support was expressed for Verity, the treasurer, recognising the demands of the role.

We were not in a position to set a budget and this was deferred until the next PCC meeting.

The PCC agreed to the following proposal: *To set up a Finance Committee to meet three times a year or more if necessary with Darren Jones, Verity Smith and Patsy Baker. The function of the committee must include to review in detail the current state of the finances and to take appropriate action or make proposals to the PCC. This supersedes the previous arrangements for monitoring the church finances.*

Income generation was touched on. The main areas considered for generating more income included the planned giving, promoting the utilisation of the Parish Hall and reviewing our investments. The investments are currently held by the Diocese and invested on our behalf. They had only yielded £14,000 up to that point in the year.

A paper on remuneration was circulated to the PCC. In the past we have received a lot of money in grants towards the cost of the Families Worker. More applications are being submitted. The Raby School Trust has agreed to pay £2,000 a year for the next 3 years. The money the Parish will need to find is:

- £3,500 for 2018
- £4,000 for 2019
- £6,000 for 2020

**Charitable Giving.** The PCC agreed to repeat the distribution of charitable funds paid in 2016 for 2017. We will again give £200 to each of

- Crosslinks (John and Sue Aranzula)
- The Missionary Training Service (Ian Benson)
- Elikem and Rebecca Tamaklo's hospital in Accra (Dove Foundation)
- Simeon's Trustees and Hyndman's Trustees
- CMS (The Church Missionary Society)

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the Parish Hall.

**S. M. Stinson (PCC Secretary)**

## Women's World day of Prayer Service Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018



### All God's creation is very good!

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

*This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it. Come and join us on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at*

**2:00pm Burton Parish Church**

**7:30pm Neston Methodist Church**

*More details at [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk).*

## Lent Reflections 2018

Lent Reflections, with prayer, will be held in the Parish Hall at 7:30pm on the Mondays in Lent (February 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>). Refreshments will be available during the evening.

This is a joint activity with St George's URC Church.

***All are welcome.***

## Revised service pattern at All Saints'

At the PCC Meeting in November, it was decided to change the pattern of worship for the first six months of 2018 to help with the Vicar's workload. The usual pattern of Sunday services for the period January to June will be as set out below. (The 10:30am service remains unchanged.)

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays there is a Holy Communion service at 8:00am (Book of Common Prayer), Holy Communion at 10:30am (Common Worship) but no evening service at 6:30pm.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays there is a Morning Prayer service at 10:30am (Common Worship), a Holy Communion Service at 6:30pm but no service at 8:00am.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday there are three services: Holy Communion at 8:00am (Book of Common Prayer), a service at 10:30am and Choral Evensong at 6:30pm (Book of Common Prayer).

This will be reviewed by the PCC at its meeting in May.

*This information was included in the Notes on the PCC meeting in the November / December issue of The Magazine, but is repeated here by request.*

## Roy Wignall

Margaret and family thank everyone for their kind words of sympathy, for their prayers, for their gifts and their love at the passing of dear Roy. He is very much missed by us but is safe in God's loving care.

*"A heart is not judged by how much you love but how much you are loved by others."*



The season of Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday* (February 14<sup>th</sup> this year) and lasts until the end of Holy Week (forty days and nights not including Sundays). Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence and from the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked on the forehead in ash with the sign of the cross.

*Shrove Tuesday* (Pancake Tuesday) is the day preceding Ash Wednesday and is celebrated in some countries by consuming pancakes. In others, especially those where it is called *Mardi Gras*, this is a carnival day. Pancakes are associated with Shrove Tuesday because they were a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the start of the Lenten fast.

Lent provides a time for self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter. It is a time when some Christians set additional time aside to read appropriate Christian material. (Try Tom Wright's book on Mark's Gospel - *Lent for Everyone Mark [Year B]*. There is a *Kindle* edition available for those who like electronic books.) In some churches liturgical dress is the simplest possible and some churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. Lent is a solemn and sombre season.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Refreshment Sunday*) is allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent. We also celebrate *Mothering Sunday* on that day because the Feast of the Annunciation (when we celebrate the announcement to Mary that she would become the mother of Jesus) almost always falls in Lent.

As the final week in Lent, known as *Holy Week*, approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the lectionary readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of *Passion Sunday*.

Holy Week begins on *Palm Sunday* (the Sixth and last Sunday of Lent) when we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. During Holy Week we remember the events from the final period of Jesus' life on earth and on *Good Friday* we think about his death on the cross.

We, of course, know that this is not the end but an essential step towards *Easter Sunday* when we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead and bringing to each of us the opportunity to have a right relationship with God.

*Iain Stinson* (Compiled from various sources.)

## Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14<sup>th</sup>.



It originated as a Western Christian feast day honouring one or more early **saints** named *Valentinus*, and is recognised as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

There were several martyrdom stories associated with the various Valentines that were connected to February 14<sup>th</sup>. These included the account of Saint Valentine of **Rome**; tradition suggests that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers, who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, Saint Valentine healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and before his

execution, he wrote her a letter signed "*Your Valentine*" as a farewell.

The day first became associated with romantic love within the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. In 18<sup>th</sup> century England, it evolved into an occasion when **lovers** expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "*valentines*"). In Europe, Saint Valentine's Keys are given to lovers as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart.

Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.

Saint Valentine's Day is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church.

*(From Wikipedia, under the Creative Commons License.)*

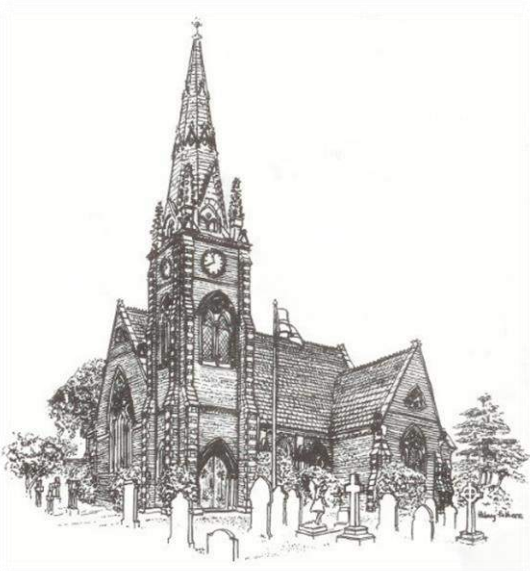
*The rose is red, the violet's blue,  
The honey's sweet, and so are you.  
Thou art my love and I am thine;  
I drew thee to my Valentine:  
The lot was cast and then I drew,  
And Fortune said it shou'd be you.*

*From a 1784 collection of English nursery rhymes.*



## In 1868...

In 1868 Victoria had been Queen for 31 years. There were three prime ministers during 1868: Edward Smith-Stanley, 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Derby (Conservative), Benjamin Disraeli (Conservative) and, following the first general election since the passing of the 1867 Reform Act, which increased the number of men who could vote, William Ewart Gladstone (Liberal). In 1868 the first Trades Union Congress was held in Manchester; there was a terrible railway disaster at Abergele (on the Chester to Holyhead line) and public hanging was ended. Also in 1868, the Argyle Theatre opened in Birkenhead, a horse named *The Lamb* won the 30<sup>th</sup> Grand National at Aintree but it would still be another ten years before St Domingo's Football Club (Everton) would be founded and another twenty four years before Liverpool Football Club was established.



In Thornton Hough, on Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> 1868, the Lord Bishop of Chester, The Right Rev. Dr William Jacobson consecrated the newly completed All Saints' Church. The church had been built through the generosity of Joseph Hirst, a wealthy woollen mill owner from Wilshaw (near Huddersfield). He had married Eleanor Ramsey from Chester in 1831 and purchased Springfield House (now Thornton House) as a retreat to recuperate from the strains of business in Yorkshire.

**On May 5<sup>th</sup> 2018, we shall be celebrating 150 years of Christian worship and witness in Thornton Hough. A number of special events are being arranged to mark this special anniversary and to look forward.**

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May there will be a concert in All Saints' Church by the St Cecilia Singers.

On Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>, we shall be joined by the Bishop of Birkenhead for a grand celebration.

At 10:30am on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special anniversary service in church.

Other events are presently being planned and full details of all the events to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be published in the April – May edition of *The Magazine*, but please book these days in your diary now!



## Association of Church Fellowships All Saints' and St. George's Churches Thornton Hough

Our January meeting was unusual as it was two business events.

Our short service led by Margo concluded with the familiar words *"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year..."*, commending the group to God for 2018.

Reports were given by the chairman, secretary and treasurer and the financial statement was explained and discussed. In winding-up the Diocesan involvement in ACFs, the Diocese had returned our subscriptions and a part of the communal finances; we received £327 when they closed the accounts. Voluntary donations made at some of the meetings came to £439.

In 2017, our three charities were Adoption Matters, The Church Army and Riding for the Disabled. Each received £100. In addition, sums were given to The Salvation Army and Charles Thompson Mission, who also have £100 from "Raffles the Rabbit".

An appeal from Tomorrow's Women Wirral to provide adult toilets (TWW occupies an infant school) was considered and in view of the refund from the Diocese we were able to give £500, a small drop in the £9,000 required!

This part of the meeting ended the Diocesan involvement (in ACF) and finished the business affairs of the group.

Following the diocesan AGM business, our chairman, Margo Clarke, retired from her role in our group. Margo, with her late husband Cecil, our vicar at the time, was co-founder of the group in 1989 and 5 years ago was persuaded to return to the chair when Rev. John Wiltshire retired as chairman.

Margo has been a very valuable part of our fellowship, a gracious and able Christian leader, respected by us all. We have appreciated her knowledge, input, friendship and care. We are sad to lose her but accept her decision, wishing her every blessing for the future and are sure she will join us from time to time.

To this end, a card was signed by everyone and a gift was given to Margo with our love and appreciation.

**Eileen Roberts**



## Fellowship Group at All Saints

At the first meeting of this group, which followed the final meeting of the Diocesan affiliated ACF, it was decided to retain the original name of ACF, and to continue meeting on the usual day at the same time.

There will be less structure with more participation from individual members. A different person will take the meeting each month.

To this end, the group is called **"A Church Fellowship for anyone from anywhere"**. Everyone is welcome.

We continue to uphold the five principles of ACF, Fellowship, Worship, Service, Study and Giving.

In our service we will keep the ACF collect (prayer) and the service book will be upgraded, altered and modernised with the consent of the members. We shall continue to use the ACF logo, which is the Chester Cross. In many ways we shall continue in much the same way as the original ACF.

We now belong to All Saints Church and our monies will be transferred to the church accounts, ring-fenced for our use. We will continue to give £100 to three charities each year.

Our continuing activities are:

***Chatterbox Club***

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays. c/o Shirley McEvoy and June Smith

***Coffee Morning***

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays. This is our other source of income with sales of greeting cards, jam and chutney.

The programme for 2018 was given, explained and discussed.

The new structure approved unanimously is

Secretary: Eileen Roberts

Treasurer: Heather Timms

supported by the occasional committee of Margaret Crawford, Eileen Job, Helen Tankard and financial advisor, Sydney Deakin.

Refreshments were served by Shirley, June and Jane. The last of the Christmas cake and mince pies were enjoyed amidst a buzz of conversation.

# **A Most *Egg*cellent Family Easter *Egg*sperience**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2-4pm  
All Saints Parish Hall**

Come along with your family for some Easter team fun and games, prizes, refreshments, and a short Easter message.  
Suitable for all ages.



For more information contact Anna Leadbetter [anna@allsaintsth.org.uk](mailto:anna@allsaintsth.org.uk)



**ACF**

***A Church Fellowship for anyone from anywhere***

**Forthcoming Events**

## ***February***

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 2.15pm: Fellowship Meeting in the Parish Hall

"A visit to China" illustrated talk by Sue and Iain Stinson

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 2:15pm: Chatterbox Club at 64, Eton Drive

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 10:30am: Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall

## ***March***

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2:15pm: Fellowship Meeting in the Parish Hall

"An Easter Topic" by Rev. Dr. Nick Jones (St. George's URC)

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 2:15pm: Chatterbox Club at 64, Eton Drive

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30am: Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall

## ***Coffee mornings***

Come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy our fellowship. There will be the opportunity to buy biscuits, cards, cakes, jam and chutney. Entrance only 50p.

## Stopping By woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost



Whose woods these are I think I know  
His house is in the village though  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep  
But I have promises to keep  
And miles to go before I sleep  
And miles to go before I sleep.



This little gem of a poem is so delightfully simple and easy to read it slips by in an instant, and leaves you wondering what makes your back prickle as you reach the end. On the face of it, it's about one of those magic moments when time seems to stand still, and you feel at one with the beauty of nature. Wordsworth was very good (if long-winded) at expressing such times, and as W. H. Davies memorably put it "*A poor life this if, full of care / We have no time to stand and stare.*" (*Leisure* 1911)

Robert Frost (1874 - 1963) was an American-born poet who grew up in snowy Massachusetts and rural New Hampshire, but moved with his family of six children to England in 1912, where his poems were first published. He specialised in realistic, tellingly touching depictions of rural American life, winning four Pulitzer prizes and gaining great success, although his family was devastated by illness and death. He would often have travelled through the sort of countryside he describes in this poem.

Why the prickly back? A great many theses have been written about whether the watcher is merely contemplating an enchantingly beautiful sight or seriously considering suicide. There are tantalising hints in certain odd choices of words to suggest all is not as it seems. First, *though* in line 2. Why should anyone mind someone else looking at his woods? Is the watcher somehow guilty of something: trespass, even though he's obviously on a road (his horse is in harness, so he must be in a vehicle of some kind); or prevarication (he has *promises to keep*, he shouldn't be delaying). His little horse is uneasy, because it is unusual for the watcher to stop unless at a building. Does the horse really sense *some mistake*?

The evening is the *darkest* of the year, which might literally be December 21st or metaphorically the lowest point in a period of depression. The snowflakes are *downy* - like the sort of feathers used for a bed. It's not unusual (especially if you have ever plucked a goose) to compare snowflakes to goose feathers, but it is unusual and odd to use *easy* for wind. Easy to withstand? Giving a feeling of ease? Wind not caring about anything? Wind suggesting it would be *easy* to lie *down* in fluffy snow? Likening the sound of wind and snowflake fall to a *sweep* is also odd, because it is surely more of visual motion than a noise.

And the woods are enticing: *lovely, dark and deep*. And then, for me, the most extraordinary word in the whole poem, the little word *But*. It turns the snow falling among the trees into a temptation. But what is the temptation? To stay watching, enjoying the stillness, away from civilisation - villages and farmhouses and obligations, people to see, things to do - or to enter the woods and sink into the deep snow as into a featherbed, and die? It would certainly be hard on the owner to find a corpse in his woodland when the snow eventually melts in spring. Could this be why the watcher is glad he can't be seen?

Robert Frost himself had plenty of reasons to feel depressed. By the time he wrote this poem, in 1922 aged forty-eight, his parents and two of his children had died prematurely, two other children had mental health problems, he had had to commit his younger sister to a mental hospital and his wife had heart disease and depression. He still lived a long life and wrote many poems, among which *After Apple-picking*, *Birches* and *The Road not Taken* are particularly well-known.

**Caroline Lancelyn Green**

## Five countries where it is dangerous to be a Christian

All the information in this article is taken from [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org)

### North Korea

**Estimated number of Christians:** 300,000

**How Christians are Suffering:** Persecution is led by the state which sees Christians as hostile elements that have to be eradicated. Due to constant indoctrination, neighbours and family members, including children, are highly watchful and report anything suspicious to the authorities. If Christians are discovered, they are deported to labour camps as political criminals or killed on the spot; their families share their fate. Meeting for worship is almost impossible, so is done in utmost secrecy.

### Afghanistan

**Estimated number of Christians:** Thousands

**How Christians are Suffering:** Leaving the religion of the community is unthinkable. Converts who refuse to recant may end up in a psychiatric hospital, or be beaten up by neighbours and friends. Their houses and businesses may be destroyed. Depending on the family, they might even be killed. However, when families witness the life-changing power of Christ, it can be that the whole family converts. This must be kept absolutely secret.

### Somalia

**Estimated number of Christians:** A few hundred

**How Christians are Suffering:** Society expects all Somalis to be Muslim; imams and leaders of Al-Shabaab state publicly that there is no room for Christianity. Family members and clan leaders intimidate and even kill converts to Christianity. Sheikhs and imams are forced to teach jihad or face expulsion or death. Christians from a Muslim background are regarded as high-value targets – at least 23 suspected converts were killed last year.

### Sudan

**Estimated number of Christians:** 1,996,000

**How Christians are Suffering:** Under the president's authoritarian rule, freedom of expression is highly curtailed and the persecution of Christians is reminiscent of ethnic cleansing: arrests with charges of espionage; churches demolished; indiscriminate attacks in areas like the Nuba Mountains. Believers are afraid to share their faith with their children or Muslim neighbours. Some disguise their identity even after death, being buried in Muslim cemeteries.

## **Pakistan**

***Estimated number of Christians:*** 3,938,000

***How Christians are Suffering:*** Radical Muslims monitor gatherings of converts. Historic churches have been subject to bomb attacks. All Christians suffer from institutionalised discrimination, with occupations that are seen as low, dirty and derogatory being officially reserved for Christians, most of whom are from the poorer classes. Radical Islamic groups, courted by political parties, the army and government, run thousands of schools capable of stirring up enmity towards religious minorities. Blasphemy laws target Christians in particular.

**Please pray for Christians in these countries, and let us be thankful for the freedom we currently enjoy here in the UK.**

**Collated by Anna Leadbetter**

## **A short Bible quiz – How many answers do you know?**

1. In what city was Jesus born?
2. How many books are in the New Testament?
3. What type of insect did John the Baptist eat in the desert?
4. Who were the first apostles called to follow Jesus?
5. After Jesus was arrested, which apostle disowned him three times?
6. Who recognized Jesus as the Messiah when he was presented at the Temple as a baby?
7. To what city was Saul traveling when he encountered a great and blinding light?
8. Who was the first person to come upon the injured man in the parable of the Good Samaritan?
9. After Jesus fed 5,000+ people with two fish and five loaves of bread, how many baskets were left over?
10. What does Paul say may “abound more and more in knowledge and in all judgment?”
11. What tribe is Paul from?
12. Who is the high priest of Jerusalem who put Jesus on trial?
13. In the Gospel According to John, which of the apostles doubts Jesus’s resurrection until he sees Jesus with his own eyes?
14. Who takes Jesus’s body off the cross?
15. Which Gospel is written by a doctor?

**You can find the answers elsewhere in this edition of *The Magazine!***



## Travels with “Posci”

It is no secret that I sing with several other choirs, including four Choral Societies, and as an itinerant extra (which is how I came to be singing Mozart's requiem and Vespers at Buxton Opera House the day before yesterday). I also sing with two other sacred choirs, and one of these is Poscimur (pronounced Possimooore). Poscimur, which means 'we are called', sings a full weekend of cathedral services about twelve times a year, and, although London based, has some 80 members around the country. I do about six a year, and a quorum is 24 singers, which provides an eight part choir with three to a part, arranged with three each Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass on each side, otherwise known as a 'double choir'.

We gather on the Saturday at lunchtime for the main rehearsal in the song school, in which we must do Introit, Responses, Psalms, Hymns, Canticle settings, and Anthem for the Saturday Evensong, and everything for the two Sunday morning services of Choral Matins and Eucharist, just leaving a few bits of the latter that can be tidied up in the half hour before the service. (Sunday Evensong is not looked at until after the two morning services).

Next (after a cup of tea with luck) it's cassocks on and a half hour in the choir stalls to top and tail and get the processing drill for all four services explained. Each cathedral has its own scheme for how and where the choir processes, sometimes around a central feature or from half or all the way to the back of the nave, and entering the stalls from top or bottom, and so on. Then it's surplices and hoods and assemble to enter for the first of four services. Having done about five hours' singing we are now more than ready for dinner and some rest before doing it all three times more on Sunday.

Cathie Shore, who founded the choir, was very particular about presentation and processing, so we are very careful to keep our spacing, usually 'double', but in longer routes sometimes 'triple'. On one occasion a retired ballet dancer came up to her and said she was moved to tears by the beauty of the processing, so she had a point. She was also very particular about making sure we singers, who do this entirely at our own expense, have a rewarding weekend, so we only go to cathedrals where she approved both the acoustics and the welcome and treatment afforded to visiting choirs, and when you consider that it costs the voluntary choir about £1,000 per service to provide the music, you can see why.

We are often called on for weekends when special services occur when the choir is away, and these can include extras such as gathering around the altar as we did at Canterbury, or processing to a special chapel or memorial for a part of the

service. The next outings are Winchester in February, Chichester in April, and St George's chapel Windsor in May as the regular choir take a week off after the royal wedding.

We do it because we find it rewarding, so I leave you with the thought that we get to sing at all the best cathedrals, and get the best treatment and welcome that's going, and that's no accident! Thanks Cathie.



**Scirard Lancelyn Green**

More information can be found at <http://www.poscimur.co.uk/>

## **Great Christian holidays for young people, aged 8-18, full of fun and faithful Bible teaching**

Spend a week away with others your age on an action and fun-packed holiday, with an opportunity to learn more about Jesus.

Anna highly recommends:

- **The Buzz @ Smallwood Manor** Venture for 8-11 year olds.  
29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June
- **Casterton @ Ashville** Venture for 11-14 year olds. 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> July
- **The Vibe** for 14-18 year olds. 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> July

Go to [soundholidays.org.uk](http://soundholidays.org.uk) for more information, or contact Anna Leadbetter at [anna@allsaintsth.org.uk](mailto:anna@allsaintsth.org.uk)

Booking is recommended ASAP to secure a place. Bursaries are available to those for whom cost is an issue.

# Disasters Emergency Committee



The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) brings together 13 leading UK aid agencies to raise money at times of humanitarian crisis in poorer countries. By working together they can raise more money to save lives and rebuild shattered communities.

At the time of preparing this edition of *The Magazine*, DEC are highlighting three major appeals.

**Emergency Appeal.** More than 626,000 people, mostly Rohingya women and children, have fled violence in Myanmar since 25 August 2017. Refugees arriving in Bangladesh are hungry, traumatized and in need of food, water, medical care and shelter. Basic services are desperately required to meet the needs of the growing population. Conditions in the overcrowded camps are now so critical that outbreaks of communicable diseases are likely. On 23 November, a deal was struck between the Government of Myanmar and Bangladesh for the return of people who have fled across the border. The repatriation is due to start in January 2018, but much needs to be determined including the criteria for return, safeguards for the Rohingya people against further violence and a path to resolve their legal status.

**East Africa Crisis Appeal.** In South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia, drought and conflict left almost 23 million people in urgent need of food, water and medical treatment by March 2017, when the DEC launched its appeal. While relief assistance in 2017 has been providing a life-line to people and communities in these four countries, preventing a rapid deterioration of the humanitarian crisis, persistent drought and ongoing fighting continue to affect the lives of millions. A sustained, and in places, increased relief effort is needed into 2018 to protect livelihoods and prevent loss of life.

**Yemen Crisis Appeal.** More than 20 million people in Yemen need humanitarian assistance or protection. Following the death of Yemen's former President Ali Abdullah Saleh by the rebel Houthi group, the Saudi-led coalition intensified air strikes on 6 December, plunging the country into further turmoil. Although the recent humanitarian blockade has been lifted, there is still an urgent need to allow commercial imports to resume. The country relies heavily on maritime imports to feed its population, amounting to 80% of its annual food supply. The blockade is causing a huge and preventable crisis of hunger and disease,

particularly for Internally Displaced People, households in conflict zones and poor households in areas with very high levels of acute malnutrition.

Our prayers and help are needed.

Go online to ***dec.org.uk*** to learn more and to make a donation. If you don't use online services you can send a donation or get further information from *The Disasters Emergency Committee, PO Box 999, London, EC3A 3AA.*

*From the DEC Media Centre*

## Thornton Hough W I



We finished 2017 with two very good social occasions. A Coffee Morning / Bring and Buy Sale plus the collection of donations for the local Food Bank, which is based in Wallasey. Thanks to the generosity of our members we collected 25KG of food. Sue Donovan, on behalf of St George's and All Saints', also had collected generous donations for the Food Bank. Sue is planning to run another Coffee Morning sometime in the spring, again collecting donations for the Food Bank.

Our W.I. had a lovely Christmas lunch one Saturday in December. Well attended, with members all bringing food for the table - a wonderful variety of foods – savoury and sweet. Well dressed tables, crackers, decorations and good company all contributed to a pleasant, happy atmosphere.

We began our 2018 meetings on 9<sup>th</sup> January, when Derek Arnold gave us such an interesting and detailed talk about the sinking of the submarine *HMS Thetis* on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1939 off the coast of Llandudno. Derek is the son of one of the survivors. Two men survived and some time later two more men escaped through the escape hatch; only these four survived. It was such a detailed story and well worth hearing if you have the chance.

At our meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, Christine Stockton will talk about the story of Flamenco.

You are always very welcome to join us. Meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Thornton Hough WI Hall, Neston Road, starting at 7.30 pm.

**Anne McTigue**

## A memorable sermon – Sung Eucharist in Ely Cathedral

I often accompany Scirard when he sings with Poscimur in Cathedrals, and there are often memorable sermons.

On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 Dr David Neaum (Dean of Chapel, St Catherine's College Cambridge) preached on three texts: Ezekiel 37: 11 -14 (*the Valley of Dry Bones*), Romans 8: 6 – 11 (*Spirit rather than Flesh*) and John 11: 1 - 45 (*the Raising of Lazarus*).



He started by referring to some escapist relaxation *The West Wing* (an American political serial drama) and a favourite episode in which, when everything else had failed to control a wayward president, it was decided to **“let the President *be* the President”**.

He pointed out that the spirit, which breathed life into the dry bones, which restored life to Lazarus, and which Paul recommended to the Romans, is the opposite of letting things be. Lent is a time not for complacency but for confronting and paying attention to faults and failings. In the children's action rhyme *We're going on a Bear Hunt* there is a series of obstacles, each more

difficult than the last, which cannot be circumvented: **“We can't go over, we can't go under, we can't go round, we have to go *through*.”**

The message, for Passion Sunday, which in 2017 fell on April Fools' Day, was that escapism may be all well and good, but our faults and failings should not be excused or glossed over (letting the President *be* the President) but faced and tackled (gone *through* rather than round, over or under).

Caroline Lancelyn Green

### 2018 Calendars

Alan Smathers and Brian Morris would like to thank all those who have supported them by purchasing one of this year's calendars. Also a big thank you Thornton Hall Hotel for sponsoring the calendar. Monies are still coming in so the final profit has yet to be calculated but after printing costs, the profit will be shared between All Saints' and St John's Hospice.

## Cookery corner



### Rhubarb Cream



- 1 lb. early rhubarb
- Half pint water
- 6 oz sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornflour

Cut rhubarb into pieces. Bring water to boil, add rhubarb and sugar and boil until fruit is soft. Mix cornflour with a little water, blend into hot mixture and bring back to boil. Cool and serve with cream.

Can be frozen in rigid container. Before serving defrost in fridge for 2 hours, then serve with cream

### Chinese Chicken Drumsticks

- 6 to 8 chicken drumsticks
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 2 oz unsalted butter
- 5 tablespoons clear honey



Preheat oven to 230°C / 450°F / Gas mark 8.

Brush each drumstick with soy sauce.

Beat honey and butter together and completely coat each drumstick.

Place drumsticks in foil lined, large dish and bake for 30 mins.

Turn the pieces frequently, being careful not to pierce the skin, and baste with the honey and butter mixture.

The honey will turn a rich, dark brown and completely seal the skin.

Lower the heat to 170°C / 350°F / Gas 4

Cover and bake for further 45 mins

## Answers to the short Bible quiz

- |                     |             |                         |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Bethlehem        | 6. Benjamin | 11. Love                |
| 2. 27               | 7. Simeon   | 12. Caiaphas            |
| 3. Locusts          | 8. Damascus | 13. Thomas              |
| 4. Peter and Andrew | 9. Priest   | 14. Joseph of Arimathea |
| 5. Peter            | 10. 12      | 15. Luke                |

## Shrove Tuesday is February 13<sup>th</sup>

Don't forget the basic recipe for pancakes is



- 4 oz plain flour
- ¼ Teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- ½ pint milk or milk and water mixed
- 2 oz butter or margarine

**Make the batter.** Mix flour and salt in a basin, make a hollow in the centre and drop in the egg. Stir with a wooden spoon and add the liquid gradually until all the flour is worked in. Beat well and add remaining liquid.

**Cook.** For each pancake melt a small piece of butter in a frying pan. When hot (just beginning to smoke), stir the batter mix and place two tablespoons of the mix into the pan. When golden brown underneath, turn and cook the other side.

**Throw.** With a swift flick of the wrist, throw the pancake into the air and catch it in the pan.

**Eat.** Turn out and serve immediately with sugar or honey and lemon or orange juice (or your favourite filling).

**Remember.** Making these pancakes should remind you to come to the Ash Wednesday service in Church at 7:00pm the following day!

### More...

The tradition of making pancakes remains very popular in the UK and and in some UK towns and villages pancake races (where people race with a frying pan while tossing a pancake in it!) and pancake tossing competitions are held on Shrove Tuesday.

In other countries Shrove Tuesday is known as *Mardi Gras*. This means *Fat Tuesday* in French and also comes from the idea of using up food before Lent.

Many countries round the world have *Mardi Gras* celebrations and carnivals. Some of the most famous are in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, New Orleans in the U.S.A., Venice in Italy and Sydney in Australia.





In Rio, the streets are filled, over several days leading up to Shrove Tuesday, with large processions of people marching, singing and dancing. People taking part in the parade dress up in very bright exotic clothes. There are big floats which are decorated as brightly as the people and help make the procession look amazing!

## Trade Directory

Trade	Name	Contact telephone numbers
Gardener	Nick Holden	364 0592 mobile 0754 734 1175
Joiner	Paul Whitehead	353 0493 mobile 07762 637 374
Painter and Decorator	A Foreshaw	327 4788 mobile 07979 233 422
Health and Wellness—Pilates	Peter Heath	644 9279 mobile 07808 920 813
PAT testing	Joey Farrell	mobile 07723 997434
Gas Service	Mike Jones	342 5805 mobile 07813 137134

Following a suggestion from various readers, we have compiled the above list based on their recommendations. If you know of anybody else who would like to be included please inform any of the Editorial Team.

**Disclaimer** *“The above are not recommendations of the editorial team and neither All Saints PCC nor the editorial team can accept any liability resulting from using these organisations/trades people.”*

### Answers to the Christmas Quiz (December- January edition of *The Magazine*)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Egypt  | 9. Gold and Silver  |
| 2. Stephen  | 10. Cookies and milk  |
| 3. Bells  | 11. Pere Noel   |
| 4. White  | 12. Donner, which means thunder in German, and Blitzen, which means lightning |
| 5. He places his finger on the side of his nose, gives a smile and a nod. | 13. Gold, Myrrh, and Frankincense   |
| 6. Six  | 14. Jacob Marley  |
| 7. Blitzen, Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Prancer, Vixen, Dancer, and Donner      | 15. To and From   |
| 8. Matthew and Luke   | 16. January 7 <sup>th</sup>   |
|   | 17. Turkey  |



# Register of Baptism, Burials and Marriages (to 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018)

## Baptisms

26<sup>th</sup> November 2017      Emiy Kate ANDERSON

## Marriages

18<sup>th</sup> December 2017      Nicholas James KIRBY and Gillian Sarah CLARKE

## Burials

	Date of death	Age	Burial
Edith Caroline KENYON	23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2017	76	5 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Michael David HARDING	24 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	73	11 January 2018

## Coffee Rota February / March 2018

- 4<sup>th</sup> February      Lisa, Charlotte, Verity
- 11<sup>th</sup> February    Jane and Vi
- 18<sup>th</sup> February    Shirley and June
- 25<sup>th</sup> February    Sydney and Rachel
- 4<sup>th</sup> March        Rita and Ron
- 11<sup>th</sup> March        Lisa, Charlotte, Verity
- 18<sup>th</sup> March        Margaret and Elaine
- 25<sup>th</sup> March        Barbara and David
- 1st April         Rhona



All Saints' Church Thornton Hough  
10:30 am Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March

***No story so divine...***

*Music and readings for Passiontide led by All Saints' Church Choir.*

The service will include readings, hymns for the congregation to join in as well as choral items sung by the choir.

All are welcome.

## **Advanced Notice**

### **Annual Church Meetings**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018**

The annual church meetings will take place following a short service that will begin at 10:30am.

***Please make it a priority to attend.***

Children's activities will continue through the meeting to allow parents to attend.

Heswall United Reformed Church

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 7:00pm**

***"Holy and humorous"***

**An evening of light entertainment with John Bell  
of the Iona community**

Admission by ticket £10 .

Available from the Heswall URC church office 342 8522.

Proceeds to Abbey Capital Appeal

Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm in Church

***Preparing the posies for Mothering Sunday***

Please contact Margret Gamble or Jane Wilson if you can come along and help with this.



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## Mrs Hunnibuns

It is with regret that we have to announce that Mrs. Hunnibuns has closed.

This is because of a shortage of helpers, the increased work load and the increasing age and health problems of existing volunteers.

We would like to thank all those who have supported Mrs Hunnibuns over the years both as customers and as volunteers.



# Parish diary and events

## February 2018

1	Thursday	19:15	Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
2	Friday	19:00	Choir Practice
3	Saturday	08:00	Wirral Breakfast (Thornton Hall Hotel)
<b>4</b>	<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b>
		08:00	Holy Communion Service
		10:00	Special Service for Children and Families in the Parish Hall
		11:00	United Service of Holy Communion at St George's URC <i>No evening service</i>
5	Monday	09:00	cots2tots (Parish Hall)
		19:30	Parochial Church Council (Parish Hall)
6	Tuesday	10:00	Coffee Plus (5 Lough Green)
		14:15	Brimstage Manor Nursing Home Service
		20:00	FaithTime (74 Brimstage Road)
7	Wednesday	10:30	Holy Communion Service
8	Thursday	19:15	Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
9	Friday	19:00	Choir Practice
10	Saturday		
<b>11</b>	<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Sunday before Lent</b> <i>No 8am service</i>
		10:30	Morning Prayer Service
		18:30	Holy Communion Service
12	Monday	09:00	cots2tots (Parish Hall)
		14:00	Monday Group
13	Tuesday	19:45	Bible Study & Prayer Group (64 Eton Drive)
14	Wednesday		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
		14:15	ACF Fellowship Meeting (Parish Hall) A visit to China (Sue and Iain Stinson)
		19:00	Holy Communion Service
15	Thursday	19:15	Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
16	Friday	19:00	Choir Practice

17 Saturday

**18 Sunday**

**First Sunday in Lent**

08:00 Holy Communion Service

10:30 Holy Communion Service

*No evening service*

19 Monday 19:30 Lent Reflections (Parish Hall)  
With St George's & St Luke's

20 Tuesday 10:00 Coffee Plus (5 Lough Green)

14:15 Westwood Hall Nursing Home Service

14:15 ACF Chatterbox Club

20:00 FaithTime (74 Brimstage Road)

21 Wednesday 10:30 Holy Communion Service

22 Thursday

23 Friday 19:00 Choir Practice

24 Saturday 14:00 Family Easter Eggsperience (Parish Hall)

**25 Sunday**

**Second Sunday in Lent**

*No 8am service*

10:30 Morning Prayer Service

18:30 Holy Communion Service

26 Monday 09:00 cots2tots (Parish Hall)

19:30 Lent Reflections (Parish Hall)

With St George's & St Luke's

27 Tuesday 19:45 Bible Study & Prayer Group (64 Eton Drive)

28 Wednesday 10:30 ACF Coffee Morning (Parish Hall)

**March 2018**

1 Thursday 19:15 Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)

2 Friday 19:00 Choir Practice

14:00 Women's World Day of Prayer (Burton)

19:30 Women's World Day of Prayer (Neston Methodist)

3 Saturday

**4 Sunday**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

08:00 Holy Communion Service

		10:30	United Service of Holy Communion at All Saints' <i>No evening service</i>
5	Monday	09:00	cots2tots (Parish Hall)
		19:30	Lent Reflections (Parish Hall) With St George's & St Luke's
6	Tuesday	10:00	Coffee Plus (5 Lough Green)
		14:15	Brimstage Manor Nursing Home Service
		20:00	FaithTime (74 Brimstage Road)
7	Wednesday	10:30	Holy Communion Service
8	Thursday	19:15	Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
9	Friday	19:00	Choir Practice
10	Saturday	14:00	Preparing posies for Mothering Sunday
<b>11</b>	<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday)</b> <i>No 8am service</i>
		10:30	Mothering Sunday All-age Service
		18:30	Holy Communion Service
12	Monday	09:00	cots2tots (Parish Hall)
		14:00	Monday Group
		19:30	Lent Reflections (Parish Hall) With St George's & St Luke's
13	Tuesday	19:45	Bible Study & Prayer Group (64 Eton Drive)
14	Wednesday	10:30	Holy Communion Service
		14:15	ACF Fellowship Meeting (Parish Hall) Rev Dr Nick Jones on an Easter theme
15	Thursday	19:15	Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
16	Friday	19:00	Choir Practice
17	Saturday		
<b>18</b>	<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>
		08:00	Holy Communion Service
		10:30	Meditation with Music and Readings For Passiontide: 'No story so divine' <i>No evening service</i>
19	Monday	09:00	cots2tots (Parish Hall)
		19:30	Lent Reflections (Parish Hall)

		With St George's & St Luke's
20	Tuesday	10:00 Coffee Plus (5 Lough Green)
		14:15 Westwood Hall Nursing Home Service
		14:15 ACF Chatterbox Club
		20:00 FaithTime (74 Brimstage Road)
21	Wednesday	10:30 Holy Communion Service
22	Thursday	19:15 Abide (18 Oteley Avenue)
23	Friday	15:00 Wedding: Ian and Charlotte
		19:00 Choir Practice
24	Saturday	14:00 Family Easter Eggsperience (Parish Hall)
<b>25</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
		<i>No 8am service</i>
		10:30 Morning Prayer Service
		18:30 Holy Communion Service
26	Monday	09:00 cots2tots (Parish Hall)
27	Tuesday	19:45 Bible Study & Prayer Group (64 Eton Drive)
28	Wednesday	10:30 ACF Coffee Morning (Parish Hall)
29	Thursday	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
		19:00 United Service of Holy Communion At St George's URC
30	Friday	<b>Good Friday (bank holiday)</b>
		10:30 United Service for Good Friday At All Saints'
		19:00 Choir Practice
31	Saturday	13:00 Wedding: Kieran and Lauren
<b>April 2018</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Easter Day</b>
		08:00 Holy Communion Service
		10:30 All age Holy Communion for Easter Day

**Please remember that British Summer Time begins at 1:00am on Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> and that the clocks go forward one hour.**



## Who to contact about our groups

### Bible Study

<b>Monday Group</b>	Rita Longman	538 7898
<b>Coffee Plus</b>	Lisa Deighton-Ankers	334 2204
<b>Bible Study and Prayer</b>	Shirley McEvoy	336 3449
<b>FaithTime</b>	Alice Jones	alice@allsaintsth.org.uk

### Children and young people

<b>cots2tots</b> [pre-school]	Angela Howard	336 3429
<b>Impact</b> [years 6-9]	Anna Leadbetter	07527 169694 anna@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Abide</b> [years 10-13]	Anna Leadbetter	07527 169694 anna@allsaintsth.org.uk

### Sunday School

<b>Sparklers</b>	Angela Howard	336 3429
<b>Comets</b>	Anna Leadbetter	07527 169694 anna@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Rockets</b>	Anna Leadbetter	07527 169694 anna@allsaintsth.org.uk

### ACF

Eileen Roberts 336 3465

### Church Choir

Iain Stinson 342 4800  
iain@stinson.org.uk

### The Magazine Team

Patsy Baker 336 3273

John McIver 336 4829

Brian Morris 336 1393

Iain Stinson 342 4800

### Pew sheet

Iain Stinson 342 4800

The Vicar works in the Parish Office most Tuesday Mornings  
from 9:00am until 11:00am.

You can arrange to meet him there if you wish,  
or contact him on the Parish Office telephone, 0151 336 1654

## Who's who at All Saints

<b>Vicar</b>	Revd. Daniel Howard	336 3429 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Families Worker</b>	Anna Leadbetter	07527 169694 anna@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Patsy Baker	336 3273 patsy@allsaintsth.org.uk
	Alice Jones	alice@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Verger</b>	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Sue Stinson	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Verity Smith	verity@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Planned Giving Secretary</b>	Sydney Deakin	334 6111
<b>Parish Safeguarding Coordinator</b>	Elaine Edwards	07400 474777 elaine@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Prayer Link Coordinator</b>	Rhona Mayhew	334 5637 rhona@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Elly Macbeath	
<b>Church Flower Rota</b>	Jane Wilson	328 1408
<b>Parish Hall Caretaker and Bookings</b>	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
<b>Director of Music</b>	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
<b>Magazine Contributions</b>		editor@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>All Saints Church Web site</b>		www.allsaintsth.org.uk