

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD**

PARISH NEWS

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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

FROM FR JOHN

As some of you know, I have been planting afresh some old areas of my garden which have long been overgrown and neglected, and I have included some dahlia corms. I don't know if you have ever planted dahlias, but the corms look to me just like a bundle of dry old sticks. However, I also know that dahlia blooms are amongst the most striking and beautiful in the summer border.



Talking about this on Sunday morning, three of us commented how amazing it is that these dry and dusty bulbs and corms can turn into such large plants with a succession of beautiful blooms. Somehow, the corms contain within themselves the essence of what they will become, the identity of what it is to be a dahlia. But of course along the way they need food and nourishment – air, the nourishment in the soil, and water, plenty of water. Without that nurture and nourishment any growth will be stunted, and they will not reach the fullness of their potential.

I wonder if that's a bit like us? And if so, it's not just physical food and nourishment that we need, but also spiritual nurture and nourishment so that we can grow into the fullness of our potential as the beautiful person

that God created us to be, sharing love and joy with those around us, upholding one another with compassion and trust, and looking out for the lost and the disadvantaged.

I wonder if one image of the Church might be as a beautiful garden, with the different colours perfectly coordinated, and flowers and fruit each coming in their due season, and each plant reaching the fullness of its potential. And perhaps in the Autumn of our lives we will realise that all along we have been scattering seeds of goodness and love that will bear fruit long after we have left this garden for another paradise.

FROM FR JEREMY

Those of you that have been worshipping at All Saints over Holy Week and Easter will have noticed people joining us from Iran who are refugees staying at The Holiday Inn in Maidenhead. On Thursday we are trying to help these people by offering English classes with the support of a husband and wife team from Marlow who worship in the URC church. The hope is that if we can offer classes, it will enable the people to feel they can find social integration.

Sue Wright and I have also been contacted by Sam Jonkers who is the Regional Lead for Care4Calais Berkshire, South Oxfordshire and Hampshire. Sam's advice to us is that if we can help the refugees integrate into the local community, we will be supporting vulnerable people.

Pope Francis tells us 'The church is mother, and her motherly attention is expressed with special tenderness and closeness to those who are obliged to flee their own country and exist between rootlessness and integration. This tension destroys people. Christian compassion – 'This suffering with', compassion – is expressed first of all in the commitment to obtain knowledge of the events that force people to leave their homeland, and, where necessary, to give voice to those who cannot manage to make their cry of distress and oppression heard.'

Some of these people will have gone through 'violence, abuse, the distance from family love, traumatic events, flight from home, uncertainty about the future.' These are all dehumanising elements and must spur every Christian and the whole community to practical concern.'

We should then follow Pope Francis by offering potential hope to these people, 'A hope that is expressed in expectations for the future, in the desire for friendship, in the wish to participate in the host society also through learning the language, access to employment and education of children. I admire the courage of those who hope to be able gradually to resume a normal life, waiting for joy and love to return to brighten their existence. We can and must all nourish this hope!' (Pope Francis 'The Church of Mercy')

The things we are looking to do at All Saints to support these people are:

1. Find spare clothes and shoes (ladies trainers sizes 37, 38 and 40)
2. Provide English Classes – These will begin on Thursday morning in the Birinus Room
3. Social integration – we are inviting the Iranian people to our two services and coffee mornings
4. Sport and well-being activities – we need footballs and if there is a spare bike or two not being used this would be valued.
5. Help accessing dental care. I am looking into this. Medical care is being offered.
6. Haircuts – we have taken a few people into town to have a haircut.
7. Supplementary food – People at the hotel are being fed but it is poor in quality and made with spices. People of Iran use herbs more than spices in their cooking. We will host a meal on the lunchtime of Thursday 5 May to provide a meal that they will enjoy. I am taking one or two shopping to pick the ingredients.

We do not know how long these people will be in the area but if we can follow Pope Francis' advice we can try to show compassion. A few of the Iranian people are keen to be baptised at the church and I have contacted Bishop Olivia for advice.

If you can help in a simple practical way, please let myself, Sue Wright or Ken Smith know.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Andrew Stafford and The Marlow Players who entertained a good number of us with their Murder Mystery evening last Friday. It was a very enjoyable evening and over £300 was raised towards helping people in Ukraine.

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

Thursday 28	9.15am Morning Prayer 10.00am English Classes in the Birinus Room 3.00pm <i>Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 8.00pm Choir Practice in the Parish Centre
Friday 29	9.15am Morning Prayer 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre 12 noon Memorial Service for Anna Beadman
Saturday 30	10.30am Baptism Preparation in the Birinus Room
Sunday 1 May	10.00am The Parish Eucharist The Third Sunday of Easter Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Fr John 12 noon Holy Baptism Please pray for Kayson Charlie Clarke Compagno, his parents and godparents
Tuesday 3	<i>9.00am Open the Book at Larchfield School</i> 2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Birinus Room
Wednesday 4	10.00am Requiem Eucharist

PRAYER INTENTIONS

United and whole, show us the way of peace that is your overwhelming presence.
We hold before you the peoples of Ukraine and Russia, Every child and every adult.
We long for the time when weapons of war are beaten into ploughshares, when nations no longer lift up sword against nation.
We cry out to you for peace; Protect those who only desire and deserve to live in security and safety
Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of loved ones, be with those who are bereaved.
Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression and fill leaders with the wisdom that leads to peace.
Kindle again in us a love for our neighbour, and a passion for justice to prevail
And a renewed recognition that we all play a part in peace.
Creator of all hear our prayer and bring us peace. Make us whole. Amen.

We pray for the Iranian people sharing our community at this time and for all refugees seeking help and support at this time. May we be compassionate people offering hope to all who seek integration into our community.

We pray for our new PCC following the APCM on Monday. We give thanks for those who gave of their time and talents in all areas of church life last year, and we pray for our community of All Saints that we may

reach out and serve our local communities this year by walking in God's light, rejoicing in God's love and reflecting God's glory.

We pray for Lily Veevers on the anniversary of her baptism.

Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for Suzette, Danielle, Fr John Chadwick, Dave Hill, Eliza, Dave's parents and Anne and Chris, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Mikhail, Doreen Hill, John Hicks, Roger and Jane Baldery, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Carol Atkin, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, and Florence Harrison. May they know God's loving and healing presence. We pray for any in our parish who need God's loving grace and healing touch at this time.

We remember the recently departed including Richard Coxwell, Daisy Florence Keysell, Anna Beadman, Trevor Woodward, Ben Russell and Richard Engleman and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

May we all be blessed with God's love this Eastertide,

Fr Jeremy & Fr John

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 1 MAY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

COLLECT

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

NT READING Acts 9: 1 - 6

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

GOSPEL John 21: 1 - 19

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask

him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God. After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Easter Hymn R Popplewell
Opening Hymn: AM 486 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice
Gradual: AM 769 Rejoice! The Lord is King
Offertory: AM 806 There's a wideness in God's mercy
Communion: AM 451 Just as I am
Hymn: AM 805 There is a redeemer
Closing Hymn: AM 216 The day of resurrection
Postlude: Canticle G Slater

TUESDAY CLUB 3 MAY 2.30pm IN THE BIRINUS ROOM (NOTE DIFFERENT VENUE)

What with the Church being closed for the pandemic and then because of the floor restoration it may be some time since you've been in the Birinus Room and indeed out into the Birinus Garden. Do come along on Tuesday afternoon when Carolyn Foster, who designed the Birinus Garden, will be talking about it with a slideshow and then weather permitting we'll be able to enjoy a cup of tea (or coffee) actually in the garden.

Jan Moss

AUTHOR, AUTHOR!

A former Churchwarden has written a play (well-received, I believe), our current Churchwarden has written two books, Dr Relf Clark has written a book about the All Saints organs, and now hot off the press comes Elizabeth Bryson, formerly of this Parish and known to many, with a book entitled, *Mary's Titles, Biblical Reflections on the titles of Mary in the Litany of Loreto*. Available to order via www.amazon.co.uk £15.95 for the soft-cover edition on Amazon Prime. The Kindle version from Amazon is £2.49.