

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Last week I had the privilege of being in the presence of Duncan Dyason MBE of 'Street Kids Direct' and Danilo, one of the young people that Duncan and the charity have supported over the years. I frequently take assemblies at Altwood School and last week the theme was charity. I invited Duncan and Danilo to use the slot allotted to me to share their stories from Guatemala. I introduced Duncan by telling the students that we are to 'Love God and to love our neighbour as ourself.' God desires that we live life in all its fulness and wants us to respond to His love by living the best lives we can, using our gifts to answer his call.

Duncan spoke about a Sunday evening 30 years ago when he watched a documentary highlighting the horrors of life on the streets of Guatemala City for young children of 4 years and above. Many of these children were losing their lives and those that survived were involved in drugs and violence. Duncan, one year after watching the programme and feeling called by God to respond, went out to Guatemala to help. He, alongside other members of the charity 'Street Kids Direct', have succeeded in getting all the children off the streets and are now working with families to stop others getting caught up in crime. Young people are found educational opportunities and find hope to live life in all its fulness. Students and teachers at Altwood were moved by Duncan and Danilo's stories and will be taking part in a 'Rough Sleep' at the end of this month to raise funds for the charity.

Danilo spoke to our congregation two weeks ago and here is the story he shared that morning;

Hello, my name is Danilo.

I am from Guatemala and have grown up in a low-income family. I've worked on a rubbish dump for as long as I can remember. My father passed away when I was two years old, so I never met him. I only know that his name is Daniel, hence my name.

I have six siblings most of them are older than me so my mother never paid much attention to us because she always worked to support us and sometimes drank a lot. Sadly one of my older brothers died a few years ago, he was a gang member but the gang killed him when he was twenty-three years old. My mother fell into a depression very strong and left us alone so I always felt alone since I was little.

On top of all this I suffered from sexual abuse from my stepfather that led me as an adult to have more traumas and more insecurities and more depression with many things. Also at school, they bullied me and where my mum works on the dump many people were giving me different nicknames that made me feel bad.

Also they made fun of my mum at school because she worked on the dump. It wasn't her fault for being there.

From a very young age I took drugs like smoking and drinking beer and many other things because of so much loneliness that I wanted to forget. I was always there on the streets because I didn't want to be at home because we had so many family problems with my brother and not having any food. Everything was difficult and I didn't like it and so spent more time in a place where they had videogames but there they always treated me badly, hitting me to get out of there or saying things to make me feel bad but what I wanted was to see how they played.

They had a television there and I could see how they played and had a good time, but I didn't play because it was for money and I didn't have any. When I got bigger I started to attack people, with a friend at that time, to get money which I gave it to my mum. She didn't know, but little by little I left that because it killed me and also shortly after my mother met Duncan and told him about me.

That's how I met Duncan and I felt happy because I felt accepted by his side and he didn't care where I was from. He was there with us in the rubbish, talking or playing. Little by little I got to know his charity and he took me there one day to get to know what they do. I loved it and it helped me.

Duncan helped me for a long time, but even though I kept drinking and smoking and inhaling cocaine, what really helped me to leave all that was God. That's what Duncan showed me. I learned how God used him to enter my life and rescue me from where I was and little by little I got out of the rubbish dump and the drugs. I met God and I was able to change my life I was able to finish my studies. I am the only one in my family who has finished school and last year I graduated from school. I know I just need to study in college now.

I thank God he gave me the opportunity to talk about my life in another country with people from other countries and that makes me feel very good that with my life I can help another person. No matter where you come from as long as you put your life in God's hands he will take you to a better place because his plan is wonderful and thanks to him and where I am and the people who he put on my path. Without him and the people who guided me on this path I don't know where I would be now. Thinking about that makes me very happy.

Thank you for listening and thank you for your support.

This is a moving story of how someone who receives the compassion and welcome of another human being, responds by giving their best in life and fulfilling their dreams. In Sunday's remarkable story of the Samaritan woman at the well Jesus shows compassion for the woman and she responds by becoming the first person to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, who gave his life that we might have new and transformed life. May we continue to grow to be a welcoming and inclusive community at All Saints so that people can find a sense of belonging and live as disciples of Christ.

If people would like to support 'Street Kids Direct' please sign the sponsorship form so help Altwood Students and teachers on their rough sleep out on Friday 31 March. All the money they raise will go to Altwood School to support the remarkable ministry of Duncan and 'Street Kids Direct.'

Finally, those of us that had our spirits lifted by the wonderful Charlie Mackesy and his book, 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse', during the Pandemic will be delighted to hear that the film based upon the book has won 'Best animated short', at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

'What do you think success is?' asked the boy. 'To love,' said the mole.

GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to Sally Deal and Anne Sweeney who have new grandchildren this week: Sally welcomes Leon Oliver Deal and Anne, Elsbeth Anne Abbey. Please pray for all of them.

LENT AT ALL SAINTS

1. Thursday evening Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 7.00pm This week The Stations will be led by Jeanette and they will focus on the charity 'CAFOD'. The stations will focus on solidarity with poor people around the world and in particular with those living in the country of Bangladesh which is thought to be most at risk of the effects of climate change. I would encourage support of the Stations of the Cross as a Lenten devotion but importantly the readings and prayers will once again remind us of sustainability issues as we continue our congregational journey as an Eco-Church.
2. Bible Study, looking at the events of Holy Week through the Gospels. Every Wednesday at 7.00pm in the Birinus Room, ending with Compline at 8.00pm.
3. Friday 10 March – Quiet Day with Fr John including a soup lunch at All Saints.
4. The Wednesday soup lunches supporting 'The Ripple Effect' charity.

RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

Thursday 16 March

3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School

7.00pm Stations of the Cross led by Jeanette Lock See above

8.00pm Choir practice

Friday 17

10.00am Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre

Saturday 18

10.00am Making Mothering Sunday posies in the Parish Centre. See p 6

Sunday 19

10.00am Parish Eucharist for Mothering Sunday

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Fr John

Monday 20

9.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 21

9.30am Morning Prayer

7.30pm PCC Meeting in the Parish Centre see p 5

Wednesday 22

10.00am Eucharist in Lent We reflect upon the characters of the cross and resurrection from Bishop Gregory Cameron's Book 'An Easter Book of Days.'

This Week: *Mary & Martha* Celebrant: **Fr Jeremy**

11.15am Bible Study in the Birinus Room

11.30am *Holy Communion at Normanhurst Care Home*

12.15-1.15pm Lenten Lunch – All are welcome to join us in the Parish Centre to enjoy homemade soup and bread. All donations will go to support the 'Ripple Effect Charity'.

2.00pm *Services at Larchfield Care Home*

3.00pm *Open the Book at Larchfield School*

3.45pm Meeting of the Trustees for the Almshouses in the Birinus Room.

7.00pm Lenten Bible Study looking at Mark's Gospel with Fr John in the Birinus Room.

ADVANCE NOTICE

MONDAY 24 APRIL ALL SAINTS APCM MEETING AT BOYNE HILL CRICKET CLUB.

The guest speaker this year will be Sam Jonkers of 'Care 4Calais' as she shares with us the work of the charity in supporting Asylum Seekers.' There is a list at the back of the church should you wish to share a fish and chip supper. If you would prefer chicken that is also available. The cost held the same as last year will be £8 for Fish and Chips and £6.50 for Chicken and Chips. Please pay Sue Stannett in advance. The evening will begin at 6.30pm with the supper before the meeting begins at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Loving God,

Like a mother you brought the world to birth, and we rejoice that we are part of that creation. Help us to care for your earth in all its complex beauty, and to nurture our children's generation in that sacred duty.

In the squabbles between peoples, some are left neglected, some suffer, some are left without a voice and some die. Encourage us to find the will to overcome hatred, and to reach out to the poor and those in need.

We remember the mothers around us, and the blessings they give to their families, and we pray for those who find it hard to cope. We think of women who, as sisters of the Body of Christ who seek fulfilment in acts of generosity and service and all who offer hope to others.

We pray for all parents who, like Mary, have lost their children before their time. We pray for your blessing of peace in times of grief, and your comfort in places of sadness.

We continue to pray for our keeping of Lent in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. May we experience within our lives and within the community, renewal and transformed life.

We continue to pray for our two charities of 'Ripple Effect' that seeks to supporting families in Africa and 'Street Kids Direct' supporting young people in Guatemala. May we by our small actions of support see God's love flourish.

We remember Theodore Cross, Ethan Markey, Kaitlyn Malkin, Luke Follett and Clara Pang on the anniversaries of their Baptisms.

We pray for those in any kind of need. We pray for Michael, Kirsten and Maddy; for Suzette, Danielle, Paul Latham, Jenny Chua, Doris Winn, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Tadeusz, Theresa, Leigh Hutchison May, Silvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes, Gordon Kerrison, Lorraine Ansell, Emilia Clark, Ruby Doughty, John Handcock, Andrew Collins, Bruce Padfield, Jeremy Nordberg and Sarah.

We pray for the recently departed: Giles Haslam, Margaret Easthill, and Hilda Kinloch. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for families and friends and for all who mourn the loss of a loved one at this time.

May you be blessed by God's love this week,

Fr Jeremy

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 19 MARCH MOTHERING SUNDAY

COLLECT

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.

O T READING Exodus 2: 1- 10

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

GOSPEL John 19. 25b - 27

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

MUSIC

Prelude: Berceuse *G Fauré*

Opening Hymn: AMNS 394 Tell out, my soul

Gradual: AMNS 136 Fathers and Mothers

Offertory: AMNS 313 For Mary, Mother of our Lord

Communion: AMNS 800 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want AMNS 600 Bless the Lord, my soul

Closing Hymn: AMNS 777 Sing of the Lord's goodness

Postlude: Serenade *D Bourgeois*

NOTICES

PCC Meeting Tuesday 21 March 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

We welcome Anne Dellar CEO of Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust who will give a talk on The Vision and Role of Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust. There will be time for questions and answers.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL 2023

The Church Electoral Roll is being revised in preparation for the APCM on 24 April. If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, or have moved house, then please let me know. My email address is sastannett@gmail.com

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to sponsor lilies for Easter Day in memory of a loved one, please put your name on the list which is located on the table at the back of the church. This is a lovely way to be involved in making the church look really beautiful for this Queen of Festivals. Unfortunately, the price of flowers has increased dramatically over the past few years, and it is anticipated that the lilies will cost around £6.00 per stem this year. We need to place our order by **28th March** at the latest; so, it would be a great help if you could put your name on the list by that date. If it's of help, payment can be made using the pre-printed envelopes which are also on the table at the back of the church. This should then be handed to Stella Harding or the Church Office.

The Flower Team

MOTHERING SUNDAY POSIES

We shall be making the posies for Mothering Sunday on **Saturday 18 March at 10.00am** in the Parish Centre. We are always grateful for as much help as possible, so please come along and help if you can. A selection of small pieces of greenery are required, such as Heather, Pittosporum, perfumed leaves (rosemary etc.) are particularly welcome, so if you or your neighbour have any that can be spared, can you please bring them with you or leave them at the Parish Office on Friday morning, 17 March.

The Flower Team

Eco-Church's March Eco Tip

Celebrate Spring! Make sure you're giving yourself quality time enjoying creation: smelling the blossom, tapping catkins, copying bird song, finding a footprint or identifying spring flowers with the Pl@ntNet app. Nature can boost our happiness so take time to observe nature in your gardens, on your balconies, and in your local green spaces.

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at: www.arocha.org.uk/wild-christian



WAMCF WOMEN'S GROUP Monday 27 March 7.00pm – 8.30pm at the Sikh Gurdwara, Rutland Road

Ladies of all beliefs and none are warmly invited to this meeting exploring the role of women in religious learning in Sikhism.

FOODSHARE

In these hard times Foodshare are more in need of our help than ever. Each week in the Maidenhead Advertiser there is a list of items most wanted.