

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL
MAIDENHEAD
PARISH NEWS**

www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk

**Issue 117 3 AUGUST 2022
NEXT EDITION 17 AUGUST**

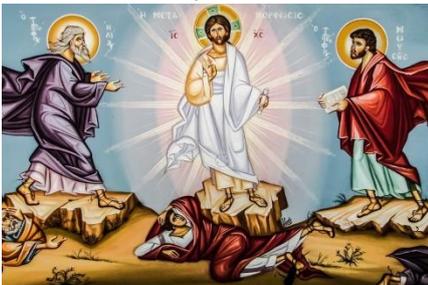


ECO CHURCH
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Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Ways of Seeing.

We have many different ways of seeing. Sometimes we see with our eyes, but sometimes we see in other ways. After we have seen someone act in a way we didn't expect - perhaps positively with courage or sensitivity, or negatively with spite or anger – we will sometimes say “I saw a different side to him today”. Seeing isn't just about physical appearance, and we are warned “you can't always judge by appearances”. Then there's the “seeing” which is about new understanding; maybe we've been struggling to understand a set of instructions for putting together a piece of furniture – and it suddenly clicks into place and we say “Ah, I see it now.” The same is true of trying to understand a situation from somebody else's point of view – they tell us their story, and then we suddenly understand – “Ah, I see now why this issue is so important to you”.



Our Gospel reading this coming Sunday is about “seeing”. It tells the event known as “The Transfiguration of Jesus”. This event was clearly important to the Early church, as it is recorded in all three of the gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke and also referred to in the Second Letter of Peter. At the Transfiguration, Jesus during his earthly life takes his three closest disciples Peter, James and John up a mountain where the disciples see his appearance transfigured. They “see him differently”, and they “see” the presence of the key OT leaders Moses and Elijah alongside Jesus and hear the voice of God from heaven declaring of Jesus “This is my Son, my chosen; listen to him.”

The word ‘transfigure’ is not one we use much in ordinary speech, but the dictionary definition is “To change, or cause to be changed, in appearance”. Unlike the word “transform”, transfigure refers specifically to a change in appearance, not a change of substance. So, in the transfiguration Jesus is not changed in who he is, rather his appearance is changed so that the disciples – and, through reading their account, we too – “see” Jesus differently, more completely, see something about him not previously visible, something not perhaps visible in a human, physical sense.

What was it they saw? Maybe it was an experience of “seeing” in all the senses I talked about above – maybe his physical appearance did change (that’s certainly the literal sense of what all the Gospels tells us), to reinforce to Peter, James and John that this was no experience that was simply interior to themselves, but a gift of revelation which was being given to them from outside of themselves, from God. Maybe also it was an experience of seeing “a different side to Jesus” – something that had always been there, his divinity, but which was normally veiled from human sight – they knew then that this divinity was intrinsic to Jesus very nature; he didn’t just sometimes act as if God was speaking and acting through him, but that Jesus was and is in his very nature God. And perhaps there was also a “seeing things from someone else’s point of view” – maybe they could then begin to understand why Jesus was saying and doing the things he was and making the claims for himself that so angered his opponents. In the light of the Transfiguration, Jesus’ claims such as “I am the Good Shepherd”, “I am the way, the truth and the life”, and his parables telling us of the Kingdom of God, take on a new meaning and authority.

And we too are constantly called to “see” Jesus afresh, to remember that he is more than just a source of wisdom and encouragement (though he is that). The Transfiguration strengthened the disciples for what was to come in Jerusalem – torture and crucifixion. Knowing Jesus as divine as well as human, as Lord and Saviour, as God-With-Us can strengthen us too. The words of the Father ring in our ears “This is my Son my chosen; listen to him”. Perhaps it’s significant that at the beginning of this story from Luke’s Gospel, he writes that Jesus took Peter, James and John up a mountain “to pray”. Perhaps above all it was a prayer-experience, a seeing with the interior eyes of our hearts in faith and humility.

Fr John

RESOURCES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Thursday 4 August	7.00pm Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room
Friday 5	4.00pm <i>Thanksgiving Service for Roger Baldery at St Mary’s Church</i> (Dress code: colourful summer attire)
Saturday 6	10.30am Baptism Preparation in the Birinus Room
Sunday 7	10.00am The Parish Eucharist for the Transfiguration of Our Lord Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Fr John
Monday	9.15am Morning Prayer in Church
Tuesday 9	9.15am Morning Prayer in Church
Wednesday 10	10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr John 10.45am <i>Tai Chi Class in the Parish Centre</i> 2.30pm <i>Senior Saints Cream Tea at the Vicarage</i>
Thursday 11	7.00pm Confirmation Class in the Birinus Room

- Friday 12** **2.30pm Funeral Service for Renee Wilson in Church**
Dress code: no black please
- Sunday 14** **10.00am Parish Eucharist for the Assumption of our Lady**
Celebrant: Fr Jeremy Preacher: Fr John
- 12 noon Holy Baptism**
Please pray for Camden Isaac Mutyaba-Everett, his parents and godparents
- 3.00pm Meet at Car Park at Ockwells Park for Sustainability Group Walk.*
All welcome
- Monday 15 August** **9.15am Morning Prayer in Church**
- Tuesday 16 August** **9.15am Morning Prayer in Church**
- Wednesday 17** **10.00am Eucharist**
Celebrant: Fr Jeremy
- 10.45am Tai Chi Class in the Parish Centre*

ADVANCE DATES:

Sunday 21 August At the 10.00am Eucharist Fr Jeremy will interview Laura Nunu about her home country, South Sudan and at 4.00pm Sundays@4 New Beginnings and the Story of Zaccheus followed by refreshments

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Thanksgiving for the many ways in which we encounter God in our lives, for the gift of faith, and for the knowledge that God is with us and alongside us with his love and grace every step of our journey through life.

For those being baptised in our church in the coming days and those whose anniversaries of baptism occur at this time: Natasha Shepherd, Oliver Curtis & Alexander Dillon.

For those we have welcomed into our church community in recent weeks and months and who now enrich our common life here at All Saints. We pray that they would find the love and grace of God in this place and a sense of belonging with us for this part of their journey. We pray we would celebrate and embrace all the good things that they bring. May we change and be renewed by their presence among us.

For those in authority in the Nations, that they would act wisely and with compassion to bring peace with justice and human flourishing to those over whom they rule, and they would cooperate with one another for the common good of the whole of creation and people everywhere. For the election of a new Prime Minister in our own country. For determined action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

For those subject to war and terror, especially remembering Ukraine, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and Sudan. For refugees, especially those being housed in our own town, and for members of their families left behind in difficult circumstances and families divided as they fled oppression.

For all of our parish and congregation in any kind of need, that they may know the healing and strengthening power of Christ in their lives. For the homeless and the hungry, and for those who help them especially Maidenhead Foodshare and other organisations in our town. We pray by name for Suzette, Danielle, Fr John Chadwick, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Mikhail, John Hicks, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Carol Aitkin, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Eddie Sheppard, David Stewart, Rachel, Tadeusz, Teresa, and Leigh Hutchison-May.

For the recently departed, especially Roger Baldery, Roderick MacLennan and Rene Wilson, and those whose anniversary of death occurs this week. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. And we pray for those who mourn the death of a loved one at this time.

FINANCE & BOOK-KEEPING AT ALL SAINTS

After many years of dedicated and excellent support to All Saints in many roles, Sue Stannett is relinquishing her role of Assistant Treasurer/Financial Administrator from the end of the year; whilst continuing her valuable roles with Baptisms and as the Electoral Roll Officer.

We will need to cover Sue's many accounting and finance-related roles. As a first investigation we are asking if there are any church members who feel they would like to assist by taking over the book-keeping role.

A computerised accounting system is in use, which is based on an office PC, with approx. 100 transaction per month; Sue feels that this takes around 2/3 hours a week, a little longer at month ends as reports are run.

We are exploring this early as Sue will kindly take time to train anyone who can assist; including the nominal coding and fund structures along with entry and filing protocols.

If you feel able to offer time for this please let either Fr Jeremy or Rod know and we can arrange an informal discussion.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 7 AUGUST THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

COLLECT

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

EPISTLE 2 Peter 1: 16 - 19

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 9: 28 – 36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he

was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' Peter did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

MUSIC

Prelude: Andante, K.616 *W A Mozart*
Opening Hymn: AM 281 'Tis good, Lord to be here
Gradual: AM 279 Jesus, on the mountain peak
Offertory: AM 666 I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship
Communion: Adagio, Sonata I *F Mendelssohn*
Closing Hymn: AM 610 Christ is the world's true light
Postlude: Preludio, Sonata VI - *J Rheinberger*

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 14 AUGUST THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

COLLECT

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom: 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 forever. Amen.

EPISTLE Galatians 4: 4 – 7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

GOSPEL Luke 1: 46 - 55

Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Cantabile *C Franck*
Opening Hymn: AM 313 For Mary, Mother of our Lord
Gradual: AM 85 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came
Offertory: AM 318 Ye who own the faith of Jesus
Communion: Méditation *M Duruflé*
Closing Hymn: AM 394 Tell out my soul
Postlude: Carillon, Op.31, No 21 *L Vierne*

BASIC FIRST AID TRAINING THIS AUTUMN

One of our Churchwardens Dr John Bolodeoku, is prepared to run a First Aid course at Church this autumn. It will be a 3 hour Basic Life Support (BLS) course. If you are interested, or would like further information, please email him john.bolodeoku@icloud.com



Heritage Open Days" and Ride and Stride – 10 and 11 September

As in previous years the Church will be open to welcome visitors and offer guided tours as part of the national **Heritage Weekend**. This is a lovely opportunity to share the beauty of our church with the wider community (we have had visitors coming long distances in the past) and, especially this year, to highlight the fantastic work carried out on the church floor.

The Berkshire Churches Trust **Ride & Stride** will take place on the Saturday when we will welcome visitors “riding and striding” to raise money through sponsorship for their own churches. We will be organising a walk for any one from All Saints who would like to take part, and there will be a sponsorship form at the back of the church in support of the walkers’ efforts. Half of any money raised will come back to All Saints.

There will also be a sign up sheet at the back of the church for volunteers to act as Stewards, to help welcome visitors to the church and provide drinks for weary travellers. Please do sign up if you can offer an hour or so on either of these days. We will be sponsoring the Stewards for Ride & Stride too.

Ken Smith and Stella Harding



TUESDAY CLUB AMBLE 2 AUGUST

Five intrepid amblers pose for our photographer (thank you, Jean!) as they realise the tea and cakes are almost in sight. Twelve people walked and were joined at the Café by the Lake by five more members.

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.