

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL  
MAIDENHEAD  
PARISH NEWS**  
**[www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk)**  
**Issue 133 7 DECEMBER 2022**



**Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,**

During my time at St Stephen's House Theological College between 1990 and 1993 I enjoyed playing sport. As a college we played other teams in rugby, cricket and Football. The game we enjoyed most success in (We went two seasons unbeaten – although they were short seasons!) was football. One of the outstanding players of that team Philip North has gone on to become the Bishop of Burnley. Philip was a fast, and highly competitive centre half (England could do with his pace when they take on the incredible Mbappe in Saturday's quarter final of the World Cup) who provided the solid backbone of the team.

Bishop North is not just a no-nonsense footballer but his sound bites are regularly heard on BBC Radio 4 on Thought for the Day and in newspapers. In this week's Church Times Bishop North is found deploring the Qatar human-rights record and states 'Normally with the World Cup, I get passionately excited – I become like a ten-year-old boy again.' This World Cup though has left Bishop North suggesting that this sporting occasion is 'sullyng football.'

I agree with the Bishop of Burnley on the basic premise that it is perhaps not the best country in the World to host the largest football event in the world, but I disagree with arguing this point at this late stage. Another highly competitive football player and loyal Leyton Orient supporter the Revd Kevin Scully who on receiving congratulations from myself on Australia's surprise qualification for the round of 16 wrote 'have avoided games because of the corruption in the competition from the off.'

My response to Kevin was 'Agree but why football nations have not argued more vehemently since 2010 is beyond me. People have died in constructing stadia, with 220 billion dollars spent while construction workers reportedly not paid and living in poverty far away from their families. This is not however about footballers but about the people running the game. What galls me is Platini and Blatter who played a significant role in the awarding of the World Cup to Qatar are now saying that the country with a land size smaller than Wales, with zero football heritage aside from appalling human rights records should not have hosted the World Cup!'

As it is clearly too late to stand up against the hosting of my favourite football competition (My grandfather introduced me to the game watching the total football of the Netherlands in 1974) in Qatar I suggest we all settle back and enjoy the brilliance of Bellingham, Foden and Saka and watch them, enthralled as they take on the challenge of Mbappe and co from France this Saturday evening. Unfortunately, one bit of advice I should have followed from Bishop North was in using 'common sense' in avoiding holding the carol service at the same time as the World Cup final on the 18<sup>th</sup> December! I am confident though that England's brilliant young stars will avoid the need for extra time and the dreaded penalty kicks by comfortably beating Brazil or

Argentina in the final, enabling us all to sing our Christmas carols and proclaiming the story of the birth of the Son of God with an even more joyous feeling inside us.

### **OTHER NEWS THIS WEEK**

For the first time since the 'Dark Ages' the census of 2021 has informed us that over 50% of people say that they are not Christian. This comes as no surprise to many of us, but it is heartening that our recent service of baptism and confirmation with Bishop Olivia had 34 candidates. The news made the Oxford Diocesan News as Bishop Steven suggested churches needed to 'recover the deep discipline of evangelism.' He set seven ways in which evangelism should be at the forefront of our thinking. Two of the points were teaching enquirers and new believers and helping those new believers feel a sense of belonging within the community. I believe these two issues are key questions for our community as we contemplate the joy of that service two weeks ago and think hard how we might encourage people to feel a sense of belonging at All Saints.

### **CHRIST CHILD MARKET**

A few years ago, Pippa and Jeremy Nordberg provided support in a branding exercise for us. A few families reported that they thought the best thing about All Saints was the wonderful quadrangle and the two events they enjoyed were the carols with the Salvation Army Band and the summer fete. We have been providing a monthly Sundays@4 throughout the spring and summer over the last two years with a BBQ and outdoor service.

The Christ Child Market has provided a wonderful opportunity to gather community. The atmosphere at the market was tremendous and to see Boyne Hill School choir sing Christmas music to a packed church was heart-warming. Many people felt that the community spirit at the event was just what people are seeking in these challenging times. Christ Child markets have flourished in Europe for many years. Monika and I enjoyed the experience of such a market in the backdrop of Cologne Cathedral in 2019 and delighted in hearing carols sung, enjoying festive food and drinks, and hearing the Christmas Story unfold.

Thank you to the Salvation Army for their wonderful band which helped us once again begin the season of Advent as we move forward to the birth of the vulnerable baby boy who grew to be the man who gave his life that we might enjoy transformed life.

Thank you to the excellent planning team of Jo McMullen, Dianne Farmiloe, John Gay, Tanya Fullarton, Sibö Viera and Stella Harding. Thanks too for all the support of those who provided time, energy, and support for all the stalls. Special thanks to a very popular Father Christmas! Thanks, also to the people who spent hours counting the takings! For those interested I believe we made £2400 profit and were able to send £200 donation to the Salvation Army. See [www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk) for lots of photos of the day.

### **ADVENT QUIET DAY FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER**

There will be an Advent Quiet Day in Church on Friday 16 December, starting at 10.00am. There will be three short addresses reflecting on an Icon of the Annunciation, ending with a Eucharist at 12.30pm followed by a simple lunch for those who would like to stay. An ideal opportunity for pre-Christmas peace and reflection !! It would be helpful to have an idea of numbers, so please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of church if you think you will be coming.

## LOVE AT CHRISTMAS

In conjunction with St Peter's and a number of other churches across the town we are looking to offer support to people at Christmas. This year All Saints is focussing on the people at the hotel including our friends from Iran. We are hoping to purchase hats and scarves as a Christmas gift. There 256 adults and we are told by St Peter's that each gift will cost £15. If you would like to support 'Love at Christmas' this year please send donations to All Saints Church Fund.

## RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK

### Thursday 8 December

*9.30am Eucharist at Burnham Abbey*

*Celebrant: Fr Jeremy*

*11.30am Funeral of Dorothy Kemp at Caversham Crematorium*

**7.00pm Altwood School Carol Service in Church**

### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT ST LUKE'S FRIDAY UNTIL SUNDAY

### Friday 9

**10.00am Tiny Saints Toddler Group in the Parish Centre**

### Saturday 10

10.00am Preparation of Christingles in the Parish Centre

2.30pm Rehearsal for Young Saints Nativity Production

### Sunday 11

**10.00am The Parish Eucharist & Christingle**

**Celebrant: Fr John Preacher: Fr Jeremy**

**12 noon Holy Baptism Fr John**

Please pray for Savannah Rose Milne, Otilie Isla Milne, Hunter Jack Milne, their parents and godparents

### Tuesday 13

**1.00pm All Saints Junior School Service in Church**

**2.30pm Tuesday Club in the Parish Centre**

**7.00pm All Saints Junior School Service for parents & governors in Church**

### Wednesday 14

**10.00am Eucharist**

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

*11.00am Tai Chi Class in the Parish Centre*

*12.30pm Senior Saints Christmas Lunch at the Toby Carvery*

**7.00pm Newlands School Carol Service in Church**

## ADVANCE NOTICES

**Sunday 11 December 10.00am Eucharist** including Christingle and the annual support of the Children's Society. See p 5 for how you can help make the Christingles

**Sunday 18 December 6.00pm Nine Lesson and Carols in church followed by mulled wine and mince pies**

**Details of the Christingle and Crib Services were in the attachment to the email with edition 132**

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Lord Jesus, born in a stable yet surrounded by love we pray for all children that they may be nurtured in communities of care. Lord Jesus cradled in a manger kept warm and protected from harm we pray for children and young people who feel unsafe and afraid. help them to find places of safety.

Lord Jesus, worshipped by Shepherds and Kings, we pray for the work of the Children's Society and all those who form communities of support around vulnerable children and young people.

We give thanks for over 50 years of the Christingle and all that Christingles symbolise coming together, light in the darkness, and a future hope.

May the orange at the centre remind us of the amazing earth you have created. May the red ribbon remind us of your love wrapped around the earth. May the cocktail sticks remind us of the light you shine in dark places. We give thanks for the impact Christingle services have on the lives of vulnerable children and we ask that you help us to work together to ensure no child feels alone. Amen.

We pray for our local schools who are sharing Christmas services here during the Advent season. We remember the staff and students of Boyne Hill, All Saints, Altwood, Larchfield, Newlands and Claires Court. May they enjoy a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas holiday.

We continue to pray for peace throughout the world, for those oppressed or living in danger, and for the poor and marginalised. We pray for the homeless and the charities like Food Share that support them. We pray too this Christmas for all refugees and Asylum Seekers.

We pray for those of our parish and community in any kind of need, praying by name for Michael, Kirsten and Maddy, Suzette, Danielle, Paul Latham, Jenny Chua, Doris Winn, Mikhail, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, David Stewart, Tadeusz, Teresa, Leigh Hutchison-May, Larisa Stephenson, Soheila, Silvia Denison, Cheryl Brookes and Marnos. May they know God's loving and healing presence.

We pray for the recently departed: Maria Bolodeoku, Tyrone Rahman and Peter Dyer. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

May we all be blessed with God's love this week.

*Fr Jeremy*

## WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare the way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

## EPISTLE James 5: 7 - 10

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

## GOSPEL Matthew 11: 2 - 11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

## MUSIC

**Prelude:** Angel Voices *D Terry*

Opening Hymn: AM 39 Hills of the North, rejoice

Advent Candle: AM 26 v 3 John the Baptist, by his preaching

Gradual: AM 74 Like a candle flame

Shalom my Friends

Offertory: AM 42 Longing for light, we wait in darkness

Communion: AM 712 Lord Jesus Christ

Closing Hymn: AM 27 Colours of day dawn into our mind

Postlude: Tuba Tune *C S Lang*



## CHRISTINGLE REMINDER

There will be a collection for the Children's Society at the Christingle service on Sunday 11 December. (Suggested donations of £1).

Helpers will be needed to make the Christingles between 10.00am and 11.30am on Saturday 10 December in the Parish Centre. Please sign the list at the back of the church and add your contact details if you can help, even for a short time.

New volunteers are always welcome, and the job is quickly completed with lots of help. Thank you.

*Anne Clark*

**TUESDAY CLUB 13 DECEMBER 2.30pm IN THE PARISH CENTRE**

Christmas decoration workshop with refreshments.

**SENIOR SAINTS CHRISTMAS LUNCH CELEBRATION WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER**

At the Toby Carvery, Stafferton Lodge, Braywick Road. Please arrive from midday for meal at 12.30pm

Any queries or if anyone needs a lift please contact Wendy Channon on 01628 625701.

**FOODSHARE**

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