

All Saints Magazine



January 2017

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

I am using most of a sermon preached a few years ago, because it still rings true today.

Happy New Year. How many of us I wonder have made resolutions? A few I am sure and how many have resolved not to make any resolutions? Quite a few more. If you are like me your resolutions are consistent in that they are the same ones each year and also consistent that, by the end of January, they have often been pushed aside by life.

So this year instead of making a rod for my back or yours I am thinking of how we can embrace this life that God has given us how we can make the best of what we have and who we are.

And then on Thursday at communion as I prayed the prayer after communion, there it was before me in a nutshell. What I should be aiming at and where we as a church might be.

**Father of All,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Father of All: God is our heavenly father and we are his children no matter what. And this is something that can never change. All families are bound together whether they are actually together or not. Your parents are your parents whether they brought you up or not, whether you get on well or you cannot be in the same place ever.

So God is our father, whatever we do wherever we go and who ever we are. If we are all God's children then we are all family; and we need to be the best kind of family; a family where we care for each other in the day to day; where we stick together whatever; a family where, yes sometimes we disagree, or need to be separated for a while but that doesn't mean we are not family; a family where we weep together and where we celebrate together.

The next three lines warm my heart every time we say them.

**we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.**

We were still far off and Jesus brings us home to God. Christianity in a nutshell. We are close to God because Christ made us so. Jesus brought us close to God once and for all

because he paid the ultimate sacrifice for our sin and he enables us to be with God without worry or fear that we are unworthy, for in Christ we are all made worthy.

But having been chosen as God's children and enabled to stand before God without fear, then we are charged to go out and help others to be God's children and to stand in his love.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we are living a life in the knowledge of our salvation, but do we radiate with the joy of a risen life? Sometimes we do but often we are too bogged down in daily life to just remember God's Love.

Remember our salvation and live a risen life whenever and as much as we can. Even in adversity and sorrow we are redeemed and held by God. God enables us to look up, move on and to find the rainbows in the rain.

We who drink his cup bring life to others; to bring life to others is our ongoing task as a church, to help and to heal, to comfort and to care. This may be in the simple giving to a charity, it may be in volunteering our time, it may be in helping a neighbour or feeding the homeless, or just being available when called upon, I know there are a myriad of ways that we are all already doing this and many more ways we can continue to do so. You and I need to find the ways that work for us and the things that we can do.

we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

To give light to the world. Jesus is the light of the world and this is a reminder that the world needs Jesus every day and in every way. We know Jesus and he lightens our lives, we need to remind others of his redeeming light. That Jesus is the inspiration and reasoning behind all our good deeds. We are charged here to ensure that Jesus is proclaimed; that we preach his gospel; that we tell others of him; and that we keep God and Christ at the heart of all that we do.

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

Let us work together to live a risen life; to bring life to others; and to give light to the world

AMEN

Annette

Church Customs

Why do people bow towards the altar as they enter or leave church?

Stanley's Ceremonial of the English Church quotes (p. 194) from the 7th Canon of 1640. "We heartily commend it to all good and well-affected people, members of this Church, that they be ready to tender unto the Lord the said acknowledgement, by doing reverence and obeisance, both at their coming in and going out of the said churches, chancels or chapels, according to the most ancient custom of the primitive Church in the purest times."

From this you will see that the custom of bowing towards the altar has very high authority. When the Blessed Sacrament is upon it, it is usual to genuflect.

In the same book (p. 196) you will find: "It is a reverent custom for communicants to bow the head or the knee on approaching the Sacrament, in honour of our Lord's sacramental presence in the Eucharist... 'If Christ be there, why are we not to worship?'"

Organ renovation

At the PCC meeting in November there was a further discussion about what would be a suitable use for the generous legacy from the Everness family, received earlier in the year.

As both Pat and Brian had been longstanding and enthusiastic choir members it was considered that something music related would be appropriate.

During the recent routine organ maintenance, we had been made aware that some repairs were still needed and that the organ had not had a good clean for 27 years. Thus it has been agreed to renovate the organ using the legacy. The work is due to start on 2nd January, taking 4 weeks to complete, and we may have to use the Lady Chapel to temporarily store organ pipes etc while they are undergoing renovation.

During this time we still have a choice of pianos to accompany the hymns, after which we should have many years of great organ music to remember Pat and Brian by.

Diary Dates for January 2017

Sunday 1st	10.00 am	Holy Communion followed by mince pies & sherry at the vicarage
Thursday 5th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 7th	12.00 noon	Baptism Bailey family
Sunday 8th	EPIPHANY 10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 11th	10.30 -12.00 8.00 pm	Fair Trade Café PCC meeting
Thursday 12th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15th	10.00 am	Family Communion
Thursday 19th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd	10.00 am	Holy Communion for week of prayer for Christian Unity
Tuesday 24th	12.00 noon 2.00 pm	Baptism CTNE meeting at Methodist Church.
Wednesday 25th	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
Thursday 26th	11.00 am 8.00 pm	Holy Communion Deanery Synod at St. Lukes
Sunday 29th	10.00 am	Holy Communion

Please check the weekly news sheet for any changes

Parish Pump

Funerals

1st December, Patricia Burnett

22nd December, Edna Ann Waldren

22nd December, Murray Blott

100 Club

The 100 Club prize was won in November by the Mums & Tots group and in December by Pam Piper.

Quiz Results

The November Quiz prize of £13.50 was won by Rita Mather, whose entry was picked 'from the hat' from the correct ones received.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

The winners of the Christmas Hampers were Vera Owen, Ayo Lawal, Stella Adeolu, and Annette Rose. The Raffle also raised £161 for church funds. Our thanks go to Pam Piper for organising it and all those who donated goods for the hampers.

Time and talents survey

In the next two weeks you will all receive a time and talents survey, please take time to fill it in and to think about how you could help our mission here at All Saints. It may be that you want to try doing something new or it may be that you could do something more.

It has been about five years since we last did such a survey and much has changed since then.

All responses will be confidential and no one who responds will be asked to take up an extra task without their permission

Monthly Charity

This month we are raising money for "Demelza" Children's Hospice. Please place your donations in the wall safe by the main entrance. Thank you.

Future Events

15th March 8.00 pm PCC meeting.

23rd April, Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Everything changes year by year,
And some things, day by day,
Lord, give me courage, strength and hope
As time just slips away.
Sometimes I feel I'm left behind
The world seems harsh and new,
But nature shows me peace and calm
And helps me turn to you.

I can't go back, except in thought,
So I must look ahead
And see the beauty and the joy
Around the path I tread.
So on the journey of my life
Though many things seem strange,
Lord, show me your undying love
For this will never change.

Iris Hesselden

Easy fundraising update

Since we started this last year we now have 17 supporters, who have so far generated over £115 in donations just by shopping online. So if you are thinking about January sales or 2017 holiday bookings—you could be raising a FREE donation for All Saints, New Eltham.

There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Amazon, ebay, John Lewis, Tesco & Sainsburys (including grocery shopping), M&S, Thomas Cook and countless other big name stores, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to All Saints to say thank you for shopping with them. You can even access donations by buying insurance, broadband, gas & electric online.

Easyfundraising also alerts you to special offers and discount deals, so you could save money too. All you have to do is:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/allsaintsneweltham>
2. Sign up for **FREE**, Don't forget to download the Donation Reminder on a laptop or PC so you will never forget to collect a **FREE** donation.
3. Select your store/retailer and get shopping—the stores' donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to All Saints.

Or: if you have a smart phone or tablet, you can download the **FREE** easyfundraising **app** from the App Store or Google Play Store and follow the instructions on how to sign up.

Alternatively: you can safely register debit or credit cards with easyfundraising. Visit a participating high street retailer. Make an in-store purchase and easyfundraising will do the rest. Any donations you raise are in addition to any rewards from your card provided and it won't stop you getting any cash back.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything. There are no catches or hidden charges.

All Saints is really grateful for the contribution of our growing number of supporters, so even if you don't shop online but know of family or friends who do, please feel free to share our "cause page" (link above) with them on facebook or twitter.

Thank you for your support, every penny counts.

Smile Lines

The Robin

It was pouring with rain and the little robin took shelter under the wooden bridge at the end of the garden. The rain eventually stopped but the robin stayed where he was! Worried that he was hurt, I slowly crept down the garden to see if he was alright. Closer inspection revealed it was a red apple fallen from the tree behind the bridge.

Should have gone to Specsavers!

Diets

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.
5. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than us.

Conclusion: eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills.

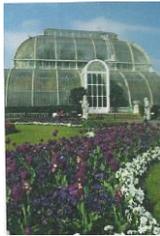
Answers to the December Quiz sheet



1 Niagara Falls. USA



2 St Paul's Cathedral



3 Kew Gardens



4 Southend Pier



5 St. Mary & All Saints, Chesterfield



6 Eiffel Tower, Paris



7 Giants Causeway Northern Ireland



8 Nelson's Column, Trafalgar Sq



9 Kensington Palace



10 Tower Bridge



11 Great Wall of China



12 London Eye



13 St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow



14 Petronas Towers, Kuala Lumpur



15 CN Tower, Toronto

From the Archives – snippets from the January magazine of 1937, price twopence.

GIFTS TO THE CHOIR

Our grateful thanks to the anonymous donor of new linen to supply all the choir boys with new surplices and to the ladies who are so kindly making the surplices. Also to donors of new collars and bows for the boys.

This is a very welcome help.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Christmas Services were a great joy and inspiration and the number of communicants, 455, is a record for Christmas.

There were over 200 present at the Midnight Eucharist, of whom 185 communicated. This was followed by large attendances at 7 and 8 a.m. on Christmas Day.

The Christmas Tree was beautifully decorated and laden with good things and was much admired. Many parcels of Clothing, etc., were sent and all has been packed off to a poor parish in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PARISH SOCIAL

There will be a Parish Social Evening on Thursday, January 28th, in the Hall, Mr. Wilson is again kindly arranging the musical programme. This will be followed by refreshments and dancing.

During the evening the Presentation will be made to the Rev. H. J. Davis. Subscriptions to the Presentation may be given to the Vicar and Churchwardens.

The "Church Logbook" for January 1977 records:

Purchase of new curate's house effected—No 7 Craybury End, for £12,300.

Redecoration of the house and building of a study to approximately £900.

We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.