

All Saints Magazine



June 2018

Free

Editorial

A warm welcome to all our regular readers and to those of you who may be reading this magazine for the first time.

This month on pages 2 & 3 there is an article about the Vicar's different experiences of retreats to the shrine at Walsingham.

On pages 4 Neal, Gardener No.3, expounds his morphing into a Churchwarden as well.

Page 5 is the usual Church Diary of services and events

The 'Parish Pump' on page 6 contains the usual record of Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings, Quiz and 100 Club winners, a note about the charity we are supporting this month and a short report on recent special events.

The Churches Together Good Friday walk of witness is reported on page 7

We have included a prayer from America on page 8

The answers to the May Quiz are on Page 9. Half the money raised on the monthly quiz goes to the winner, the other half goes into the fabric fund to pay for urgent church repairs.

The last page is given to nostalgia in our 'From the Archives' articles to give an insight into what All Saints was like.

Due to the new Data Protection General Regulations we have taken the decision to remove the contact list of people responsible for various activities in the running of the church and associated organisations. Should you require any further information please contact the Vicar or Churchwardens in the first instance.

Feedback to the editors on the 'New Look' would be appreciated.

Stop Press

Church repairs.

Permission from the diocese (A faculty) has now been received, so the repairs to the guttering and completion of the lead flashing on the South Aisle can go ahead. The repairs are due to start on 6th August.

Hall repairs.

The taps in the gents have been replaced, so should be easier to turn off, and hopefully save a fortune as the water is on a meter.

The long hoped for toilet refurbishment is gaining momentum with a simplified plan for two disabled toilets currently being drawn up.

Articles, news and stories for the magazine are always welcome.

Please hand/send/e-mail your contributions to the magazine editors or the vicar by the third Thursday of the month for inclusion in the next month's magazine.

The magazine is available on the church website.

If you would like the magazine e-mailed to you please let us have your e-mail address. Under the new Data Protection Rules we will not use your e-mail address for any other purpose and will not pass it on to anyone else.

Experiences of Walsingham

Going on a Pilgrimage to Walsingham has always been a part of my life, I first went when I was 18 months old, and most recently on a joint deanery pilgrimage from this our Eltham and Mottingham deanery.

Much has changed from those early days, when most pilgrims stayed in the village as villagers opened their doors to pilgrims. As a family for many years we stayed in a farm house just around the corner from the shrine where we shared a bathroom with the farmer and his wife and stayed in very clean but very very cold bedrooms. Now most pilgrims are accommodated with shrine owned properties and these have taken up more and more of the village spaces as they have become available. They have built a new refectory, bar and snack bar, and the catering has improved dramatically since those early days

The shrine remains the same and we as pilgrims remain the same too.

Pilgrimage is a journey, a walk with God, where we are intentionally seeking God and often where we end up is only a fraction of the story.

Having travelled to different pilgrimage locations in my life, I can vouch that each pilgrimage had a different outcome and a very different feel.

Walsingham was my first experience of pilgrimage and often feels like coming home, as it is so familiar, but it is also very holy and special. However, my last experience was not quite the others as this time I was a priest, and yet Walsingham has not embraced women's ministry, so although I was made as welcome as ever, I was expected to take a back seat and not to fulfil any priestly role while I was there. This didn't make me angry but sad, sad that a place which has been a definite part of my formation rejects the outcome of that nurturing and growth, a place where I learnt that as Christians we should trust God and be led by his spirit seems to have been led in a different way to myself. I know first-hand that we do not all think the same on the ordination of women to the priesthood, and now to be bishops

My dad was a member of forward in faith and my brother still attends a forward in faith church. The painful truth is that we do not now worship together. And yet actually we get on really well, we understand that there are differences but we still manage to put that aside for the love we have for each other and for the Love of God, who is big enough to hold us all, however we come to him and at whatever point we are on our Christian journey.

At my father's funeral there was a real metaphor for the church that could be, for first there were over 400 people, but there were Methodist clergy and Anglican clergy, and Roman catholic clergy, and women priests and men Priests, and a forward in faith bishop and two bishops who were not forward in faith, and the youngest person there was my friend's daughter Lucy who was just two weeks old and the oldest was Tacoma a congregation member who was 104, and there were gay people and straight people, and coloured people and white people and French people and trans gender people, and they all came together putting aside all their differences to say goodbye to their friend,

As a church even when we disagree we need to put aside those differences to focus on those things we do agree on

We need to look for the good in others, in what we can share, in how we can agree sometimes to disagree. We do not always get along, and we do not always agree but we do all Love God and more importantly we are all loved by GOD.

God loves even those we don't, God loves us in all our brokenness and he loves others in their brokenness too. God loves, the drunk, the drug addict, the prostitute, the gang leader, and all of those with who we would rather not love or even see or acknowledge. I have to remind myself of that as I skuttle past the homeless guy or am short with the drunk on the doorstep or when I stop to speak to the grandson from round the back who may or may not be a high as a kite. Because where GOD loves we are called to love too, to accept, to treat gently and kindly and to reach out and care for them all.

Amen

Annette



Churchwardens' Corner

Developments at All Saints

At the PCC meeting on 14 March, I put forward a simple proposal in which I offered to try and use my 18 years experience as CEO of Sands (the stillbirth and neonatal death charity) to help develop the services, resources and facilities of All Saints. I said that I wanted to meet as many people as possible within the PCC, the congregation and the wider Parish.

To date, I have met with 40 people and there are many others that I would still like to meet throughout June and July. To all those that I have already met I want to say simply thank you for making me feel so welcome.

I have had many fascinating conversations and realised that I am on a very steep learning curve. Together with the regular conversations and meetings that I have had with Annette, I am starting to get a clearer idea of what we need to do to grow.

In my meeting and my subsequent phone conversations with Gabby Parikh (the Diocesan Parish Giving Officer) she emphasised that our challenge is to identify those needs in the Parish that we believe we can more fully serve by developing our services and resources.

Over the coming months, my fellow new churchwarden Graham and I will do our best to keep you in touch with those developments in this regular column, on our website and during the Notices at the Sunday Family Communion Service.

Saturday 2nd June

That is the date for the next Garden Working Party which takes place from 10.00 – 1.00. There is much to do especially as there is a rumour circulating though the hamlet of New Eltham that Joe, Gardener No 2, is no longer going to be able to commit the time that he and Evelyn, No 1, have so unselfishly given over many years. Apparently he will still come to the regular first Saturday of the month working party mornings, so if you come along then you can find out for yourself whether this rumour is true or perhaps just a scurrilous bit of propaganda put out by the ruthlessly ambitious and Machiavellian Gardener No 3?

Thank you to our existing sponsors and to our new sponsor

Without the generous and committed support of our current sponsors, The Village Barbers and C. J. Reilly Funeral Services, we could not provide this magazine free of charge. I am delighted to welcome Ann Taylor and her café ***Munch*** as another sponsor. As a regular customer who loves good food, I have absolutely no hesitation in recommending them to you. Ann's only failing is that when I mentioned I had been nominated to become churchwarden she burst out laughing! Apparently the mention of churchwarden immediately triggers for her the image of "Dad's Army" and "don't panic!"

Neal – Gardener No 3.

Diary Dates for June 2018

Saturday 2nd	10.00-12.00	Parish Office
Sunday 3rd	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 6th	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 7th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th	10.00 am 12.30 pm	Holy Communion & Sunday School Baptism of Malachi, Aoife, Nula-Rose McGuinness
Wednesday 13th	10.30-12.00 6.30 pm	Fair Trade Cafe Evening Prayer
Thursday 14th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 18th	10.00 am	Family Communion
Wednesday 20th	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 21st	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	10.00 am 12.00 noon	Holy Communion Baptism of Jessica Cordell
Wednesday 27th	10.30 -12.00 6.30 pm	Fair Trade Cafe Evening Prayer
Thursday 28th	11.00 am	Holy Communion

Please check the weekly news sheet for any change

Parish Pump

Baptisms.

27th May, Sonny.

Funerals

4th May, Jessie Smith

100 Club.

The winner of the May draw was Rita Mather.

Quiz Results.

The April Quiz prize of £16.50 was won by an anonymous entrant, on behalf of the roof repair fund, whose entry was picked from the correct entries received.

Monthly Charity.

This month we are raising money for the London Air Ambulance. Please place your donations in the wall safe by the main entrance, or support the Fair Trade Café on Wednesdays. Thank you for your support.

Special Events

The weather was perfect for two momentous occasions over the weekend of 19th and 20th May.

The first was Annette's 50th birthday party held in the vicarage garden on a glorious spring afternoon. A hog roast, salads and vegetarian options were on offer along with a plentiful supply of wine, bubbles and soft drinks.

Family, friends and members of the congregation joined in the celebrations.

Thanks to Annette and David for hosting this wonderful party.

The other party was, of course, the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan.

St. Georges Chapel at Windsor Castle was packed with 600 invited guests and several hundred outside. Again the weather was glorious, the bride beautiful and the groom handsome in his uniform. We wish them well in their life together.

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Churches Together in New Eltham (currently a co-operative committee of members of the Methodist Church and All Saints) staged its Walk of Witness starting at 10 am on Good Friday. This annual event starts by the bus stop at Clare Corner.



The walk then proceeds down Footscray Road collecting additional walkers on the way, stopping at Wybourne School, outside the Co-op and opposite the Post Office, with readings and hymns at each stopping point.



The walk ends at the Methodist Church followed by refreshments, usually including traditional hot cross buns, followed by a joint service.

A Sioux Indian Prayer

O, Great Spirit

Whose voice I hear in the winds,
And whose breath gives life to all the world,
hear me, I am small and weak, I need your strength and wisdom.

Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes
ever behold the red and purple sunset.

Make my hands respect the things I have
made and my ears sharp to hear your voice.

Make me wise so that I may understand the
things you have taught my people.

Let me learn the lessons you have hidden
in every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater than my
brother, but to fight my greatest enemy - myself.

Make me always ready to come to you with
clean hands and straight eyes.

So when life fades, as the fading sunset,
my spirit may come to you without shame.

Answers to the May Quiz sheet

Seven-Letter Alphabet Quiz

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| A) Annual calendar containing important dates and statistics. | Almanac |
| B) The state of being a slave or feudal serf. | Bondage |
| C) A state of peaceful happiness or satisfaction. | Content |
| D) A thick triangular muscle covering the shoulder joint and using the arm away from the body. | Deltoid |
| E) Any of the four substances regarded as the fundamental constituents of the world in ancient or medieval philosophy. | Element |
| F) A codeword representing the letter 'F' in radio communication or a ballroom dance. | Foxtrot |
| G) A person or thing of enormous size and strength. | Goliath |
| H) Poisonous plant of the nightshade family. | Hemlock/Henbane |
| I) Recent medical graduates receiving supervised training in a hospital. | Interns |
| J) A small grey headed crow noted for its inquisitiveness | Jackdaw |
| K) Part of a finger at a joint where the bone is nearest to the surface. | Knuckle |
| L) A large marine crustacean. | Lobster |
| M) A large impressive house. | Mansion |
| N) Fail to give proper care or attention to. | Neglect |
| O) A person holding a position of authority especially in the armed services. | Officer |
| P) A basket especially one of a pair carried by a beast of burden. | Pannier |
| Q) Members of a Christian movement devoted to peaceful principles and known as the Society of Friends. | Quakers |
| R) A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape wars, persecution and natural disaster. | Refugee |
| S) A sudden attack of illness usually as a result of a stroke or epileptic fit. | Seizure |
| T) A small breed of dog. | Terrier |
| U) Raised to a higher standard or rank. | Upgrade |
| V) Green with grass or other vegetation. | Verdant |
| W) Small active songbird especially living in trees or bushes. | Warbler/Wagtail |
| X) Trademark of a synthetic drug used to beat obesity. | Xenical |
| Y) Young well paid professionals working in the City. | Yuppies |
| Z) Scientific study of animals. | Zoology |

From the Archives – *snippets from the June magazine of 1938, price twopence.*

BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR SENIOR CHURCH SCHOOLS

The Bishop of Woolwich, who is Chairman of the Diocesan Appeal for Senior Church Schools, asks us to insert the following:—

“By the time this appears in print, most of you will have heard from the pulpit the Bishop of Southwark’s Pastoral Letter, urging all Church people to rally to the support of our Church Schools. Next year, as you probably know, the school-leaving age will be raised to 15, and by 1940 the elementary Schools throughout the country will be graded as either “Junior Schools” (for children under 11), or “Senior Schools” (For children from 11 to 15 years).

We in the Southwark diocese have at present 157 Church Day Schools and by 1940 nearly all of these will be graded as “Junior Schools.” So if the Church is not to lose her children after the age of 11, something very vigorous must be done immediately to provide “Senior Schools” for them.

The Bishop of Southwark wants to see at least twenty “Senior” Church Day Schools established in various parts of the Diocese, to accommodate some 6,000 children over 11 years. It will cost about £320,000 to erect new buildings for these Schools, or to modify and equip existing buildings. The Government have offered to contribute three-quarters of this sum, providing the Church will guarantee the remaining quarter. It is an offer which will not be repeated, and it is a case of now or never.

The Bishop is accordingly launching an energetic campaign to collect the £80,000 which represents the Church’s share of the cost. He already has sums at his disposal (including promises) amounting to some £33,000, This leaves a balance of about £47,000 to be raised from the Diocese by voluntary subscription.

The “Church Logbook” for June 1978 records:

We obtained a New Notice Board for the grounds. It is made with moveable lettering and shatterproof doors. A big improvement

Note: With the current interest in intergenerational fairness, were the baby boomers lucky to get an extra year in school before starting work at 15, or are today’s generation unfortunate in having to stay in school until 18 before they can start earning?

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