

All Saints Magazine



May 2017

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

We stand at the beginning of May facing many challenges as a church community. We need to build up our funds again after spending on the roof and the organ; we need to come together as a church community enclosing all our members old and new; we need to look at different ways of working.

We really need to look at where and how we contribute to church life. There are a myriad of things which need to be done in order to make church life run smoothly and it is only right and proper that we share in these things.

As we look to the next few months we have so many things to look forward to:

our International bring and share lunch on Pentecost;

the nine days of prayer preceding this, using the “thine kingdom come” material, promoted by the Archbishop;

the opportunity to meet our new Bishop of Woolwich, Karowei, and celebrate the confirmation of our brothers and sisters.

we have stalls booked at CANE for the 6th May and the 8th July, both to be part of our community and to raise any funds we can – if you could help for an hour on either of these days let me know;

we have safeguarding training here at All Saints on 17th June;

and hope to have afternoon tea for those with relatives in our memorial garden on 18th June – again if you can help with these events let me know.

As I have said there is much coming up and many things we can all do to build up our common life, not least of which is to keep all of us here at All Saints in your prayers day by day.

Amen

Annette

Compassionate Hearts

Many of us are aware of the presence of hate, fear, bigotry and anger in our society – and see a growing lack of compassion, not least for those who some perceive ‘don’t belong’. We might even be aware of the way these feelings can begin to fill our own hearts. It’s not always a virtue that’s easy to express – or cultivate.

If you sense that we need to be more compassionate towards each other, and realise you need to develop a more compassionate heart then you might be interested in a new online, ecumenical Spiritual Association that, with episcopal approval and support, is in formation. It’s called *Companions of the Compassionate Hearts of Jesus and Mary (CCHJM)* and it seeks to enable members (*Companions*) to express compassion by nurturing this virtue.

Compassion lies at the heart of all the world’s great religions and forms an essential aspect of the Christian Faith. As the well-known writer and theologian, Henri Nouwen, wrote: *‘When Jesus was moved to compassion, the source of all life trembled, the ground of all love burst open and the abyss of God’s immense, inexhaustible and unfathomable love revealed itself.’* * Compassion is not the same as feeling sorry for people but is an active being-alongside. And it all begins with having self-compassion.

The *Aim* of the Association is to provide a means whereby people can join together in developing a compassionate heart for the sake of the world and its *Purpose* is to encourage and nurture compassion in the hearts and lives of *Companions*. *Companions* adopt a simple *Rule*. They seek to:

to spend time each day in the presence of Compassionate Heart of Jesus;
express compassion in a practical way;
make a compassion *Examen* (reflection) each day;
recognise the value of the Sacrament of Confession in seeking to fulfil the psalmist’s plea: *‘Make me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.’*

If you don’t feel you can take on this Rule but would like to be connected, it’s possible to become an *Associate*. Associates accept the Aims and Purpose of the Association and promise to seek ways of fostering compassion in their hearts and living out of that charism. They will also receive *Compassion Quarterly*, the publication of the online Association.

It doesn’t cost anything to join (except to work on being a compassionate person!) and there aren’t any meetings to attend. You can find out more from the website: www.cchjm.org where there’s a simple form to complete if you wish to ask questions or join, together with prayers and reflections and articles about compassion that might be of interest. You can also follow us on *Twitter*: #cchjm123 or join our *Facebook Page*: <https://www.facebook.com/cchjm/?ref=bookmarks>.

Rev J. F. Friendship

* ‘*Compassion – A Reflection on the Christian Life*’. DLT. 2008

Christian Aid Week – 14th to 20th May 2017

We've been there for refugees since 1945. We won't turn our backs now.

It's better to die in a refugee camp than to die in a war. To risk your children's lives in a plastic dinghy. And to leave everything they know behind.

When the alternative is terror, bombs, bullets, almost anything is better.

This is the terrible choice facing tens of millions of people worldwide fleeing conflict and disaster, making dangerous journeys in search of safety.

Christian Aid Week was set up 60 years ago to support our work with refugees in Europe following Second World War.

Let's act again now, to help relieve the suffering and build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Nejebar's story

Nejebar doesn't have a safe place to call home.

Nejebar fled Afghanistan with her family after the Taliban threatened to kill her husband, Noor, who was a teacher. It wasn't an idle threat - the Taliban first blinded, then murdered, another member of their family.

"The last days and weeks in Afghanistan were the hardest", says Noor.

"When I went to work, my heart was beating harder. I didn't know if my family were going to be alive when I got back"

Nejebar's family are stuck in Greece

When the family arrived at the refugee camp in Greece, they thought they would only stay for 10 days. But they've been there six months now and there's no end in sight.

The only protection they have against the wind and rain is their tent. There's no school for their children. Five-year-old Sudai, their youngest, is ill, but Nejebar and Noor don't know what's wrong with him because they can't communicate with the camp's doctor, who is Greek.

Nejebar's hope for the future

Nejebar is the rock at the centre of the family, holding them together throughout all this uncertainty. She has even welcomed Fairadoon and Farzah into the family, two brothers who don't know where their parents are, or if they're even alive.

"We still have some hope for all our children's future", says Nejebar. "We only want a peaceful life. We want our children to go to school. The most important thing is our children".

All Saints Church have raised over £1,000 each year for the last three years. We hope to carry on raising significant amounts of money for such a good cause.

Volunteers to deliver leaflets are always welcome, and anyone able to help with the door-to-door collection needs to let Simon know early, as collectors have to be authorised.

Please join us for the bring and share lunch in the Hall, after the service on Thursday 18th May.

Diary Dates for May 2017

Thursday 4th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 6th	10.00 -12.00	Parish Office
	10.00 - 2.00	stall at CANE table sale
Sunday 7th	10.00 am	Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Woolwich followed by coffee plus refreshments
Tuesday 9th	8.00 pm	Deanery Synod at Holy Trinity
Wednesday 10th	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
Thursday 11th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 14th	10.00 am	Holy Communion (beginning of Christian Aid week)
Thursday 18th	11.00 am	Holy Communion followed by bring and share lunch for Christian Aid
Sunday 21st	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 23rd	8.00 pm	Archdeacons visitation service at the Cathedral (for Churchwardens, PCC members and synod reps)
Wednesday 24th	10.30-12.00	Fair Trade Café
Thursday 25th	ASCENSION DAY	
	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	7.30 pm	Holy Communion at St. John's (Eltham High St)
Thursday 25th May to Sunday 4th June		– Thy Kingdom Come – Prayers events
Sunday 28th	10.00 am	Holy Communion with baptism of Nyah

Please check the weekly news sheet for any change

Parish Pump

Baptisms

2nd April, Louie Fletcher.

9th April, Eric Alan Jennings.

Funeral

7th April, Jean Lapidge.

100 Club

The 100 Club prize in April was won by Eda Comb.

Quiz Results

The March Quiz prize of £13.50 was won by Beryl Garson, whose entry was picked 'from the hat' from the correct entries received.

Archdeacons Visitation Service

This is an annual service at Southwark Cathedral during which Churchwardens, Deputies, Synod and PCC Members are officially sworn into office. If you enjoy being in a massive church, full of people singing their hearts out praising God, you won't want to miss this uplifting experience.

Monthly Charity

This month we are raising money for Christian Aid. Suggestions for charities to support for the rest of the year would be welcome. Please place your donations in the wall safe by the main entrance. Thank you.

Future Events (please put these dates in your diary)

Sunday 4th June – Pentecost – Followed by International Lunch – Bring and share

Saturday 10th June – Quiz Evening

Saturday 17th June – Safeguarding training in Church 2-5 pm

Sunday 18th June – Afternoon Tea – for the community with special emphasis on those whose relatives are in our memorial garden (Jo Cox event).

Saturday 24th June – Family Fun Day

Friday 7th July – Sun 9th July – Sponsored Bible reading in Church for 36 hours

Saturday 8th July – CANE Summer fete (We have a stall)

Friday 1st September – Vicarage Garden Party.

Annual Parochial Council Meeting update

For those that missed the meeting on St. Georges Day, after the service, will be delighted to know that All Saints is able to function for another year.

This has nothing to do with the financial situation, despite the £11,800 roof expenses last year and the £21,000 cost to repair the organ this year. It is because legally the Church must have two Churchwardens to continue and, despite their other commitments, two people signed up in time.

Those standing down from the PCC were re-elected as were the Deanery Synod Reps. and the representatives to all the other bodies the Church is involved with.

Fortunately we have some new stewards and helpers on the tea/coffe rota, to replace those who have passed on or moved away, but there is plenty of room for more help.

The Plural Poem

We'll begin with box, and the plural is boxes;
But the plural of ox should be oxen not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
But the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen.
If I spoke of my foot and showed you my feet,
When I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
If the singular is this, and the plural is these,
Why shouldn't the plural of kiss be kesse?
Then one may be that, and three would be those
Yet the plural of hat would never be hose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren,
So plurals in English, I think you'll agree,
Are indeed very tricky—singularly.

Answers to the April Quiz sheet

FIND THE POP GROUP NAMES

The pop groups hidden in the following two paragraphs may be split over words or by punctuation. They do not have to be capitalised but must be five letters or more. The order of the answers is not important. For groups with 'The' at the beginning it is not important whether this is present except when 'The' is needed to make it five letters or more.

This quiz idea came to me at **St James's Park** sitting on a bench. I was resting and watching **the tourists** go by. Then it was a short walk to HMV Oxford Street. Once there a staff member called Les **came over** and I asked him where I could find a monthly publication called '**The Beat**'. **Les** directed me to the correct section. There was a good article in it about **Showaddywaddy's** version of 'Three **steps** to heaven'. I also needed a Doctor **Who** DVD, 'The **Genesis** of the Daleks' starring Tom Baker and Elisabeth **Sladen**. It was time to eat. I headed for **the Farmers Club 7** minutes' walk away and had a **cream** of tomato soup with **bread** and then lamb cutlets. It had been a great day and a complimentary **Buck's Fizz** topped it all.

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|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. The Jam | 2. James | 3. Sparks |
| 4. The tourists | 5. Cameo | 6. The Beat |
| 7. The Beatles | 8. Showaddywaddy | 9. Steps |
| 10. The Who | 11. Genesis | 12. Slade |
| 13. The Farm | 14. S Club 7 | 15. Cream |
| 16. Bread | 17. Bucks Fiz | 18. ZZ Top |

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

ROGATIONTIDE OPEN AIR PROCESSION

There will be an Open Air Procession on Wednesday, May 5th, leaving the church at 8 p.m. We hope to arrange for the Orpington Town Silver Band. We are anxious to make this a strong Procession of Witness and appeal to all to join in and support us. We hope, weather permitting, to visit the newest part of the parish in Domonic Drive.

Considering the very inclement weather we had on Good Friday, our Procession was wonderfully well supported, and showed real enthusiasm, and we look forward to a successful effort on May 5th.

SPECIAL CORONATION SERVICES

A Special Service has been commended for general use by the Archbishops for Sunday evening, May 9th. Evensong will be said at 5.45 p.m., and Special Service will be held at 6.30 p.m.

On Coronation Day, Wednesday, May 12th, there will be Holy Communion at 6.45 and 7.30 a.m.

On Sunday, May 9th, at 3.15 p.m., there will be a United Service, in which all the Eltham Churches will take part, at the Odeon Cinema. The Address will be given by the Rev. F. H. Gillingham, Rector of St. Margaret's, Lee.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Council met on Tuesday, March 30th. The following elections were made:—

Appointments to Ruri-Decanal Committees were: Religious Education, Miss Chalk; Moral Welfare Work, Mrs Lawson; Missionary, Miss Macdonald.

There is nothing recorded in the "Church Logbook" for May 1977.

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