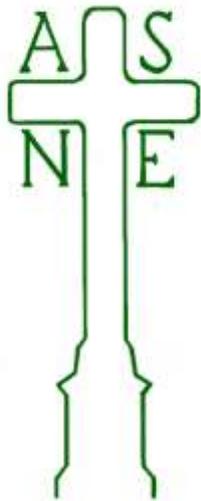


All Saints Magazine



November 2013

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

I once again am going to remind you that in these hard pressed financial times your thoughts and prayers are needed for those who are feeling the squeeze. The news tells us that we have made some growth but it doesn't feel like it from here. Many are still facing unemployment and austerity cuts. More families than ever before are having to bite the bullet and use the foodbanks just to get by. The cost of the gas and electricity has blown sky high, which is tough for us all but those whose incomes remain the same whatever are going to feel this the most.

As a church it can be hard to see where we might be able to help those in need in our society and what we can do to stand alongside those who are feeling the pinch at this time

The first thing we can do is pray. For prayer does indeed change lives. God hears and answers our prayers. It does not mean he can magic up a lottery win, but that he can ease things just a little sometimes, or open our eyes to a different way of managing or being.

The next thing we can do is to lead by example. Encouraging sharing amongst ourselves and our neighbours. Living good lives without the need always to have the next gadget, the next piece of technology or the latest model of car.

Using our skills to teach younger generations how to live less disposable lives. Helping them to make do & mend. Helping and teaching them basic DIY skills or cookery skills. As the older generation many of you have a lifetime of experience in stretching your cloth, and making the budget last. Pass that on, offer you help and advice.

Focusing on those things which do not cost a penny but make the world go round. Love, friendship, kindness, helpfulness, faith and hope.

November sees a lot of folk commence the big spend that has become the Christmas shopping and it is up to us to show that a good keeping of Christmas is not about how much you have spent on each other but who you are with and how you love each other and the world around you. Let us share what we have, love those we can and pray for all at this time of need.

Prayer for the current financial situation

Lord God, we live in disturbing days:
across the world,
prices rise,
debts increase,
markets are in turmoil,
jobs are taken away,
and fragile security is under threat.

Loving God, meet us in our fear and hear our prayer:
be a tower of strength amidst the shifting sands,
and a light in the darkness;
help us receive your gift of peace,
and fix our hearts where true joys are to be found,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God Bless
Annette

FAIRER SHARES RESULTS

The Diocese has now completed our parish assessment, based on the triennial "fairer shares" incomes survey the congregation completed in February. Our assessment category has not changed, however the following extract from the diocesan finance officer explains the increase.

"At the 9th November meeting the Diocesan budget for 2014 will be presented to Diocesan Synod for approval. It anticipates that £16.71 million will be requested from parishes in Fairer Shares assessments. This represents a 1% increase over the 2013 budget assessment of £16.54 million, and is consistent with the proposed 1% increase in clergy stipends, which is the largest item of expenditure in the diocesan budget.

Although the proposed increase is limited to a 1% increase over the 2013 budget this leads to a larger percentage increase for a 'no-change' parish. The review of the Archdeaconries of Wandsworth and Southwark has resulted in changes in the number of people in our congregations and the relative wealth of our parishes. As a result of this, in order to achieve a 1% increase overall it is necessary to increase the Fairer Shares assessment for an average, no-change parish by approximately 3¾%."

The Diocese assessment of our parish potential for direct giving for 2014, based on our survey, is £51,750.

To meet the Diocesan Budget requires 59.56% of that, £30,822.

However we are allowed a "phasing in" adjustment of £7,939, leaving an assessment of £22,883 to find.

So from January 2014 our payments will rise from £2121.50 per month to £2270.00, an increase of £148.50 per month. Based on our electoral roll of around 80 this works out to just under an extra £2 per person per month or an extra 50p per person per week, just to maintain our current funding position. We understand that not everyone can make this extra commitment, so like the fairer shares, it is hoped that some will be able to contribute more to subsidise others, as we at All Saints are being subsidised by other Churches in the diocese.

There are other ways of raising the extra; preferably by encouraging more people to attend church; for those recently joined to consider our planned giving envelope schemes, and for those who pay tax to consider gift aiding their donations.

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Diocesan Quota; the Fairer Shares scheme, or increasing your contributions.

Bob Avery, Treasurer.

Diary Dates for November 2013

Saturday 2nd	11.00 am	Parish Office
Sunday 3rd	All Saints' Day 10.00 am	Holy Communion followed by bring and share lunch in hall
Wednesday 6th	8.00 pm	PCC Meeting
Thursday 7th	11.00 pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 10th	Remembrance Sunday 10.00 am 12.30 pm 4.00 pm	Holy Communion Followed by act of remembrance at 10.55 Baptism of Buddy Beau Pierson All Souls Service of recollection
Thursday 14th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 17th	10.00 am	Family Communion
Thursday 21st	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 27th	10.30 - 12.00	Fairtrade café
Thursday 28th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 1st December	10.00 am 12.00 am 4.00 pm	Holy Communion Baptism Christingle service

Please note: Fairtrade Café for 13th November is cancelled due to staff shortage.
Please see weekly news sheets for amendments/additions to the above.

Christingle



*All Saints Church
Bercta Road
December 1st 4.00pm*

Parish Pump

The Michaelmas Fair on 28th September was a great success, raising a final total of £1,155.35 for much needed Church Funds.

The Harvest Lunch on 6th October was a well attended celebration and, although not intended as a fund raiser, a surplus of £143.20 was made for the Falconer Trust – the October monthly charity.

Our monthly charity for November is Crisis, cash donations can be put in the wall safe by the front door of the Church.

The fledgling Children's Choir took part in an Indonesian Concert on Saturday 19th October. Their singing and choice of music was well received and the Indonesian Embassy has donated £160 for their efforts.

The 100 Club for November was won by Sam French.

Congratulations to Ruth Barcoleskin who has been selected by the Walt Disney Company as one of their VoluntEARS, for an 8 day global service project to Ecuador, almost following in the footsteps of her nephew George. Ruth leaves on the 9th November, we wish her and her projects well.

Following sudden illness, our long standing printer, Ken Martyn, has felt unable to continue producing our magazine. Unable to find a quick replacement, it was thought the magazine would have to be suspended. However as we now have the equipment to do it ourselves, and the adverts have been paid for, this short version has been produced. Please submit articles for December, via the Vicar or Editors so we can get back to normal. Meanwhile we wish Ken a speedy recovery.

Baptisms

Please pray for all who have been baptised and for all those with baptism services coming up.

6th October Albie & Cameron Kennard

13th October Poppy Woodward

10th November Buddy Beau Pierson

Lord, as we gather together in this church, we ask your blessing on all who are newly baptised into your family. Hold them in your arms and bless them. Shine your light on the path before them and let them always feel your loving presence as they travel along the paths of life. Amen.

From the Archives – snippets from the November magazine of 1933, price twopence.

OUR OLD PULPIT

Our old pulpit has found a home at St. Francis Mission Church, West Wickham. The Vicar and Church Officers were delighted to have it. They had no pulpit, and it is good to know our pulpit is once again in use.

ORDER

“These things write I unto thee that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the House of God.”

These are St. Paul’s words of guidance to Timothy “his son,” at the conclusion of an instruction regarding his ministry.

It is evident that there *is* some way in which Christians ought to behave in Church; it is owing to the dignity and sanctity of the Church (building, service, ministry and Spirit) that certain behaviour “ought” to be observed. First of all is the attitude in prayer: it is dreadful to see strong men, who pride themselves on their fitness, squatting or lounging when they should be kneeling; it revolts one’s sense of decency and reverence; and displays a complete disregard of the worship which ought to be shewn to the Almighty. Daniel “kneeled upon his knees three times a day and gave thanks before his God” (VI, 10); Our Lord “kneeled down and prayed” (Lu, XXII, 41); St. Stephen “kneeled down” (Acts VII, 60), and St. Paul says “I bow my knees unto the Father” (Eph. III, 14). None of us can do better than Daniel, Jesus, St. Stephen and St. Paul.

GIFT DAY

The Gift Day in connection with the Patronal Festival will be on Friday, November 3rd. Gifts may be brought to Church from 7.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m., and may be earmarked for Building Fund, Clergy Fund, or any other fund, according to the wishes of the giver.

The “Church Logbook” for November 1973 records

November 1st. Bishop of Southwark at All Saints for confirmation and pontifical high mass, followed by the dedication of Mervyn Stockwood House for elderly people.

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