

# ***Saints Alive!***

***The parish magazine of  
All Saints Church, Kings Heath***



**May  
2023**



**£1**  
***(suggested donation)***

# *From the vicarage*

Dear friends and neighbours,

We have a King. In his coronation at the beginning of this month various objects symbolised values and priorities: an orb topped with a cross, like a very posh Christingle, represented the world, vulnerable under humans' clumsy power. The King held it in a gloved hand, reminding him that power should be wielded gently. At least we do know that this King cares about ecology and our relationship with creation. As in many cultures, a rod, or staff or stick – in this case called a sceptre – represents power, too. A blunted sword represented justice, blunted to remind the King how justice should be applied mercifully. The jewels clouded by imperial theft, the shimmering gold and silver beyond price, are ambiguous to say the least, but we would wait a long time for perfection. History is impossibly complex. Communities have to make signs, symbols and markers to help us find purchase and take a step forward together through the messy history we are making.

Whatever our views of monarchy, or of our particular monarch, we are duty-bound to pray for all who lead. Then, following local elections and a coronation, whatever our feeling of empowerment or frustration in this peculiar democracy, the values we live by are very much in our hands and hearts, for us to evolve and reflect on and live out.

It is more than 20 years since the All Saints PCC crafted and adopted our Statement of Values, offering a particular, local expression of our Christian and Anglican identity. After revisiting those values and reflecting carefully on them, the PCC has revised the Values Statement and now publishes our new expression on the website. Some well-meaning terminology had begun to sound passive-aggressive. Some things intended to express inclusion were having the opposite effect. Here is our new Values Statement on the opposite page. We hope it expresses sincere aspiration, without self-congratulation. We live by God's grace and in his/her love.

I have often said that a healthy church is one where someone very sad and someone very happy can be comfortable in each other's company. It has been a time of sadness for my family as I write between Mum's death and her funeral. However we express our values in words, I give deep thanks for the values you embody in the way you are upholding us in our loss. When I have looked up from the altar these few weeks, I have thought very gladly: 'If I am to be sad, these are the people I want to be sad among.'

Thank you for the light touch with which you all care for us. You embody Christian values beyond price.

*David*

A reminder that you can sign up for the regular All Saints newsletter here:

<https://landing.mailerlite.com/webforms/landing/o7a2q4>

# All Saints Values

"The Kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed which someone took and sowed in the garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." (Luke 13:19)



## **The Roots:** *The source of our life*

All Saints Church is a local community of the world-wide Anglican Communion, a part of the Body of Christ on earth. We exist because of the love of God shown to us in Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of love, justice, grace and peace he proclaimed. We are growing and developing in faith, sustained by the Holy Spirit.

## **The Trunk:** *The worshipping community*

We recognise that worship and care for community go hand in hand. Through worship, study and reflection we intend to nurture our individual and corporate spiritual life to form a community so shaped around Christ that we cannot help but be open to all.

We worship together as companions from all ages and backgrounds. We meet to celebrate the Eucharist and also creatively use other forms of worship, drawing on our Anglican heritage with flexibility and openness. So rooted, we explore the treasures of art, science, music and other cultures, expressing our faith in gender-rich language. Through preaching and other ways of learning, we study the Bible, address current concerns, and in discussion and prayer we shape our attitudes to public and personal morality, encouraging one another to live out our faith in everyday life.

We recognise that the work and service of Christ belongs to everyone. Clergy and lay people share in different kinds of leadership, affirming the collegiality of ministry whatever our gender. As the Hebrew tradition teaches, children and young people, older people and refugees bring particular richness to our common life and draw the best out of us. We seek to support one another, helping each person to realise their gifts. We expect a healthy church to reflect the diversity of the neighbourhood it serves.

## **The Branches:** *Relating locally and globally*

Our prominent High Street buildings and the ministry of All Saints' companies are signs of our joy in expressing the love of God for everyone. We seek to **serve the local community**, directly through our own organisations and indirectly by supporting and praying for other caring groups. We are attentive to world-wide needs, politics and environmental issues, thinking globally and acting locally as we work towards **sustainable living**.

We aspire to embody the compassion of Jesus, **cherishing human relationships**. As a Church of England Parish Church, we take seriously our calling to offer opportunity for all to receive in Church God's blessing on their most precious relationship. Rejoicing in human diversity, we uphold the gift of life long faithfulness in marriage; we celebrate God's blessing of all life-giving, faithful relationships across the whole spectrum of sexuality; we celebrate God's grace in new beginnings, including the marriage of people who have experienced divorce. We challenge abuse in any relationship and strive to create a church community whose deepest impulse is to safeguard the vulnerable. We will ensure the safety and protection of children and vulnerable adults throughout the life of All Saints.

We try to use and invest our **time, money and abilities** responsibly so as to care for the earth and her climate, to relieve suffering, to confront injustice and to help others, both locally and globally. We seek equitable relationships of mutual trust and learning. We hold our buildings and land in trust as assets for the whole neighbourhood.

As we confidently commend the Gospel in our **daily life of work, home and leisure**, we want to help build a more gracious society. In our search for truth we enjoy relationship with Christians of other denominations, people of other faiths and all neighbours of good will. We see God's Spirit at work in all creation, especially in human creativity in arts and sciences, through which our humanity is deepened, enlarged, fed and challenged. We expect to learn about God from everyone we meet, especially through our differences.

**The future:** Conscious of ever-changing patterns of life around us, we ask God to keep us alert and to lead us into new expressions of worship, ministry and service.



# ***Dying matters!***

How often do you think about dying? Is it a topic that weighs heavily on your mind? Do you think that it won't happen for a long time yet? Or is it such an awful thought that you just won't think about it?

I have been thinking a lot about end of life and dying recently. I have tentatively been looking into a different career path, and end of life care is one of the possibilities. As part of my job as a musician, I have had the great privilege of going into care homes and hospitals playing music – partly to entertain residents, but also to give them solace and calmness. I would have to say that, out of all of the work I do, I find this the most rewarding.

In 2018 the Orchestra of the Swan, a professional orchestra based in Stratford-upon-Avon which both Philip and I work for, gave players an opportunity to study with a company called JoCo training (please do look them up). It was an intensive course in 'Music in Care Practitioners' (NB this is different from being qualified as a music therapist, which it takes many years to train as). We studied at The Lawns nursing home, just outside Worcester, where we were welcomed and looked after so wonderfully. It was an amazing home, which specialises in end of life care, and was run by the most suitably-named matron called Joy! She really did radiate joy and gave the home a real feeling of celebrating life, not death.

This course has stuck in the back of my mind for a while, and I have finally gone back to studying after a break of over 30 years! The course that I have just finished is an NCFE Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education, Level 2 End of Life Care. It has been absolutely fascinating, quite challenging, made me sad and tearful, but also grateful that there is good legislation in the UK to help everyone have a good death, or as good a death as they can.

As part of my studies, I was made aware of Dying Matters. I certainly was not aware that there is a 'Dying Matters Awareness Week' held every May, the next week being 8-14 May. Dying Matters is Hospice UK's flagship national campaign. Working in partnership with grassroots communities around the UK, it aims to get people talking and sharing stories openly about dying and grief, to reduce the associated stress, stigma and social isolation.

On their website (just put 'Dying Matters' into your search engine), they give suggestions and ideas for conversation, help and advice. You may remember that at All Saints we held a 'grief café' a few years ago. This was particularly helpful to me as my mum has died only a few weeks before; also, I had harboured issues about my dad's death over 25 years previously.

As a Musicians' Union member, I have had the opportunity to attend some TUC meetings and be part of the women's committee. One of the topics that the women's committee had a big hand in helping to bring to Parliament's attention is the awful treatment that some workers face if they find out they have a terminal illness. The charter called 'Dying to work' includes: *'Pressing for additional employment protection for terminally ill workers who need greater protection from heartless employers who utilise a loophole in the law to dismiss the dying due to their illness. Every person battling terminal conditions deserves the choice of how to spend their final months.'*

An example of this is: *'Union member Jacci's job had only been saved when her union threatened to publicly expose the firm. She said: "I was actually astounded about what HR asked. It was all about capability, capability, capability – no concern for me as their employee and no apparent care that I was dying."*

Write a Will week is normally held in January each year, but that doesn't mean that you have to wait until next January to make a will. Also, have you thought about:

- Sorting out a lasting power of attorney?
- An advance decision/advance directive document?
- Writing a statement of wishes and preferences?

Oh my goodness! The last thing I wanted to do is make you feel depressed or gloomy. I have found studying this subject fascinating and I am certainly intending to study further. It has really made me think about what I need to do **now** to help my family and friends know what I want for my future.

Please be assured that British legislation seeks to give every patient parity whether living or dying and gives them dignity in dying.

**Martha Ann Brookes**

## **All Saints Tea Cake and Music**

**Join Us on The First Thursday of Each  
Month for Tea, Coffee, Biscuits or  
Cakes**

**In the South Vestry of All Saints  
Church Kings Heath**

**Company, Warmth, and a sing a long for those who want  
2.30 pm to 4pm - Free**



# ***From the PCC***

Since the last issue of *Saints Alive!*, which included all the reports from the various organisations in the church in advance of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), there has been one Standing Committee meeting on 18 April and of course the APCM itself on 23 April.

At the Standing Committee meeting, the discussion included the following which may be of interest to readers:

## **Finance:**

Expenditure: Our treasurer has provided an update on the financial position of the church that expenditure to the end of March 2023 was circa £36K. Claiming of tax is in progress and some diocesan fees are yet to be paid. The budget was slightly higher than actual as it included a contingency to cover possible organist fees. Two utility bills in March have had an impact. Some insurance money is due back from Churches Together in Kings Heath in respect of the recent Good Friday Walk of Witness. A donation of £250 has been paid to the Malawi Cyclone Fund.

Income: The treasurer reported that income was circa £71K but it did include a bequest of £39K. The account was effectively therefore currently in deficit to the amount of circa £3K. He commented that the first few months of the year are generally the 'heaviest' in terms of expenditure.

Regular giving: The treasurer reported that the average for the past 12 months was some £546/month up on the previous 12 months, and marginally lower than the average last month.

Overall net worth: Overall, at this time, the church balance net worth had increased to circa £217K, but as reported previously did include the as yet unrepaid long-term loan of circa £170K to the Development Company.

Church finances leaflet: The treasurer recommended a further announcement to the congregation to maximise its effectiveness in encouraging members to increase their giving to compensate for the rise in fuel costs and other cost increases anticipated in 2023.

## **Safeguarding:**

New safeguarding co-ordinator: Our vicar was pleased to report that the new co-ordinator to succeed Mary Miles, Eira Jones, has agreed to take up the post and has had a handover meeting with Mary. Eira's scope will be to cover the activities of the whole site with assistance from Angela, our parish administrator.

New organisations: The vicar reported that the safeguarding requirements were being rolled out in the newly-formed twice-weekly Warm Place lunches, the monthly Sunday after-service refreshments, and for the Sunday evening worship leaders.

Pantomime: The vicar said that safeguarding at the *Dick Whittington* pantomime held recently had been dealt with by the appointment of a dedicated chaperone who was present at all the performances.

Incidents: The vicar reported that there had been no incidents since the last Standing Committee meeting in March 2023.

**Governance:**

**PCC chair:** The vicar is currently acting as a temporary vice chair of the PCC but it is understood that he has approached a member of the congregation regarding taking on the role of permanent PCC Lay Vice Chair and is awaiting a response.

**Directors:** All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC), All Saints Community Projects (ASCP) and the Robin Centre are all looking for additional directors to join their boards and bring new ideas to the table. If any readers are interested then please get in touch with our vicar in the first place.

**Capital Grant application:** The vicar reported at the Standing Committee meeting that the application for the 'Youth Investment Fund' grant had completed the first stage. The Development Company is endeavouring to progress the work required for the amendment of the proposals to include CircusMASH to enable a revised planning application to be made for the grant application to be completed. Time is of the essence so that the summer deadline for the grant is achieved.

**Electrical work:** Following a recent electrical inspection of the church, our churchwarden confirmed that all the work required to satisfy the church insurance has been completed. There are one or two other items to be completed mainly associated with electrical sockets not working which are being resolved particularly as they affect the positioning of the newly-purchased card reader machine for making donations to the church.

**Air entering heating system:** There has been no further investigation to date due to Easter activities and work associated with preparation for the APCM. However, a meeting has recently been held with the diocesan building surveyor who advised that his team can assist with recommending suitable heating contractors when the time comes in early summer when the heating can be switched off and the system emptied.

**Quinquennial inspection plan:** The meeting referred to above with the diocesan building surveyor was primarily called to investigate how the diocese can assist with recommending suitable firms/contractors both for the initial structural inspection and for undertaking the necessary repairs to the exterior stonework on the church building. This is in progress; the next stage is for a structural inspection to be undertaken.

**Churchwarden:** Our current churchwarden, Chris Pearce, has completed approaching five years as a Churchwarden almost single-handedly and done an excellent job. The five years were completed at the recently held APCM; further detail is given below.

**Warm Project Place:** Margaret Healey-Pollett and her team of helpers continue to run a Warm Place in the South Vestry referred to as 'Community Lunch'. She has been providing soup and fresh bread, other refreshments and some entertainment for anyone looking for a warm place, some companionship and sustenance.

**All Saints Café:** The Café has been open again for food and drink for a couple of weeks now. It is uncertain if this is a permanent arrangement or temporary but is very welcome. The current situation is that ASCDC are considering proposals from two commercial tenants, keeping in mind the need for church access to the space and toilets out of hours.

**Church records storage:** It is understood that a person from the Kings Heath History Society has shown an interest in assisting with this. Any readers who feel that they would also be interested, bearing in mind that some of the records go back to 1860 when the first phase of the church was inaugurated, please contact the vicar in the first place.

**Village Square gardening:** The Village Square gardeners continue to meet on a Wednesday morning, generally between 10am and 1pm, to maintain the various flowerbeds and shrubs, and when necessary clear fallen leaves and dead branches from the various trees in the Square. The Square is coming alive again after the winter dormancy and spring flowers are providing welcome colour to the Square. This includes the young trees, including flowering cherries, which were donated from the Commonwealth Games site which are providing additional colour with their impressive blossom. Visitors may be able to spot these planted in various locations around the Square.

The gardeners are always looking for additional help and anyone with a small amount of gardening experience is welcome to come along for an hour or two. Tools are available although your own gloves are recommended. A drinks break is usually held mid-morning.

The proceedings of the APCM are reported below:

**Introduction:** The annual meeting was held in the Church on Sunday 23 April after the 10am service. It was well attended with some 36 attendees.

The agenda for the meeting and the reports from the various groups and organisations numbering some 29 had previously been published in the April edition of *Saints Alive!* and so were available for all to read.

The meeting commenced with a prayer given by the vicar, followed by the customary apologies, and review and approval of the minutes of the previous APCM held in 2022.

**Electoral roll:** This was followed by an update from the electoral roll officer that the number of people on the roll had recently increased to 191, two more than in the report; an increase on the previous year of 15, although two of our well-known members had sadly died during the past year.

**Elections:** This was followed by the very welcome election of various officers and individuals including re-election of two members to the Deanery Synod (Jim and Margaret Andrew) and re-election of one person to the PCC (Des Workman) and another new member to the PCC (Sheila Workman). Fiona Briggs, our youngest and probably most exuberant member for three years, decided to stand down due to new family commitments and was thanked very much for all her service and enthusiastic input over the period. This means that the current number of persons on the PCC is eighteen, comprising nine clergy and co-opted members and nine lay members. Based on the current numbers on the electoral roll a maximum of twelve lay members are permitted so there is scope for an additional three members should any reader feel so inclined.

**Finance:** Our treasurer, Steve Brittle, then gave an overview of the state of church finances at the end of 2022 as provided in detail in his report in the April magazine. Essentially, at the close of 2022, the church had almost broken even although there was a slight deficit due to the need to finance the repairs to the stonework on the tower. He would welcome regular donors considering increasing their giving for 2023 as greater expenditure was expected due to a number of factors, including increase cost of power. He explained also that donors who do not already do so consider transferring



their regular giving to the Parish Giving Scheme run by the Worcester diocese as this automatically determined the Charity Commission tax relief on the church’s behalf and saved the finance team a great deal of work.

**Churchwarden:** As indicated above, our churchwarden, Chris Pearce, after five years almost single-handed decided to retire. Unfortunately a successor, or preferably two which is usually the case to split the responsibility, has not yet been identified or volunteered so in the interim it is not sure how churchwarden duties will be fulfilled effectively.

It is actually a legal requirement to have at least one churchwarden so it is important that this is resolved and anyone who feels that this is an experience they would like to have would be very welcome and should contact the vicar in the first place. Chris Pearce has said that he will be happy to provide any training required and there are also several former churchwardens who are familiar with what is required and will be happy to assist or just give an indication of what might be required. It might be worth noting that the role of churchwarden is actually more of a management role as in principle the churchwarden is responsible for making sure that things happen rather than doing them his or herself so a canny manager with good persuasive people skills, particularly experienced in dealing mainly with volunteers, could probably finish up with doing very little in practice.

**Overview of reports:** The remainder of the meeting was spent by the vicar, as he focused on all the various reports provided by the various groups and organisations expressing his thanks for all the hard work that everyone involved contributes to this very rich environment, commenting on the salient aspect of each and fielding any comments as they arose.




The meeting finished after about 75 minutes with a prayer.

**Next meetings:** These are scheduled as follows:

- SC meetings: 20 June, 17 October, 12 December 2023; 20 February, 16 April 2024.
- PCC meetings: 16 May, 18 July, 19 September, 21 November 2023; 16 January, 19 March 2024.
- APCM: April 2024.

**Tony Cocks**  
**PCC Secretary**

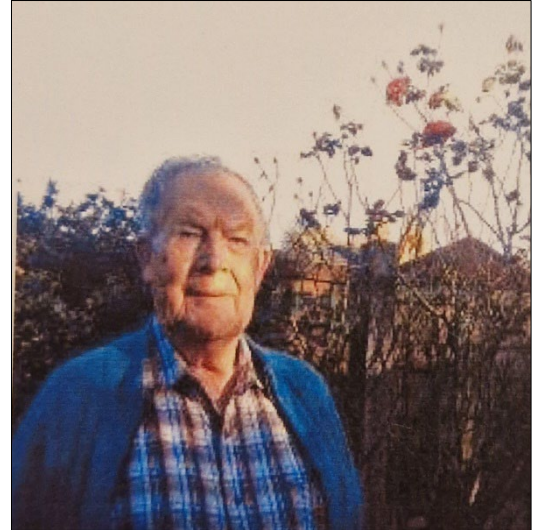
## From the registers

	<b>We congratulate:</b> Katie Birse and Ernest Appleby, married at All Saints on 15 April
	<b>We remember:</b> Carol Sewell, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 13 April Mike Cheesbrough, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 17 April Des Wright, whose funeral took place at Redditch Crematorium on 20 April
	<b>We remember:</b> Michael Murray, whose ashes were buried in the Memorial Garden on 18 April

# Remembering Mike Cheesbrough

In April the funeral took place in church of Mike Cheesbrough, a long-time servant of All Saints. Mike was a Reader here for more than 30 years – in his last sermon before retirement and becoming Reader Emeritus on the feast of Candlemas in 2017, Mike told us that ‘for over 40 years, I have thought of All Saints as my temple. I came into the church on my way home from the maternity hospital, where my wife had given birth to our daughter, Ruth. Getting off the bus, I noticed the church door open. I came in to pray and give thanks to God for the good things he had given me. I thank him that he still does so much for me. Later I came to believe that God had called me to work here for him. This is my temple. Here I always feel close to God.’

Music was chosen to reflect various aspects of Mike’s life, interests and faith, including ‘I know that my Redeemer liveth’ from Handel’s *Messiah* and the hymns *Now the green blade riseth*, *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* and *Eternal Father, strong to save*. (As a stalwart of the drama group here, we hope that Mike would forgive and indeed appreciate how the latter two have been ‘adapted’ for recent productions by its successor troupe, All Saints Players...) A choir also gathered to sing an anthem, ‘God so loved the world’ from John Stainer’s *The Crucifixion*, and a setting by Heathcote Statham of the Nunc dimittis to close the service.



In addition to David’s address and some words from Mike’s family, John Parkin gathered together reflections from past and present members of the congregation, and we are grateful for him sending us this All Saints tribute to share below:

*As someone who had a long history at All Saints, there are many people with a lot of memories of Mike.*

*Mine are of him climbing ladders to place drapes on the screen in a way which would have given health and safety specialists a heart attack. And I recall him holding the Pascal candle while I drilled the pilot holes for the wounds and the spike.*

*As well as my memories there are many who recall his great kindness to them at Morning Prayer, something that he took very seriously – to the point of asking someone who rang him at home when he was alone and ill, though still able to pray for others, if he could ring them back when he had finished the office.*

*There are those who recall with feeling a trip to Scarborough to see and visit the church where Mike spent his formative years, which included being confirmed by William Temple who was soon to become Archbishop of Canterbury. There are many who will remember his love of cricket – perhaps the word passion is not too strong – and conversations about it with Sheila Walsingham. Test matches were of secondary importance though; there is a memory of him during a wedding telling the organist the score in a Test match, but that what really mattered was how Yorkshire were doing in the county championship.*

*As the vergers he was closely involved with weddings and funerals and there are churchwardens who recall with gratitude his advice on liturgy and ornament. Organists remember his reassuring presence at weddings and funerals, and I recall with gratitude his support during my first steps in funeral ministry.*

*As a Reader from his background he was careful, perhaps passionate, about good worship; one could tell when a rat had died as Mike used its death as a reason to burn incense to disguise the smell. He kept new churchwardens on track. There are also those who remember Mike's measured reading, of Psalm 22 from the pulpit during the stripping of the altars on Maundy Thursday, for he had been a leading light in the drama group. But it is his faith, nurtured by an early experience of a lifeboat rescue, which defines him as a devout Christian and which is his greatest gift to All Saints.*

*John Wilkinson writes: 'I was Vicar of All Saints from 1996 to 2008. There were many people who helped and worked for the Christian community here, in prayer and reflection, in developing its life, in work within the church building, and opening its surround with new buildings and gardens. All this time Mike Cheesbrough was a good and thoughtful worker in practical matters. He was regular and reliable and did necessary practical things inside the church, for example using the ladders to get high enough to make the cross on the screen appropriate for the time of the church year. But Mike was also one who understood the church, advised me and advised us. In all this he shared with us his deep Christian commitment to God. May God now give him his peace, his light and his joy.'*

## **Coffee is back!**

***Other beverages are available...***



After the long pandemic break, coffee is being served again from the South Vestry after the Sunday 10.00 am service ☺. Until September 2023, coffee will be served on the first Sunday of the month (after All Age Worship) with the intention of it becoming a weekly event from September onwards. There is a great team of volunteers who are waiting to serve you to a Fairtrade cuppa and a biscuit to enjoy while you mingle and chat. 'Free from' biscuits and oat milk are offered too. Donations are welcome (if possible, but not obligatory) to cover the cost of the consumable items. As small change is not carried by all (in our post-pandemic cashless world) you may prefer to donate a sum to cover for a few weeks ahead.

We offer our sincere gratitude to Sheila Workman who has organised Saturday and Sunday coffee for 20 years at All Saints. The new coffee organisers are Lindsey and Ted Hammond. More volunteers are welcome and no experience is required. Being on the coffee team is a good way to say hello to everyone as you serve coffee and to provide an important facet of our community life. If you are interested, please make contact in church or email [lindseyhammond21@icloud.com](mailto:lindseyhammond21@icloud.com).

**Lindsey and Ted Hammond**



## ***Christian Aid***

All Saints has a proud tradition of supporting Christian Aid. This year's Christian Aid Week is from 14 to 20 May. To support their campaign, the service on Sunday 14 May will be Christian Aid Sunday. We will distribute 1,200 envelopes to local roads to encourage donations which can be handed in to the church office or the Café. There will be envelopes in church from Sunday 14 May through to the 21st. We will hold a beetle drive with supper on Saturday 27 May from 6pm until 8pm – fun for all the family (see ad opposite); later in the year we will hold a Christian Aid quiz.

Every campaign Christian Aid focuses on one part of its work; this year it is on their work in Malawi: helping women to grow crops with earning potential. Jen Bishop is doing everything she can to earn money for her children's education; Jen says: 'My heart longs to see our children finish school – these dreams are important to me.'

She's growing a miracle crop: pigeon peas. But food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in Malawi in the last 12 months; and harvests are falling due to the climate crisis.

# Jen's heartbreaking choice

No mother should have to choose which child to send to school, but Jen is paying the cost of the global crisis.



# Help dreams come true





Christian Aid Week 14-20 May

**No** mother should have to choose which child to send to school. But Jen is paying the cost of the global crisis.

Help Jen turn peas into prospects.  
Donate now at [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)



Christian Aid Week 14-20 May

Christian Aid is a member of ACT Alliance. Eng and Wales charity no. 1103895. Scotland charity no. SC039430. Company no. 3571222. Christian Aid Ireland: MC0019796. NI Charity no. NI07001. Charity no. 101450. Company no. 3571222. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Please exclusively or solely licensed from responsible managers/owners. © Christian Aid January 2023 Photo: Christian Aid/Adam Szymanski (2019/3). Your donations will help families living poverty and injustice around the world.

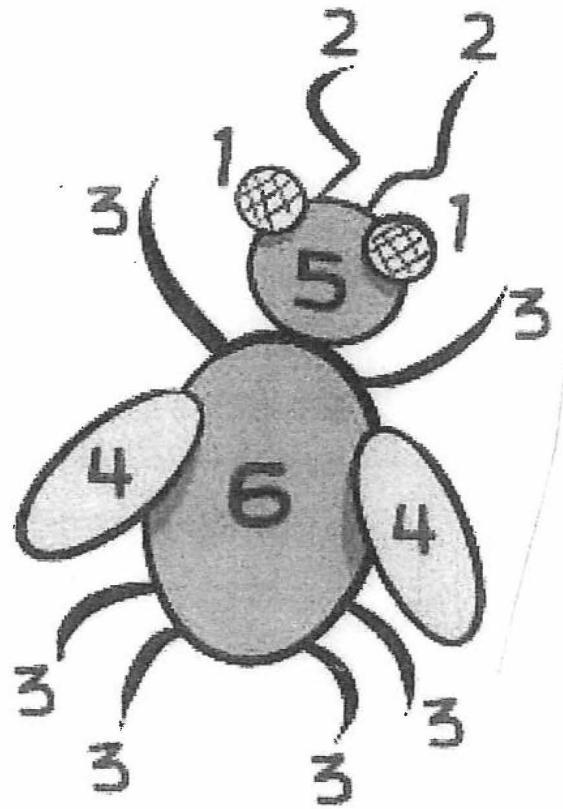
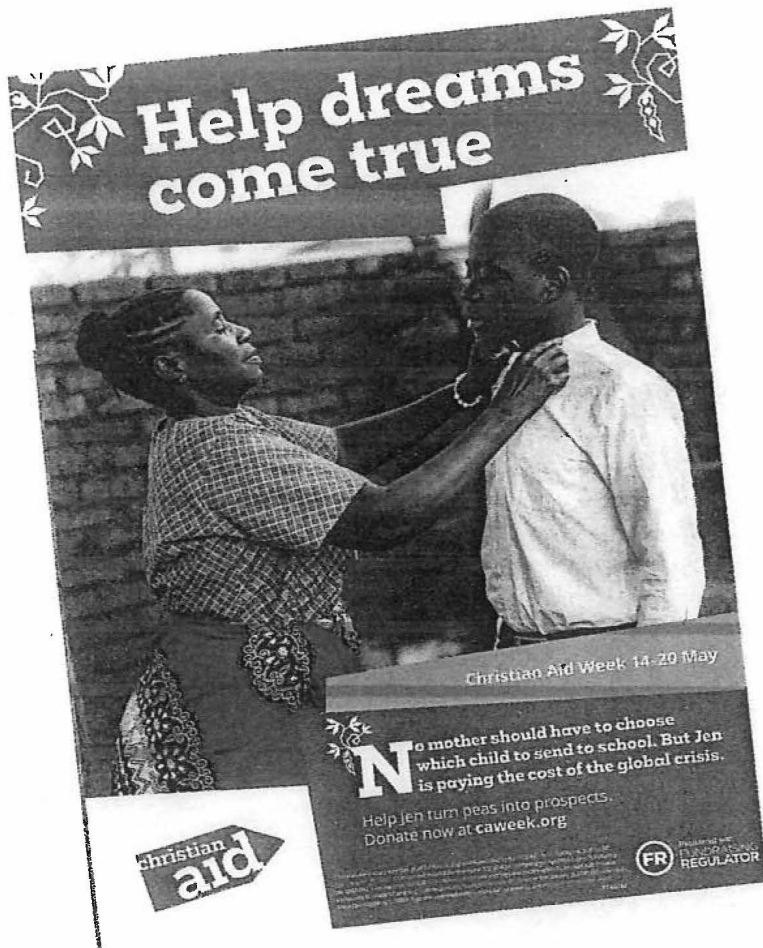
FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

You can help Jen turn her peas into prospects. Please donate during Christian Aid week; distribute some envelopes (delivery only); support and attend the beetle drive and later in the year the quiz. Let's keep All Saints at the forefront of supporting Christian Aid. Remember to Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25% for free. Your Christian Aid Week gifts could help more farmers like Jen secure a fair price for their crops and make their children's dreams come true.

# Beetle Drive for Christian Aid

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 6pm

In the Church Hall



Doors Open 5.45, Beetle Drive starts at 6pm, Supper at 7pm

Welcome Glass of Fruity Beetle Punch (no Beetles have been harmed in making the fruit punch) you can also Bring your own Drinks and soft drinks will be on sale.

- Tickets £10 Adults, Children £5, Family Ticket £25 ( 2+2+)
- On sale from Pam Coley, Des Workman, Daniel or Sarah Wilson
- Lots of Fun For Everyone-Help Christian Aid
- Supper Choice of Baked Potato with Chilli or Vegetarian Lasagne with Salad (Please inform the ticket seller of your choice)



# Music matters

*It seems to have become our custom in the May magazine to include some short musical quizzes to test your knowledge, so here goes – answers next month!*

Here are the first two lines from various hymns with all the odd-numbered words removed – can you fill in the gaps?

\_\_\_ hail \_\_\_ pow'r \_\_\_ Jesus' \_\_\_, / let \_\_\_ prostrate \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_ things \_\_\_ and \_\_\_, / all \_\_\_ great \_\_\_ small,  
\_\_\_ new \_\_\_ I \_\_\_ unto \_\_\_: / that \_\_\_ love \_\_\_ another \_\_\_ I \_\_\_ loved \_\_\_,  
\_\_\_ of \_\_\_ dawn \_\_\_ the \_\_\_, / the \_\_\_ has \_\_\_ up, \_\_\_ night \_\_\_ behind.  
\_\_\_ Lord \_\_\_ Father \_\_\_ mankind, / \_\_\_ our \_\_\_ ways!  
\_\_\_, hear \_\_\_ prayer \_\_\_ offer: / \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ that \_\_\_ shall \_\_\_,  
\_\_\_ heav'n \_\_\_ came, \_\_\_ babe, / \_\_\_ our \_\_\_, your \_\_\_ veiled;  
\_\_\_, the \_\_\_ sing, / \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ new-born \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_, the \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ and \_\_\_, / I \_\_\_ heard \_\_\_ people \_\_\_.  
\_\_\_ divine, \_\_\_ loves \_\_\_, / joy \_\_\_ heav'n, \_\_\_ earth \_\_\_ down,  
\_\_\_ me \_\_\_ channel \_\_\_ your \_\_\_. / Where \_\_\_ is \_\_\_, let \_\_\_ bring \_\_\_ love.  
\_\_\_ the \_\_\_ blade \_\_\_ from \_\_\_ buried \_\_\_, / wheat \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ dark \_\_\_ many \_\_\_ has \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_ come, \_\_\_ come, \_\_\_, / and \_\_\_ captive \_\_\_,  
\_\_\_ for \_\_\_ thousand \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ / my \_\_\_ Redeemer's \_\_\_,  
\_\_\_, my \_\_\_, the \_\_\_ of \_\_\_! / To \_\_\_ feet \_\_\_ tribute \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_ be \_\_\_ glory, \_\_\_, conqu'ring \_\_\_, / endless \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ thou \_\_\_ death \_\_\_ won;  
\_\_\_ God \_\_\_ the \_\_\_! great \_\_\_ he \_\_\_ done; / \_\_\_ loved \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ that \_\_\_ gave \_\_\_ his \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_ three \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ are; / \_\_\_ gifts \_\_\_ traverse \_\_\_;  
\_\_\_ a \_\_\_ we \_\_\_ in \_\_\_, / all \_\_\_ sins \_\_\_ griefs \_\_\_ bear!  
\_\_\_ choirs \_\_\_ new \_\_\_, / your \_\_\_ notes \_\_\_,

(If you would like a clue, these are listed in the order in which they appear in the main section of our hymnbook, ie in alphabetical order.)

What is the odd one out of each of these groups of three, and why? (Getting my apologies in early, some of these are quite tricky and possibly slightly spurious/potentially annoying... with others, definitely don't overthink!)

The tunes **Aberystwyth** (*Jesu, lover of my soul*); **Kingsfold** (*I heard the voice of Jesus say*); **Rockingham** (*When I survey the wondrous cross*).

*All are welcome (Let us build a house); All for Jesus!; All people that on earth do dwell.*

The tunes for *An upper room; I cannot tell; Inspired by love and anger.*

*Author of life divine; Let all the world in every corner sing; My song is love unknown.*

The Baroque composers Johann Sebastian Bach; George Frideric Handel; Antonio Vivaldi.

*Be thou my vision; Lord of all hopefulness; Soul of my Saviour.*

The words of *Faithful vigil ended; I lift my eyes to the quiet hills; Tell out, my soul.*

*It came upon the midnight clear; Jesus Christ is risen today; O come, all ye faithful.*

The tunes **London New** (*God moves in a mysterious way*); **Winchester Old** (*While shepherds watched*); **Winchester New** (*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*).

*Majesty, worship his majesty; Make way, make way; Meekness and majesty.*

Happy quizzing...!

**Ben Noakes**  
**Music Co-ordinator**

## ***Get involved...!***

We are always pleased to receive contributions for the magazine – including reports and reflections, *Getting to know you* interviews, and hearing about activity across the church campus and beyond.

If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas for articles or would like to submit something for inclusion in a future issue, please contact **Ben & Clare Noakes, Editors**:

**E: [magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org) T: 07967 730156 / 07929 593097**

# The Jive Aces

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# Laughter lines

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mum, look what I found!' the boy called out, turning the leaf over and over. 'What is it, dear?' asked his mother. With awe in his voice, the young boy ventured: 'I think it's Adam's underwear.'

Young Sarah finished her summer holidays and went back to school. Two days later, her teacher phoned her mother to tell her that Sarah was misbehaving. 'Wait a minute!' protested her mum. 'I had her here for weeks and I never once called **you** when she misbehaved!'

I have enough money to last me the rest of my life, unless I buy something.

Politician: 'I dream of a better tomorrow, where chickens can cross the road and not have their motives questioned.'

The topic for the class was palindromes, which are of course words or sentences that are the same read forward and backward. 'What is the first thing Adam said to Eve?' was asked, with the expected answer: 'Madam, I'm Adam.' One student had a better reply: 'Wow.'

A man walked into a minister's study and confessed: 'I think I'm addicted to Twitter.' The minister looked at him and replied: 'Sorry, I don't follow you.'

It was the first day of school. As the new head made her rounds, she heard a terrible commotion coming from one of the classrooms. She rushed in and spotted one boy, taller than the others, who seemed to be making the most noise. She seized the lad, dragged him to the hall, and despite his protests told him to wait there until he was excused. Returning to the classroom, the head restored order and lectured the class about the importance of good behaviour. 'Now,' she said, 'are there any questions?' One girl stood up timidly and asked: 'Please may we have our teacher back now?'

The email of the species is more deadly than the mail.

A farmer was trying hard to fill in an extensive and complicated railway company claim sheet for a cow that had been killed on the track. Finally, he came down to the very last item: 'Disposition of the carcass.' After puzzling over the question for some time, he wrote: 'Kind and gentle'.

They say cheese gives you nightmares. Ridiculous! I'm not scared of cheese.

A teacher was observing her classroom of young children while they drew. As she came to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied: 'I'm drawing God.' The teacher said gently: 'But no one knows what God looks like.' Without missing a beat, the girl replied with perfect composure: 'They will in a minute.'





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and





# High days and holy days

## **14 May (this year) – Rogation Sunday (Sunday before Ascension)**

In the Anglican Church, Rogation is celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter. Rogation means an asking of God – for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather. The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

In about 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With his decision, ‘beating the bounds’ became a Christian ceremonial.

Rogationtide arrived in England early in the 9th century and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogationtide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow. At certain points along the route – at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree – the cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation was said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At some point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for ‘beating the bounds.’ It was still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly, parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them. (Do you know yours today?)

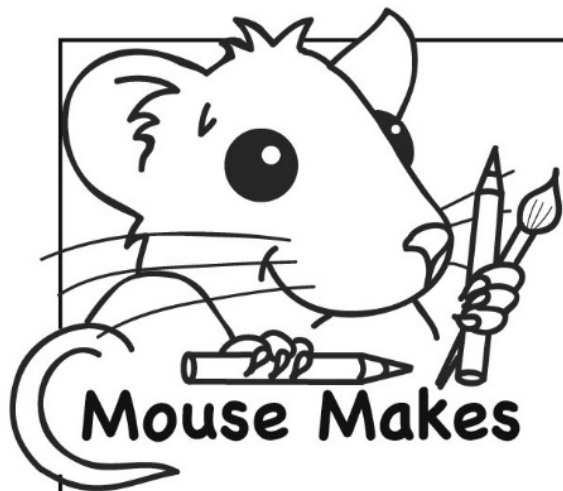
## **18 May (this year) – Ascension Day**

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection. The Gospels give us little of Christ’s teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of his disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send them – to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.

As Christmas began the story of Jesus’ life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with his return to his Father in heaven. Jesus’ last act on earth was to bless his disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: he was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day.

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and to have him look on you with love. No wonder they praised God: they knew that they would see Jesus again one day! In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

(adapted from [www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk))



**Forty days** after His resurrection Jesus appeared to the Apostles one last time. He told them that the Holy Spirit would come, then He blessed them and **ascended** into heaven.

**What did Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would give the Apostles?**

*Find the answers in the word search*



\_\_\_\_\_ to be Jesus' witnesses.  
Acts 1:8

**What did Jesus say from the Apostles?**

a \_\_\_\_\_  
Acts 1:9

*Who appeared to the Apostles?*

Two \_\_\_\_\_ and what were they dressed in? \_\_\_\_\_  
Acts 1:10

*Where was Jesus taken up to?* \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 24:51

**Where did the Apostles return to?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acts 1:12

*Where is Jesus seated?*

At the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
Mark 16:19

W G A C J S A P O S T L E S D C M P  
I A B L E S S E D H E A V E N H E R  
T T I O S M C P O W E R E T U R N A  
N H W U U J E R U S A L E M T I J Y  
E E H D S K N L O O K I N G A S O E  
S R I W O R S H I P P E D O K T Y R  
S E T Y D R I G H T H A N D E L S Y  
E D E K E F O R T Y D A Y S N L A E  
S K Y S B H N H O L Y S P I R I T R

JESUS • CHRIST • FORTY DAYS • APOSTLES • ASCENSION • TAKEN • LOOKING  
SKY • RETURN • BLESSED • WORSHIPPED • JOY • PRAYER • GOD • SAT  
GATHERED • WITNESSES • HOLY SPIRIT

# Accessing and paying for the magazine

The *Saints Alive!* magazine is available in digital form on the All Saints website at <https://allsaintschurchkh.org/about-us/publications/>, with hard copies available to pick up from the back of church each month (when it is open). The suggested donation for each issue is £1, but cost should not be a barrier to anyone in the church reading the magazine in either online or printed form. Cash donations can continue to be made via the slot at the back of church; alternatively a standing order can be set up to pay in advance for a year's-worth (10 issues) of the magazine – please see the form below – or a cheque made payable to All Saints Kings Heath PCC can be sent to the Parish Office (address is on the back page). The form gives the individual the ability for their payment to go towards one of three areas – please select the General Purpose Fund (GPF) and delete the other two. Finally, if you or someone you know would like a copy of the magazine posting out each month then please contact us as below to arrange this.

**Ben & Clare Noakes**  
Editors

[magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org)  
07967 730156 / 07929 593097

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<b>Reference:</b>	GPF (magazine)	<b>Sort code:</b>	40-11-15

If you have any problems or questions about setting this up, or the church's finances in general, please contact Steve Brittle, Treasurer on 01905 772171 or [zena\\_steveb@btinternet.com](mailto:zena_steveb@btinternet.com).

# Who's Who

## **Worship** *(for clergy see back page)*

Children's Worship Co-ordinators	Grace Storey	07813 322697
Youth Group (year 7 upwards)	Jenny Warbrick	0121 444 0260
Music Co-ordinators	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156 07929 593097

## **Church upkeep**

Vergers	Liz Haskins	c/o 0121 444 0760
	Paul Smart	c/o 0121 444 0760
Sacristan	Bernice Mattis	c/o 0121 444 0760
Altar Linen	Wendy Ross	0121 444 1423
Head Server	Tony Price	01564 824420
Electoral Roll Officer	Tony Cocks	0121 441 2945
Parish Magazine	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156 07929 593097

## **Finance team**

Treasurer	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Expenditure Officer	Vacant	
Income Officer	John Watling	c/o 0121 444 0760
Insurance & Investments	Tony Cocks	0121 441 2945
Gift Aid	Philip & Martha Ann Brookes	0121 444 5655
Envelope Giving Scheme	Tony Price	01564 824420

## **Groups, clubs and organisations**

All Saints Ramblers	Des Workman	0121 572 3553
	Christine Powell	
Badminton Club	Des Workman	0121 443 5292
	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Bible Reading Fellowship	Des Workman	0121 443 5292
Lunch Club	Elizabeth Turner	0121 604 6086
Meditation Group	Daniel Wilson	0121 449 9869
Safeguarding & Child Protection	Eira Jones	c/o 0121 444 0760
Traidcraft	Gill Parkin	0121 604 6127

**Planned giving:** All are invited to join the planned giving scheme, contributing by weekly envelope or banker's order/standing order. Taxpayers – please sign a Gift Aid declaration for reclaiming of tax and use of payroll giving if possible. Contact the Finance Team for further information.

**Parish Office:** For enquiries about baptisms, baby naming services, banns and marriages, please contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment at a vestry hour – 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 10-10:30am.

**Ministry to the sick:** Visiting the sick at home or in hospital – please inform the Ministry Team of anyone who is sick. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved and oil is kept for ministry to the sick.

**Ministry of healing:** Laying-on of hands and anointing – last Saturday in the month at 9:15am as part of Morning Prayer, occasional Sunday evenings (as announced), and at home or in hospital as requested.

**Communion of the sick:** At home or in hospital, as requested, communion is taken, monthly, to the long-term sick or housebound.

**Other ministries:** For blessing of homes, celebrations of anniversaries, thanksgiving after childbirth, confession and counsel, please contact the Ministry Team.

***Parochial Church Council (PCC)***

<b>Officers</b>	Lay Vice Chair	Secretary	Treasurer
	Vacant	Tony Cocks, 0121 441 2945	Steve Brittle, 01905 772171
<b>Members</b>	Jim Andrew	Margaret Healey-Pollett	Chris Watts
	Margaret Andrew	(Reader)	Claire Wesley (Reader)
	Martha Ann Brookes	John Parkin (Reader)	Daniel Wilson
	Philip Brookes	Chris Pearce	Sarah Wilson
	Tim Cuthbertson	Vivien Tilsley	Des Workman
	Brian Miles	David Warbrick (Vicar)	Sheila Workman

***All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC)***

Chair	Sarah Wilson	c/o 0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:office@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">office@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Projects Co-ordinator	Andy Savage	c/o 0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:andy@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">andy@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Facilities Manager	Dave Priday	07732 137772	<a href="mailto:david@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">david@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Administrator	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Hall & Room Bookings	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>

***All Saints Community Projects (ASCP)***

Chair	Mary Miles	0121 449 0851
All Saints Youth Project	Vicki Willinger	0121 443 1842

***The Robin Centre for Older People***

Centre Manager	Paula McGrath	0121 444 8111
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# Ministry Team

Vicar	David Warbrick	4 Vicarage Road, 0121 444 0260
Assistant Curate	Tariro Matsveru	c/o 0121 444 0760
Churchwardens	Vacant	
	Vacant	
Licensed Readers	Margaret Healey-Pollett	c/o 0121 444 0760
	John Parkin	0121 604 6127
	Claire Wesley	0121 444 2778
Pastoral Care Team	Juliet Bick, Becky Frall, Margaret Healey-Pollett, Tariro Matsveru, Wendy Ross, Lu Skerratt-Love, David Warbrick, Jenny Warbrick, Des Workman	0121 444 0260
Prayer Circle	(for confidential prayer requests)	<a href="mailto:parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org">parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org</a> 0121 444 0260

## Worship

***We have reopened for our Sunday services (said at 8am, sung at 10am and an evening service at 6:30pm), and 11:30am Wednesday service.***

***We will continue to provide an online order of service via the website and newsletter for those at home.***

***Up-to-date information can be found at [www.allsaintschurchkh.org](http://www.allsaintschurchkh.org) and we look forward to seeing you again soon.***

### ***All Saints Church, Kings Heath***

*2 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7RA*

*Administrator: Angela McDermott*

*Parish Office: 0121 444 0760*

*[parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org)*

*[www.allsaintschurchkh.org](http://www.allsaintschurchkh.org)*



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