

Saints Alive!

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



**In God alone my soul quietly rests,
for my hope comes from Him. Ps 62:5**

**February
2024**



£1
(suggested donation)

The Wedding Post

ALL SAINTS KINGS HEATH BIRMINGHAM

18TH JANUARY 2024

BRIAN & TARIRO WEDDING CELEBRATION



DEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Our hearts are overjoyed with the great smiles and warmth that you brought to us on this once in a lifetime experience. Celebrating our marriage with us will always remain an experience we are forever grateful. How in the crisp weather you graciously and glamorously wore your attires in a pristine way which made the optics so immaculate this honestly would have not been if you had not come through.

We are so blessed to be surrounded by a beautiful and delightful circle of friends and family that made our wedding day perfect. For the warm wishes and generous gifts we look forward to sharing many more memories with you!"

WEDDING OFFICIANTS

Marriage Officer: Revd David Warbrick
Preacher: Revd Andrew Mudharara
Director of Ceremonies: Anesu Muyambi

THE WEDDING PARTY

Best Man

Jacob Mukoja

Maid of Honour

Catherine Ngangira

Bridesmaids

Zvikomborero Jongwe
Chloe Baira
Hilda Chatizembwa

Matron of Honor

Loveness Tendai Gasa

Flower Girls

Ariel Musadavira
Elizabeth Bondokoto

Ring Bearer

Gavin Panashe Gasa

MAY THE LORD MAKE YOUR LOVE INCREASE AND OVERFLOW FOR EACH OTHER AND FOR EVERYONE ELSE, JUST AS OURS DOES FOR YOU.

ORDER OF EVENTS

- 11am** Wedding ceremony
3pm Photos, Welcome drinks and nibbles
5pm Dinner served
8pm The party starts!

Waking up to a blue sky and chilly weather was a bliss in disguise, one would be so confident that it's summer and the reeling of store roller shutters made the city busk into a form of life that had so easily gone to rest a couple of hours ago. Prayers answered for the two of us as we in different locations were getting ready for a moment in our lives that we have not lived to regret; a communion and public celebration of our love. We had no idea how the other looked with the apparel and so exquisite the fragrance, what awaited us at the church where we had invited friends and family to witness our love and commitment. Walking in a pew filled church with vibrant and bright smiling faces, singing praises and drums playing to the singing and dancing it bought about a traditional African sound across the hall with different tribes and nationalities converging and making such joyous and sweet melodies. Seeing the bride walking down the isle with some smooth sounding symphonic harmony from the groom is a rare sight and was such an intimate moment, set aside the ululation, you could hear the sincerity and deep meaning of the lyrics as the bride walked to the front of the church.

A choir that sounded so beautiful with the echoing of a somewhat sonorous piano which in a deliberate harmony merged well with the voices and congregants. The priest in his priestly grandeur conducted the ceremony with such fluidity and calm topped with an exhorting and instructive teaching from the preacher made the whole place vibrant and serene all in one space.

There was not a time that one would take off their eyes and attention at the proceedings as all in unison agreed and were actively participating. Certainly all the energy exerted needed a form of refreshment which the All Saints parishioners did so exceptionally well. Walking out of the church hall to see a host of people holding rice in their hands and throwing it at us in celebratory manner was interesting (good no one threw it so hard in our faces).

The bride braved the weather in her gown as the photoshoot took place at church and shortly before entering the reception venue where welcoming drinks were a touch of quenching the thirst in preparation of the energetic dancing that followed all round. Speeches in the venue were astounding and precise with emotion as the director of ceremonies led the proceedings. Guests had a fair share of food and drinks to each's satisfaction as the celebrations went on till midnight.

There is that brightness and warm welcome from a surprising gift from the bicycle parts collection which we received and joyously are grateful to all who blessed us.

Your understanding and compassion went above and beyond following the visa refusals and we wonder are you from Liverpool or support the team after all Liverpool has a tag line, '**You will never walk alone**'.

It comes as no surprise that there is another reception in September this year with both families and friends present. Would it not be a joy to see you there?

.....

In married bliss,

The Mukojas



Catering for the
community

WARM LUNCH MONDAYS*

Every Monday 12noon - 2.00pm

Enjoy...

A nutritious bowl of home-cooked soup or stew.
Tea or coffee and a pudding or dessert.
Vegetarian and gluten-free options available.

We offer a warm place to relax, meet others for a chat, play board games
or simply enjoy some live music. Come along to:

All Saints Community Cafe, All Saints Community Centre, All Saints
Church, 2 Vicarage Rd, King's Heath, Birmingham B14 7RA.

* Free or pay what you can

For more information:

Call: 07763 044986 between 9.00 – 12 noon

At other times, please leave a message, and one of our volunteers will get back to you.

Email: allsaintscommunitycatering@gmail.com

BE BOLD BE BIRMINGHAM

Funded by



Birmingham
City Council

A carol service to remember

Tony Cocks acted as a sidesperson at the Kings Heath Business Association's annual carol service in early December, and was so taken by the buzz it created that he felt inspired to write this short reflection. Members of the congregation will all be more or less familiar with the usual services at All Saints – on Sundays and Wednesdays; on high days and holy days; the baptisms, weddings and funerals – but as Tony noted, not very many people at the KHBA service are regulars at the church and his intention is to draw readers' attention to what is a significant service, especially with regard to drawing in people of all ages into the church who are not ordinarily there on a regular basis; a useful reminder of the importance of All Saints to the whole community.

Imagine a church in the centre of a suburb, a Village Square sprinkled with lights in front of the church, a sleigh to one side next to the Church Centre, Father Christmas in a sleigh handing out Christmas gifts to children.

It's time, it's nearly 4:30pm. Imagine everyone is gathered – young and old, families, couples and single people of all backgrounds – waiting for the moment when the Christmas lights are to be put on. The countdown: 10, 9... 1 – the Christmas lights are switched on, a cheer.

An announcement by the Kings Heath Business Association which has set up the event: 'Everyone is welcome to the carol service in the church now, and afterwards for free food and drink.' The church is ready and warm, the Central England Concert Band is playing festive Christmas melodies and well-known carols, the band seated in the front of the nave under the control of the conductor. The carol service sheets have been prepared and are ready in a box by the entrance.

After the announcement, there is a flood of people into the church, adults and children alike, numerous pushchairs, too many to count. The service sheets are handed out as fast as possible and people pile into the church, filling it to the brim; 20 minutes later all the seats are filled, people are sitting on anything available including tables at the side, some are standing at the back, all waiting now for the service to start and listening to the festive music – 280 people counted, including 70 children.

Perhaps the first time in a church building for some children and most of the people not recognised as regular visitors to the church – they only come perhaps two or three times a year. The children's area is a hive of industry, with crayoning, paper cutting and so on, some just sitting with their parents, some too young to be involved in the action.

The traditional carol service lead by our vicar David and assistant curate Tariro commences, readings telling the Advent of Jesus and the events leading up to the birth on Christmas Day, well-known carols being sung to the accompaniment of the band, a sermon and prayers.

The service ends, and food is served at the back of the church: curried chicken and rice, bolognese and pasta and a veggie option, drinks are poured – oodles of coke and lemonade, children coming back for more; and also wine and beer available.

Eventually everyone is satisfied and retires to wherever they reside, the church is cleared, it is quiet once more – in the peace, there can be seen the glint of light off the image of the crucifixion on the screen at the rear of the high altar: a moment to reflect.

A big THANK YOU



All Saints Church

for donating 141 kg from October to December 2023

In those 3 months the B30 foodbank has fulfilled 1710 vouchers, to help feed 2333 adults and 1313 children, a total of 3646 people



B30foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust's UK wide foodbank network

Contact us on info@b30.foodbank.org.uk or 07582143972

www.b30foodbank.org.uk



A prayer for LGBT+ History Month 2024

LGBT+ History Month has been celebrated every February since 2005. It was founded in 2004 following the repeal of Section 28, and created for LGBT+ people to 'claim our past – celebrate our present – create our future'. Martha Ann Brookes has sent us this prayer, which she received from our former Children and Families Minister Emily Hoe-Crook and which has been written for LGBT+ History Month 2024 by Pam Gold, co-ordinator for the Methodist LGBT+ Solidarity Circle:

Let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

We praise you creator God for creating all in your image, an image of pure love.

God of love, we pray for your forgiveness where we have fallen short of your call to mirror your love to others.

God of Love, as we prepare to celebrate LGBT+ History Month we hold before you those who bear the scars of rejection, isolation, and feelings of unworthiness.

We pray for your healing touch.

God of Love, we give thanks for all the work undertaken in "God, in love unites us." We give thanks for the courage of those from the LGBT+ community who have shared their stories, their lives, and their ministries within the Church.

We give thanks for those who have been open to change as the Church took the journey of discovery, culminating in the decision to be fully inclusive. We give you thanks for the grace shown by all.

God of love, we pray for the continuing work of the Church as we encourage all to fully embrace the diversity of our siblings.

God of all,

God for all,

God within all,

We praise you.

Amen.

Live music in the Café

There are regular live music events in the Café on Fridays between 7 and 9pm.
Entry is free, and refreshments are available from the counter.

The general pattern is as below, but is sometimes subject to change:

1st Friday of the month

2nd Friday

3rd Friday

4th Friday

5th Friday (if there is one)

Open Mic with Brumside Radio

Strings and Things

The Café Band

Voices

Oz and Bob play Blues

Music matters

Carol singing, and carol identifying...

With Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday in 2023, our annual Village Square carol singing took place on Saturday 23 December, when what we think was a record number of singers from All Saints and beyond worked their way enthusiastically through the carol booklets, as ever interspersed with a few requests from those passing by. We tried positioning ourselves in a couple of different locations, although footfall on the High Street and through the Square seemed lower than in previous years; nevertheless we were very pleased to raise £110 over 75 minutes or so, which has been donated to Birmingham Christmas Shelter and gratefully acknowledged by its trustees.

Since 1974 Birmingham Christmas Shelter has been raising funds and recruiting volunteers to provide local adults who are homeless or otherwise alone at Christmas with a free warm, safe and welcoming place to eat, shower, sleep and enjoy Christmas. Every year doors are open to their guests (typically between 50 and 150 per day, staffed by 50 volunteers) for several days and nights during the Christmas week, with food, warmth, companionship, shelter, entertainment and as many additional services as possible provided. More information about the charity can be found at <https://www.birminghamchristmasshelter.org/>.

Many thanks to all who came to sing and shake buckets (and to David for his welcome hospitality at the vicarage afterwards), and to everyone who supported our seasonal music-making this year!

In the last issue we set a quick festive brainteaser – giving readers the first lines of the last verses of 30 Advent, Christmas and Epiphany hymns as they appear in our book and asking you to name their titles. To put you out of any misery, the answers are below:

‘All glory be to God on high, and on the earth be peace’

While shepherds watched

*All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night
On Christmas night all Christians sing*

And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love

Once in royal David’s city

*By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone
Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee

Of the Father’s love begotten

*Ends of the earth, see the salvation of our God!
How lovely on the mountains*

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new

Infant holy, infant lowly

*For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old
It came upon the midnight clear*

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice

We three kings of Orient are

*Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness
Hark, the herald-angels sing*

He made me a watchman upon the city wall
Go, tell it on the mountain

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
Joy to the world*

In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted
Good King Wenceslas

*In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light
As with gladness men of old*

Journey ends! Where afar Bethlehem shines, like a star
Long ago, prophets knew

*Mine are riches, from your poverty; from your innocence, eternity
See him lying on a bed of straw*

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place
God rest you merry, gentlemen

*Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
The angel Gabriel from heaven came*

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray
O little town of Bethlehem

*Omega and Alpha he! Let the organ thunder
Unto us a boy is born*

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers
Ding dong, merrily on high

*Shout, as you journey on, songs be in ev'ry mouth
Hills of the north, rejoice*

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come rich and poor, to own him
What child is this

*Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
The first Nowell*

Then may we hope, th'angelic hosts among, to sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song
Christians, awake!

*Though an infant now we view him, he shall fill his Father's throne
Angels from the realms of glory*

Vainly we offer each humble oblation, vainly with gifts would his favour secure
Brightest and best

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
In the bleak mid-winter*

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne
Lo, he comes with clouds descending

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning
O come, all ye faithful*

What everyone wants from a service?

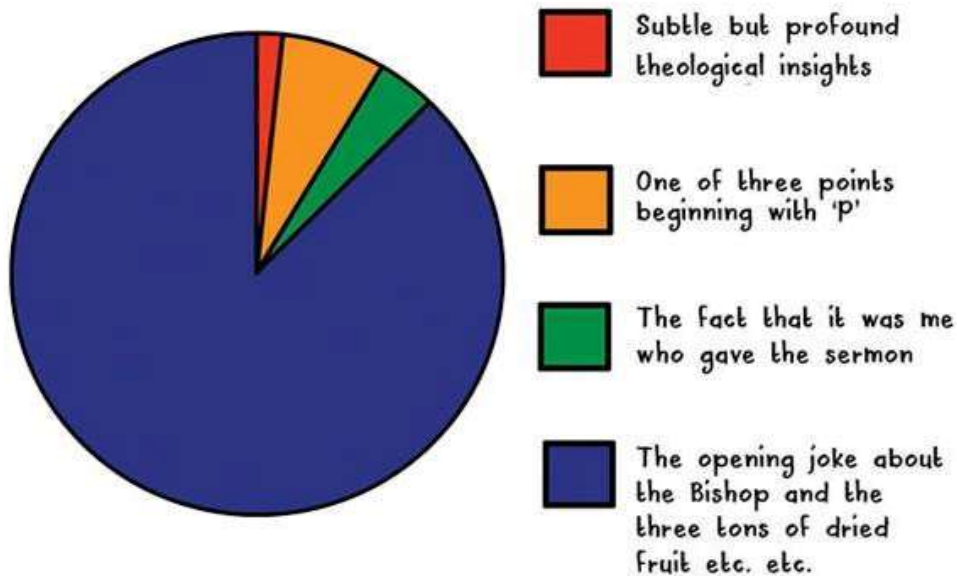
A couple of things spotted recently on Facebook, and posted (tongue in cheek, of course) without comment...

The Perfect Worship Service

After listening carefully over the past several years, we believe we have finally determined what those who attend our church really want in music. Following are items that come up most frequently whenever this topic is discussed:

- More fast songs in the opening praise time and more slow songs in the opening praise time
- More of those wonderful, lovely old hymns and less of those stupid, dead old hymns
- A longer and shorter time of praise at the beginning of the service, and a shorter and longer time at the end
- Songs to flow quickly into each other and long periods of time between songs for reflection
- More repetition of songs so they can be learned and meditated upon while singing, and less repetition of songs because it gets boring singing the same thing over and over
- More of those lovely arrangements with extra instruments and less of those showy arrangements with all those instruments
- To sing the good old songs more often and to stop singing those same old songs
- Songs to be sung in higher and lower keys
- The band to play in the middle of the platform where they can be seen, back behind the plants where they won't be a distraction, louder, softer, faster, slower, more often, and not at all

WHAT PEOPLE TAKE AWAY FROM MY SERMONS



THEOLOGYGRAMS
RICH WYLD

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.

This is *your* magazine – the broader the range of contributors and of topics covered, the more interesting it will be!

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

T: 07967 730156 / 07929 593097

Wave of Prayer

Margaret Healey-Pollett has sent us the email below from the Sabeel-Kairos organisation (<https://www.sabeel-kairos.org.uk/>). She writes: 'It contains the prayers of the Sabeel Community in Jerusalem for Thursday 1 February. Prayers for noon on Thursdays are circulated every week, so that churches around the world can join with the Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem. They inform our prayers from the heart of Palestinian suffering.' Margaret has suggested reproducing this prayer for the magazine.



Sabeel-Kairos
Taking Action for Palestine



The Wave of Prayer ministry enables local and international friends of Sabeel to pray over regional concerns on a weekly basis. Sent to Sabeel's network of supporters, the prayer is used in services around the world and during Sabeel's Thursday Communion service; as each community in its respective time zone lifts these concerns in prayer at noon every Thursday, this 'wave of prayer' washes over the world.

Sabeel Wave of Prayer - Thursday 1st February 2024



LORD hear our prayer

[Sabeel, Wave of Prayer.](#)

On Friday the 26th of January, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) delivered its ruling on the emergency measures requested by South Africa in its genocide case against Israel. The court has ordered Israel to take measures to prevent acts of genocide in Gaza, to prevent and punish incitement to genocide in Gaza, to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza, obliges Israel to take more measures to protect Palestinians, but has not ordered an immediate ceasefire.

• **God of light, whilst there are split reactions regarding the ICJ's ruling, Gaza is being bombed and millions are suffering. Lord, we pray for an increase of activism which calls for accountability concerning injustice and an immediate ceasefire. Let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul, "And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good" (2 Thessalonians 3:13).**

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

Last week, 42-year-old Lara Tannous who worked as a pharmacist at a Jerusalem hospital died from her wounds sustained by a shooting nearly three weeks ago. Amar Mansour, aged 32, was also killed during the attack. The shooters have yet to be identified, however, local sources claim that the shooting was by Israeli settlers. The Palestinian Christian community is in mourning as Tannous was a beloved and admired figure in the community.

• God of love, we come before you saddened by the loss of Tannous and Mansour. We lift up their families who are mourning, and we pray that they may feel your love during these difficult times. Lord, whilst we have little hope that injustice will be accounted for, we lift up our grievances in lament that you shall hold all preparators and enablers of injustice accountable.

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

In the past week, Khan Yunis has been a target of bombings and military operations. Many displaced Gazans who sought shelter in Khan Yunis were ordered to flee by the Israeli military, causing mass panic and adding to the hellish humanitarian conditions. Moreover, the Nasser hospital in Khan Yunis has been raided and bombed severely, causing 95% of the hospital staff to flee to Rafah, according to local sources. The complete extent of suffering in Khan Yunis is not yet known.

• God of justice, we are shaken by the few reports that have come out from Khan Yunis. Whilst it seems you are absent from the people in Gaza, we hold on to our faith that, “The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed” (Psalm 106:3). Lord, take care of your children in Gaza who are suffering so terribly, and help us advocate their cause in our daily lives.

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

On the 27th of January, marked the international day in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. This day commemorates the victims of the Holocaust, which resulted in the genocide of one third of the Jewish people, along with countless members of other minorities by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.

• Almighty God, we lament the many lives lost in the Holocaust who were victims of supremacist and racist ideologies. Help us remember and recognize the sanctity of each human life, that all people are made in your image. We pray that genocide and hatred will be cease, and that love will triumph over evil. Never again means never again for anybody. Lord, we pray for an immediate ceasefire.

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

Friends of Sabeel North America participated on the 24th of January in an interfaith event for Gaza which focused on liberation, lament, and learning. Sabeel-Kairos UK were a part of several protests in different cities in the UK calling for ceasefire and a free Palestine. All our friends abroad have demonstrated a Christian voice for Palestine in their respective contexts.

• Everlasting God, we thank you for the solidarity around the globe. We remember that “The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern” (Proverbs 29:7). Lord, increase the activism around the globe of those who are righteously standing for justice for the Palestinian people and courageously exposing how the wicked are complicit in the suffering of so many.

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

Last week, Churches around the world marked a week of ecumenical prayer for Christian unity. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to the 25th of January. In Palestine, the services occurred in the Church of the Resurrection, St. James Cathedral, Church of the Redeemer, St. George’s Cathedral, and other Churches sacred to various denominations.

• God of inclusivity, we are encouraged to see the Churches praying with one another in the spirit of ecumenism. Lord, we pray for unity which is not rooted in the interests of preserving the institution’s legitimacy and life, but a unity which can raise the voice of those unheard and rejected. Let the Churches work together with God in our hope and commitment to confront injustice and oppression in all its forms.

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

• We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayer for the countries of Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, and Tunisia. <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle>

Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

From the PCC

I wish a happy new year to all readers.

Since the last issue of *Saints Alive!*, there has been one meeting of the Standing Committee in December last and one meeting of the PCC this January. The PCC meeting in particular was very lively with an almost record number of members attending. We also welcomed one new member, Sarah Baker.

There were a number of topics discussed and a résumé of these is given below.

Finance:

Expenditure: Our treasurer reported that expenditure for the full year to the end of December 2023 was circa £146K.

Income: The treasurer reported that income for the full year to the end of December 2023 was circa £185K but it did include a bequest of circa £41K.

Regular giving: The treasurer reported that the average for the past 12 months was some £713/month more than the average a year ago and exceeds last month's average.

Overall net worth: The treasurer reported that the account at the end of the year was some £39K in credit which he was very pleased with being much more than expected.

Christmas collections: The treasurer said that the amount to be allotted to each of the three chosen charities at Christmas is currently being determined.

John Watling: John, a member of the church for many years and who has also been on the finance team as income officer for many years, has now retired from the team. David Warbrick has written a letter of thanks to John for the many years of dedicated and invaluable work that he has provided over the period to support the team.

John Watling replacement: John's retirement means that there is now a vacancy on the team which requires filling. A job description is being prepared to help facilitate this.

Blue Envelopes: it was recommended that the Blue Envelope scheme for giving should be phased out. There are now only a small number of people using the scheme and only a smaller number Gift Aid. Consideration during the transition to be given to using just small brown envelopes with the All Saints identification on.

Homeless charity: David, our vicar, said that Dave Priday, the site facilities manager, has been in contact with a charity which helps homeless people and has assisted with the help of Brumside Radio in three persons being found permanent accommodation. David said that he would like All Saints to contribute to this charity. There was general agreement to this proposal.

Safeguarding: Our safeguarding co-ordinator, Eira Jones, reported that she is currently undertaking the diocesan training and Mary Miles is assisting her in familiarising herself with how to use and how to update the parish dashboard.

DBS administrator assistance: David commented that DBS administration is very intermittent but it is important that it happens so that the All Saints position is secure. Angela, our parish administrator, does not have the capacity to fulfil this roll. Vicki Willinger, the office co-ordinator for the Youth Project, has offered to undertake this work. Angela would continue to maintain the safeguarding records.

Churchwardens: A replacement or replacements for the last churchwarden, Chris Pearce, is still being sought for the role. David explained that he has made some progress on this but more as a medium-term possibility. He did stress that there is a statutory requirement to have churchwardens in place which will be particularly important for when he goes on sabbatical for three months this May.

New PCC member: Sarah Baker, a member of the church, said that she would like to join the PCC. There was unanimous approval from the PCC to this and Sarah was welcomed by all to this new and important role. New members are always welcome as they bring in new ideas and maintain the balance of age and experience within the members to keep the church a vibrant place for all.

All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC): The team progressing the application for the Government Youth Investment Fund grant (YIF) reported that the application and the proposals are progressing well but there are some outstanding issues still being resolved. Consideration is being given as to how the construction work to complete the development can proceed without adversely affect the functioning of the site during this time. The ASCDC AGM is scheduled to take place in the church on Tuesday 27 February.

Ministry Team: It was reported that there have been no further meetings of the Ministry Team since the last PCC meeting.

Deanery Synod: It was reported that there have been no further meetings of the Deanery Synod since the last PCC meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February.

All Saints Community Projects (ASCP) – Youth Project: It was reported that a large grant which had recently been received would make a big difference to enable this important work to continue. Brenda Inman has now been elected as chair of the Youth Management Committee and Mary Miles will continue as chair of the ASCP board.

The Robin Centre: It was reported that The Robin Centre is going well and currently has 14 members. The break-even number is 11. They could do with more volunteers to assist with running the Centre. The completion of the new development which provides additional space for the Centre would be a great advantage.

All Saints Community Catering (ASCC): It was reported that at this time there is nothing specific to report on.

All Saints Community Arts (ASCA): It was reported that the complete set of new sculpted crib figures has now been presented to the congregation and dedicated during the Christmas Eve afternoon service. The creation of the figures was financed by money raised by the Crafters. It was commented that it is impressive that the Crafters have been so successful in raising so much from selling jam, chutney and knitted figures. Discussion took place regarding the old crib figures but there was no conclusive decision made. If anyone reading this would be interested in them please contact David or the Parish Office.

Wedding festival: Consideration is being given to a wedding festival to be held in the church later in the year. It would be to celebrate 163 years of love and commitment in our community since the church was first dedicated. With regard to timing, it was considered that after the return of David from his sabbatical was preferred; possibly the first Sunday in October. It would probably be a free event but with an option for people to donate as they felt appropriate.

Tea, Cake and Music (TCM): It was reported that TCM was initially very successful, getting good attendance. However, it has never really recovered after Covid. As such it has been decided not to continue with it. It would appear however that the community lunch held on a Monday is by contrast proving very popular and can have as many as 70 attendees.

Archiving: It was reported that the archiving of historic documentation currently stored on the site accumulated by former members of the church is progressing. The group led by Vivien Tilsley is at the stage where they need assistance in writing bids as the group has little experience of this.

Air entering heating system: In the absence of a churchwarden, our PCC secretary explained that this is currently on hold until after Easter when the weather is more suited to undertaking the external work required, which is to provide access to the pipework on the outside on the church. Following this, the method of the repair can be finalised and costed and completed in the summer when the heating can be switched off.

Next meetings: These are scheduled as follows:

SC meetings: 20 February, 16 April, 18 June, 15 October, 10 December 2024.

PCC meetings: 19 March, 21 May, 23 July, 17 September, 19 November 2024; 21 January 2025.

Tony Cocks
PCC Secretary

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

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

There's More To Sarehole Mill Than You Think....

**A talk at All Saints Church by Jim Andrew on
Saturday March 9th at 3pm in the Church**

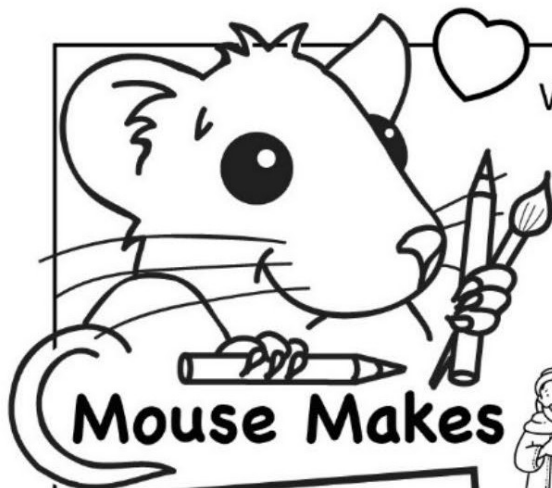


**Sarehole Mill is situated on the Ring Road between Kings Heath and
Hall Green**

A water mill is not just an interesting building, as above, but the centre piece of an industrial complex covering an area of about one mile by one and a half miles. This talk will detail the four lakes, several miles of feeders, to and from the mill, as well as the River Cole and its tributaries. Finally Jim Andrew will describe a walk round all these features and to show how much evidence of them remains in the landscape.

**Tickets Just £5 (including tea, coffee and cake) available
on the door or from the Parish Office, All Saints
Community Cafe and the Church on Sunday Mornings**

All Saints Church is situated in the Centre of Kings Heath corner of the High Street and Vicarage Road.



Mouse Makes

CONNECT THE BIBLE COUPLES

ADAM	ELIZABETH
ABRAHAM	MARY
ISAAC	HANNAH
JACOB	PRISCILLA
BOAZ	EVE
ZECHARIAH	RUTH
ELKANAH	REBEKAH
AQUILA	RACHEL
JOSEPH	SARAH

Which couple helped the Apostle Paul in his ministry?

and _____ Romans 16:3

Who were the first couple?

_____ and _____

Genesis 2:22-25

Who's wife became a pillar of salt because she disobeyed the angel's warning?



_____ Genesis 19:26

Which of Laban's daughters did Jacob love?

_____ Genesis 29:18

Who was Moses' wife?

_____ Exodus 2:21

Who married Boaz to become King David's great-grandmother and a distant relative of Jesus?

_____ Matthew 1:5



FIND THE BIBLE VERSE

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter **before** it in the alphabet.

XIBU HPE IBT
KPJOFE UPHFUIFS,
MFU OPU NBO
TFQBSBUF.

NBSL
UFO WFSTF
OJOF

DID YOU KNOW?

King Solomon had **700** wives! They were princesses of royal birth and he loved them all, but his wives caused him to turn away from God
See 1 Kings 11:1-3

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

ABRAHAM
ADAM • AQUILA
BOAZ • ELKANAH
ELIZABETH
EVE • HANNAH
ISAAC • JACOB
JOSEPH • MARY
PRISCILLA
RACHEL
REBEKAH • RUTH
SARAH
ZECHARIAH

The ASYP Big Christmas Word Quiz 2023

Lindsey and Ted Hammond send the following message, with their thanks and best wishes.

We would like to thank the All Saints community for their wonderful support with the fifth version of this annual fundraising venture.






We are delighted to report that the Word Quiz 2023 has to date raised over £1,000 for the All Saints Youth Project. From conversations over the Christmas period we know that many of you engaged with the quiz.

It was designed as fun quiz, but the main purpose was to provide the community with an additional opportunity to support the wonderful work of, and raise funds for, the Project. We are confident that both aims were realised and we plan to run a sixth quiz for Christmas 2024!

There were many more submitted entries this year than ever before, with 27 by the deadline and only 10 coming from the All Saints community. This is important because we are effectively spreading news of the great work of the project to a wider audience. All the submitted entries successfully answered at least 90% of the questions and this might help to explain the increased rate of participation.

If you enjoyed the quiz but have not yet seen the answers, these are available at www.allsaintsyouthproject.org.uk, or email tedhammond74@gmail.com. Donations can of course still be made via the website.

From the registers

	We congratulate: Hugo and Louise Caney, baptised at All Saints at Epiphany, 7 January
	We celebrate the confirmation of: Theo Cuthbert, Joseph Simmonds, Joel and Abel Regi, Marion Thomas, Sam Pinnock and Val Sharif at Birmingham Cathedral by Bishop James Longstaff on 26 November; Sam and Joseph were also baptised
	We congratulate: Brian and Tariro Mukoja, married at All Saints on 18 January
	We remember: Patricia Flynn MBE, whose funeral took place at Lodge Hill Crematorium on 8 December Janet Tilley, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 31 January
	We remember: Dorothy Jones, whose ashes were buried in the Memorial Garden on 24 January

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. 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. The church's Charity Commission Number is 1145723. 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
07967 730156 / 07929 593097

STANDING ORDER MANDATE AND BANK PAYMENT INFORMATION	
<i>(Please detach and send to your bank) or use for Internet Banking Payments</i>	
To: The Manager	
Address: _____ _____	
Postcode: _____	
Please pay to HSBC PLC, Kings Heath Birmingham Branch	
Sort Code: 40-11-15	
For the credit of:	
The PCC of Kings Heath Parish All Saints Church	
Account Number: 71801163	
the sum of £ _____ First payment on _____ / _____ /20	
and monthly / weekly thereafter on the same date until cancelled by me, or on.....	
Reference: G.P.F. V.D.F. M Garden Magazine <i>please delete the ones that do not apply</i>	
<i>Please cancel any previous mandates to this beneficiary on this account number.</i>	
Name: _____	
My Sort Code: _____ My Account Number: _____	
Signature: _____ Date: _____	

If you bank online, you will be able to use the details below to set up a standing order:

Name:	The Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church	Account no:	71801163
Reference:	GPF (magazine)	Sort code:	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.

High days and holy days

13 February (this year) – Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

Ever wonder why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting. On the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be 'shriven', or absolved from their sins, which gives us Shrove Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this.

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan. Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from *Pasquil's Palin* in 1619 runs: 'And every man and maide doe take their turne, / And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne.' Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, while salt keeps things wholesome and milk stands for purity.

14 February (this year) – Ash Wednesday: mourning our sins

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites often sinned; when they finally came to their senses, and saw their evil ways as God saw them, they could do nothing but repent in sorrow. They mourned for the damage and evil they had done. As part of this repentance, they covered their heads with ashes. For the Israelites, putting ashes on your head, and even rending your clothes, was an outward sign of their heartfelt repentance and acknowledgement of sin. In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. They heeded Joel's call to 'rend your hearts and not your garments'; Ash Wednesday became known as either the 'beginning of the fast' or 'the day of the ashes'.

The actual custom of 'ashing' was abolished at the Reformation, though the old name for the day remained. Throughout the Church of England today, receiving the mark of ashes on one's forehead is optional. Certainly, the mark of ashes on the forehead reminds people of their mortality. The late medieval custom was to burn the branches used on Palm Sunday in the previous year in order to create the ashes for today.

The collect for Ash Wednesday stresses the penitential character of the day. It encourages us with the reminder of the readiness of God to forgive us and to renew us:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(adapted from www.parishpump.co.uk)

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	Martha Ann Brookes	0121 444 5655

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 Direct Debit (Parish Giving Scheme), Standing Order or Weekly Envelope. 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. The church's Charity Commission Number is 1145723.

Parish Office: For enquiries about baptisms, baby naming services, banns and marriages, please contact the Parish Office: 9:30am-3pm Monday-Friday or via parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org.

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)

Officers	Lay Vice Chair	Secretary	Treasurer
	Martha Ann Brookes, 0121 444 5655	Tony Cocks, 0121 441 2945	Steve Brittle, 01905 772171
Members	Jim Andrew	Margaret Healey-Pollett	David Warbrick (Vicar)
	Margaret Andrew	(Reader)	Claire Wesley (Reader)
	Sarah Baker	Brian Miles	Daniel Wilson
	Philip Brookes	Chris Pearce	Sarah Wilson
	Tim Cuthbertson	Vivien Tilsley	Des Workman
			Sheila Workman

All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC)

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

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 Claire Wesley	c/o 0121 444 0760 0121 444 2778
Reader Emeritus	John Parkin	0121 604 6127
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
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Eira Jones	safeguarding@allsaintschurchkh.org 07497 781681
Prayer Circle	(for confidential prayer requests)	parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org 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 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

www.allsaintschurchkh.org



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND