ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD PARISH NEWS www.allsaintsboynehill.org.uk Issue 198 17 April 2024



Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

Every time the PCC meets, we have on the agenda 'Wellbeing'. Is the vicar taking time off? Is the vicar going on retreats? Is the vicar taking quiet days? Equally this isn't just about the vicar's wellbeing. Is the vicar a human being that has lost the ability to just be, rather than constantly trying to be active and therefore setting a poor example of the contemplative life to others within the community.

With these thoughts in my mind on return from five days on a Learning Programme for Christians working with refugees and asylum seekers I was thrilled to hear people say things like 'It's so lovely to see you looking so relaxed this morning, Jeremy.' Another person said, 'You are looking well.' Another said at the end of the service 'I followed your every step on that journey around Sunderland as you used your senses and feelings to notice people and place around you.'

The reason for my enthusiasm this morning was the joy that I experienced in sharing what I described as a pilgrim journey with people from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Holland, Czeck Republic, Ukraine, a London Missionary via Mexico, Iran and England. As I wrote on my text to the other participants I loved every minute of the journey.

The approach used by the people at Durham is called 'CABLE'. The CABLE programme (Community Action Based Learning for Empowerment) has been developed and used in a number of different contexts. In Finland it has been used for students who want to work in diakonia. The deaconate within the Church of England is largely seen as the year leading to Priesthood. Of course, many of us try to hold on to the role of service throughout our ministry with a sense of joy. However, the European churches seem to provide two formats of study and training leading to on one hand the priesthood and the other specialised diaconal ministry. There may be something to be learned from this approach and the specialisation of deacons working alongside priests.

Returning to the CABLE approach there are a number of phases to experience. The first stage is to map out and then write a biography. The biography (Which I found cathartic to write) asks you to reflect back over your life. What in my life that has shaped me to become the person I am? How have I developed as a person and what has influenced me? What background did I come from? What educational opportunities have I experienced? What have been significant turning points in my life? What people and organisations have had an influence? I enjoyed reflecting on the teachers, the priests, my friends, fellow clergy and parishioners that have supported and shaped my thinking. Those that know me will find it no surprise to discover that I enjoyed a good deal of time listing books and films that have influenced me alongside the occasional contemporary song.

The second step is to share in safe spaces our personal stories with others. Together you can see how your story has led and influenced you but also you are enriched by other people's stories as well.

The third element of this approach is the 'Exposure Process'. This experience I turned into a sermon/talk for Luke 24.36-48 on Sunday. In the film 'Inside Out' (Pixar Film) a young girl's journey through life is shown through her emotions of joy, sadness, fear, disgust, and anger. In Luke 24 the great storyteller having described the Road To Emmaus where the Apostles felt sadness, at the loss of their great hope and then joy when the risen Lord is made known in the breaking of the bread. However, when Cleopas and his friend explain to the others that they have seen the Lord in the breaking of the bread and then Jesus appears, they are filled with fear before sheer joy comes with the awareness of Jesus' resurrection.

Our life stories that may well have had points of crisis and trauma can lead us to people of compassion, love, humility for others. My experience of 'Exposure' in Sunderland was in many ways an awakening. I have experienced pilgrimages through Spain, Portugal, The Holy Land and know that walking pilgrimages such as Santiago enable you to slow down, reflect and notice place, people and meaning in one's life that can help you become the person God meant you to be. I did not think for one moment that this experience can in some ways be replicated by spending a couple of hours wandering round a town or city without any plan or purpose other than to notice. I. along with 6 others. had the place of Sunderland to experience. Mike Moss had given me the Church Army newsletter describing a new ministry in Sunderland. The article described Sunderland as having 'an alarming 82 percent increase in universal credit claims since the cost-of-living crisis began. Other alarming statistics included 30 percent of the city's children living in low-income families and in some areas, this jumps to a staggering 42 percent compared to a national average of 18 percent.

During my time in Durham, I was reading Robert Harris' 'Pompeii'. A young engineer Attilius is noticing strange happenings before Vesuvius. Attilius is described as 'This was always where he preferred to be — not in some filthy town, but out in the country, with the hidden veins of civilisation, beneath an honest sky.' I would normally be at one with Attilius so I was to be greatly surprised by my pilgrim walk through Sunderland. It started with my slowing down. I was aware of others rushing by as I entered a shopping centre. I normally despise shopping centres but here I felt inner peace. I started to notice my senses. The smell of the sea, the noise of the seagulls and then on entering the shops I noticed people. I began taking notes and I heard a voice. I looked up to see a Chinese woman enquire as to if I was lost. I said politely that I was meant to be lost! It led to a conversation with a woman who had spent 9 happy years in Sunderland. I reflected on a person from a billion who noticed me!

Next, I came across words written on walls. Sunderland wants to be connected, united to find pride and value. This made me happy. I turned around to see a rubbish bin. The bin had the following joke, 'I tried thinking of a joke, but the punchline was rubbish.' I would later see another bin 'What did the big rubbish bag say to the little rubbish bag when it was late for dinner? 'Where have you bin?! I laughed and noticed how clean the streets looked.

Without looking at my map I came to the meeting place of St Mary's Roman Catholic Church two hours early! I walked on and found Betsy Jenny Wellbeing Café. I read the board outside which promoted 'Men and Pies, yoga, Samaritans, setting up small businesses, Debt advice and benefits and book swaps. I could smell coffee and bacon sandwiches and as a lover of pies I entered. I ordered a flat white and spoke with Steve the person cooking. He explained that they gave the ingredients, and the men made the pies and pastry with help. I thought of my uncle Tom from Newcastle who tried to show me how to make pastry, but I never had the patience to learn.

I noticed two people eating bacon sandwiches, drinking tea and chatting. The two people would increase in number to twelve by the time I left. They all enjoyed bacon sandwiches and cups of tea and spoke freely. I wanted to join them but felt my entrance would change the course of conversation and they seemed so content. There was not a mobile phone in sight. My attention switched to the library. It was very small with perhaps 50 books. However, on closer inspection I found nearly new books with four of them on my list of great reads. Shuggie Bain about the sadness of a little boy in Glasgow living with his alcoholic mother, On the Road, by Jack Kerouac who taught by Jesuits, with a deep love of Hemingway lived as 'A Strange solitary crazy Catholic mystic.' I know there were 'Lost Son' moments in his life but a great read. Jo Jo Moyes 'Me Before You' and finally 'The Tattooist of Auschwitz'. This small café was making connections and it sent shivers down my spine.



The next revelation was a painting on a wall. Two cupped hands with branches sprouting out with smaller pairs of hands connected. This painting was called 'Helping Hands' and Steve, while frying the latest rasher, told me it was painted by a 22 year lady from Consett. Another image showed two pictures of lighthouses. One with the lighthouse close but with gathering clouds, the other had the lighthouse in the far distance with many rocks between, but with the sun setting and a red sky appearing. The memory of my grandmother telling me Red Sky at night shepherds' delight. Before leaving the Café, I read BBC counselling. Be Brave Counselling. 'It's never too late to change and start living the life you have always wanted.'

I could have stayed in the shop all day. Never mind a town acting as a mirror on one's life, this little shop highlighted the main focus of my life, community, communion and solidarity.

Walked again and found a crossroads. Went left as I viewed a cinema where many of us find inspiration. Deep sadness descends upon me as the cinema has been closed down, but the betting shop opposite is open seemingly all hours. I turn to find a shop called Sunshine Corner. 'We're not just a shop, we're a Social Enterprise giving back to the community in the heart of Sunderland.' I found organic and local veg, locally sourced food, including bars of chocolate from Newcastle and bees wax candles. There were Fairtrade teas and coffees for sale. I bought some chocolate to share and a candle for Monika. I had a conversation with the female owner of the shop. She told me how she supported asylum seekers from Pakistan, South Africa and Russia. The lady from Pakistan was a brilliant cook. She had recently been given the right to stay after 19 years waiting! The owner was building a network with this lady to help her build a small business. 'When you have little, you need to use your creativity' she told me. I heard how events were set up for dancing, music and food all from the cultures from overseas.

I didn't want this walk to end but noticing the time I returned to the Café. I ordered a bacon buttie and a helper gave me twelve donuts to share. I went next door to the Roman Catholic drop in for Asylum seekers and to meet my friends from around Europe. The donuts would be broken in pieces and shared around the children in the drop in. By slowing down my eyes had been opened and my heart burned with joy. As for Attilus and his thoughts? Well, Sunderland might not on the surface be beautiful but by noticing I found the rich veins of civilisation alive and well and the mirror of the city that I had looked into had reinforced many of the values that I hold dear.

This pilgrim journey with friends from Europe and the UK will continue on zoom in June and September. I look forward to learning if this process can deepen the process of welcome and belonging in communities of diverse population groups. My prayer is that we will discover communities that enable asylum seekers and refugees to feel a sense of welcome and belonging so that they will live life in all its fulness. May we all be blessed by God's love this week,

Fr Jeremy

RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK

Thursday 18 3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School

8.00pm Choir Practice

Friday 19 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre

Saturday 20 2.30pm Visit from the Victorian Society looking at the architecture of G E Street.

Sunday 21 10.00am The Parish Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

Young Saints meet in the Birinus Room

6.00pm Sundays@Six Eucharist of Wholeness & Healing

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

Monday 22 9.30am Morning Prayer

6.30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting at Boyne Hill Cricket Club Guest Speaker: The Revd Jo Ellington, Chaplain to Altwood School

Tuesday 23 9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 24 10.00am Eucharist (BCP)

Celebrant: Fr Jeremy

3.00pm Open the Book at Larchfield School

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Prayer from Roots Resources

We give thanks, O God, that on your firm foundation we can build our lives, live our lives, find purpose and meaning, stability and peace. We give thanks that with you as our rock, our cornerstone, we can navigate the tussles and troubles of the world, not avoiding them, but making sense of them and doing all we can to make lives better. We give thanks that our faith in you steadies us when we are surrounded by false truths, greedy ways, or power-grabbing leaders who have no thought for anyone but themselves. For your promises and firm foundation, we give you thanks. Amen.

United and whole, show us the way of peace in this world of unrest. We hold before you the people of Gaza, Israel, Iran and the surrounding areas and for each child and adult. We hold within our community the people of Iran who are worried about relatives and friends and we pray too for those from our congregation with families in Israel, Lebanon and South Sudan. We pray for that time when weapons of war are turned into ploughshares and when nations no longer lift up sword against nation and peace is found. As we reflect on

these biblical words we are reminded too of the work of the United Nations as they seek unity and solidarity in the world.

We pray for next week's APCM. We give thanks for all those who have given of their time and talents this past year and we pray for those who will stand to lead All Saints Church into the next year of mission. We pray for Revd Jo Ellington and for her ministry to Altwood. We give thanks for the opportunities for ministry to schools within our parish.

We give thanks for the ministry of the Ripple Effect in rural Africa. We pray for Zambia. Pray that there will be rain soon. Enough rain to sustain and not to wash away soil. We pray that there will be a fruitful harvest and good health for all the people of Zambia.

Thanks, God, for farmers across Africa that are learning new techniques to grow food on their land so that they can feed their families despite the economic and climate challenges they face. We pray too for those who share their knowledge with others and create enough profit to send their children to school in the hope of a better life.

We pray for those churches across Europe that are engaging with Asylum seekers and refugees helping them to not only be welcomed into society but to feel a sense of belonging so that they may contribute to their host country.

We remember Ollie Campbell, Chloe Tudor, Samuel Russell, Chloe Taylor and Isla Bradley on the anniversaries of their Baptisms.

We pray for our Wholeness and Healing Eucharist this Sunday evening. May people be touched by the healing power of God in their lives. We pray for those in need of God's healing; Daneille, Christopher, Sylvia Dennison, Gordon Kerrison, Sylvia Telford, Barbara Bannister, Hugh Boulter, Joseph White, Moreiza Seraj, Scopas Lado, Margaret Ego, Jim Goff, Gill Deane-Williams, Simon Fullarton, Vera Shaw, Christina Duncombe, Abbas Heidari, Azita Heidari, Arash Rezaei, Elham Nekunam, Doreen Bramble, Doris Winn, Nick Kirk, Heidi Webb, Masouma Hassani, Akram Taj-eddin, Mahmoud Saimi, Abdul-Quadir Taj-e-din and Abolfazi.

We remember the recently departed and all our departed loved ones whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

EASTER FLOWERS - THANK YOU!



We would like to thank everyone who sponsored the Easter Lilies and flowers, and provided foliage, enabling us to arrange the floral displays on Easter Saturday. We do hope you felt they added that little extra something to this especially important festival, making our Church look even more beautiful for the Easter period. We so appreciate your continued help and support, thank you so much. Special thanks also to Alan & Pauline for the lovely Easter Garden.

The Flower Team

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 21 APRIL THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen.

NTREADING Acts 4: 5-12

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

GOSPEL John 10: 11 – 18

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Sheep May Safely Graze J S Bach
Opening hymn: 671 I will sing the wondrous story
Anthem: The Lord's my Shepherd B Chilcott

Offertory hymn: 291 (from part 2) Christ is made the sure foundation

Communion hymn: 681 In heavenly love abiding
Communion hymn: 800 The Lord's my shepherd
Closing hymn: 421 All for Jesus, all for Jesus
Postlude: Praeludium Pastorale *J Stainer*

6.00pm SUNDAYS@SIX Eucharist of Wholeness & Healing

Preludes: Mode dorien Op 3 No 1 Dupré & Mode de ré Langlais

Hymn: 675 Immortal Love for ever full Hymn: 13 At even, ere the sun was set

Postlude: Prelude on Rhosymedre R Vaughan Williams

ALL SAINTS ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING WILL BE HELD AT BOYNE HILL CRICKET CLUB, HIGHWAY ROAD, MAIDENHEAD SL6 SAE ON MONDAY 22 APRIL

All relevant papers are attached to the email.

Programme:

6.30pm bar opens. Fish and Chip Supper served for those who have ordered and pre-paid,

7.00pm Meeting of Parishioners to elect two Churchwardens,

7.10 pm APCM with speakers, reports and elections to PCC and other roles.

The guest speaker will be the Revd Jo Ellington Chaplain of Altwood School

After the APCM, there will be a short meeting of the newly elected PCC. Open to PCC members.

David Morgan, PCC Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT ALL SAINTS CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is now closed until after the APCM. My email address is sastannett@gmail.com
Sue Stannett, Electoral Roll Secretary

DOING THE SMALL THINGS WELL

No Mow May is almost upon us, so it's time to give the lawn that final trim (if this relentless rain ever stops!). The idea is that if we can leave a patch of grass to grow long it will benefit many insects, birds and small creatures. More details may be found at www.plantlife.org.uk. if you only have a tiny lawn or courtyard then consider planting a pot of herbs instead. There's no need to worry where you can buy them from as most supermarkets now sell edible herbs with their roots still on which will very successfully transfer to a pot in a sheltered spot outdoors. Let them grow and flower and you'll be amazed at what turns up – plus, of course, you can carry on eating them as they get bigger!

Your Eco-Church committee



2024 CHRIST CHILD MARKET SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER

We are delighted to tell you that we will be holding the Christ Child Market on Saturday 30 November this year – a change from the previous Sunday event.

Please put the date in your diaries or calendars and look out for more information later in the year on how you can get involved in, or contribute to, this wonderful community event which also helps raise valuable funds for the church.

And do speak to either of us if you would like to find out more about joining the Organising Group.

Fr Jeremy & Stella Harding



YOGA COMING SOON TO THE PARISH CENTRE ON TUESDAYS

10.00am – 11.00am STARTING 7 MAY

Hatha Yoga suitable for all levels. Beginners welcome.

Traditional and authentic yoga taught by a senior level Yoga Alliance accredited teacher Karen Harvey, who is also a new member of our congregation.

Posture by posture you will be guided into the correct alignment and depth for your body, adaptations are available for all postures with regards to injuries or constraints

which might affect your ability in postures. Suggested amount $£10\,$ but if this leaves you without, please put in your own amount.

For more details please contact Karen 07717 748 927 or karenharveyyoga@hotmail.com

PARISH VISIT TO KEBLE COLLEGE, OXFORD ON SUNDAY 12 MAY 2024



Following the successful parish visit to Keble College, Oxford last year we would like to offer another opportunity for members of the congregation to visit the College, which was founded by John Keble, a leading member of the Oxford Movement which revived the Anglo-Catholic tradition within the Church of England in the 19th century.

We hope to arrange a minibus to leave early in the afternoon of Sunday 12 May. Following feedback from the last visit we will stay within the College for the tour and historical and architectural talk, followed by afternoon tea and evensong in the College chapel. We

anticipate the cost of the minibus to be between £12 and £15 per person, depending on interest. There will be an additional cost for afternoon tea.

To register your interest in joining the visit, please add your name to the list at the back of the church or contact me gregHurst
GregHurst

PARISH NEWS NEWS

The next edition will be a double issue, so please send any notices for events up to and including Wednesday 8 May to me by Tuesday 23 April.

Tanya has kindly agreed to produce and issue the Parish News in May, but it will be fortnightly on 8 & 22 May. Anything for either of these issue to her (allsaintsboynehill@gmail.com) by the Monday before please.

jan.moss@btinternet.com



AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP DONATING TOILETRIES TO CARE FOR CALAIS IF YOU CAN.

WAMCF WOMENS' GROUP Tuesday 21 May 7.30pm at St Edmund Campion

Ladies of all beliefs and none are warmly invited to the next meeting Talk and discussion groups: *The Dignity and Worth of Women*Further details from: sally514@btinternet.com www.wamcf.org