

October 2020
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SAINTS ALIVE



ALL SAINTS

The Parish Magazine
of All Saints' Parish Church,
Cheadle Hulme

INFORMATION PAGE

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Holy Communion (2nd in month)
10.00am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion

Thursday 10.00am.
Holy Days to be announced.

Matins

Daily at 9.00am.



CONFESSION AND SPIRITUAL COUNSELLING

By arrangement with the Clergy.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR BAPTISMS, BANNINGS AND WEDDINGS

All enquiries to Rev'd Janet Bacon (485 3455).

MOTHERS' UNION

Corporate Communion 10.00am on the 2nd Thursday in Church. Details of all meetings are in Saints Alive and weekly notices. See Notice Board.

MENS' SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the 1st Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room.
Chairman: Mr Bradley Torbitt (486 9387).
Secretary: Mr Mike Parry (485 7886).

FRIDAY CLUB

Fortnightly meetings on Friday evening usually in the Meeting Room at 7.30pm. Open to women of all age groups. Chairman is Lily Mitchelhill (485 5187) Secretary is Julia Ball (440 8647)

JAMES GROUP

The James Group exists to encourage the Church's ministry of healing, and the practice of regular intercession for the sick. The branch meets monthly to say an Office of Intercession: there is also a monthly Corporate Communion. For further information please contact: The Secretary: Pat Yates (485 4546).

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

Secretary: Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647).

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs: (7th Cheadle Hulme) Meet on a Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm at Thorn Grove.
Andrew Thompson
email:andy.thompson@cheadlescouts.org.uk

Beavers: (7th Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Friday 6.00pm - 7.15pm in the Parish Rooms.

Brownies: (11th Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.15pm at Thorn Grove.
Jo Taylor
brownow11ththeadleulme@yahoo.com

Rainbows: (2nd Cheadle Hulme)
Meet on a Monday 6.00pm - 7.00pm



Greetings from Rev Sarah Hancock - our next Vicar

Hello Everybody at All Saints.

I'm Rev Sarah Hancock but you can just call me Sarah and I am so excited to be joining you all.

A bit about me: I'm originally from the Wirral but have been living down south since 2004. I apologise in advance that I have lost my northern accent.

I'm currently at a church in Luton and have served my Curacy there for three years.

I have a heart for mission and outreach and this is the area that has been one of the main focuses of my curacy.

I love watching football and rugby as well as The Great British Bake Off.

My puppy, Maggie, enjoys chasing squirrels and pigeons but can often be found sleeping in her bed. We currently don't have a licensing date but we look forward to meeting you all soon.



Harvestide 2020

Due to the current coronavirus restrictions, we will be marking the harvest a little differently this year. We are not able to have our usual harvest lunch but will still be collecting for our local Chelwood Foodbank.

Please bring donations of non-perishable food items, toiletries and cleaning products to the services at All Saints on Sunday 4th and Sunday 11th October and leave them in the prayer corner at the front of the south aisle. You can also bring goods to the private prayer session on Wednesday 7th October between 10.00am and 11.00am.

As you will be aware, the demands on Foodbanks across the country have increased during the pandemic so please donate what you can.

If you are not able to get to church but would like to make a financial contribution, there are details on the Chelwood Foodbank website.

**COPY DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER - OCTOBER 6TH
ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR PLEASE**

Church of England and RSCM await next steps on singing safety



The Church of England and Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) have been awaiting updated guidance on singing in places of worship after findings of a Government-backed study were published.

The research project, known as ‘PERFORM’, recently published its findings on measuring aerosol production from humans. It measured singing, speaking and breathing in a zero-background environment. Researchers reported a steep rise in aerosol mass with increase in the loudness of the singing and speaking, rising by as much as a factor of 20-30. However, it was also found that singing does not produce substantially more aerosol than speaking at a similar volume.

The RSCM’s Director, Hugh Morris said: “We welcome this news. Singing is of such importance in worship, and this is a really encouraging step towards its safe resumption. “It is of course vital that all choirs and singing groups follow the relevant government advice, and so we look forward to receiving the latest guidance in this important area.” The Church of England and RSCM both regularly update their advice following the publication of Government guidance.



Need for healing

Heavenly Father, we bring to you all those struggling with their mental health just now. We pray: For everyone who is smiling, when inside they’re in pain. For everyone who is saying they’re fine, when inside they feel drained and empty. For everyone struggling with fear and worry as the easing of the lockdown brings new anxieties.

Be with them in their suffering, as so much of their world has been stripped back and emptied. When loved family and friends have been taken by illness, or made distant by lockdown. Pour your healing balm into their pain and sadness. May you walk with them besides still waters. May you speak to them in a still small voice. May you heal them, and fill them, and bless them with your abundant love and fullness of life. And may they know that they are loved by you for the beautiful unique person that they are, created in the image of their heavenly creator and loving Lord. In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. By the Revd Peter Crumpler

Oppressed Christians struggling under Covid-19

Oppression and discrimination against Christians has increased during Covid, according to Release International, which has launched an appeal to help Christians suffering during the pandemic.

Many Christians have been denied food and relief aid and excluded from support systems during lockdown. They have been abandoned by families because of their faith and refused relief by governments and NGOs. At the same time, several countries have stepped up persecution against Christians. One of the worst offenders is China, where Christians have been arrested for simply holding prayer meetings online.

“The situation has got much worse for many Christians during lockdown,” says Release International CEO Paul Robinson. “Covid-19 is having a devastating impact on the lives of many poor Christians. In places hostile to the faith Christians are experiencing increased hardship. Food is now in short supply. They are unable to work and can’t earn, and support is being withheld because of their faith. Their cries for help are being ignored by local charities who are distributing food packages only to families of other faiths. We can’t afford to delay. These Christians need our help.”

In Algeria, many Christians have had to stop work because of the lockdown, and so lost their income. They have been rejected by society and their families as a result of their faith. There is no social security in the country or government support.

Eritrean Christians fleeing persecution have been barred from refugee camps and are unable to get support from UNHCR. And they refuse to resort to crime to get the money and supplies they need.

In Pakistan the situation is especially hard for converts from a Muslim background. The only form of social security is family support, and Muslim families often withdraw support for family members who change their religion.

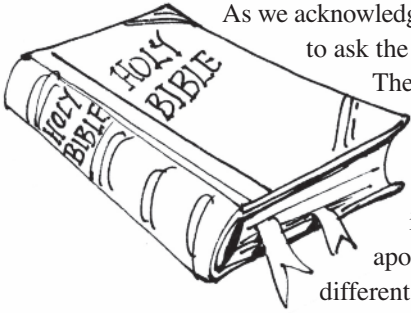
In several countries, lockdown has led to an increase in persecution. In Upper Egypt, where Christians face discrimination for their faith, some organisations are allegedly refusing food and support to Christian families. Release partners report: “The authorities are helping Muslims but not Christians. And churches that try to help are being closed by police order.”

In China, Release partners say the government is using the pandemic to step up its crackdown against Christians. They have accelerated campaigns such as the forced demolition of crosses. Pastors have been rounded up for sharing the gospel and distributing facemasks on the street. The authorities have “totally prohibited” online church services and prayer meetings, as “nothing constituting a religious service is allowed.”

In Nigeria, the lockdown deepened the insecurity facing many Christian villagers, who face attacks by Fulani militia.

Paul Robinson of Release International says: “Right now, it’s up to us in the family of faith to give them our support.” Partners of Release International are providing food parcels to impoverished Christians in Algeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey. If you can help, go to: www.releaseinternational.org/covid

Understanding the Bible



As we acknowledge Bible Sunday this month, it's a good opportunity to ask the question: why should I read the Bible?

The Bible is the world's best-selling book of all time.

However, it isn't one book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over a period of 1500 years in a range of literature including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (end times). Despite having a number of different writers, the Bible claims one author: God himself!

This is the basis of the unity of its message and authoritative claim to be the primary way by which God speaks to us: 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work' (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired ('the word of God in the words of men') and presents itself as a manual for life, equipping us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide us in applying the words to our lives: 'the Spirit will guide you into all truth' (John 16:13).

However, the Bible could also be described as a love letter from God, as He uses it to deepen our relationship with him. As Jesus said: 'You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me' (John 5:39,40). Christians follow a person not a book, and the Scriptures are intended to help us to know Jesus better.

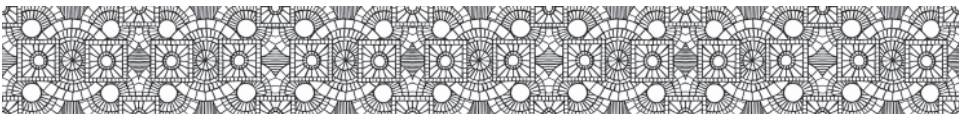


At her coronation the Queen was given a Bible with the words 'the most precious thing this world affords'. Does this reflect our own attitude to the Bible?

A prayer for morning... and for evening

O God, who divides the day from the night, separate our deeds from the darkness of sin, and let us continually live in your light, reflecting in all that we do your eternal beauty.

O God, who gives the day for work and the night for sleep, refresh our bodies and our minds through the quiet hours of night, and let our inward eyes be directed towards you, dreaming of your eternal glory. From the Leonine Sacramentary, 5th century



“God be in my head...”

When I was growing up my mother had a little enamelled plaque standing on a sideboard; in gothic script, black with red capitals, it proclaimed the very well-known lines:

*God be in my head,
and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes,
and in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
and at my departing.*

As a little boy I found it austere, threatening, and mysterious. My mother read me the stories of Jesus, I heard them in Sunday School, and I knew he was loving, kind and welcomed little children. But my image of “God” felt remote, with a hint of a frown, I wasn’t sure I wanted him to be in my head! There was a puzzle too - what was the difference between “understanding” and “thinking”? And it was incomplete; it mentioned eyes and mouth, but what about the rest of me - ears, or feet? Most off-putting of all, being very young, I didn’t want to think about “mine end”, or “my departing”.

It’s in our hymnbook of course, and it was sung recently in St Martin’s in the Fields, during Radio 3’s Choral Evensong. I came across it again on a prayer leaflet from York Minster, folded inside a Bible I had not used for a while. The words come from the sixteenth century Sarum Primer, a Book of Hours. Containing Psalms and prayers, and often beautifully decorated, Books of Hours were widely used in personal devotion by lay people in their homes.

These ancient lines are not an obvious choice for a child’s prayer. But what a privilege it is to share in the devotional life of countless Christians down the centuries: “God be in my head, and in my understanding...” Approaching the end of life, whether it comes soon or later, it is a great comfort and reassurance to know that God will be at mine end, and at my departing. *Douglas Scarisbrick*



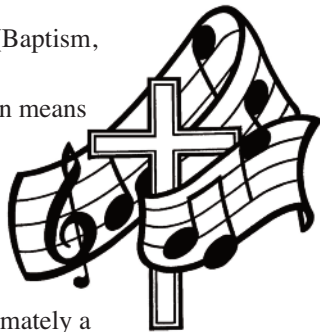
Reflected faith: Music and Singing

Many churches are holding Sunday, weekday and pastoral (Baptism, Wedding and Funeral) services again in their buildings.

However, for most of us no singing is allowed; and this often means no music is being played.

Whilst the churches were closed, one of the key things about worshipping together that people missed was the communal singing and the listening to the organ or other instruments.

If we look at the time taken to sing in each service (approximately a third of the whole service) and the amount musicians are usually paid, we can see the level of importance churches give to singing together.



So, although we understand the science behind the ‘no singing rule’ (breath is exhaled more forcibly so reaches further) it is still very strange to be in our normal church buildings but not to be able to sing.



Singing hymns and songs helps us to learn about our faith, to pray and to express our praise – but what is it about singing together that lifts our hearts in our time of worship?

There are plenty of said responses during most services, but they don’t have that same lift! Is it the physical breathing aspects, the sounds we aim to make, or indeed the way our voices join and blend together? All through the Bible there are passages telling of times of singing: of musicians leading processions towards a place or time of worship. There are many exhortations in the Psalms to the people to come together, ‘singing with joy and thanksgiving’.

The Bible also talks about a time to put down our instruments and refrain from singing. Let’s hope and pray that our time for restraint will pass quickly and we will soon rejoice together with thanksgiving, joyful and loud singing!

This month: How can you best sing to the Lord? It is usually easier to sing along with a video of people singing than to a recording alone. Have a look for suitable videos to join in with their singing, a recording if that’s not possible, or even a hymn book.



Perhaps video call a church friend and sing the first verse of a couple of your popular songs and hymns together.

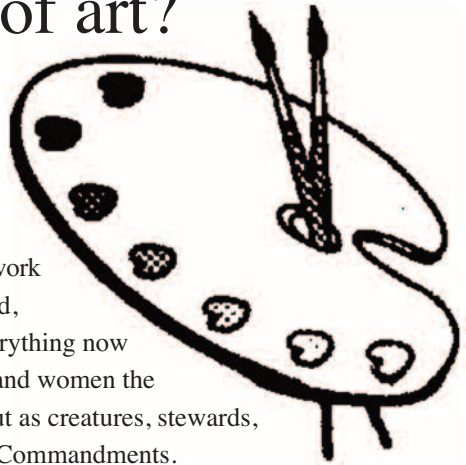


Are YOU a work of art?

Is your life a masterpiece? (Ephesians 2: 10)
Take another look at the roadmap for life -
the Beatitudes.

Ancient Hebrew Scriptures had told us in
picture language that when God created the
material world, the flora and fauna, he saw his work
was “good”, but when humankind was formed,
“fearfully and wonderfully made”, he said everything now
was “VERY good” - extra special - with men and women the
peak of his achievement, made in his image but as creatures, stewards,
requiring the boundaries and guidance of Ten Commandments.

The New Testament instruction manual we call the Beatitudes sets the standard along-
side the Commandments and gently confirms that we are so highly esteemed that we are
God’s co-creators, fellow workers, associates, helpers. (1 Corinthians 3:9)



But how? Who can reach such heights of
creativity and commitment? No one unaided,
but we little helpers are children of light,
we have the Holy Spirit, the Master builder
at our side, sculpting our lives as the potter
shapes the clay

“The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the
Father will send in My name, He will teach
you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14:25-26.
In giving the Beatitudes, Jesus revealed to us that inflexible adherence to rigid regulations
was not the way, not his way of blessedness, the way of the God who is Love.

And our personal co-creativity? The Lord did not ask for outstanding scientific insights,
amazing practical skills or artistic brilliance. He offered inspiration,
the indwelling of the Spirit of Creation. To quote a recent sermon
by a wise priest: Jesus simply asked us “to produce just ONE work
of art, possible for everyone: our own life”. *Gay Saunders*

*“When God wants to sort out the world, as the Beatitudes in
the Sermon on the Mount make clear, he doesn’t send in the
tanks. He sends in the meek, the broken, the justice hungry,
the peacemakers, the pure-hearted.” N.T. Wright*





“Magpie” has moved...

Well, time certainly flies when you're having fun...I never intended (or even imagined) I would become THE Beaver Leader at 7th when I first offered to help 30 years ago. It all happened very much by default. At that time All Saints Beaver Colony was run by 'Swift' (Julie Black) while her husband Steve was our Group Scout Leader. But sadly, as Steve's health deteriorated, the time Julie could devote to Beavers became very much reduced, to the point where it became impossible for her to continue... I was asked to step in...and the rest is history!

Over the years that followed I was lucky (and very grateful) to have had the help and support from several enthusiastic Assistant Beaver Leaders including Ruth Thompson, Fiona Leach, Beverley Redfern, Alexandra Robertson, Kirstie Stamp and most recently Katy Tebay.

The running of All Saints Beaver Colony has now been passed into Kirstie's very capable hands and I am confident that with her enthusiasm, together with Katy's help, it will be able to deliver a varied and exciting programme of activities for your Beavers for many years to come. Unfortunately though, at the moment it seems that Kirstie (Puffin), together with Katy (Robin) are the only Leaders for our Beaver Colony, so once the current Covid-19 situation eases finding extra adult helpers/leaders will be more important than ever. No previous experience or skills are necessary as training (on-line) is available! Also, all volunteers will undergo a DBS check, so if you know of anyone (family member, friend, student, neighbour, work colleague, a retired person etc) you feel would be able to volunteer and become more involved in helping with All Saints Beaver Colony (maybe alternate weeks, once a month or just the occasional meeting) please get in touch with Andrew Thompson (GSL/Cub Leader): andy.thompson@cheadlescouts.org.uk

So, as I settle in to a new life I am writing this from my new home in a beautiful part of mid-Wales. Although my house in Cheadle was sold immediately within days of it going on the market at the end of December 2019 the sale process was somewhat disrupted by the Covid-19 lock-down situation. However, towards the end of July I was finally able to move and several weeks later I had a lovely surprise when I received a gift card from All Saints! Thank you so much; I intend to spend it on a small ornamental or fruit tree for the garden.

Thank you again for the very generous gift,
Jacquie Metcalfe (Magpie)

Beaver Scout Leader, 7th Cheadle Hulme (All Saints) Beaver Scout Colony



Remembering Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer



The prison reformer and philanthropist Elizabeth Fry died 175 years ago, on 12th October 1845. She was widely admired during her lifetime and after, and was depicted on the British £5 note between 2001 and 2016.

She was born into the family of a wealthy Quaker banker, John Gurney, in Norwich in 1780. She rededicated her life to Christ at the age of 18 and devoted herself to helping the downtrodden. This she continued to do after her marriage to London merchant Joseph Fry, and while giving birth to eleven children.

She was a minister of the Society of Friends from 1811 and travelled in England and Europe inspecting prisons and writing reports that were highly influential, transforming gaols from “pits of indecency and brutality” to more orderly places with a new interest in reform. She was admired by both Queen Victoria and Florence Nightingale.

Early on she made frequent visits to Newgate Prison in London, suggesting radical improvements that were adopted both there and in other prisons. She read the Bible to inmates and gave Bibles away, combining social work with proclamation of the Gospel in a way that inspired future generations. Her insights also led to the Prison Reform Act of 1823.

Petition at Rising

*O holy Father of truth adored,
O kindly Father of mercy poured,
Deliver me from the spells that harm,
Deliver me from each evil charm.
Allow no stain to blemish my soul,
Allow no spot to my body whole,
Allow no taint my breath to defile,
Father of tender and lovely smile.
For now and for henceforth unto me
In my life, in my death, do thou be,
O Son and Abba Father of love,
And Holy Spirit of grace above!*

From an ancient Scottish prayer from South Uist

Fruit of the Spirit

(Gal 5:22,23, Ps 34:8)

Opportunities

*To ripen your fruit in our lives,
Lord, give us opportunities.*

*To grow in your Spirit,
Know your warmth
And your light,*

*Allow the segments of
Self-control, gentleness,
Faithfulness, goodness,
Kindness, patience, peace and joy
To be lubricated and sweetened
By love,*

*Showing the world
Your nature transforming
Our natures,
In the fruit bowl of our lives
In Jesus.*

*Lord give opportunities
For the hungry to taste
Your ripening fruit in us,
See that you are good
And come to you.*

By Daphne Kitching



As the dark nights close in, and the season of Hallows Eve, All Saints, and All Souls arrives, here is part of an ancient Scottish prayer from the island of Benbecula asking for God's provision, redemption and protection from evil.

The Gates of the Kingdom

*Give us, O God, the needs the body feels,
Give us, God, the need-things of the soul;
Give us, O God, the balm which body heals,
Give us, God, the soul-balm which makes
whole.*

*O great God, thou who art upon the throne,
Give to us the heart repentance true,
Forgiveness give us of the sin we own,
The sin inborn and the sin we do.*

*Give us, O God, a yearning that is strong,
And the crown of glory of the King;
Give us the safe home, God, for which we
long*

In thy kingdom's lovely gates to sing.

*May Michael, archangel warrior white,
Keep down hostile demons of the fall;
May Jesus Christ MacDavid guide our
flight
And give lodging in his peace-bright hall.*

The toll of lockdown on low-income families

Coronavirus has left low-income families struggling with a significant deterioration in living standards and high stress levels. So warns a new report from Child Poverty Action Group and the Church of England. The report, *Poverty in the pandemic: The impact of coronavirus on low-income families and children*, is based on a survey of families with children who are eligible for free school meals.

It found around eight in 10 respondents reported being in a worse financial position than before the pandemic, and half were much worse off because their income had fallen while costs have risen.

Nearly nine in 10 respondents reported spending substantially more than before on food, electricity, and other essentials – usually because they have been at home much more. Many families also said that the cost of food had gone up significantly during the early part of lockdown.

The Bishop of Durham, Paul Butler, who speaks for the Church of England on matters relating to children and families, said: “In these unprecedented times, we all need to ask ourselves urgently how we can help our neighbour. It is also imperative that the Government does all that it can to protect families and children.”

Alison Garnham, Chief Executive of Child Poverty Action Group, said: “Low-income parents have been living under a cloud of anxiety in lockdown – trying to find money for family basics as their costs have been rising. That’s taken a very heavy toll.”

Radical Gratitude – recalibrating your heart in an age of entitlement

By Peter Maiden, Lofthouse, £7.99

As Christians we should be the most grateful people alive. After all, doesn’t the Bible encourage thankfulness and condemn grumbling?

Peter Maiden traces the theme of thanksgiving in Scripture, and shows how we can genuinely live counter-cultural lives even in an age of rampant entitlement. He explains how gratitude is the key to joyful, consistent Christian living, discipleship and mission involvement. He considers how we can develop the habit of thanksgiving, the benefits of gratitude, and how we can be grateful, even in hard times.

As he was writing this book, the author learned that he was suffering from incurable cancer. Far from derailing his message, this unwelcome news energised his efforts as he poured out his vision on the page with his now-limited resources. This is authenticity at its best. This book will be the author’s last.

Who authorised the Bible, anyway?

Question: If it was the Church that finally decided which books should be included in the Bible, then isn't the Church the top authority?

Answer: No; the Bible produced the Church, not the Church the Bible. This is the real issue: what caused a book to be accepted within the 'Canon' of Scripture?

(Greek: kanon, 'standard' or 'rule').

As far as the Old Testament was concerned:

1. Books that were recognised by Jesus Christ as infallible 'Scripture' could not be broken (Matthew 5:18). In John 10:35 Jesus didn't have to explain what He meant by 'Scripture', though elsewhere He did refer to its different categories (law, prophets, psalms) as pointing to Himself (Luke 24:44; Matthew 24:37). All was to be believed and obeyed.

2. Books that were recognised by God's people because of their impact. God's people will always recognise His voice (John 10:27). Jesus clashed with the Pharisees for adding their traditions to the Scripture; yet all were agreed that the Old Testament Scriptures were God's word.

3. Books that were recognised by the New Testament. It is significant that the New Testament features hundreds of Old Testament allusions. Only two are from the body of books known as the Apocrypha (Jude 9, 14) – seemingly in similar style to Paul's quotation from a Greek poet (Acts 17:28). The Apocryphal books were perceived to be on a lower level.

Next, what determined inclusion in the New Testament Canon?

1. Books that are Christ-centred in their emphasis. It was inconceivable to the early Church that the Gospels, for example, which focused so much upon the life and death of Jesus, could have any lower place than that given to the Old Testament Scriptures.

2. Books that are apostolic in their teaching. It was to the apostles exclusively that Jesus promised guidance 'into all truth' through the Holy Spirit's inspiration (John 16:13). The result of this was the New Testament (1 Corinthians 2:12,13). Significantly, Peter brackets Paul's writings with what he calls 'the other scriptures' (2 Peter 3:15,16).

3. Books that are faith-building in their effect, and thus, to be read in the congregations (John 20:30,31; 1 Thessalonians 5:27; Colossians 4:16; 1 Peter 2:2; Revelation 1:3). When the Christian scriptures take hold of the thinking of masses of people, they have the effect of 'stabilising society, without sterilising it' (historian T. R. Glover). The books of the Old Testament were becoming largely accepted by AD 70; those of the New Testament by the end of the second century. The drawing of a line around them discouraged forgers and religious peddlers.

So no one really 'put' the books into the Bible; they put themselves in, because of their innate quality. No council by itself could have conferred authority upon the books; this, they possessed already. It is an authority that is inherent, not imposed. If art lovers say of a Renoir painting, 'This is a genuine Renoir', their acclaim in no way invests the painting with authority; it was already authentic. It is the same with the Scriptures; we can only recognise them as such... and live by them.

Chalice from Dark Ages found in fort

A chalice made of lead, dating from the sixth century, is being hailed as one of the most important finds of a Christian artefact in Western Europe. It was discovered in the remains of an early church built inside the Roman fort at Vindolanda, near Hexham, close to Hadrian's Wall.

Broken into 14 pieces, the cup, which is about the size of a modern cereal bowl, is covered with religious graffiti. The director of Vindolanda excavations, Dr Andrew Birley, said that discovering the church was an important find, but finding the inscribed chalice was "quite incredible". "This artefact sheds a bright light into a time that used to be known as the Dark Ages," he said.

The marks inside and outside the cup appear to be by the same hand. They are difficult to see with the naked eye, but specialist photography revealed symbols including crosses, chi-rhos, a whale, fish, flags, angels, a smiling priestly figure holding a crook, ears of wheat, and a boat with a cross-shaped mast, believed to represent the Church as a vessel to take Christians to their eternal destination. "It's just remarkable" Dr Birley said. "Nothing in North-Western Europe comes close from the period."

Professor David Petts, Senior Lecturer in the archaeology of northern England at the University of Durham, who is a specialist on the post-Roman period and early Christianity, said: "It is genuinely exciting. When we think of graffiti, we tend to think it's unauthorised vandalism. But we know from many medieval churches that people would put marks and symbols on buildings. What is unique about this is finding them on a vessel."

He believes that it was a ceremonial object, passed among the congregation, and that its symbols held meanings for them which have yet to be understood. "Its discovery helps us appreciate how the site and its community survived beyond the fall of Rome, and yet remained connected to a spiritual successor in the form of Christianity," he said.

The church foundations suggest that the building could hold about 60 worshippers.

The building appears to have collapsed on itself, but the chalice had been securely sealed under the rubble, perhaps in a ceremony marking the end of the church.

Vindolanda pre-dates Hadrian's Wall, and has proved an archaeological treasure-house of extraordinary military and personal objects, from writing tablets and shoes to boxing gloves and rare cavalry swords. The chalice is the centrepiece of a new exhibition at Vindolanda which highlights Christianity and the last periods of occupation on the site.



RSPCA launches emergency appeal in wake of Covid

The RSPCA has been overwhelmed this year by calls for help from people who are ill with Covid-19.

The animal welfare charity was swamped with 442,344 calls, and responded to 106,676 incidents of animals in need just between 24th March and 5th August.

That averaged out at 790 incidents a day.

Such a volume of need was especially a challenge to meet, as the charity was working with fewer officers, due to ‘furlough, shielding and ill health’, a spokesman explained.

He went on: “As well as operating an emergency service, rescuing animals in need, RSPCA officers have also been collecting animals from the homes of people who have been admitted to hospital with Covid-19, who may not have anyone else to care for them while their owners are being treated.”

The charity has now launched an emergency fund-raising appeal, and said that its front-line animal rescue and care teams have been “stretched to their limit”.

With about 6,400 animals in the care of the RSPCA across England and Wales, it is the largest animal welfare charity in the UK.



Some miscellaneous one-liners

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

The family that sticks together should bathe more often.

Born free. Taxed to death.

By the time you make ends meet, they move the ends.

An unbreakable toy is useful for breaking other toys.



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*They knew it was left over from the Harvest
Festival, but not what it was, or where...*

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ALL SAINTS CRAFT GROUP

The Craft Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Church Meeting Room. We learn new skills and practise old ones. Tea/coffee, biscuits and good company are always on offer. **Please join us when meetings begin again.**

All are welcome. For further details please contact Frances Pickett on 0161 439 8890.



All Saints' Website and Facebook



Keep up to date with news and events on the All Saints' website. Find out about our charity work, community groups and listen to recent sermons.



Please contact Sarah Ball on: comms@allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk with any stories and updates.

Find All Saints' on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCH/> and "Like" us to get notifications about our news and events.



Church Open

Saturday Coffee Mornings have been postponed for the immediate future.



MEN'S SOCIETY

Monthly meetings on the first Thursday, September to May, at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room (unless otherwise stated). After the talk there is a short question and answer session followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Due to the implementation of measures to combat the Coronavirus pandemic all meetings have been cancelled. Further details will be posted when available.

Although this group is attended by men, if you are interested in hearing any of the speakers you will be most welcome to come along.

Chairman: Bradley Torbitt (0161 486 9387)

Secretary: Mike Parry (0161 485 7886)

Tearfund working to help Lebanon after blast

The charity Tearfund has moved fast to help people hit by the huge explosion in Lebanon on 4th August. The country was already suffering beneath the weight of an economic crisis, growing food insecurity, and widespread poverty.

Tearfund's local partners have been distributing thousands of hot meals, as well as vouchers to enable those most in need to buy food and hygiene items. Its partner churches and faith organisations are also giving emotional support to families, and also providing shelter for those who have lost their homes.

Tearfund has been working in Lebanon since 2013, responding to the crisis caused by the conflict in Syria. Around 1.5 million refugees call Lebanon their home – 25% of the whole population – many of these living in makeshift accommodation in Beirut's slums.

If you can help, please go to: <https://www.tearfund.org>

Mothers' Union and the UK prison system

Crime hurts many people – including the families of prisoners who have ended up in the UK prison system. They are often the forgotten victims, but not by the Mothers' Union (MU).

Instead, the MU's prison work across Britain is extensive, with the aim of keeping hurting families together. It is not simple work, for as prison governors are replaced and new directives come into force, those who work with prisoners and their families must adapt their approach.

MU members provide support to prison visitors by holding short courses so that visitors can get the most out of their time with the prison residents. MU also holds workshops to introduce many of the services that work with prisoners' families.

MU helps support the Family Days held at one prison, and also provides presents for children of prisoners at Christmas time. MU provides tea and a chat with the inmates of one women's prison, as well going-home packs of essential items for when they leave.

MU also supports prison officers, who as key workers have found the last few months particularly challenging. MU's Thank You Key Workers appeal wants to raise funds to provide families of key workers with short breaks or experience days.

If you would like to help, go to: www.mothersunion.org/thank-you-keyworker-appeal



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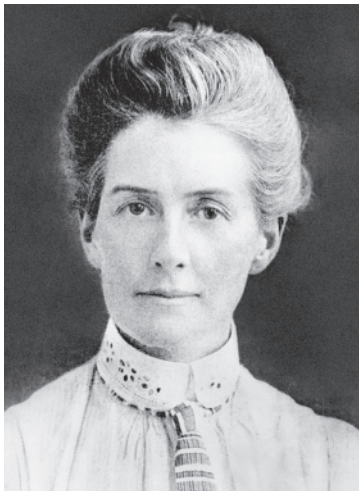
(Day or Evening)

COMMITTEE ROOMS ALSO AVAILABLE

Contact: The Caretaker, Parish Hall Cottage, Church Road, Cheadle Hulme

Telephone: 0161 485 2596

Edith Cavell, nurse - 12th October



Edith Cavell is a good saint for NHS workers this year: she cared for the sick despite the danger to her own safety.

Edith was a vicar's daughter from Swardston in Norfolk, where she was born in 1865. She became a governess, but her heart was for nursing, so she went on to train at the London Hospital, before nursing in various hospitals such as St Pancras and Manchester. When Edith was 42, she decided to go abroad, and was appointed matron of a large training centre for nurses in Brussels. She was still there seven years later, when the First World War broke out and German troops invaded Belgium on their way to Paris and the Channel Ports.

Edith's nursing school became a Red Cross hospital, and she turned down the opportunity to return to the safety of England. Instead, her nurses tended wounded soldiers from both German and Allied armies.

Sadly, in 1915, when the Germans began their occupation of Brussels, they took a dim view of Edith's work. But they would have been even more unhappy had they known she was helping to smuggle 200 British soldiers across the border into the Netherlands! Finally, the Germans arrested Edith in August 1915, and put her into solitary confinement. They tricked her into confessing to a charge which carried the death penalty. But Edith refused to show regret at what she had done, or any fear or bitterness towards her captors. On 11th October 1915, the night before her execution, Edith was visited by the Anglican chaplain to Brussels, the Revd Stirling Gahan. Together they said the words of Abide with Me, and Edith received her last Holy Communion.

She told Gahan: "I am thankful to have had these ten weeks of quiet to get ready. Now I have had them and have been kindly treated here. I expected my sentence and I believe it was just. Standing, as I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone."

Edith was shot by a firing squad next day, on 12th October 1915. After the war her body was exhumed and buried in Norwich Cathedral. Her memorial service in Westminster Abbey attracted thousands. A commemorative statue of her stands near Trafalgar Square.





Looks like the sexton went to Spain after all, and is still in quarantine.



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Parish Calendar and Registers

SERVICES

Most of our services are of course 'on hold' at the moment, but services of Holy Communion were able to resume on Sunday July 19th at 10.00am.

These were shorter than usual, but a sermon, prayers and a reading have now been added. As you know, we are unable to sing together in church, but Trevlyn will be playing the organ.

Private prayer sessions will continue on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 11.00am. Please follow the signs, social distancing and recommended hygiene whenever you are visiting. More details are available on our website.

ALTAR FLOWER ROTA OCTOBER 2020

- 4th The Hargreaves Family -
In memory of Parents,
Hazel and Kenneth
- 11th HARVEST - Mrs S. Akroyd
- 18th Mrs B Gilks
- 25th Mrs F. M. Pickett

If you wish to discuss any aspect of church flowers including wedding flowers please contact Frances Pickett (0161 439 8890)

CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

We give thanks for the lives of the following:

Aug 19 Keith Chadwick



God's Hands

*Our times are firmly in His hands,
The hands that fashioned all that's made,
Giving life and breath and purpose,
Touching all He came to save.*

*The hands that gave themselves to nails,
Has gathered sheep that went astray
And raised them up to heavenly places
Waiting for the Coming Day.*

*As life and years roll on together,
Our times are set, on this we stand,
Secure and safe in God's own keeping
As none can pluck us from His hand.*

Megan Carter

We're keeping our Coronavirus updates page on the All Saints website as current as possible. Keep checking there and on the All Saints Facebook page for further news.

If you know anyone who needs shopping; prayers or simply a conversation please call Rev Janet on 0161 312 4683 or our Churchwardens Janet Ashman 0161 485 7969 and John Ackerley 0161 486 1419.



Christian Stewardship

The Parish practises the principles of Christian Stewardship in its giving for the work of God. If you are interested to learn more about it please contact the Recorder, Kate Hughes (485 1010), the Vicar or the Churchwardens. The giving of time and talents is encouraged, If you wish to help in some capacity in the Church services or organisations, in improving or maintaining the Church fabric or grounds, or in visiting and helping the sick or housebound, please speak to the Clergy or the Churchwardens.



All Saints Cheadle Hulme

PARISH DIRECTORY

Clergy: *The Rev'd Janet Bacon, All Saints Vicarage, 27 Church Road SK8 7JL (485 3455)
The Rev'd Janet Owens (Retired) (312 4683)

Readers: Mrs Pat Yates (485 4546)
Mr Michael Aiers (439 7692)

Church Wardens: *Mrs Janet Ashman (485 7969)
*Mr John Ackerley (486 1419)

Deputy Wardens: *Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)
*Ms Sarah Ball (07966 146746)

Organist: Miss Trevlyn Thomas (485 8026)

Sacristan: *Mrs Janet Valentine (439 8203)

P.C.C. Vice Chairman and Treasurer: *Mr Jeremy Valentine (439 8203)

P.C.C. Secretary: *Mrs Linda Ackerley (486 1419)

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Secretary: *Mrs Kate Hughes (485 1010)

Mainly Music Co-ordinator and Child Protection Officer: *Mrs Clare Russell (486 9304)

Church Room Bookings: Mr Neville Ashman (485 7969)

Parish Rooms Bookings: Ms Joanna Parsons, Parish Room Cottage, Church Road, SK8 7JB
(485 2596)

Electoral Roll Officer: Dr David Jones (01625 850997)

Parish Magazine Editor: Mr Rhys Davenport (485 6772) Email: seed.design@mail.com

Website and Social Media: *Ms Sarah Ball Email: comms@allsaintsheadleulme.org.uk

Parish Magazine Secretary and Treasurer:
Mrs Chris Spencer (485 8282)

Deanery Synod Representatives: *Mrs Julia Ball (440 8647)

*Miss Irene Walton (439 6096)

P.C.C. Members are marked* Other members

Mesdames: L. Bacon, M. Epps, C. Jones, L. Karuku, F. Pickett, S. Stone