ALL SAINTS'



This week's Newsbulletin

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

Services/events for this week

13th-23rd May Thy Kingdom Come

Daily 11.00-13.00

Church open for private prayer (Except Thursday 20th & Saturday 22nd)

Daily 20.00 Prayers on Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89791534428 Meeting ID: 897 9153 4428

7th Sunday of Easter 16th April 10.00 Family Service on Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87271593002?pwd =Um5QT3Z2ZEZXS0VLa3pTaG13cUxTZz09

Meeting ID: 872 7159 3002

Passcode: 967985

10.00 Said Eucharist in All Saints

We will follow the government guidelines of distancing, sanitising, facemasks and no conversation.

Thursday 20th 12.30 Wedding in Church

Saturday 22nd 10.00 Socially Distanced Plant Sale outside Church

'Zoom'-ing by 'phone

Call 0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240 or 0131460 1196 and use meeting id followed by #

Ascensiontide

Dear Friends.

It's Ascensiontide - the completion of Christ's time of resurrection. Jesus came from God to take on our humanity, our life, our troubles, our sin and our death. Sin and death were defeated through the cross and for forty days Jesus walked and talked amongst his disciples and followers, showing that he had been raised from the dead.

Then he returns to God, fully human and fully divine. And he left his disciples and left us here. We were in one sense left behind. We were left but not abandoned.

The Ascension marks the end of the earthly ministry of Jesus and prepares the way for the birth of the church with the gift of the spirit at Pentecost. Up until this moment the Gospel has been about what God in Christ has done for us, from this time of Ascension the Gospel is about what God is doing through us in the world.



The need to get on with ministry is reflected in Acts, "While he was going and they were gazing up

toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee why do you stand looking up towards heaven?"

Each time I read this it takes me back to my childhood and when I was sent to do some task, perhaps to tidy up my room and I went off and started to daydream and an parent might come and ask "what are you doing just staring into space, come on get on with it!" In the same way, we are reminded to stop looking up and to start looking around at the work that we are called to do, at the world full of people who need to hear and feel the love of Jesus in their lives.

Love, Jo

Acensiontide Prayer

Where did you go Jesus?
Where did you go?
We stand, necks craning back, looking
heavenwards
But we cannot see you

Where did you go? Did you leave us?

Hush my child,
Listen, listen,
Listen for the breeze
Listen for the breath
Listen for the Holy Wind's whispered promise

You are not alone You are not alone You are never alone

My love is yours
My strength is yours
My wisdom... all yours for the taking
Listen, listen, listen....

It comes, a gentle breeze, caressing your spirit
It comes, building, energising, filling the
spaces
Until you are full

O Holy Spirit! Come!

Breath of God
Spirit of God
Our wise counsellor
Our constant companion
Helps us to remember that you are always
with us
In persecutions, and turmoil, and dread
In excitements, and joy and love
In the mundane and everyday
You are, Here.

O God
Our God
We praise you
We call on you
We rely on you
As we stand and stare
As we wait again,
for the reminder that Pentecost only needed
to happen once
as you promised,
for now the Spirit is always with us

Creator, Brother, Breath Amen and amen

> written by Julie, and posted on RevGalBlogPals

Service Pattern from 23rd May

Thank you to everyone who responded to Jo's questions last week. There was a clear majority in favour of keeping the main service at 10.00 am.

With the expected move to Step 3 of the Covid-19 roadmap on Monday 17th May we plan to return to holding a 10 am Eucharist in church with choral and organ music from members of the choir as of Sunday 23rd (Pentecost). We will be commissioning the PCC and Churchwardens and welcoming Cllr Bob Deering our Mayor, who will read the Gospel.

We are aware that there are those who will not be able/feel safe to join us and we will continue to offer live/interactive worship via Zoom for the foreseeable future. Having looked at the logistics (and personnel) involved we will need to do this at a different time as we cannot be in two places at once.!

We are currently contacting those who are affected to find a time that is suitable and achievable. If this affects you and we haven't been in touch by early next week do please let us know.

Thy Kingdom Come



Between Ascension Day and Pentecost we will be joining the global prayer movement of **Thy Kingdom Come.** Many resources, including a prayer journal, Novena prayers, a Cheeky Panda video series for children and daily reflections and an Escape Room for youth, have been provided on the **Church of England website:** https://www.thykingdomcome.global/prayer-resources

All Saints church will be open for prayer and contemplation, or just to be still, from 11:00 until 1:00 during this period. Exceptions are Thursday 20th when there is a wedding, and Saturday 22nd when the Plant Sale will be in full swing.

In addition, Morning Prayer on Tuesday 18th will be in church rather than on Zoom, since the church will be open.

The churchyard and porch will portray the messages of Ascension and Pentecost - the constant presence of the Holy Spirit, and Jesus's words, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:20. There will also be daily prayers on Zoom at 8 o'clock each evening from 13th to 23rd

Plant Sale 22nd May



On **Saturday May 22nd from 10:00 to 12:00**, Dorothy and Fiona are arranging the annual **Plant Sale**. There will be eight well-spaced tables holding different categories of plants so that distance between people can be maintained. The categories are summer bedding and annuals; herbaceous; shrubs

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and trees; herbs; houseplants; wild flowers; vegetables; and bulbs and corms.

In addition, there will be a produce stall, similar to Fiona's weekly stall in church, stalls for cakes, gardening books and magazines, garden tools and sundries as well as a table with good quality sports equipment and picnic or camping gear. Refreshments will be available outside.

At all times, we will be mindful of social distancing so in welcoming people back, the emphasis will always be on staying safe.

Get involved – safely!

These events offer the first opportunity since the start of the pandemic for us to work together, and it would be wonderful to have as many people as possible involved. There are different ways of getting involved. Firstly, by attending the events, spreading the word and bringing friends, secondly by offering to help.

If you would like to offer to be in the church for one of the 2-hour slots during "Thy Kingdom Come" please contact Nerine 07535803529.

Many of us can get involved with the Plant Sale. Volunteers are needed to man the tables, to bake cakes and to sort through items that could be donated to one of the tables listed above.

Please contact Fiona 01992462467 or Dorothy 01992589781 to let them know what you can do. Donations can be left in the church between 11:00 and 1:00 on any day between 13th and 21st May.

Contact information

www.allsaintshertford.org

If: **☑**: **②**: AllSaintsHertf

Vicar (and Team Rector of Hertford)

Rev Canon Jo Loveridge BA MTh AKC, The Vicarage, Churchfields, Hertford SG13 8AE 01992 584899 vicar@allsaintshertford.org https://vicarallsaintshertford.blogspot.com/

Office office@allsaintshertford.org

Full list of contacts:

https://www.allsaintshertford.org/contacts.php