Mid January 2022

ALL SAINTS'



ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

Hopes for the future

As we begin 2022, I write with my prayers for God's blessing on you in this New Year and share with you some hopes for the future. We celebrate this time of Epiphany, one of the most amazing of church seasons, a time of revelation and joy. The stark outline of trees against an ever-changing sky sharpens the contrasts. Bright stars illumine the way. The Bible passages set for these Sundays follow the beginnings of the ministry of Jesus; his baptism, calling the first disciples and the first miracle. They conclude with the ancient **Feast of Candlemas**, the turning point between Christmas and Faster.

'They were overwhelmed with joy' (Matthew 2.10) The ongoing pandemic continues to challenge everyone, and we can't yet hold as many events but I am struck by this verse in Matthew's Gospel in which the Magi are 'overwhelmed with joy' as they enter the house where Jesus was. In the same way, I hope that your faith may bring you that same hope and joy even in our current circumstances. I would like to thank you all for the joy that you have given me by your love and care as the family of God here at All Saints

'O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness' (Psalm 69.9 and hymn) I would like to thank our amazing wardens Janet and Nerine who have ensured that the good news of God's love has been shared with us and those outside the church walls through word and praise in our worship, care homes, housebound and in our churchyard. Thanks also to Colin who has kept us focused on the sustainability of All Saints and looked after our finances so well.

I want to express our thanks and praise to our choir and Director of Music, Martin as music has been an inspiration to us and particularly the carol services at Advent, Christmas and Epiphany have been an uplifting gift to us all, helping us to experience the depth, beauty and mystery of God. To Dorothy and the

flower arrangers who made the church look amazing and the North porch such an attraction. To Luella who has cleaned, tidied and generally given so much of her time and love to All Saints. The Fabric Team who have cared for and maintained our beautiful Church and Hall. To Kay, Amanda and Martin and Mary and the PCC for ensuring that the administration and background work of running All Saints goes so smoothly and well.

'Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him' (John 2.11)

We are looking at the future of All Saints together and how we can grow our Church, sustainably. We see that God's love has been revealed in his Son through the visit of the Wise Men, in Christ's baptism in the Jordan and by the miracle at Cana. It is up to us to make this love and grace visible and show it through our lives both individually and working together as a Church in mission.

'fullness'. words 'abundance' The and 'overflowing' are key words in the Gospels to express all the wonderful gifts that God gives us. So I encourage you all to participate in prayer and worship, fellowship and mission, as we look at our future together so that everyone can share in this love. As St John says, 'we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth'. For this and God's many blessings, let us be filled with hope, joy and thanksgiving in the year ahead. Lord God Almighty, thank you that Jesus' epiphany as Son of God reaches across time and space. May we embrace your call to come and see, come and follow, go and tell May we remember that we are others. bearers of Christ's light sent out to touch others so that they may know him as Son of God and experience the wonder, love and hope his message brings.

May the love of the Creator go before you, May the life of the Redeemer be within you, May the joy of the Spirit shine through you, Amen.

Love, Jo

MAP



"BEAR FRUIT, FRUIT THAT WILL LAST"



We are currently revising our Mission Action Plan.

A briefing document was issued to everyone who came to Church last week. Copies have been included with this mailing. There are also copies at the back of church or on-line at www.allsaintshertford.org/downloads/maprev.pdf

There will be an opportunity to share ideas at our 10.00 am service on 16th January. But good ideas are always welcome, whenever they occur!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th -25th January

Hertford and District Churches Together have decided to postpone their in-person Unity Service until Pentecost. In its place are two online opportunities to share in prayer.

Led by Andrew Clark, Pastor of Hertford Baptist Church, there will be worship and reflection during a short midday prayer session on Thursday 20th at 12.00 noon using this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82638567209

or dialling in on the usual numbers and using Meeting ID: 826 3856 7209



Alternatively Churches Together in Hertfordshire, have arranged a service of prayer on Tuesday 25th at 19.30. This will be led by the **Rt Revd Michael Beasley**, **Bishop of Hertford** with music led by harpist, **Alison Eve** and contributions from Christians from across the churches. **Revd Stephen Copson of the Central Baptist Association** will then lead a time of open prayer together. All are very welcome.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89465881609?pwd =aHduWWw3b1NVOVlzZ01sa3lWdkt5Zz09 Meeting ID: 894 6588 1609 and Passcode: 656904

Coffee after 10.00 am services

We plan to restart serving coffee from 6th February.



Where possible, please can you bring a reusable cup/mug with you so that we can reduce our 'footprint' – and save on unnecessary cost too. We will, of course, have some cups/mugs available for those who are unable to bring one

Christingle Service

Our All the Family Service on February 6th will be a Christingle Service.

Christingles are oranges wrapped in red tape, decorated with dried fruit or sweets, with a candle on the top.



Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story:

- The orange represents the world
- The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness



We warmly encourage you to join in the Living in Love and Faith course taking place in this Diocese and across The Church of England as we explore together Christian teaching and our understandings of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

If you're not sure about what this is all about, there is a short film to watch which features some people who have already taken part: <u>LLF film</u>

We are encouraging every parish and chaplaincy in the Diocese to take part in the course. There are just five sessions in the course, each lasting about 90 minutes.

Please do join us online via Zoom for the LLF course which will be run by Bishop Michael. The dates are all Wednesdays from 7.30 to 9 pm:

26 January, 2 February, 9 February, 23 February and 9 March.

To book a place please go to: LLF <u>Eventbrite</u> booking

However you take part in the LLF course, at the end please take a little time to reflect on what you have shared and heard and then submit your feedback so that your voice is part of The Church of England's ongoing reflections on these important matters: LLF CofE Feedback link

Do get in touch with the LLF Advocate in St Albans Diocese, The Revd Will Gibbs if you have any specific questions: <u>email Will Gibbs</u>

Soundbites

We have planned a nine-week season for the Spring running from February 2nd to March 30th inclusive, beginning with a recital by George Smith Cello

George, a former pupil at Richard Hale School is currently reading Music at Queens' College, Cambridge and studying cello with Hannah Roberts at the Royal Academy of Music



Free Admission with Retiring Collection in Aid of All Saints' Church

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

Parish Diary

All these events are subject to change in the light of revisions to guidance issued by HMG or CofE. We endeavour to keep our website up to date with any changes.

If in doubt please check at www.allsaintshertford.org/diary.php

JANUARY

Friday 14th

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 16th 2nd Sunday of Epiphany 10.00 am Shortened Communion 6.30 pm Choral Compline

Tuesday 18th

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Wednesday 19th

7.30 am Head Teacher's Prayers in Church

Thursday 20th

11.00 am Holy Communion in Church12.00 noon Service for Christian unity on Zoom7.30 pm All Saints Art in Church

Friday 21st

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 23rd 3rd Sunday of Epiphany 10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Choral Compline

Tuesday 25th

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom7.30 pm PCC on Zoom7.30 pm Service for Christian Unity on Zoom

Wednesday 26th

7.30 am Head Teacher's Prayers in Church

Thursday 27th

11.00 am Morning Prayer in Church

Friday 28th

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

Sunday 30th 4th Sunday of Epiphany 10.00 am Parish Communion 6.30 pm Said Evensong

FEBRUARY

Regular Weekday Events

Mondays

18.30 Fellowship Group (3rd Mon)

Wednesdays

12.15 for 13.00 Soundbites

Thursdays

11.00 Holy Communion
19.30 All Saints Art

Fridays 18.30 - 21.00

Choir Practices (in Term Time)

Sunday Services

Sunday 6th 4th Sunday before Lent

10.00 am All the Family Service - Christingle **6.30 pm** Choral Communion

Sunday 13th 3rd Sunday before Lent

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 20th 2nd Sunday before Lent

10.00 am Family Eucharist

4.00 pm Messy Church

6.30 pm Choral Compline

Sunday 27th Sunday next before Lent

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Login details for Tuesday Morning Prayer

We have had some problems with Zoom links. If you are not sure you have the up-to-date one for the Tuesday Zoomed Morning Prayer then please email Janet Bird at onzoom@allsaintshertford.org and she will supply.

Contact information

Vicar

Rev Canon Jo Loveridge BA MTh AKC, The Vicarage, Churchfields, Hertford SG13 8AE vicar@allsaintshertford.org 01992 584899

Office office@allsaintshertford.org

Full list of contacts

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