# ALL SAINTS NEWS

29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Easter 7

# Two Reflections to Ponder during the Great Novena (Ascension Day to Pentecost)

# From a Sermon for the Lord's Ascension

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: 'If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.' For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

*St Augustine (354-430)* 

#### From La Corona

Salute the last, and everlasting day,

Joy at the uprising of this Sunne, and Sonne,

Ye whose just tears, or tribulation

Have purely washed, or burnt your drossy clay;

Behold the Highest, parting hence away, Lightens the dark clouds, which he treads upon,

Nor doth he by ascending, show alone,

But first he, and he first enters the way.

O strong Ram which hast battered heaven for me,

Mild lamb, which with thy blood, hast marked the path;

Bright Torch, which shin'st, that I the way may see,

Oh, with thy own blood quench thy own just wrath.

And if the holy Spirit, my Muse did raise,

Deign at my hands this crown of prayer and praise.

John Donne (1572-1631)

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# 'Seeing Beyond the Gate' Watercolour Exhibition

Thank you all who viewed the watercolour exhibition in the Atrium over the last couple of weeks. All paintings that were purchased are now available for pick-up from the All Saints Office. When all have been purchased and picked-up a donation will be made to the All Saints Piper Window Appeal. Thank you!

As with all events that take place within the All Saints church and building the exhibition produced a significant foot-fall from both the local community and across Bristol. This was significantly helped by the communication process that led to an article on the Bristol magazine and a feature on BBC Radio Bristol.

It is worth our reflection on the significance of 'the arts' here at All Saints and our missional purpose of 'bringing the outside in, and taking the inside out'. The number of people who attend concerts, exhibitions and events within Church, the Atrium and Randall Room is very considerable. Often these visits lead to quite profound conversations which do not equate to attendance at worship now, but do relate to people's re-framing of what church is and does, and to enabling thought about the purpose of life and what lies beyond our material world.

# Changes in Liturgy - Post-Covid

Following the announcements and recommendations made by the Church of England's Coronavirus Guidance Team during the first week of May, we will be returning to some of the pre-Covid practices during Mass.

# The Common Cup

This is the most significant, by far. From Ascension Day and going forward communion will be offered in both kinds. We will continue to make a single line in the central aisle to receive the host and then have the offer and choice to receive the wine from the Common Cup. This will be taking communion standing, as is our weekday practice and in common with many churches (including both Bristol Cathedrals).

It is important to emphasise that the offer of receiving the wine is a personal choice. There are probably a considerable number of us who wish to maintain a Covid-safe-practice and may wish to receive in one kind only. Indeed, there are already those who have always received in one kind only in response to personal decisions of faith or health.

And, it is important to emphasise that receiving in one kind is a full and sufficient sacramental communion.

#### **Other Liturgical Changes**

Less noticeable, but still of significance, we will return to having an **Offertory Procession** to bring the gifts forward for the Liturgy of the Sacraments. As you are aware this has a significance that represents the 'response' to God of his love of and gifts to us through creation.

Exchanging **The Peace**. This is a liturgical action, at the commencement of the Liturgy of the Sacrament, that underlines God's command to us to respond to all of humanity – not just the people we like or who are like us. From this point forward people may elect to exchange the Peace through human contact – the clasping of hands. My expectation is that we will continue much as we are now with the various gestures we have employed over the last few years. Remember that this is a deeply ritualised action, widespread historic tradition and is enshrined in scripture.

You may also notice a few other actions, such as the **Lavabo**, which are returning to the way we conduct our liturgy.

# The Basque Children



The last weeks of May this year marks the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a little-known episode which still has resonance today. I first heard an account of this from Professor Eric Hawkins, (University of York), who was closely involved as volunteer interpreter, teacher, and organiser.

**Spring 1937**: the Spanish Civil War is ten months old. Contrary to expectations Franco's forces have not yet taken Madrid. Franco turns attention to the north, to the Basque province of Vizcaya, still under the autonomous regional government set up by the Republic. With a naval blockade to starve the Basques, Franco permits German planes to begin bombing the region, starting with the small town of Durango, of no military significance . A month later, on April 26th - market-day, waves of bombers attack Guernika, emblematic historic seat of Basque government. Guernika becomes the first town to be razed to the ground by aerial bombardment.

In Britain, on April 28th George Stern's eyewitness account of the aftermath of the raid, all the more agonizing for its subdued tone, filled a page of the Times. The British Consul in Bilbao, who had also walked among the ruins of Guernika, reported to the Foreign Office. Amidst international revulsion, the news galvanised the efforts of the National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief to arrange evacuation of children from Vizcaya - now under constant bombardment. With opposition coming from several quarters, a reluctant Government finally gave permission on May 18<sup>th</sup> – on condition that all costs would be met by the Committee and that there would be no government funding. Preparations were already underway, and a few days later an elderly cruise liner, the Habana, left the port of Santurce, crossed a stormy Bay of Biscay, and arrived in Southampton carrying almost 4,000 children, 200 volunteer teachers and carers, and 15 priests. 'It's only for three months' was the widespread belief .

The citizens of Southampton welcomed them with astonishing and inventive generosity. A transit camp had been set up on 30 acres donated by a local farmer. A host of volunteers, comprising both organisations and individuals, supplied and set up tents, field kitchens, water and gas, bedding, furniture, latrines, food, medical provision, – and rallied to last-minute hiring of extra tents from the War Ministry when it was realised that the number arriving was double that expected. Eric Hawkins, in the last days of his teacher-training year at Cambridge, was asked to meet a pressing need for interpreters at the camp. He described his experience 'trudging round with the doctors, hastily learning the Spanish for various ailments and intimate body parts not included in school or university textbooks, spending time persuading children to eat food they had never seen before and were deeply wary of '. Within a couple of weeks the children started being dispersed around the country, most to 'colonies' set up by local committees, some to Catholic convents and orphanages. It is fair to say that some places took on more than they could cope with - not just in numbers of children and funding needed, but in the necessary quality of care and cultural understanding. There was loneliness, unhappiness, and a sense of rejection. More successful groups raised funds through folk song and dance performances. Eric went first to the exemplary colony at Pampisford, with an organised timetable of lessons taught in Spanish, and many recreational activities for children who were 'acutely shell-shocked, needing time, rest and quiet before formal study could succeed.' At the other extreme, some colonies were in serious trouble. Eric was asked to go to Harwood Dale in Yorkshire to help restore order.

The children, all boys, many in their mid-teens, had been left to their own devices, roaming the countryside, and causing havoc. Eric acknowledged that he was especially fortunate in forming an immediate rapport with his fellow helper, Casto Alonso, who, of Spanish parentage but brought up in London, spoke with native fluency and familiarity in the 'demotic registers of the language' The boys eventually responded to the two young leaders, and good relations with the local community were achieved.

As the Civil War came to an end, groups of children were returned to Spain or joined refugee relatives in France and other countries – sometimes going to very difficult situations, their lives changed for ever. When the Second World War started, about 2,000 remained in Britain, but repatriations continued until after the fall of France. The National Joint Committee held firm to its policy of requiring a firm request from parents before repatriation, and refused Government demands to provide a list to Franco. 416 children finally remained in Britain during WW2, subsequently declining to about 250.

No parent willingly sends their child to live in a foreign land unless they are desperate. Basque parents faced daily bombing, homelessness, poverty, an acute shortage of food .... and it was 'only for three months'....

Caroline Davenport









'Identity Rooted' by Scott Erickson from his 'New Icons' collection. This image is intended for Spiritual Formation - to use for contemplation, prayer, meditation, and spiritual practice.

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'Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.' Ephesians 3:20



Please pray for those due to be ordained this Petertide including

Emma Sarah Endean-Mills

who will be ordained Deacon in

Christ Church Cathedral Oxford

on Saturday 2nd July 2022

Please also pray for her husband James and their friends and family.

Please pray for the Reverend Mike Reading and the people of Thame where Emma will serve as Curate.



# Introducing our June Placement Ordinands: Isaac Watson and Anne Mayo

"I'm Isaac and I'm a first year ordinand at Trinity College. I'm married to Maddie and we've been making the most of Bristol's great vegan food and vintage clothing since moving last summer. Looking forward to worshiping with you in June!"



Hello All Saints!

I am a first year Trinity ordinand from Bath and Wells and I am so looking forward to spending a month with you this summer.

I live on-site in the Carter community, am often described as a dog owner without a dog (one day!), and ran my own creative small business before coming to train in Bristol. My background is in evangelical charismatic churches and I am looking forward to joining you and learning from you as you worship.

Thank you for your generosity and openness to share your church life with Trinity students, it is a real gift to us.

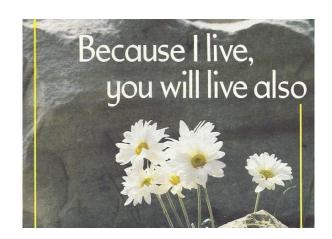
Please do come and say hello throughout the month -- I'd love to meet you!

# **Prayers Requests**

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer



### Those who we remember in our Prayers

Sunday Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman,
Neal Gordon, Jean Callow, Sarah Bradley, Katrina and Katherine King, Samantha Tucker
Veronica Hayfield, Joyce Shepherd Philip Miles Ryan Lindsey, Immie
Audrey Jones, Christine Bartlett, Emma Cartwright Sue Hilliar
Steve Cooper Alison Tierney Brenda Davison
Monday John Bradley, Robert Paul, Nicky Cousins, Peter Maine Peter Martin
Tuesday Chris Callow, Elizabeth, Judy Torrens, Margaret Swindale, Diana Verity,
Wednesday Felicity Firth, Kate Thomas, Adam Holmes, Hugh Farry Linda
Cynthia Ashford, Ros Hawkins, Alan Roberts
Thursday Richard Harris, Matt Mumford, Brian Davidge, Caroline Semon,
Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Elisabeth Morgan
+ Peter (Bishop of Bath and Wells)
Saturday Merryn, Roger Durbin (Pr), Nicholas Edwards, Alan & Poppy

### This Church

- All those who come into our church to find the comfort of our Sacred Space.
- For those who enter this church as visitors and tourists, for those who come just to look
- For those looking to the coming 'Christian Year' wishing ways to take part in the missio Dei
- For those who make use of this space for meetings, rehearsals, concerts, exhibitions, exercise, classes, events and so much more.
- For those who come into this place weighed down through fear fear of life and life events, the Covid virus, of those around them, and so many other causes

# **The Departed**

James Souter Roy Beckworth Jill Masefield Peter Jones Douglas Henderson Nina Thorp David Andrews Rita Plaice Jean Weeks Barbara Collins Wendy Roberts Wendy Bray (Pr).

### Years' Minds - this week we remember

Beryl Hemming Myfanwy Davenport Noelle Butler-Wright Elizabeth Birch Gwen Hutton

# ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

N/105	
Mon	Josephine Butler 1906 Joan of Arc 1431
30	Feminist and social reformer. Pray for the prostitutes of Bristol, and those who work in the
	fields of venereal diseases and aids.
Tue	The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth
31	The visit of the blessed virgin ividity to Elizabeth
31	Mary visits Elizabeth Dray for expectant methors, those who adopt shildren, those who
	Mary visits Elizabeth. Pray for expectant mothers, those who adopt children, those who
	would love to be mothers more than anything else!. Children who are lost and without
	family, children unloved.
Wed	Mass 10.00am Justin, Martyr c.165
1 <sup>st</sup>	Justin was an early Christian apologist and teacher, considered to be the foremost interpreter
June	of the "logos" from John's gospel. ("In the beginning was the Word") and its theological
	development.
	Pray today for those involved with research into biblical studies and hermeneutics and who
	work to point others to Jesus as revealed in the gospels.
	Work to point others to sesus as revealed in the gospels.
Thurs	Pray for those who today will visit a church, perhaps for the first time, with a sense of
_	
2	curiosity, a heavy heart or a sincere desire to find God. Pray that they will fine welcome and
	encouragement in their first steps of faith.
Fri	Mass 10.00am Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-1977
3	Pray for the nation of Uganda and for its Anglican Archbishop, Most Revd. Stanley Ntagali.
	Pray for the links that Bristol diocese has with the church in Uganda, and for Revd. Chris
	Dobson, who leads their development.
Sat	Petroc, abbot, 6 <sup>th</sup> century
4	Pray for Truro diocese and for stpetrocs.org.uk who work with the homeless across Cornwall.
Sunday	Pentecost
5	
	Today the church across the world celebrates Pentecost. Pray that the coming of the Holy
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	Today the church across the world celebrates Pentecost. Pray that the coming of the Holy Spirit may be celebrated with a joy that changes lives, offering hope and comfort.
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If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below;

Parochial Church Council of All Saints
Account No. 65256747
sort code 08 92 99
Gift Aid forms are available from the office
office@allsaintsclifton.org

