

ALL SAINTS NEWS

21st September 2025
14th Sunday of Trinity
St Matthew

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Sunday 14th September 2025



History at All Saints

This is a Festival that only occasionally falls on a Sunday. It recognises three events in history, two from the fourth century and one in the seventh.

We celebrated this Festival on Sunday 14 September, which has also become an Historic Event for All Saints.

Three woman priests concelebrated at the High Altar: Revd Canon Nicola Stanley as Principal Celebrant, Revd Joanna Moule as Deacon Concelebrant and Revd Sister Teresa Mary CSC as Concelebrant.

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The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the All Saints Church community.

Three Historic Events (that led to the Festival of the Holy Cross)

1. Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.
2. The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration in Jerusalem toward the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the wood was taken out of its silver container and placed on a table together with the inscription Pilate ordered placed above Jesus' head: Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross and the inscription, first with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move on."
3. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, 15 years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.



Modern Mystics Series 2025

A short course of three Zoom Sessions provided by Sarum College

<https://www.sarum.ac.uk/short-courses/mm25/>

(Look for this on the Sarum Website, the sign up fee is £50)

We often think that mysticism is a thing of the past, that the great mystics like Francis of Assisi, Julian of Norwich or Teresa of Avila are resigned to times long gone, and that mysticism died in the Reformations, the Enlightenment, or the Quietist Controversy.

However, there are important mystical elements of all major world religions today including Christianity, and many 20th-, and 21st-century figures exemplify mysticism.



In our fourth series of webinars on Modern Mystics, we are excited to look at three major figures of the 20th century (stretching slightly into the two adjacent centuries). Each webinar will be led by an expert on the mystic in question, and will consist of a 50-minute introductory lecture on that figure and their mystical writings. After a quick break we will have 30 minutes for Q&A with our expert. Each webinar runs from 7:30-9 PM (UK time) on Zoom on a Monday evening

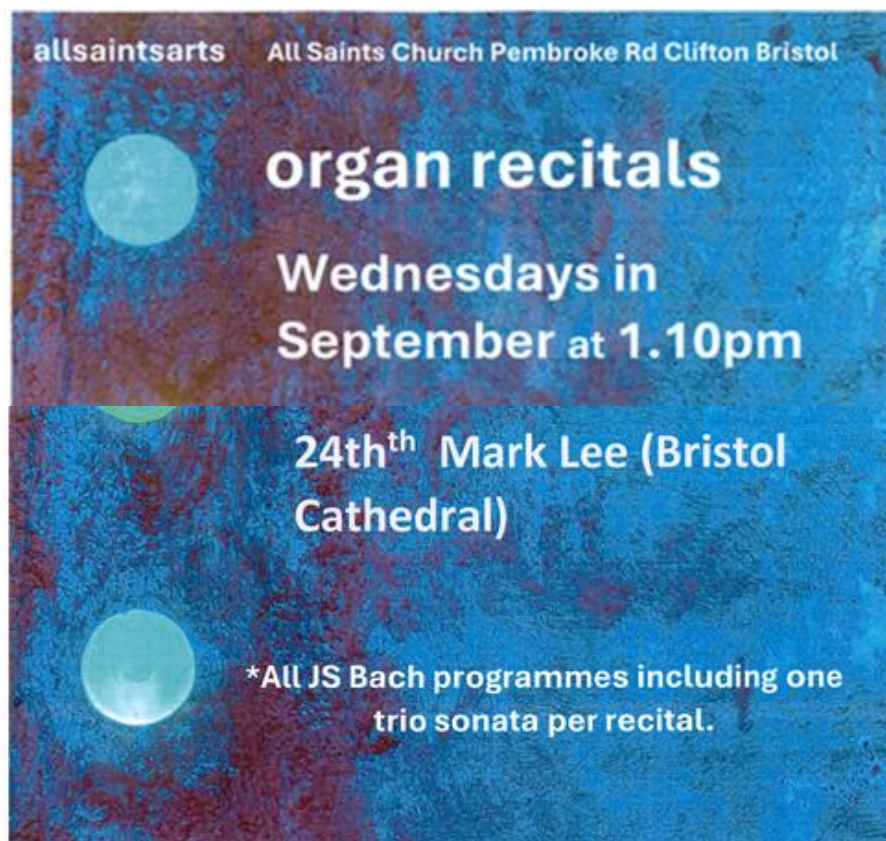
The first webinar, on 22nd September, will be led by Professor Peter Tyler on the German philosopher and theologian, Edith Stein who was murdered in the Holocaust. Born in a German Jewish family, Stein converted to Catholicism and took particular influence from reading the Christian mystics, especially the life of Teresa of Avila.

The second session, on 29th September, will be run by Dr Roger Lipsey on Dag Hammarskjöld, the secretary general of the United Nations from 1953 until his death in 1961. In interviews and in his posthumously published writings, Hammarskjöld shows a major interest in the medieval mystics, especially Meister Eckhart and John of Ruusbroec. His writings have often been described themselves as mystical.



The third session, on 6th October, will be led by [Dr Sue Yore](#) on the political and liberation theologian, Dorothee Sölle. Sölle wrote widely, including her 2001 *The Silent Cry: Mysticism and Resistance*. She is often considered a postmodern mystical writer and someone who both continued and adapted the traditional mystical theological claims.

Although in different ways, our three mystics show that mysticism should not be divorced between politics, action and social justice. Join us to see how this played out in their lives and writings.



Julian Trust - Sock Appeal

The Julian Trust sock cupboard is empty !

**Please can you donate men's socks, new or used for our guests.
Please leave your donations in the box in the Atrium**

Thank you



All Saints



Clifton Church of England



Parish Harvest Supper



Join us in the Randall Room for our

Parish Harvest Supper

Friday 3rd October @ 07.30pm

Raffle, Quiz & Cash Bar

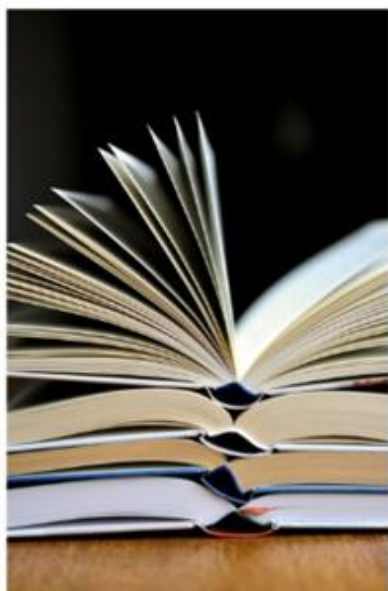
Tickets: £7 each
(Children Free!)

On sale in church from Sunday 14th September

Contact Janice: rhopkins57@yahoo.co.uk OR All Saints Parish Office 0117 974 1355

Vegetarian/gluten free can be accommodated if requested in advance

All profits divided between the Community of the Sisters of the Church (Loaves and Fishes Ministry) and supporting the education of our Sudanese Students



All Saints Book Group

Wed 24th September 2025, 7-9 pm
in the Sacristy

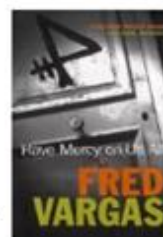
Join us for our bi-monthly book group in the Sacristy of All Saints.

Every other month, a new book – bringing readers together for lively discussions and great company!

Our book for the **September** meeting will be:

Have Mercy on Us All
By Fred Vargas

And do make a note of future dates....
Wed 19th Nov & Wed 21st Jan 2026



Friends Together in 2026



The All Saints Friends Together, Dementia Friendly Café has been welcoming those living with dementia, their friends, family and carers to our free, monthly Café for nearly 10 years now!

Held on the first Thursday of every month from 10 am to 12 pm, in The Randall Room, and offering delicious homemade cakes and hot drinks, a dedicated team of volunteers provides support, companionship, conversation, and one-to-one help.

The Café is a key element of our community outreach at All Saints and its success has contributed to All Saints being awarded a 'Dementia Aware Organisation Gold Award' *for the third year running* by [Bristol Dementia Action Alliance \(BDAA\)](#).

As we head towards 2026, we're now looking for help running and co-ordinating Friends Together moving forwards. There are a number of roles available, and previous experience of those living with dementia is not a requirement, so if anyone is interested in finding out more, then contact **Helen Sutton on 07802 256315** or helen@helensutton.com.

For more information on the All Saints Friends Together Café, do have a look at the ASC website page: <https://tinyurl.com/Friends-Together-Cafe> Thank you!



THE UNSTOPPABLE POWER OF HOPE

Throughout Christian Aid's history there have been truly remarkable members of staff, activities, partners, and achievements that have shaped our identity. During our 80th year, we've looked back at the many stories that shape who we are and who we must continue to be.

Our upcoming national online supporter webinar - happening on Wednesday 24th September at 19:30 on Zoom – exploring the history of Christian Aid and our incredible impact over the last 80 years.

We'll be joined by volunteers and former staff members Sue Richardson and Martin Gage, who'll share some of their personal experiences. Please sign up and join us for a special evening!

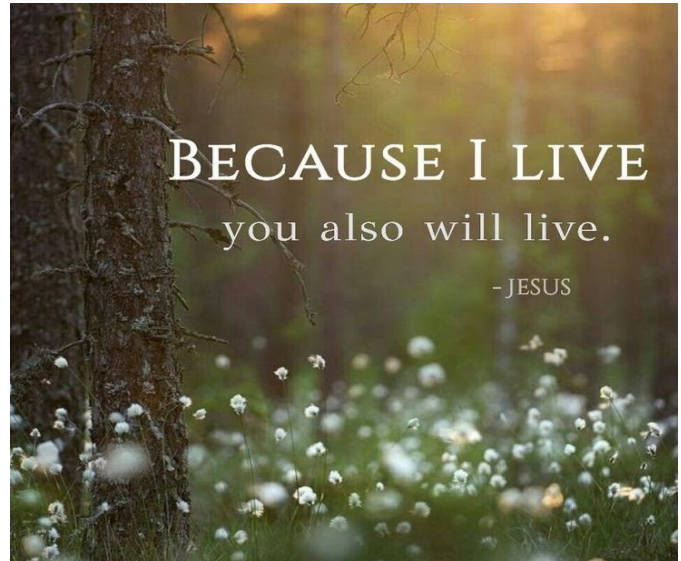
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/.../80th-anniversary-webinar>

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 of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our Prayers:

Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Nicky Epina Sarah Jean Bradford Adam Chivers Andrew French Swarna Simpson

Monday

Hugh Farry Sathia Aruliah Susie King Arthur Cleaver

Tuesday.

Pam Parker Oussama and Claire Sader

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford Vy and Angel Wray

Thursday

Remie Clarke Lucille Osafa

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nadine Benn The O'Sullivan family

Saturday

The Departed

Judy Torrens Armin von Doneck

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Muriel Chant Julian Smith Rose Pulsford Jess Allam Madeline Dowling

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 22	Who is your neighbour? Pray for your literal neighbours, for those you sit close to in church and for the ability to respond to Jesus' teaching 'love your neighbour as yourself.
Tue 23	Pray for women in business and at work. Sexism is still prevalent in the workplace and many roles subject to stereotyping. Pray for the work of woman priests in our church.
Wed 24	Mass 10.00am Pray for those who go hungry. Not just in third world countries, but the increasing numbers in Poland, Germany, United States and United Kingdom.
Thurs 25	Lancelot Andrew 1626 Sergi of Radonezh 1392 Pray for growth in understanding and links between the Orthodox and Anglican traditions. Remember the editors, authors and academics and the readership of the Journal 'Sobornost' and all who foster links between the churches.
Fri 26	Mass 10.00am Wilson Carlile 1942 Pray for and give thanks for the work of the Church Army. A mission-focused community of people who are transforming lives and communities through the work of evangelists, staff and supporters. We are committed to sharing the Christian faith through words and action in a variety of contexts across the British Isles.
Sat 27	Vincent de Paul 1660 Known as the 'Apostle of Charity', he was captured by Barbary pirates and sold several times as a slave (4 years). Pray for those who exist as slaves in our modern world.
Sunday 28	<p>Trinity 15 Michael and All Angels</p> <p>God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service</p> <p>Michael and All Angels</p> <p>As your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth</p> <p>Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am</p>

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

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
The Parish Safeguarding Officers - Caroline Davenport & Janice Callow at office@allsaintsclifton.org marked for the attention of the Safeguarding Officer.