

ALL SAINTS NEWS

Palm Sunday
procession begins
at 10.15

29th March 2026
Palm Sunday

Holding Joy and Sorrow, Palm Sunday Reflection



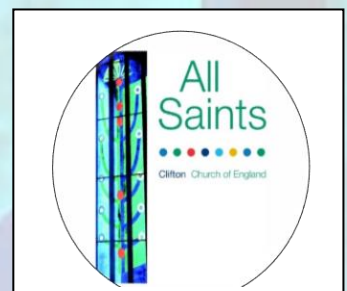
Palm Sunday is a feast that showcases the extremes of human experiences. It begins in triumph but ends in tragedy. Things can turn on a 'sixpence', and as we move through the events described in the Gospels, we're turn topsy-turvy with it all too. Over this week we call Holy, we'll hold it all: from the parade to the Last Supper with loved ones to the trial and crucifixion to that liminal space of waiting to the triumph of resurrection. As we accompany Jesus through these highs and lows, we're meant to find ourselves in his life and to see Christ in our life too.

Each year we read the exact same readings, and yet, we don't read them the same way. Why? Because although the stories from Scripture don't change, we ourselves are not the same people reading them. Since last year's Holy Week, we've had whole year of growth and change and new joys and sorrows. There may be a piece of this familiar story that we hear in a different way, a new insight that we gain, a new way that this time in Jesus's life resonates with our own life.

This year we notice is how quickly things change from one extreme to another, although we don't know why we're surprised by this. Life is full of transition, and we know that from our own experience.

Contact us

Office	01179741355	
Web	www.allsaintsclifton.org	
Email	office@allsaintsclifton.org	
Address	68 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3ED	
Vicar	Fr. Charles Sutton	Home 0117 9078088
Mobile	07785912663	Email charleses@me.com
Associate Priest	Fr Paul Hawkins	



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.

Despite that, though, there is something in us that always thinks things will stay the way they are. For some this is more significant than others.

For some, each year when the seasons change, we tend to think, “Christmas will be the way it always is” or “This is how we’ll celebrate Easter because we always do.” “This is the way we do things here”. It’s the way we’ve always done it!

Yet each season, each festival, our current worshipping community, is unique. Different people are there, either because of their day-to-day demands, or because of losses and additions to the family, or from friends. Yet even if the same people are there year after year, each one of us comes with a whole year of growth and change and movement. So, each season is a unique experience. In fact, every single day of each person’s life is brand new. We bring all the other days and experiences of our lives with us, but each day has the potential for its own joys and sorrows.

We reflect on this as we come to the Passover Meal Jesus celebrated with his friends. Passover and the Triduum, come around each year, and each year the ritual is the same.

Let’s remember, the unique thing about this particular celebration, on Maundy Thursday, is that when Jesus takes up the bread and cup, the usual part of a meal, this time he says that the bread and wine are his body and blood. That’s different, maybe even strange to those gathered at the table. And, there’s talk of betrayal, and that’s odd too, but it’s a ‘family and friends’ celebration, so we keep moving through it. We know that in families somebody says something weird at every season!



Then Jesus wants to leave dinner to go and pray somewhere, and so we go with him. We all have full stomachs and we’ve had some wine, so we fall asleep.

The uniqueness is missed by everyone, except Jesus. Perhaps the disciples assumed they’ll continue to celebrate Passover this way with Jesus year after year. Maybe next year they won’t have to get the donkey, but they assume, like we do, that life will keep rolling on. Passover comes around every year and they celebrate, and meanwhile, life continues.

Except that this year, Passover with Jesus ends.

In fact, life as they know it ends. Following Jesus around and healing and preaching and teaching, this life of discipleship that they’ve become accustomed to, well, it will all end. That’s part of the shock of big changes. We know that life keeps changing and we keep changing, yet it’s easy to think that things will always be the way they are. But that’s not true.

Over these holy days, let us take the time to really enter into the prayer and ritual offered. It's an invitation to reflect on the complicated range of emotions we experience in life. Besides sadness and joy, there's the whole gamut of other emotions and experiences — anger, dismay, disappointment, confusion, doubt, fear, and on and on. When we struggle to hold the extremes of our own experiences, when the intensity is just too much, let us remember that God holds *us*.

Sister Leslie Keener, CDP



Jesus Dies on the Cross

The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black
We watch him as he labours to draw breath
He takes our breath away to give it back,
Return it to its birth through his slow death.

We hear him struggle breathing through the pain
Who once breathed out his spirit on the deep,
Who formed us when he mixed the dust with rain
And drew us into consciousness from sleep.

His spirit and his life he breathes in all
Mantles his world in his one atmosphere
And now he comes to breathe beneath the pall
Of our pollutions, draw our injured air
To cleanse it and renew. His final breath
Breathes us, and bears us through the gates of death.

Malcolm Guite (1957–)



The Nightingale of Bath – Words & Music
The Sacristy, All Saints Church
Friday 6th March 2026



On Friday, 6th March, the Sacristy of All Saints Church provided the perfect setting for a captivating evening of history and music: ***The Nightingale of Bath – Words & Music***. Organised by **Crown Church & Arts**, the event brought to life the dramatic world of Georgian England through the story of the famous Soprano Elizabeth Linley, one of Britain's first modern celebrities.

Based on the best selling novel by Thomas Messel, the fascinating and ultimately tragic story of Elizabeth Linley was presented by the author himself, complemented by readings and music of the period. The audience was treated to exquisite performances by Soprano **Meg Rees** expertly accompanied on the harpsichord by Music Director **John Davenport** as well as readings from the book given by **Helen Sutton**.

Crown Church & Arts donated all profits to the **All Saints' Lent Charities – Julian Trust and Burundi Education Foundation** – and we are delighted to announce that a total of £600 was raised which will be split equally between the two charities.

Crown Church & Arts would like to thank everyone who attended and supported such a wonderful cause. And special thanks to All Saints Church for permitting the use of The Sacristy

For more information on Julian Trust (<https://www.juliantrust.org.uk/>) and Burundi Education Foundation (<https://burundieducationfoundation.org/>) see the display in the All Saints' Atrium.

*Crown Church & Arts (CCA) is a not-for profit organisation established by Andrew Morgan MBE in 2022, aimed at those with an interest in **History, Buildings and the Arts** and offers select and unusual lectures, events and tours throughout the year. For more information on future events, see: www.crownchurchandarts.co.uk*

A Thank you!

Thank you to all who joined in the wonderfully happy and joyful celebrations of my coming of a certain age last Sunday. I am particularly grateful to the church wardens for generously laying the event on and to the choir for their singing after Mass. it demonstrated what a very special community All Saints is! I am most grateful. John



Holy Saturday, 4th April

- Come and help create the **Easter Garden** at **3pm**
- Bring a small posy or plant to add
- Blessing of the garden at **4pm**

Hot Cross buns and drinks will be served

All Welcome!

All Saints Parish Retreat Llangasty House - Friday 15 to Sunday 17 May 2026



This year's Parish Retreat will be led by Fr Charles. The theme, very appropriately for today, will be based upon '**From Blindness to Vision**'.

We will engage in reflection on moving from blindness to sight, recognising the opportunity for spiritual transformation from our shared humanly impaired vision, toward a divine enlightenment through Christ and in creation.

In this spiritual place we have space to open the "eyes of faith" and perceive God's truth, grace, and presence in everyday life and the fullness of creation. (Have a read of today's Gospel: John 9).



Why ensure you are on the Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is the official register of lay membership in a Church of England parish, enabling members to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), stand for the Parochial Church Council (PCC), and take part in church governance. It requires applicants to be baptized, aged 16 or over, and either reside in the parish or have attended regularly (once a month-ish) for at least six months.

Last year we were required to start the roll from 'new'. This means that everyone had to rejoin. This is a regular event to ensure the Roll is up-to-date and properly maintained. As a result, even though worship numbers have increased the Electoral Roll took a dip!

As mentioned, **the purpose** is to function as the voting register for the parish, allowing members to participate in decision-making and elect representatives to the PCC, Deanery, Diocesan and General Synods.

This is an important year for decisions being made at Synods – especially Diocesan and General. We do want to ensure we have voice and representation.

It also carries other **significance!** The size of the roll reflects the active, committed membership, which impacts the representation on church councils but also informs future decisions about the life of the parish.

Two items in particular:

1. The Electoral Roll number impacts the total PCC members we are allowed to elect and also our representation on Deanery Synod (both are calculated by a given ratio)
2. The future vacancy - when it happens!

You can apply by completing the form available in the Atrium and online or via the church office and submitting it to the electoral roll officer (Wendy) or a Churchwarden.

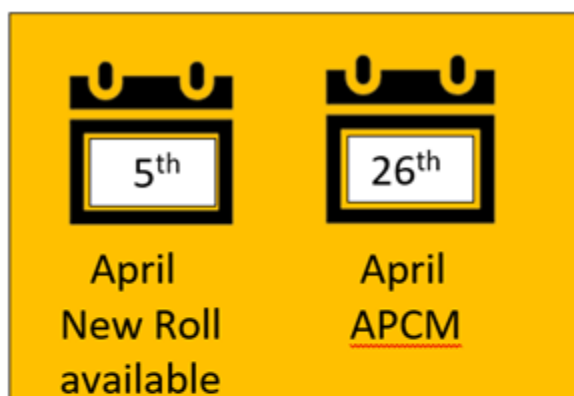
APCM and revising the Electoral Roll

The APCM will be held on Sunday 26th of April 2026 in the Randall Room.

The Electoral Roll is to be revised in 2026. Notice is given and Applications invited from Sunday 15th of March 2026.

The current Electoral Roll (names only) is available in the atrium for viewing. To be included in the Revised Electoral Roll please complete an application form and return it to the Parish Office.

All changes must be completed by 2nd of April at 11.00 am. The New Roll will be available for inspection from Sunday 5th of April for 14 days.

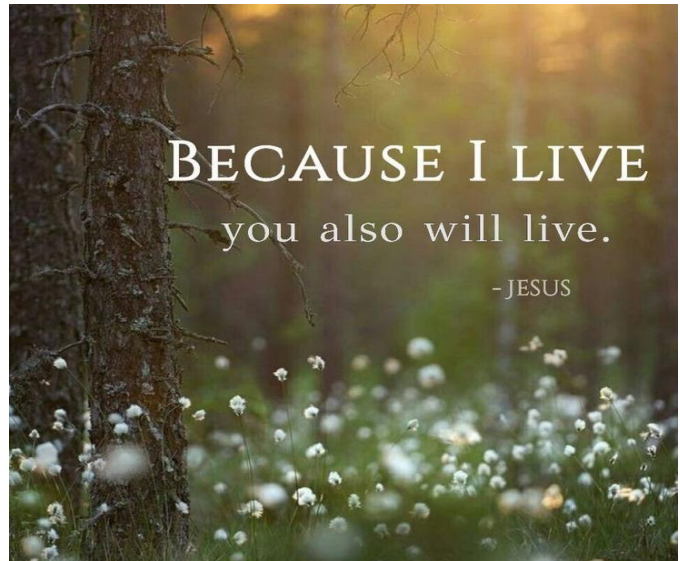


Prayers Requests

'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 Epinay Sarah Jean Bradford Ossama & Clare Sader

Monday

Tuesday.

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford
Jennie Williams

Thursday

Friday

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

Saturday

The Departed

Lucille Osafa Gwladys Hughes Antony Keyworth-Berridge Chris Griffin Jenny Oates

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Kathleen Tucker Gwen Jewell Jack Metford Roy Ross Jenny Bell Annette Roberts Esme Davis
Simon Andrews Sophie Marriott Jean Watt

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 30	Monday of Holy Week 7pm Pray for all who work in the medical profession. Doctors, nurses, researchers, technicians and all staff. Give thanks for the NHS. Pray for those who are in need of medical attention but are unable to receive it.
Tue 31	Tuesday of Holy Week 7pm John Donne, priest, poet 1631 Pray for musicians, especially pianists. For a moment celebrate the piano and everything around it: performers, composers, piano builders, tuners, movers and most important, the listeners.
Wed April 1	Wednesday of Holy Week Mass 10.00 am 7.00PM Mass <i>My saviour, do you invite me to share in the glory of the resurrection? Please stay with me as I struggle to see how accepting the crosses of my life will free me.</i>
Thurs 2	Maundy Thursday 7PM Mass Liturgy of the Lord's Supper. Followed by 8.30pm Vigil until Midnight God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love
Fri 3	Good Friday 12.00PM Devotion – an hour of reflection on The Passion of The Lord 1.30PM Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of The Lord Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross
Sat 4	Easter Eve 4.00pm Easter Eve Service 8.00PM Great Easter Vigil and the First Mass of Easter Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory
Sunday	Easter Sunday God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ Early Worship Easter Festival Eucharist 9.00am Easter Day Festival Mass 10.30am

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 safeguarding@allsaintsclifton.org