

# ALL SAINTS NEWS

26<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

## Earth Day 2026: Our Power, Our Planet

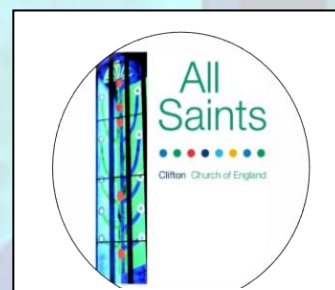


The theme for the 56th annual Earth Day, April 22, 2026, is **'Our Power, Our Planet'**. According to the official Earth Day website, "it emphasizes collective action, community mobilization and the role of individuals in defending environmental protections, accelerating the transition to clean energy and ensuring a sustainable future." Although the theme is the same as for last year, the focus has shifted from pledges to direct participation, encouraging individual action to affect change in local communities.

The urgency of the 'demand to act' can seem overwhelming: especially as it depends upon achieving a collective global will; enabling national governments to work in unison; addressing the issues of power and wealth to achieve balance; and challenging the disruption caused by misinformation and greed.

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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.

Faith communities worldwide are increasingly treating climate change as a critical moral, ethical, and spiritual crisis rather than just a political or scientific issue. Driven by shared values of stewardship, compassion, and justice, diverse religions are mobilizing to protect vulnerable populations, advocate for policy changes, and reduce their own carbon footprints.

There is significant interfaith collaboration. Groups like **'Faith for the Climate'** bring together Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, and Muslims for joint actions. One such is the **"Make Polluters Pay"** campaign, focusing on climate justice for communities least responsible for, but most affected by, climate change.

## **A Christian Perspective**

Care for the environment is not an optional extra for a few concerned Christians on the fringes of the church; it is an integral part of our mission as God's people.

The **Five Marks of Mission** are a widely adopted framework within the Anglican Communion and broader Christian tradition, outlining a holistic approach to mission focused on sharing faith and transforming society. They serve as a guide for churches to balance evangelism with social justice and environmental stewardship.

The **Fifth Mark** is to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth.

The problems facing our natural world are increasingly evident. Global temperatures, sea levels, and the list of species facing extinction are all rising. So too is our realisation that our actions (or inaction) are largely to blame. Sadly, the Church has not always displayed a high regard for the world around us. But scripture tells us that we have a God-given mandate to care for our world.

*"What was Adam called to do when he was placed in the Garden of Eden? Answer: to tend it, to care for it. This is God's creation, it is not ours. We are here as stewards. God has given us the immense privilege, but also the immense responsibility of living in this world and passing it on to others." – Rev. Prof. Alister McGrath, Theologian*

*"Because of the dominion or responsible stewardship which God has given us, Christians should be in the vanguard of those who are seeking to arrest climate change." – Rev. Dr John Stott, Theologian*

It's not only the Fifth Mark, crucially 'creation care' doesn't mean abandoning service to our fellow humans. The **Third and Fourth Marks** call us to respond to human need by loving service and to seek to transform unjust structures of society. Creation care, service and justice go hand in hand. In particular it is increasingly clear that environmental problems such as deforestation, climate change, pollution, and desertification affect the poor disproportionately.

*"The rural poor depend directly on the natural resource base. This is where their pharmacy is; this is where the local supermarket is; this is in fact their fuel station; it is their power company; it is their water company. What would happen to you if these things were removed from your local neighbourhood? This is what happens to the rural poor when environmental degradation takes place." – Dr Stella Simiyu, Plant Conservationist*

## **Encouraging individual action to affect change**

So, if the theme for Earth Day is the same as last year, but the focus has shifted from pledges to direct participation, encouraging us toward individual and local community action to affect change.....

What might we do – individually and here at All Saints?

- ★ Change what we eat (consider more plant-based foods, reducing waste and thinking about local production)
- ★ Change how we travel (apparently, about 28% of UK emissions is associated with transport)
- ★ Change energy use (both for our households and church – and we are certainly doing this with the Atrium Development!)
- ★ Manage gardens for maximum effect (grass, greenery and plants work in positive ways to the benefit of the environment, at ASC, the Clifton Down Growing Space and the environmentally responsible flower arrangements)
- ★ Reduce water use (apparently, the average person uses around 140 litres of water each day....!)

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**Taizé at All Saints**

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 5.00 pm**

Please come and enjoy a cup of tea (or coffee) followed by a simple, meditative service based on the worship practised by the ecumenical Taizé community in France ([www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr)).

**Everyone is welcome** - all those who have a Christian faith and those who struggle to believe. This will be a contemplative service in a relaxed, candlelit setting, with beautiful chants, prayerful silence, and short readings. Taizé chants are repeated many times to help quiet the mind and enable reflection. You are free to join in with the singing or drop out at any point.

Tea will be served from **4.30 pm**. The Taizé service starts at **5.00 pm** and will last around 45 minutes.

*(image copyright © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé, France)*

# *Bristol Early Music Festival*

*8-10 May 2026*

Jean-Baptiste LULLY  
**DIES IRAE**

Medieval,  
Renaissance and  
Early Baroque

Concerts, Talks, and  
Workshops for  
Singers, Dancers  
and Players

All Saints Church,  
Pembroke Road, BS8 3ED

For more information or  
to book tickets, please visit our  
website or scan the QR code:

[www.bristolearlymusicfestival.uk](http://www.bristolearlymusicfestival.uk)

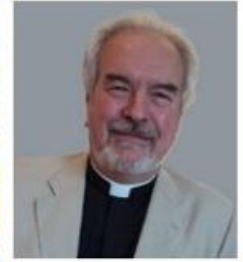


photo: Luis D. Alvarez

## **LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP**

.....for the 2026 All Saints Parish Retreat

▲ Llangasty Retreat House, Friday 15th to Sunday 17th May 2026



After another very successful Parish Retreat at Llangasty in May last year, we're delighted to announce that we shall once again be holding the 2026 retreat at Llangasty from **Friday 15th to Sunday 17th May 2026**.



The cost is **£250pp** for the whole weekend, and includes accommodation and all meals. **There are only a few places left, so don't delay and book now by adding your name to the sign-up sheet in the Church porch OR by sending an email to Helen ([helen@helensutton.com](mailto:helen@helensutton.com))**

*A full information letter to all retreatants, including details of how to pay is being emailed w/c 20<sup>th</sup> April, with the full cost @ £250 due by Friday 1st May NB. This is non-refundable.*

See the All Saints website for full information on this year's retreat via the QR code and link here: <https://tinyurl.com/2yyc8ynr>



### *All Saints Book Group*

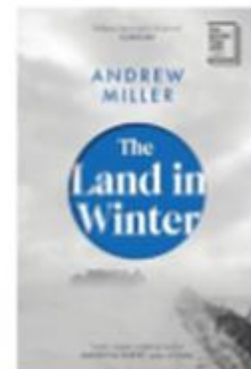
**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 7-9 pm**  
in the Sacristy

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!

The book for our **May 2026** meeting will be:

*The Land in Winter*  
By Andrew Miller

**Future Dates (all Wednesdays)**  
22 Jul; 23 Sept; 25 Nov 2026



concert matinee All Saints Church Clifton Bristol

**Saturday**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**4pm**

**Niall Hoskin** (baritone)

**Stephen Browne** (piano)

**Beethoven**

*'An die ferne Geliebte'*

*(To the distant beloved)*

**Schumann**

*'Dichterliebe'*

*(A poet's love)*

retiring collection

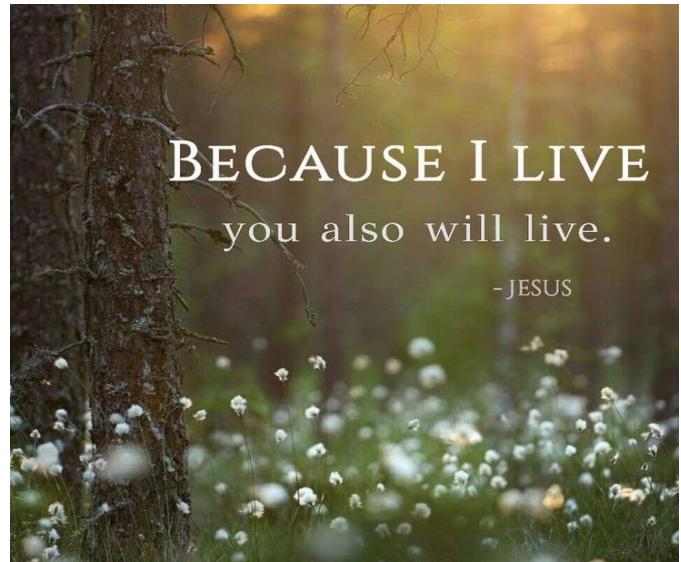
tea and cake

## 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 Ossama & Clare Sader Debbie Gibbs

### 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 David Thompson Brian Davage

### Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Barbara Biggs Pat Fenley Margaret Williams Ian Cannell Wendy Bray (Pr)

# ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Mon<br>27           | <p><b>Christina Rossetti 1894</b><br/>Anglo catholic poet . 'A Better Resurrection'</p> <p><i>I have no wit, no words, no tears;<br/>My heart within me like a stone<br/>Is numb'd too much for hopes or fears;<br/>Look right, look left, I dwell alone;<br/>I lift mine eyes, but dimm'd with grief<br/>No everlasting hills I see;<br/>My life is in the falling leaf:<br/>O Jesus, quicken me.</i></p>                               |
| Tue<br>28           | <p><b>Peter Chanel 1841</b><br/>Marist Missionary and Martyr. Working in Oceania (Islands of the Tropical Pacific Ocean).<br/>Pray for the Society of Mary (Marist priests) and all missionary organisations</p>   |
| Wed<br>29           | <p><b>Mass 10.00am Catherine of Siena 1380</b><br/>Fourteenth century mystic and political activist who spoke boldly. It was said she would 'speak truth to power'. Pray for all who speak boldly – risking their own lives and safety for what is right</p>   |
| Thurs<br>30         | <p>Today is International Honesty Day. Everyday we are presented with information from companies that use misleading language; politicians who adapt truth in their own favour; media that focuses on what sells rather than what's true. What happens on this big scale also happens in the day-to-day. Pray for a growth in honesty.</p>   |
| Fri<br>May<br>1     | <p><b>Philip and James - Apostles</b><br/>James and Philip were simple people, yet they became foundation stones of the Church, and we are reminded again that holiness and its consequent apostolate are entirely the gift of God, not a matter of human achieving. All power is God's power, even the power of human freedom to accept his gifts. "You will be clothed with power from on high," Jesus told Philip and the others.</p> |
| Sat<br>2            | <p><b>Mass 10.00am Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and Teacher 373</b><br/>We pray for the Coptic (Egyptian) Church. Originate from Alexandria in Apostolic period. The Coptic Church is persecuted by ISIS – we join their prayer 'when will this stop?'</p>   |
| <b>Sunday<br/>3</b> | <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br/>Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;</p> <p><b>Early Worship 9.00am</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Parish Mass 10.30am</b></span></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](mailto: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](mailto:safeguarding@allsaintsclifton.org)