

ALL SAINTS NEWS

4th October 2026
Harvest Festival
18th Sunday of Trinity

George Bell: Bishop of Chichester and Peacemaker Commemoration, 3rd October

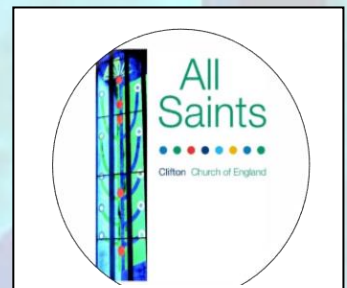


On 3rd October the Church of England remembers **George Bell, Bishop of Chichester**, particularly for his work as an ecumenist and peacemaker. Bell was a bishop whose understanding of the Church was profoundly catholic: he saw Christians not simply as individuals who happened to share a faith, but as members of the one Body of Christ, called to discover their unity in him.

Bell became Bishop of Chichester in 1929 and served until his death in 1958. He lived through two World Wars, and his commitment to reconciliation was tested in some of the most difficult circumstances of the twentieth century. During the Second World War he spoke against the area bombing of German cities and the deliberate targeting of civilians. His position was controversial, but his theological conviction was clear: even when confronting evil, Christians must never lose sight of the dignity of those who are made in the image of God.

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 Priests	Fr Paul Hawkins Mthr Nicola Stanley	



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.



This conviction was closely connected with Bell's commitment to Christian unity. He was one of the great figures of the early ecumenical movement and believed that the divisions between Christians were a scandal when set against Christ's prayer "that they all may be one" (John 17.21). His friendship with the German Lutheran theologian **Dietrich Bonhoeffer** was especially significant. Bell supported the Confessing Church in Germany and sought to maintain links with Christians who were resisting the attempt of the Nazi regime to control the Church.

For Bell, therefore, theology was never merely an intellectual exercise. **What we believe about Christ must shape how we live as the Church.** The Eucharist itself proclaims that Christians are gathered into one Body: we receive the one Christ and are consequently called to recognise Christ in one another. The catholic life of the Church therefore consequences beyond the sanctuary. Worship, doctrine, mission and the pursuit of peace belong together.

There is something particularly relevant here for an Anglo-Catholic parish. The richness of our worship is not an end in itself. The Mass draws us more deeply into Christ so that we may become instruments of his reconciliation in the world. The altar, the Scriptures, the sacraments, the fellowship of the Church and our service of our neighbour belong together.

Bell's story also reminds us that Christian saints and leaders must be remembered honestly. His legacy includes serious and troubling questions concerning safeguarding allegations made after his death, and the Church of England has acknowledged the failures in its handling of those matters.

To remember George Bell, then, is not simply to celebrate a heroic bishop. It is to ask what it means for the Church to be faithful to Christ in a divided and troubled world. **Peace-making is not the avoidance of difficult questions; it is the costly work of seeking truth, reconciliation and the unity of Christ's Body.** That remains a calling for the whole Church—and for each one of us.



All
Saints
Clifton Church of England



Walks For Everyone!

Saturday 17th October - Arnos Vale to Temple Quarter

Meet at the bus stop on the east side of Whiteladies Road (opposite Boots) at 10:30 to catch a bus to the Brecknock Road stop on the Wells Road, Knowle.

From there we will enter Arnos Vale Cemetery (from the uphill side this time) and walk down past the Cross of Sacrifice and the sailors' graves to the Bath Road and onwards over the newly-refurbished Sparke-Evans Bridge and along the riverside path to the new Sloane Robinson university building.

We will snoop around the new development before returning to Clifton on the no 8 or the train.



A Funeral service
for
Georgina Harford

will take place

on Saturday
3rd of October 2026
at 2.30 pm
RIP

If you are hoping to come to Georgina's funeral please use the link below to let her family know.

<https://georgina-harford.vercel.app/>

The family request that you wear something that makes you smile and confirm that children are very welcome.

Ivor Gurney: Placing Poetry and Making Music

A morning sharing the story of the Gloucester WW1 poet and composer through war letters, poems and music curated by Chris Hillman

Saturday November 7th 10am - 1pm – All Saints Sacristy

At the Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester back in 1910 a strange and beautiful composition was first performed; it was The Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis by Ralph Vaughan Williams. At that performance was a young man from Gloucester, Ivor Gurney. Hearing this piece of music Gurney and his close friend Herbert Howells walked the streets of the city in a state of delirious happiness. Gurney vowed to become a composer himself. Not long after, Gurney took up his place at the Royal College of Music alongside Howells.

At the same time he was realising his talent for composing music he was also discovering that his mind and his moods were not always what he wanted them to be.

Ivor Gurney's musical education was put on hold by the events of the First World War; at first on account of his poor eyesight he was turned down for the army but soon the huge loss of life of young men meant recruitment was not so picky.

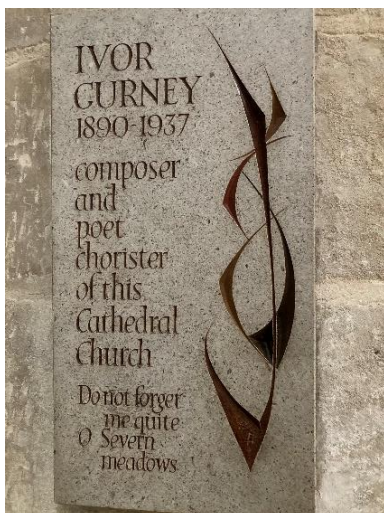


Gurney who was especially talented setting poetry to music soon discovered he too had a gift for writing poetry and this seemed to provide him with something like self-therapy as he tried to make sense of the brutality and strange beauties of war. Poppies and poets both seem to emerge from the French fields.

Little did I dream, England, that you bore me
Under the Cotswold hills, beside the water meadows,
To do you dreadful service, here, beyond your borders
And your enfolding seas.

(Strange Service, July 1916)

Gurney returned home in 1917 having been gassed. After the war he returned to study music but alongside composition he was trying to find ways to manage his deteriorating mental health. The discipline of the army had helped but the war did not - how could it?



Walking and writing were his ways to try and stave off the voices in his head but before too long his suicidal intent led him to being sent to the City of London Mental Hospital in Dartford. Throughout his years there he wrote poetry trying to make sense of both the trauma of the war and memories of his beloved Gloucestershire.

He died in 1937 and his legacy seemed to die with him. Then strangely at the end of the last century with the help of family members and the musical community he was given his due place as a poet and a composer of worth. Perhaps shame at how we treated mental patients and the shame we felt about mental patients kept his legacy locked away. Thankfully society has become more honest and more compassionate in regard to mental health.

So now we have this rich legacy of Ivor Gurney; his poems, his music, his love of nature, of hills, valleys and rivers and questions about how we understand and care for those who struggle to keep mind and mood in good order.

Saturday November 7th 10am - 1pm – All Saints Sacristy

All Saints Church, Pembroke Rd, Clifton, Bristol

 **‘Coffee Concert’**
Saturday
October 3rd

 **11 am** 
refreshments at **10.30 am**

  **Jane Jewel**
cello  **Helen Mills**
piano

Rachmaninov ‘Cello Sonata
Doménico Gabrieli & Kasputin

 This concert replaces the previously
advertised *concert matinée*
for this date



Taizé at All Saints

Sunday, 18th, 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).

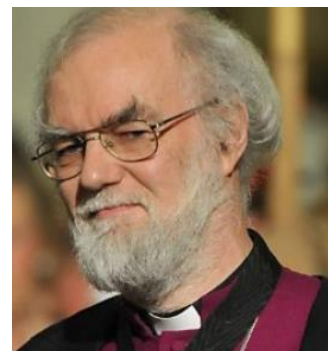
Everyone is welcome - all those who have a Christian faith and those who struggle to believe.

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)

All Saints Day - Sunday 1st November



Our festival day will be even more special this year, with Bishop Rowen as our guest preacher, and also it will be Fr Charles' last All Saints Day before retirement next year.

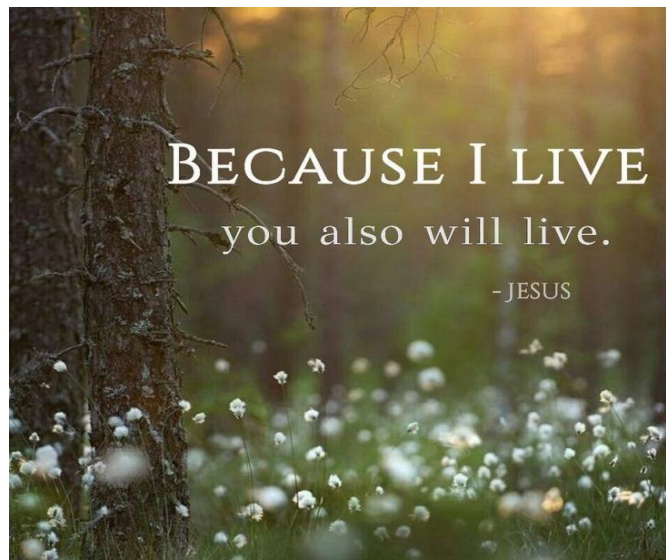
We will be providing refreshments after Mass for everyone, in church, because of the building works. We need offers of help to provide finger food. Please speak to Janice Hopkins or Mary Benton if you can help.

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 Debbie Gibbs Sara Maitland Jessica Smith Sue Gaylard-Hughes

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

Andrew Densham Victoria Barry Rogerson (Bp) William Ching Georgina Harford Jenny Rogers

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Bill Fry Joan Peters Maureen Turnbull Jenny Healy Diana Harding John Weller (Pr) Val Probyn- Long Jean Baker Alan Starkey Frances Perkins

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 5	Pray for those in medical profession working to halt, cure and care for breast cancer sufferers. Pray for those who suffer from the condition and who fear the condition. Pray for those who survive (more than 80%)
Tue 6	William Tyndale William Tyndale was martyred on this day in 1536, the first person to translate the bible into English. Pray for the Bible Society, Wycliffe and others who still do this work to enable people to read the texts in their own language
Wed 7	Mass 10.00 am Pray for all who teach; in our schools and universities, colleges and on courses. May we all be active learners, continually listening, challenging, thinking and growing. Pray for St John's School.
Thurs 8	World Hospice and Palliative Care Day . Pray for the work of our local hospice, St. Peter's , and for those who work in palliative care in hospitals as they accompany those at the very end of their lives.
Fri 9	Mass 10.00 am Denys, bishop, and companions martyrs c.250 Robert Grosseteste, bishop, philosopher, scientist. 1253 Pray for those priests and academics who study and research into theology in order to increase our knowledge of, inspiration by and understanding of, the things of God. Pray for those who seek to apply theology in church and pastoral practice so that theology has " legs".
Sat 10	Paulinus 644 Pray for all who struggle to share the Gospel. Some to great effect and others, struggling equally hard, but with less effect. Ask that we may find ways to share our faith in our own communities and to the best of our ability.
Sunday 11	19th Sunday after Trinity O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts Early Worship 9.00am Parish 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