

**All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath  
Presentation of Christ  
29th January 2017**

**Welcome to all visitors. Everyone is welcome to coffee after the service**

*"At the offertory this week we give thanks for the thirty two year Reader Ministry of Mike Cheesbrough"*

**Services this Week: Presentation of Christ**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Evening Prayer

**Morning Prayer:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00am  
Saturday 9.15am

**Wednesday Holy Communion 11.30am**

**Services next Week: Fourth Sunday before Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am All-Age Communion  
6.30pm Iona Evening Prayer

**COLLECT :**

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-5.**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of

the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

**SECOND READING: Psalm 84.**

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house!, they will always be praising you. Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs; for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height; and the God of gods will be revealed himself in Zion.

LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob

Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory.

No good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 2. 22 - 40.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ*

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

#### **MEDITATION**

*My eyes have seen your salvation (Luke 2:30)*

**PRAYERS:**

**WE PRAY:**

- for the Church to be patient enough to hear and honour the faithful voices of older people
- for people in the vigour and tiredness of young parenthood preoccupied as they weave together work and family and faith
- we remember the Tetlow family at this sad, difficult time
- we remember before God those who are ill Don Stacey, Bob Ebbitts, Lovetta Campbell, Mary Goodhall, Pauline Elcock, Yvonne Ford, Val Hems, Josephine Hickin, Kathryn Steventon, Helen Ross, Helen McMahon and those for whom we regularly pray Lara Tikonova, John Robertson, Jo Bailey, Jack Gauder and Iain Galloway
- we remember those who have died Duncan Tetlow, Elizabeth Horton and Enid Alexander and in our Year's Mind Elizabeth Hibbert, Ernest Hammond, Sidney Smith, Cyril Rowland, Paul Barlow, David Wakelam, Rosetta Nash, Joan James, Gemma Dutton, Paul Pace and Russell Manaley

**RIP**

Elizabeth Horton died on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Her funeral is on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 11.30am at All Saints and 12.30 at Robin Hood Crematorium. Please remember her dear brother John in your prayers

**Evening Prayer on 5th February:** Evening Prayer on 5th February will be an Iona liturgy for Candlemas, all are welcome. If you are coming, you might like to bring a (fairly small) object in some way symbolic of your work (paid or unpaid). There will also be opportunity to reflect on concerns in our lives, and to light a candle for anyone who has helped us.

**Traidcraft news:** The next full stalls will be on Saturday 4th February at the Farmers' Market and on Sunday 5th February after the morning services. The new Traidcraft catalogue will be out in February. Traidcraft is holding one of their Preview days in Birmingham on Monday February 13th at Carrs Lane. You are welcome to come and hear more about Traidcraft and see items from the new catalogue. Please see Gill if you wish to know

more details and let her know (604 6127) if you intend to be there as they wish to know numbers

**GRAVE TALK** "Those of us who took up the invitation to attend this time last year, found it a stimulating evening. We formed up into discussion groups, and each group had a set of questions to discuss, which could be taken in random order, groups covering different topics. Some of these were not about death directly, but led into thought about what we found important, and how we might react to situations and issues. The talk was open, friendly and easy, and the groups were small enough for all to participate with as much or as little as they felt able and willing. The meeting attracted a small group, but it was felt that it would be well worth repeating, so that those of us who did go might have the chance to cover more of the questions, and also to enable others who did not get there, to have the chance. If anyone thought that it might be threatening or difficult, having tried it, it is clear that they need have no reservations." The next meeting will be in the Robin Centre on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** starting at 7.30 pm. with light refreshments available from 7.15 pm. If you have any questions please see Alan or David.



### NOTES ON BLINDNESS

The film of John Hull's remarkable journey will be shown in the hall on **Sunday February 26th at 3.00pm**. Notes on Blindness is the BAFTA nominated, award winning drama documentary based on the audio

diaries of local teacher, author and member of our congregation John Hull who died in 2015.

At the age of 47, about two years after a final failed eye operation, John found himself in complete darkness. In order to make sense of this experience and the devastating changes that it brought to his life, he began to record his thoughts on a cassette. Some years later he published this as a book. "Touching the Rock" which is the basis for the film, an intimate portrayal of love and loss and ultimately, an exploration of what John came to describe as "the gift of blindness".

Notes on Blindness will be shown in the Church Hall at 3.00pm on Sunday February 26th. John's wife Marilyn who was extensively involved during the making of the film will introduce it and there will be an opportunity after the film to stay for a discussion with her.

The showing is Free but there will be a retiring collection for the Vicars Discretionary Fund which is used to help the vulnerable and those in need. Refreshments will also be available. Please sign the sheet at the rear of church if you are intending to come as we would like an idea of numbers attending. many thanks - more information from Des 443 5292

**'Crafternoons'**! An hour after school for primary (lower secondary is fine!) school aged children with Emily in the All Saints Cafe. First and third Tuesdays 4-5pm for games, crafts, discussion and fun. Feb dates: 7th, extended 3-5pm session for half-term on 21st. Suggested donation £2 per person, PLEASE BOOK TO LET EMILY KNOW YOUR CHILD IS COMING. (07739018908, emily.childrensworker@gmail.com) \*If you're interested in helping at these sessions please let me know. Thank you! Contact details above. Em

**Join 'All Saints Children and Families' group** on Facebook, and follow @allsaintsfamily on Twitter for updates on our ministry with children and families.

**JUNK, JUMBLE and BOOKS Saturday February 25th** 10am until 2pm in the Church Hall Come and find some collectables, come and browse the full selection of books we have and bag a bargain, come and get a bargain! we want your unwanted gifts, your quality jumble, your knick knacks you no longer need, whether it is an old radio, a unwanted pair of garden shears or the picture of the Algarve from a long a go holiday - bring it to Church and we can sell it and raise money for All Saints at our Junk Jumble and Book

Sale. ( if you cannot get it to church- we can collect) for more information speak to Des Workman, Tony Cocks, Pam Coley or Sarah Wilson or phone 443 5292

**All Saints Community Arts** is privileged to display a small exhibition of work by the internationally renowned Egyptian artist Omar Elfayoumi by kind permission of the artist himself . Primarily a portrait painter , Omar is fascinated by ordinary people , and particularly those who frequent the coffee houses of Cairo . It is therefore highly appropriate that this exhibition is displayed in our own community cafe at All Saints Centre. Curated by Janice Rider." Paintings from Cairo " will be showing in the Welcome Space from Monday January 9 - February 26 2017 Open daily from 09.30 - 5.30 pm and after Sunday services .

### **Rolling Calendar**

#### **February**

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Knitted Christmas Tree dismantled

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Funeral 11.30am

**Cards** – All Saints no longer recycles cards, birthday, Christmas or any other occasion cards. Please dispose of them with your household recycling. **PLEASE do not leave them in church.** *Thank you*

**Communion:** Gluten-free wafers are now available, please mention to a member of the clergy before the service if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer when taking Communion

### **Power for Good**

#### **Second Project: Solar panels for the rear roof of New Life Baptist Church, Kings Heath**

*Power for Good* is a registered, not-for-profit Community Benefit Society. We install solar panels on the roofs of churches and other buildings belonging to faith communities. This reduces their fuel bills and their carbon footprint. Our first project, completed in 2015, raised enough money to install photo-voltaic panels at St Richard's, Lea Hall, and St Andrew's West Bromwich. We are now receiving income from the Feed-in Tariff from these installations.

In 2017 a second project: the installation of solar panels on the rear roof of New Life Baptist Church on the High St, swings into action. For this we are

looking for investments (minimum £250, maximum £5,000 per person or organisation) totalling £24,600. Each investment is withdrawable, subject to decision of Board. The Share Offer closing date is 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. We would like to invite you to invest in this project. For full details and a copy of the Share Offer Document, please visit our website, [www.pfg.coop](http://www.pfg.coop), phone 0121 241 5830 or email [powerforgood.coop@gmail.com](mailto:powerforgood.coop@gmail.com). Our business plan includes provision for a 2% return on your investment from Year Four.  
See Margaret Healey-Pollett if you would like to discuss this further.

**Recycling at All Saints:** We recycle the following materials:  
Old stamps for charity (main beneficiary is St. Mary's Hospice)  
Redundant mobile phones for Christian Aid  
Spare knitting wool  
Clean jam jars required by Craft Group  
please don't throw these items away – help a good cause  
this notice sheet is printed on sustainably sourced paper



**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Photographs may occasionally be taken by our photographer during services. They are to record our church's story and may be used for publicity. If you do not wish your picture or that of your child to be used, please speak to a Sidesperson or Churchwarden. We respectfully ask that others do not take photographs at church without permission



**Parking:** Our site is wonderfully busy during the week. Grateful for that activity, then, this is a reminder to ourselves as congregation members that parking is not generally available at All Saints when the Medical Centre and Robin Centre are open. Apart from disabled parking, loading and unloading, we encourage church family to park elsewhere if at all possible.

## **ALL SAINTS**

is a Fairtrade Church, see: [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

supports the Statement of Belief of 'Inclusive Church',

see: [www.inclusivechurch.net](http://www.inclusivechurch.net)

has signed the Living Wage Pledge, see: [www.church-poverty.org.uk](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk)

belongs to the Christian Ecology Link, see [www.christian-ecology.org.uk](http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk)

is a Jubilee Congregation,

see [www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk)

is affiliated to Amnesty International and Pax Christi

*All Saints no longer collects aluminium foil for recycling and this is now being done by Birmingham City Council. So in future please put your clean foil into your domestic recycling bins. PLEASE do not leave in Church*