

**All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath  
3rd Sunday before Lent  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2017**



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

*Before the service the choir will sing 429 Love is his word, which you are very welcome to join in with. The anthem during communion is Give ear unto me by Benedetto Marcello.*

**Services this Week: Third Sunday before Lent**

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: Second Sunday before Lent**

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

**COLLECT :**

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son 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: Deuteronomy 30: 15- 20**

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then

you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9**

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

### **GOSPEL READING Matthew 5: 21-37**

"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last

penny. “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

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

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

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

#### **MEDITATION**

*13,000: The number of executions in a single Syrian prison since 2011.*

#### **PRAYERS:**

##### **WE PRAY:**

- for people turned into objects by American or UK immigration legislation.
- for women turned into objects by sexist rhetoric from people in power.

- for sometimes desperate people turned into objects by the labels “terrorist,” “enemy,” “infidel” or “rebel.”
- for healing whenever we are the ones objectifying.
- as we honour the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Queen’s accession, God, ruler of all, renew our honouring of all older people in our community and show us how we uphold or belittle them with our provision of social care.
- we remember before God those who are ill, Bob Ebbitt, Lovetta Campbell, Pauline Elcock, Yvonne Ford, Val Hems, Josephine Hickin, Kathryn Steventon, Helen Ross, Helen McMahon and those for whom we regularly pray loyal to All Saints but no longer able to come to church including Eileen Holder, Joan Dainter, Joan Howes and Dorothy Gardner.
- we remember those who have died and in our Year’s Mind Lily Ryland, Mabel Preston, Lillian Horder, Eric Jones and Pat Williams.

### **RIP**

Elizabeth Horton died on Tuesday 24th 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

**Traidcraft news:** 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

**Brexit and the developing world.** The Fairtrade Foundation, Traidcraft, Christian Aid and others are concerned that, without new measures, Brexit may have serious consequences on the people who trade with us from the poorest countries of the world. Currently there is tax-free access through different European schemes but on Brexit they could face £1 billion in extra taxes. In addition there could be unfair competition if the UK signs free trade agreements with wealthier competitors. Traidcraft and others are calling for the government to safeguard the current position and make it possible for producers in poor countries to continue to export valuable products and trade their way out

of poverty. Please consider sending a postcard to your MP asking for a fair deal for the people who trade with us from the world's poorest countries. There is more information on the table at the back of church.

**LOST PROPERTY:** Please take a look at the items of lost property laid out at the back of church to see if any of it is yours! Any items not claimed will be sold at the Jumble Sale on 25th February. Thank you Sarah and Marilyn

**Families! Come and meet Bear in the Square!** It would be lovely to see you at the Craft Market on Saturday 18th Feb between 11:30am-3pm on the village square. Emily will be there (as will our resident Polar Bear mascot!) with craft activities to keep little hands busy! Hope you can make it!

**Crafternoons** - There will be a Bible-based craft, games and story session with Emily in the Cafe during half-term on Tuesday 21st Feb between 4-5pm. Come along families and join in! It's £2 per child (5-11 years ideal but younger children with parents, or 12+ is fine if you don't mind helping out!) Please let me know if you're coming so I can make provision, and come along! Thanks, Em



### 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

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

**Date for your diary:** The next Family Day, based on Roald Dahl's 'BFG' is on Saturday 4th March between 10:00am-12:30pm. Please save the date! Helpers very much appreciated, please do let me know if you're available to help on a craft table or mingle. Thanks!

**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

**Quiz Night:** Churches Together in Kings Heath are organising a Quiz Night, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February at the Baptist Church. It is hoped All Saints will send two teams of six people. Tickets cost £5, pay at the door, including supper. If you are interested in organising a team or being in a team please contact Margaret Healy-Pollett on 444 7267 or email [margarethealeypollett@gmail.com](mailto:margarethealeypollett@gmail.com).

We need one or two people willing to represent All Saints on CTiKH. There are around four evening meetings a year. Our most important activities are shared social justice issues, organising the Good Friday Walk of Witness and Lent Groups.

CTiKH Lent Course 2017: There are six groups available from w/c 6th March. See poster and leaflet in Church and send your form in the addressed envelopes helpfully provided.

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

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Junk, Jumble and Books sale

### **March**

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Family Day 10.00am -12.30pm

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 4.30 Talk on Traidcraft Tour to Nicaragua and Costa Rica

**Taize comes to Birmingham:** Friday April 28th to Monday 1st May, hundreds of young people associated with the Taize community come from across Europe to celebrate faith in Birmingham. In its post war founding principles Taize affirms our common humanity and deepens faith while reconciling communities. Young people will be hosted in homes all over the city. Led by St Dunstan's, Kings Heath can be a host neighbourhood. If you would like to play a part, you can do so in two ways: Hosting a young person (aged 18-35) for three nights, or join the ecumenical planning group. It is a short term commitment, but might give us a timely dose of something positively and faithfully European. Please tell David if you are interested. [info@davidwarbrick.co.uk](mailto:info@davidwarbrick.co.uk)

**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.