

**All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath
Third Sunday of Lent
19th March 2017**



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

This week at the offertory we give thanks for the water fountain near the church door, and those who repair and maintain it

Before the service the choir will sing Here is love, vast as the ocean, a 19th-century hymn with words by William Rees (translated by William Edwards) and music by Robert Lowry, who also composed, among others, How can I keep from singing? and Shall we gather at the river. During communion you are welcome to join in the Anglican chant setting of Psalm 95, for which music is in the Pewslip.

In advance of the Birmingham Taize pilgrimage 29th -30th April, we are delighted to be able to host a Taize service here today Sunday, 19th March at 6.30pm led by members of the Taize group in Birmingham. Come for a gentle antidote to Brexit anxiety. Come because we are indebted to Taize for some rich, inclusive music (such as Laudate dominum; Jesus, remember me; Veni sancte spiritus.) Come if you would value a brief time of contemplative prayer.

Services this Week: Third Sunday of Lent-

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

6.30pm Taize Service

Morning Prayer: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9.00am
Saturday 9.15am

Wednesday: Holy Communion 11.30am
Compline 9.00pm

Services next Week: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion with Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evening Prayer

COLLECT :

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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: Exodus 17: 1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah,

because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

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

SECOND READING: Romans 5: 1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

GOSPEL READING: John 4: 5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be

thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.” Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two

days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For meditation

I heard the voice of Jesus say:

'Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.'

I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

Horatius Bonar (Hymn 310)

PRAYERS:

WE PRAY:

- for those who are struggling with their faith
- for those who are persecuted for their faith
- for those who are asking questions and seeking truth and meaning in their lives
- and we give thanks for those who have guided us along our journeys of faith
- we remember before God those who are ill John Horton, Elaine Pemberton, Bob Ebbitt, Lovetta Campbell, 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 including Eileen Holder, Joan Dainter, Joan Howes and Dorothy Gardner
- we remember those who have come to the end of their journey here on earth and in our Year's Mind Mary & Walter Reynolds, Leslie Bloxham, Emily Tanton, Hilda Wright, Graham Darby, Percival Ryland, Marion Simpson, Sidney Timbrell, William Maunder, Alice Allgood and Elsie Newsome

The next Traidcraft Stall will be on Sunday March 26th instead of April 2nd (as the first Sunday in April is the APCM). This will be the last occasion for ordering Easter Eggs for delivery before Easter. It will also mark the 20th Anniversary of the setting up of "All Saints Traidcraft" so please support us on this special occasion

All Saints Kings Heath Church Electoral Roll

The church electoral roll is a basic list in every parish of all lay persons entitled to vote on elections within the Church of England. This means that electoral roll members of a church can shape the local mission and ministry by electing the officers necessary to do that hard work.

Those entitled to have their names on this roll have to be 16 years of age on or before the date of the annual parochial church meeting (APCM), and they must reside in the parish or be regular worshippers in church whose roll they wish to join.

It is required to update the roll prior to the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) to be held on Sunday 2 April 2017 to enable a report to be made at the APCM.

A notice has been placed on the Notice Board at the South Door of the Church which you should consult for more detail if you would like to be included on the roll and you satisfy the above criteria.

If think you are already on the roll and have recently changed name or telephone number, have moved or would like to have your name removed, please see Anthony (Tony) Cocks.

If you do not know who Tony Cocks is, please ask.

Tea, Cake and Music afternoons every Thursday are proving successful (22 for the last 2 weeks). Our own Rosie Cross plays the Clavinova as does Kathy Ward from Kings Heath Evangelical Church. They are supported by Sarah Bertram, David Inions and Des Workman. Would you like to come and help welcome or talk to older people attending? If you are interested please contact Des Workman On 0121 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

26th February – 7th April Gillian Lever Painting Exhibition

Colourful, abstract compositions. *"The creative process, like a spiritual journey, is intuitive, non-linear and experimental. It points us towards our essential nature, which is a reflection of the boundless creativity of the Universe."* John Daido Looi 'The Zen of Creativity'

The Welcome Space is open daily from 09.00 - 17.00 hrs and after Sunday services .

The forthcoming exhibition will be photographic works by Bernard Davis from 7 April - 28 May

Rolling Calendar

March

Thurs 23rd Justice, Peace and Green Group meeting

Fri 31st Funeral in church 11.00am

April

Sun 2nd APCM after morning service

Wed 5th School visit pm

Fri 7th Funeral in church 11.00am

Seasonal Bible Study: A small, friendly, informal group that meets occasionally to explore the seasons of the church year through discussing a passage of Scripture and looking at related artwork to see if this can help enhance our understanding or see things in a new or different way. We meet at 8pm on a Wednesday evening and in 2017 we're meeting on 22nd March, 7th June, 4th October and 15th November. If you'd like more information please get in touch with Claire Wesley at clairew@cofebirmingham.com or 0121 426 0432

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

There are places available on **Weekend Silent Retreat, 19th -21st May**
'Meeting Jesus'

at Shallowford House, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0NZ

6pm Friday - 4.30pm Sunday, *with guided Gospel meditations and optional individual interview, exploration of the labyrinth and art facilities*

Guides; Rob Hingley, Juliet Fletcher and Enid Thomas

£162 for further information contact **Rev Rob Hingley**
rob.hingley@btinternet.com 4 Adrian Croft, Moseley, Birmingham B13
9YF (0121) 777 2171

ALL SAINTS

is a Fairtrade Church, see: www.fairtrade.org.uk

supports the Statement of Belief of 'Inclusive Church',

see: www.inclusivechurch.net

has signed the Living Wage Pledge, see: www.church-poverty.org.uk

belongs to the Christian Ecology Link, see www.christian-ecology.org.uk

is a Jubilee Congregation,

see www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk

is affiliated to Amnesty International and Pax Christi

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



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

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

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.