

**All Saints Parish Church, Kings Heath**  
***Fifth Sunday after Trinity***  
***16th July 2017***



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

**Services this Week: Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion with Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evening Prayer

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

**Wednesday:** Holy Communion 11.30am

**Services next Week: Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evening Prayer

**COLLECT :**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 25: 19-34**

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

**SECOND READING: Romans 8: 1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to

God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### **MEDITATION:**

*You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. (Psalm 65:9)*

### **PRAYERS:**

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

- the continuing spiritual nurture of Kyle and Imogen being baptised here today and for their families
- for those who follow the crowd, looking for leadership and guidance,
- for those who seek easy answers and simple explanations
- for those with entrenched views that prejudice them to the cry of those in need.
- for those who sow seeds on rocky ground, looking for instant gratification,
- for those who seek happiness in the things they possess.
- for those who chase false dreams of wealth and fame.
- for those who sow seeds among thorns, looking for things that will not bring them peace,
- for those who seek to escape from the pain in their lives
- for those who are lost to themselves
- we remember those who are ill, Joan Mendham, Eileen Pearson, Lovetta Campbell, Val Hems, Josephine Hickin, Kathryn Steventon, Helen Ross, Helen McMahon and those for whom we

regularly pray Jannette Cunningham-Green, Teresa, Clare Moody, Dereck Brown and Betty Tilley

- we remember those who have come to the end of their journey here on earth, and in our Year's Mind Adrian Osborn, Florence Wilkes, Maureen Webb and Albert Pearson

**After Church Conversation 30<sup>th</sup> July:** In view of the fact that the first Sunday in August is Hiroshima Day, on 30<sup>th</sup> July there will be an after-church conversation on Nuclear Disarmament. The conversation will be led by Kelvin Gascoyne from Christian CND. We look forward to hearing the views of members of the congregation who support our Nuclear Deterrent as well as those who would like to see us unilaterally disarm.

**The latest issue (for July & August) of our parish magazine, *Saints Alive!*, is out now, with the next published at the start of September. This is your magazine and everyone can be involved! We'd love to hear reflections from across the seas or down the road; read concert or book reviews from leisurely summer afternoons; or even receive ideas borrowed from other churches you may visit on holiday! - anything that you think would be of interest and would like to share with the congregation and the wider *Saints Alive!* readership. Comments, suggestions, articles and ideas for features are always welcome – the broader the range of contributors and viewpoints, the more appealing the magazine will be. We know what an active and varied community All Saints is – let's make sure everyone else does! **Ben & Clare Noakes, [saintsalivemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:saintsalivemagazine@gmail.com), 441 3709****

**VICAR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:** Friends, it is some time since we appealed for this fund. Some of you may not even know of its existence. As its name suggests the fund, held separately from other church monies, enables David and other members of the Ministry Team to make small occasional payments to people in need. We used to hold a fund specifically for asylum seekers and refugees and for some time this has been absorbed into the VDF. The money can be for those who come to our church seeking help but, more frequently, it goes to members of our own congregation who suffer real hardship. We need to secure this important part of our ministry and ask any of you who feel able to support it to speak with Steve Brittle, Sarah Wilson, or any member of the Ministry Team. Thank you

**It's PANTOMIME time!** We are looking for people who would like to be involved in the All Saints production of Cinderella, to be performed on Saturday 3 February 2018. If you're interested in acting, singing, dancing, making costumes, organising props, doing the sound or lighting, or anything else, please do let us know – we'd love to have you involved. Sunday afternoon rehearsals start in October, with a casting and production meeting at 15:00 on Sunday 17 September. Clare, Ben & Fiona ([allsaintspantomime@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintspantomime@gmail.com) / 07929 593097)

### **Free Summer Session:**

Stories are the best way of putting ideas into the world today and every Christian has a unique, meaningful story to tell about God's transformative love in their lives. The Communications Team would love to be able to support lay and ordained people across the diocese in telling their story - or the story of their church or a particular group. To this end, we will be hosting a number of storytelling skills sessions at 1 Colmore Row on Wednesdays (7.30-9.30pm) over the summer that will introduce people to the many ways we can shape and share our stories, which we'd like to invite you to:

26 July - ***Making Films on a Budget***

2 August - *Writing and Blogging*

9 August - ***How to Take Great Photos (on your smartphone or DSLR)***

16 August - ***Design: Making Things Look Awesome***

23 August - ***How to Share Your Story: Press and Social Media***

You can attend any number of the sessions. To book a place, please click below.

Please share this information and the link to the booking form ([www.cofe.io/summer](http://www.cofe.io/summer)) with your congregations.

**Friday Evenings, with live music, in the Cafe** The café is now open on Friday evenings until 9.30, for our usual meals, drinks, and cakes. We have a varied programme of live music from 7 – 9pm, organised by Sarah Wright Owens, who is looking for performers if you would like the opportunity. Contact Sarah on [sarah@singertrain.com](mailto:sarah@singertrain.com).

Please see our board, or the different Facebook pages (Café, Village Square, or Church) to find out the programme for the week. Hope to see you there!

**The next ASCA exhibition in the Welcome Space** will be

**MOVEMENTS OF THE EAST** a photographic exhibition by Roy Anthony Reid from July 9 - September 3 2017 Open daily from 9.00am - 5.00pm and after church services on Sundays. Roy was born in Kingston, Jamaica and lived in Kings Heath, working as an engineer for many years and later as a learning mentor in secondary schools . Roy passed away suddenly on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2014 and his family has set up a charitable Trust in his memory. The Roy Anthony Reid Foundation's aim is to help recognise, support and inspire the aspirations of young African Caribbean people in the West Midlands and the Caribbean. **MOVEMENTS OF THE EAST** offers a vibrant visual photo essay featuring images of Indian Classical , Contemporary & Folk dances captured from live performances of International and local artists , aiming to explore the dynamic relationship of music , movement and dance in Hindu mythology .

The forthcoming exhibition will be Drawings by Joyce Rimmer from September 3 - October 15 2017 .

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

**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

## **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

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Refrain:*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts. Shine in the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your church gathered today.*

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your world alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.



*Bernadette Farrell*

*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*

**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



**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



**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.