

Saints ALIVE

The magazine of:
All Saints, Leighton Buzzard
St. Nicholas, Hockliffe
St. Michael's, Eggington
St. Michael and All Angels,
Billington
The Good Shepherd, Sandhills

November 2021

70p

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All Saints Leighton Buzzard

Team Rector & Vicar of All Saints:

Rev'd Cate Irvine

The Vicarage,
Pulford Road, LU7 1AB 01525 373217

Curate:

Kirsty Borthwick 07865 748966
138 Brooklands Drive, LU7 3PG

Team Vicars:

Rev'd Noel McGeeney 01525 237633
Rev'd Dr. Bernard Minton 01525 372149
Rev'd Steve Marsh 01525 838450

Associate Priests:

Rev'd Wyn Jones 01525 373638
Canon Malcolm Grant 01525 372771
Canon Don Brewin 01525 373644

Diocesan Readers

Roger Collor 01525 376430
Geoffrey Huskisson 01525 757013
Geoffrey Marchant 01525 371797
Linda Morris 01525 371750
Tricia Humber 01525 381184
Laurelin Burge 01525 371849

Churchwardens

Janet Wenborn 01525 370987
Bill Webb 01525 383356
John Sykes 01525 852218

PCC Secretary

Sharon Fryer pccsecretary@allsaintslb.org.uk

Head Verger

Lindsay Bevis 01525 381418

All Saints Parish Office

All Saints Church, Church Square,
Leighton Buzzard LU7 1AE
Open weekdays from 9am – 1pm
Tel: 01525 381418

Website www.allsaintslb.org.uk
Email: parish@allsaintslb.org.uk
Facebook: All Saints Leighton Buzzard

Office Manager & Vicar's PA

Jo Waller

Director of Music & Choir Master including Leighton Young Singers Club

Paul Dickens 01525 210210

Young Adults

James Legg 01525 379427

Free Will Offering Scheme

Jenny Huskisson 01525 757013

Sunday Saints Co-ordinator

Alison Dobbie 01525 759259

Mothers' Union Branch Co-ordinator

Janet Wenborn 01525 370987

Tower Liaison

Kevin Pughe 07402 233022
Margaret Birtles 07949 141211

ACTIVE Youth Group

Lindsay Bevis 01525 381418

Toddler Time

Julie Dolton 07954 148128

All Saints Preservation Trust

30, Hockliffe St, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1HJ
E-mail: enquiry@allsaintspreservationtrust.org
Website: www.allsaintspreservationtrust.org

Saints ALIVE: Items for publication to the Editors: Jo Waller & Julia Dickens, preferably by e-mail
magazine@allsaintslb.org.uk

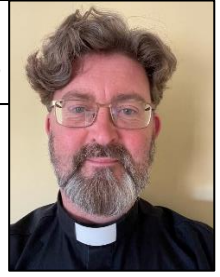
Advertising: Please contact June Ayres magazine-advertising@allsaintslb.org.uk

Distribution: Stephen Jury 01525 381936; stephenjury21@btinternet.com

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The Trinity – a creative collective

By Rev'd Steve Marsh



I love jazz music and last weekend my wife and I went to a jazz concert at the Little Missenden Festival. The concert was in the village church, St John the Baptist, which is an atmospheric building well known for its unique collection of wall paintings. We went to see the Zoe Rahman Trio, a band we enjoy and have followed for many years.

We were fortunate enough to have front row seats, and in being a small church this almost felt like we were part of the band. As is the nature of jazz, whilst there were recognisable riffs and refrains from album tracks and jazz standards, most of the music was improvised and being created right before us, unlikely ever to be played in this way again.

Whilst I was enveloped by the music itself, as the concert progressed, I found myself becoming more and more aware and fascinated by the visual interplay between the three musicians as they responded to each other's musical cues and facial signals to guide each other on where their improvisation was heading. The musicians appeared to be enjoying this spontaneous and creative interaction and were obviously relishing creatively sparking off each other.

As I sat there marvelling at the improvisation between these three musicians, I thought that this was a glimpse into the relational dynamic of the trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There are many theological and spiritual theories to help us understand the trinity. However, because trying to understand the nature of the trinity can be complex, there is not one model or theory that completely explains the relational dynamic within it. Into this mix I would like to enter the picture of the trinity as an improvising jazz trio. Like the musicians, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are constantly in the gaze of the other, each delighting in the creativity of the other and responding creatively to them. In this interplay and response, they collectively create beyond that which would have resulted if they had created individually.



When we look at God's creation, there is that which we need for existence, but much of it is almost unnecessarily beautiful, bringing delight and wonder. To imagine this beauty coming from the trinity creatively responding to each other, like improvising musicians, is a joyful image. To me the picture of the trinity as a creative collective, as artists, sculptors and musicians is very inspiring and uplifting.

Amongst all the theories and models of the trinity, each giving us a unique glimpse of its nature, I also offer you this picture of the trinity as an improvising jazz trio, creating just for the joy of it.

Our present pattern of services across the Ouzel Valley Team

All Saints

Sundays:

Please note new times which allow for cleaning between services

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Eucharist

11.30am

1st & 3rd Sundays: All Age Service

2nd & 4th Sunday Holy Baptism

6pm Said Evening Prayer

3rd Sunday: followed by Benediction

Weekdays:

Holy Communion

7.30pm Tuesday

(Service of Healing on 3rd Tuesday)

10.00am Thursday

9.00am Saturday

Morning Prayer: St. Hugh's Chapel

9.00am Tuesday – Friday

St. Barnabas, Linslade

Sundays:

8am Said Eucharist

10am Parish Eucharist

6pm Evensong

www.linslade-parish.org.uk

St. Leonard's, Heath & Reach

Sundays:

8am: Holy Communion

11am Holy Communion (in church & via Zoom)
(first Sunday of the month is a Family Service)

Tuesdays: 7pm Holy Communion

Morning Prayer via Zoom:

9.00am Monday - Saturday

www.saintleonardschurch.com

St. Michael's, Eggington

Sundays:

9.15am 1st & 3rd Sundays: Holy Communion

St. Nicholas', Hockliffe

Sundays:

9.30am Holy Communion

St. Michael's and All Angels, Billington

Sundays:

11.15am Holy Communion

Good Shepherd, Greenleas School, Sandhills:

Sundays at 9.45am:

1st Sunday: Holy Communion and
CGS Juniors at Greenleas School

2nd Sunday: 'In the Community' at Astral Park

3rd Sunday: Family Service at Greenleas School

4th Sunday: Bring and share breakfast and
Holy Communion at Greenleas School

Sunday Saints: for age 3+ year olds, meets during 9.30am Sunday service at All Saints.

All Saints Toddler Time: All Saints every Wednesday during term time, from 9.30 – 11am & 1.30pm.
£1.50 per parent / carer & child; 50p extra per child; refreshments included.

ACTIVE: (Senior Youth Group for age 11+) **not meeting at present because of a lack of leaders.**
If you could help, please contact the office.

Leighton Young Singers Club: for children in Years 2-6, meets on Fridays at 6.30 - 7.30pm.

Young Adults: meets fortnightly in Tuesdays at 8pm. See Facebook page "All Saints Young Adults".

Bereavement Café: a support group offering friendship and understanding.

1st Sunday of the month, 2.30-4pm The Spire Coffee Shop, All Saints

Choir Practice: Normally Friday evenings, 6.45 trebles; 7.30 adults.

Bellringers: Practice on Monday, 7.30pm-9.30pm.

Spire Coffee Shop: Tuesday & Saturday 10am-2pm.

Contact Details on Page 2.

News Roundup

All Saints Church 2022 calendars are still available at a cost of £10 each. Please contact Jenny Huskisson on 757013 if you would like one.

*** **

Grand Tree Festival raffle tickets are still available from the church at £1 each.

The prizes are as follows:

- 1st Prize £250 in cash,
- 2nd Prize £50 Waitrose voucher,
- 3rd Prize £30 Morrison's voucher.



All proceeds are for the upkeep of All Saints Church.

The raffle will be drawn 20th November at the Tree Festival.

*** **

Next year, we plan to use the centre pages of this magazine for a series of photos and stories about some of the lesser known saints, including more of those exquisite clerestory windows. If anyone would like to help with this project, we will be thrilled to hear from you. Please contact the editors by e-mail: magazine@allsaintslb.org.uk



Worth a smile

Six little stories:

{1} Once all villagers decided to pray for rain.
On the day of prayer all the people gathered,
but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's FAITH.

{2} When you throw babies in the air, they laugh
because they know you will catch them.

That's TRUST.

{3} Every night we go to bed,
without any assurance of being alive in the morning,
but still we set the alarms to wake up.

That's HOPE

{4} We plan big things for tomorrow,
in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's CONFIDENCE

{5} We see the world suffering,
but still we get married and have children.

That's LOVE

{6} On an old man's shirt was written a sentence:
'I am not 80 years old;

I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.'

That's ATTITUDE.



We so enjoyed the fireworks display,
can we do it again at New Year?

Parish Registers

Holy Matrimony, September:

No weddings

Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate'

Holy Baptism, September:

12: Georgina Eleanor Tzourou, Noah George Hedges; 26: Scarlett Hobbs, Grayson Paul Skelton-Harman, Eric Thomas Halley, Margot Lucy Toman Savage, Elsie Jessica Hogg

'One Lord, one faith, one baptism'

R.I.P. September:

7: Alan Curtis at St. Barnabas; 13: Stephen Spires at Crownhill; 16: David Williams at Berton; 20: John MacDonald at Berton; 22: John Eggleton at All Saints

'Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die'

Years Mind, November:

1: Michael Grant; 2: Doris Pughe; 4: Laurie Thompson, Revd. Len Lack; 5: Alistair Grant; 8: Lloyd Burgess; 9: Charles Wallace, Melanie Battams; 10: Andrew Audas, Alistair Cursons; 11: Harold Palmer, Margaret Prewett; 13: Edith Palmer; 14: Leah Perrott, Harry Jones; 15: Michael Munford; 16: Winnie Rolls; 17: Ray Croxford, Alec Raymen; 18: Eileen Sandifer; 19: Edith Deeley, Jim Jury, Snowie Mead; 20: Frederick Turner; 21: Peter Palmer; 22: Ivan Davies; 23: Bessie Plummer, Brenda Beaumont, Revd. Peter Lymbery; 24: Margaret Thompson; 25: Ada Nash; 28: Derek Dykes, William King; 29: Charles Gotzheim, Rose King



LEIGHTON BUZZARD MUSIC

LIVE PROFESSIONAL CONCERTS

Saturday 20^h November 2021 at 7.30pm

Venue to be confirmed

Please see the [Leighton Buzzard Music website](#)

Guitarist Laura Snowden

Programme will include music by Paraguayan composer Barrios as well her own compositions and arrangements of traditional Celtic folk material

Tickets available via TicketSource.
Further details at www.lbmusic.co.uk

Leighton Buzzard Music is a registered charity no: 1183681



Pulford VA Lower School
Head Teacher: Mr Dave Heather
Office Manager: Mrs Alison Quick
Tel: 01525 372188
Website: www.pulfordschool.org

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a whole community



Experience Christmas

It's been a long wait but we are so pleased to announce that the Church trails are back! The first one will be Experience Christmas running from Monday 29th -Friday 3rd December and it is already fully booked with several lower schools bringing children aged 5- 9 years.



Children get to explore the events of that first Christmas in an engaging and interactive way as we take them on a journey around All Saints church. We will take a stop in Bethlehem, travel the road with Mary, and even come across where some wise people may have lived! Children will gain some chronological awareness of the Christmas story in the context of their beautiful parish church. They will also make some Christmas crafts to take away! It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to do some 'greater depth' and sequential RE learning.



We are so looking forward to welcoming the children of our town back into church.

We do always need volunteer help! If you would like to know more about this trail or feel you may be able to help in future trails, please do contact me on the email below.

Luisa Borrelli, Experience Co-ordinator and Teacher
lborrelli@pulfordschool.org



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Leighton Young Singers Club

Does your child like singing? Would you like him/her to learn to sing properly?

Leighton Young Singers is a brand new club, offering free singing and music lessons to children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. It's not just about singing. We'll be doing drama, games and other fun activities.

At the end of each term there will be a performance, open to the public. Next summer, those who want to will join other singers in a fully staged performance of the musical **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**.

When?

6.30 to 7.30 pm on Friday evenings (term-time only) starting 12 November

Where?

The Samaritan room at All Saints Church,
Church Square, Leighton Buzzard. LU7 1AE

Cost?

None – free of charge



What sort of music?

Everything: musical theatre, pop, rock, jazz, gospel, classical

Why?

There is now overwhelming evidence that singing improves your health and well-being, relieves stress, boosts confidence, strengthens the immune system, improves breathing, improves social bonding and improves academic grades. And on top of all that, it's fun!

Who's running it?

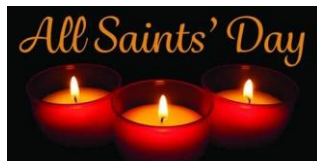
Saffron Pughe, a local primary school teacher, will be in charge. There will be opportunities for club members to sing with the church choir occasionally.

Give it a try – best to contact Paul Dickens (pmjdickens@gmail.com or 07939 260179) to book a place on a trial basis or just take a risk and turn up on a Friday at 6.30 pm and see if there's room for your child to have a go.

Calendar of Events

1st November

All Saints Day Said Communion, All Saints 7.30pm



2nd November

Commemoration of All Souls, All Souls' Service, All Saints 7.30pm

3rd November

Lunch Club, All Saints 1.00pm



7th November

Services as usual but no Messy Mass Service today

Bereavement Support Café, Coffee Shop, All Saints 2.30pm – 4pm



11th November

Armistice Day

Schools Remembrance Service at the War Memorial 11am

14th November

Remembrance Sunday Services as usual including

Remembrance Service All Saints 11am



19th – 21st November

Tree Festival, All Saints. Opening times vary



21st November

Services as usual including All Age Communion amongst the trees

All Saints 11.30am

28th November

Advent Sunday Services as usual including

Advent Carol Service All Saints 6pm



All Saints Parish Church

*Spectacular display of
decorated trees*

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

*"Christmas past
present and future"*

FREE ADMISSION
REFRESHMENTS
LIVE MUSIC



Friday 19th November - 10am to 5pm
Saturday 20th November - 10am to 5pm
Sunday 21st November - 12.30am to 5pm

**All proceeds to All Saints Church
Registered Charity 1131221**

*Lift your eyes ...
Looking at some of All Saints' curiosities
with thanks to Terry Warburton for his help with this series*



It is not surprising that, in a church dedicated to All Saints, our beautiful building is adorned by images of so many – the obvious, popular ones such as Mary in the image niche in the south transept; and lesser known ones, such as Perpetua, Boniface and Faith in the clerestory windows.

They are everywhere – in the windows, reredoses, ceiling ... and are created in a fantastic array of materials: glass, wood, silk, gold thread, leather, and alabaster, to name but a few.

These images remind us of remarkable people, most of whom came to very sticky ends while standing up for what they believed was right – a lesson to us all.



Left: One of the 16 clerestory windows, this one depicting St. Clement, 1st century Bishop of Rome, probably consecrated by St. Peter himself. Clement is patron saint of mariners. Imprisoned by Trajan, he was set to work in a stone quarry. Finding on his arrival that the prisoners were suffering from lack of water, he knelt down in prayer. Looking up, he saw a lamb on a hill, went to where the lamb had stood and struck the ground with his pickaxe, releasing a gushing stream of clear water. Many pagans were converted, infuriating Trajan. His punishment: having an anchor tied round his neck and being thrown overboard into the Black Sea.

... to see a church full of saints



Above left: The altar frontal on the crossing altar is made of gold thread and features all 12 apostles, including Matthias who filled the vacancy left by Judas.

Above right, a detail from the High Altar reredos, made of leather.

Below: the South transept reredos, made of alabaster, and featuring St. Christopher and St. Erasmus, either side of the crucifixion scene with Mary Mother of Jesus entrusted to St. John's care; the other Mary; and, somewhat unusually, the centurion.

Find a chair, get close up, and spend some quiet time admiring the detail in the craftsmanship, and thinking of the lives these people led. You will be rewarded.



Adam ran the London marathon...



On the 3rd October, Adam Carter, long-time member of the back row of the choir, completed the London Marathon. And what's more, he did it in 4 hr 59m.

He writes: "This was my first Marathon so very pleased with that. It was an amazing experience, with an amazing crowd roaring all the 50,000 runners which was surreal. It made me feel very emotional running around London and the great landmarks.

I had been working so hard for about year preparing for this occasion. Afterwards I enjoyed a Pizza and beer and that tasted so good."

Adam has been raised over £1,000, so far, for Teenage Cancer Trust which is an important charity for him. If anyone would like to donate to this wonderful cause, go to Virgin Money Giving donation page, and type his name into the "Support a friend" box.

And thank you to all who have donated so far.
<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AdamCarter28>



Did you know that 1 in 3 women will suffer from gender based violence in their lifetime?

This year as part of 16 days of activism to end gender-based violence, from 25 November (International Day for the elimination of violence against women) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day) the Mothers' Union are marking a Global Day on 27th November by wearing purple scarves and holding a 3 minute silence at 1.03pm. At All Saints, MU members welcome any non-members who would like to gather with them in the south transept to mark the silence and highlight their commitment to #No More 1 in 3.

Please contact Alison Dobbie for more information.



St. Nicholas, Hockliffe

Vicar: Rev'd Noel McGeeney

Tel: 01525 237633

Churchwardens: Brian Speller: 210 565;

Roger Spalding: 07451 877 501



At this time of year, we have shorter days and we see the seasons change to Autumn and then soon into Winter, and we see the leaves change colour and we start to think of all the things we would like to do, before it gets too cold and wet.

But there are advantages to these periods, because we can look to doing jobs inside, that we should have done, and haven't.

We are always thinking of going to see people we miss and we haven't seen for a while, and we often think about it, and we should take the time and effort to go, or phone, as we never know what's 'around the corner'.

Our harvest lunch was well supported by friends, neighbours and family, and would like to thank all those who gave up their time to make it a success.

We had quite a chat about the old times, and how in the 80's we used to go to The Red Lion's barn in the evening to have a Harvest supper.

The donations raised will go to our Church funds and hopefully help towards getting some essential work done.

Christian love comes in many disguises and keeping in contact with friends, relatives and supporters, is important. As we read our bibles and listen to the gospels, we are urged to go out and spread 'the word'.

Our small parish has much to offer and we hope that our friends and colleagues will continue in supporting our beautiful and historic Church. As we get closer to December our thoughts go to Advent, when we shall start to prepare our prayers for Jesus' coming on Christmas Day.

Let us remember to make time to be thoughtful for the love that God shows us, and let our hearts be open to his love.

Carol Speller

St. Nick's Supper
4th December at 7.30pm
at Hockliffe Grange

Tickets £15 in aid of
St. Nicholas Church, Hockliffe

To ensure that this event is as Covid-safe as possible,
numbers will be strictly limited, and
guests will be asked to do a lateral flow test on the day.

Booking essential - please contact
Julia Dickens

juliaedickens@gmail.com
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Remembrance service
in the Churchyard
at 11 a.m.
following the 9.30
Eucharist Service

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St. Michael's, Eggington

Vicar: Rev'd Noel McGeeney

Tel: 01525 237633

Church Officers:

Carol Hart 384634; Paul Brown 751861



We will remember them.

On Sept. 26, Rev Noel led a service to bless the churchyard and to remember those who are buried there. A number of people from the village came and helped plant a tree in dedication to all those who have lost their lives during the current pandemic.

Our Remembrance Service this year will be held in the churchyard at the War Memorial on November 14th at 2.30pm with refreshments in the village hall afterwards. We will particularly remember the following from our village, who lost their lives during the two World Wars:-

Major (temp. Lieutenant-Colonel) Alfred Joseph Elton SUNDERLAND:

2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. Son of James Sunderland, vicar of Eggington, born on 12 Feb. 1875 and killed in action on 31 July 1917 Ypres, Belgium and is buried in Belgium Battery Corner Cemetery.

Sergeant Francis Charles DUDLEY:

"D" Company, 6th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. Son of Alfred and Charlotte Dudley, born in 1889 and killed in action on 2 Nov. 1917 in France & Flanders, he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Sergeant Frederic Charles LEACH:

8th Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment. Son of Charles and Sarah Leach, born in 1893 and died of his wounds 13 Oct. 1916 in France & Flanders, he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

Corporal Arthur STURMAN:

5th Battalion, Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. Son of Mr and Mrs W. Sturman, born in 1889 and killed in action 24 Aug. 1916 in France & Flanders, he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

Private Reginald Thomas COX:

5th Battalion, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment. Son of Thomas and Annie Louise Cox, born on 11 Dec. 1919 and died while a Prisoner of War working on the Burmese Railway on 24 June 1943. He is buried in Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand.

Gunner Leslie Walter TURNER:

356 Battery, 111 H.A.A. Regiment, Royal Artillery. Son of Walter and Lily Turner, born on 21 June 1920 and died on 8 April 1941. He is buried in our churchyard.

Paul Brown



St. Michael & All Angels, Billington

Vicar: Rev'd Steve Marsh

Tel: 01525 838450

Churchwardens:

Sandra Brewin 373644; Julia Haviland 850380



Every village has its cross to bear. It may be lack of green space; it may be threat of huge development; it may be villagers just don't get on with each other. Mercifully none of these are particular problems to Billington. That is not to say we live in a perfect idyll. The cross we bear is the road which cuts the village in half. Like many others we enjoyed several weeks of peace and tranquility during the first Lockdown. Now it seems that drivers feel, having been relieved of restrictions due to Covid, all other restrictions have been lifted and the constant sound of speeding traffic, including HGVs travelling well above the 30 mph limit, bombards our ears. Each time we cross the road, especially to get to the church, we take our life in our hands. We are told by those who know about these things at CBC that our situation is intolerable and that changes to the road will be made in 2022, which will permanently calm the traffic. For residents these changes cannot come soon enough. When the work is done, we ask ourselves, will more people make their way to St. Michael and All Angels on a Sunday morning, secure in the knowledge that the short walk up the hill will end up in the church and not finally in the graveyard? We hope and pray that will be the case!



The Church looked stunning for Harvest Festival on 3rd October. Jean Albertella , Margaret Foskett and Tina Thompson made amazing flower arrangements (many of the flowers from Billington gardens). The congregation were generous with their gifts which were taken to the Leighton Linlade Food Bank. The gentleman who collected the produce could hardly believe that it all came from one little church.

On Remembrance Sunday 14th November there will be a special service of remembrance at 11.15am at St Michael and All Angels. For the first time for many months we will be having coffee (or tea) after the service which will give us the opportunity to catch up in a more normal way instead of standing around outside the church door.

Sandra Brewin



Good Shepherd, Sandhills

Vicar: Rev'd Steve Marsh

Tel: 01525 838450

Churchwarden: Steve Nixon



**CHURCH of the
GOOD SHEPHERD**

Don't panic... our Christmas has not been cancelled

'Christmas is cancelled' was the doom-laden mono-chromatic headline emblazoned on the front of a newspaper recently. I suspect it makes an annual appearance on a national rag, diarised by the newsdesk, along with predictions of a scorcher of a summer or GCSE/A level results fiasco.

Last year, the secular version of the festival was threatened by the tier 4 (or was it 400) local lockdown preventing families from mixing due to Covid. This year, enforced joviality could go down the pan due to the prospect of fewer cheap toys being shipped in from countries with dubious human rights records, being denied this year's must have roasted joint of meat due to the lack of migrant butchers or there not being enough CO₂ to put the fizz in to the perfect cocktail that would have made this the best Christmas ever!

As you can tell, I'm not a fan of this excess and consumerist hype. Not only does it trivialise the reality of some who cannot afford the toys and food, made worse by rising energy prices and the impact of Covid on income, but it shows that we're still not getting this climate change thing.

According to a survey done by the British Heart Foundation, 1 in 3 parents admit to having thrown away toys in working condition adding to needless plastic waste. This doesn't even factor in those third party sellers on popular shopping sites selling substandard toys that end up being used once because they are so poorly made. 10 million turkeys are eaten at Christmas time in the UK each year, probably less this year due to the lack of workers or CO₂ to dispatch the poultry and truss them up for the supermarket shelves. Sadly, a fifth of these birds die needlessly as they end up as food waste.

We as Christians know that Christmas can never be cancelled, even if we can't physically gather as a church like last year. God doesn't bend to economic flux, outcomes of referendums or the fall out of a pandemic. He is always there for us. Shouldn't we repay that constancy by looking after what He gave us – our precious planet?

But where do we start? Or for those already making great strides in their sustainability journey, what more can you do? The Church of England has a comprehensive webpage on 'sustainable lifestyle' with guidance on food, plastic, transport, waste and energy. There are lots of ideas for simple, little changes that invariably save money too. There are also plenty of hints and tips so that you are better informed the next time you pop to the supermarket, go to turn the heating up or throw something in the bin.

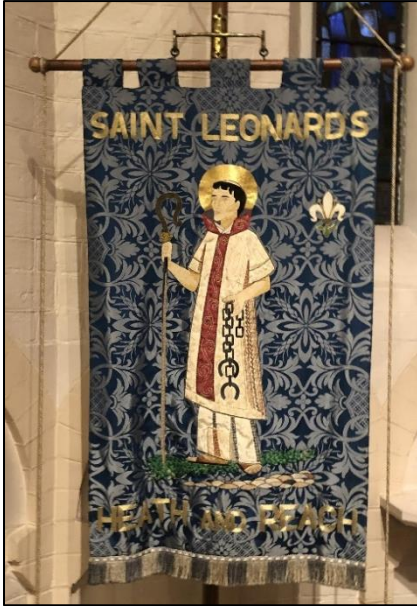
More information can be found on the Church of England website.

Jo Bellamy

Saints on Earth

Personal accounts of the wide-range of spiritually significant men and women who have inspired and influenced us. Rev'd Noel McGeeney looks at the life of

St. Leonard



As I write for the saint's page in the magazine, I write about our own parish saint whose feast falls in the month of November. I am happy to say the church is open to visitors on Monday – Thursday from 9.30am – 3.30pm.

Saint Leonard of Noblac or Limoges is thought to have lived in the 5th or 6th centuries, although little seems to have been written about him until the 11th century.

Legend has it that he was of noble birth, from a Frankish family, born in the time of King Clovis I and that his godfather was St. Remy of Rome.

He converted to Christianity in 496 and asked King Clovis to grant him personally the right to liberate prisoners whom he found worthy of it, at any time. He secured the release of a number of prisoners for whom he became a patron saint.

Leonard became a hermit in the forest of Limousin, where he gathered a number of followers. Leonard or Lienard became one of the most venerated saints of the late Middle Ages. His intercession was credited with miracles for the release of prisoners, women in labour and the diseases of cattle.

Throughout the Middle Ages paying a ransom was an important principle of warfare. After a battle, prisoners expected to be able to buy their freedom. It could be a costly business - a king who lost good men and spent his wealth fighting would want compensation. This system worked well for everybody involved. Those who took captives were given a chance to profit from being merciful. Knights could fight in the knowledge that if they lost, they would not be killed out of hand. Hence the need for appointed mediators like St. Leonard, who could be trusted by both sides. Captives could expect to be treated well in captivity until the ransom was delivered.

One such example has him securing the safe delivery of the Queen of Franks from her confinement. As a reward he received from the king the gift of a domain at Noblac, near Limoges, south-west central France, where he founded a monastery, around which a village grew, named in his honour Saint-Leonard de Noblac, which is where his bones lie today.

According to legend prisoners, who invoked him from their cells saw their chains break before their eyes and he became one of the revered saints of the Middle Ages.

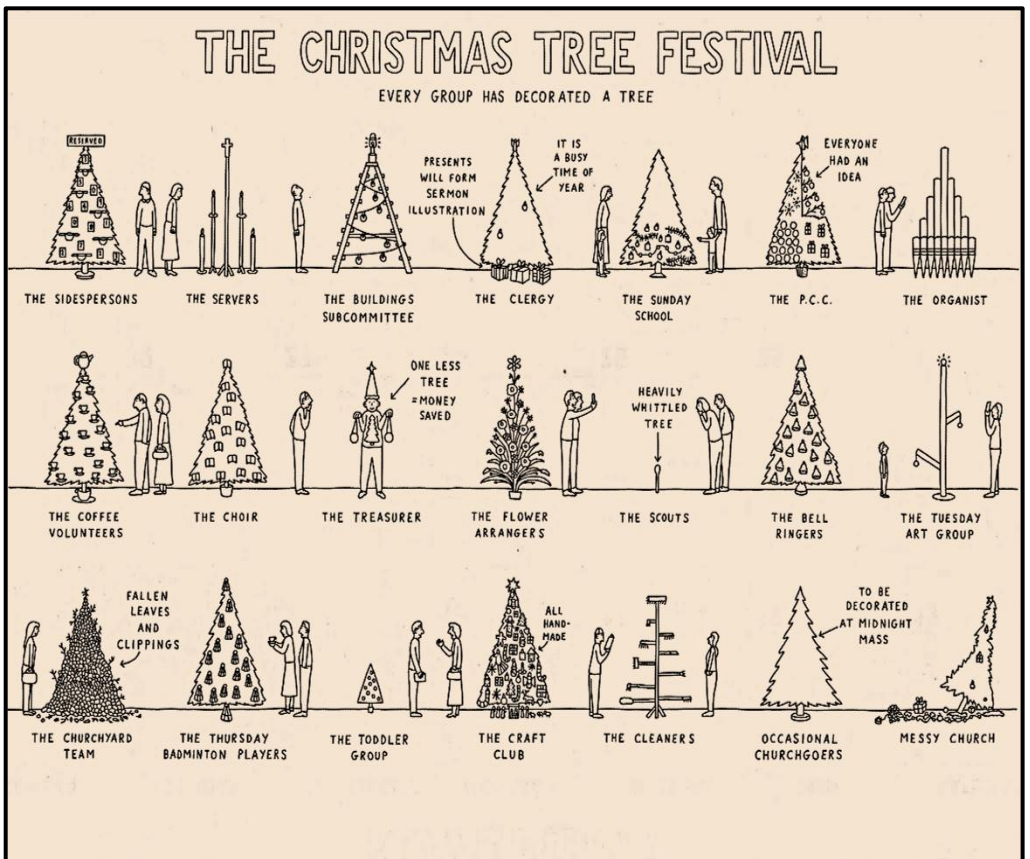
In England there are some 177 churches dedicated to him. He is also venerated in the Low Countries, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany (particularly in Bavaria), Bohemia and Poland.

He is usually depicted as an abbot holding chains, fetters, locks or manacles, and is the patron saint of political prisoners, imprisoned people, prisoners of war and captives, and women in labour. He is also patron saint of horses.

He died in 559, and his feast day is 6th November.



Noel McGeeney





Rise to the moment: a journey of prayer and

The climate crisis is a storm we all face, but we're not all in the same boat. For some, the storm is stronger and the waves are already breaking. Every day, people living in poverty across the globe battle the worst of a crisis they did not create.

This is deeply unjust but together we can tackle the inequalities in wealth and power that have led to this crisis. COP26 is a decade-defining opportunity to influence the decisions ensure our global neighbours are heard. Christian Aid is joining together with Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) for Rise to the Moment – a journey of prayer and action in the run up to COP26.

Staying afloat: YCCN have been carrying a model boat on their 1,200mile pilgrimage to COP26, representing hopes to set sail towards a more just future. You can join by making a paper boat - to use as a focus for prayer, and to add them to the online fleet, use them to advocate for climate justice with MPs and send them to COP26.



Visit www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/prayer-chain to see the huge and growing online fleet of paper boats and to find instructions on how to make your paper boat – or use your own design. Hundreds of churches up and down the country have joined in already.

Join the online fleet: Post an image of your paper boat on Facebook or Twitter with the hashtag **#prayforCOP26**

Leighton Buzzard Climate Change event

It was really encouraging to see over 200 people fill All Saints for the Climate Change event in October. If you missed it, it is available in the All Saints YouTube channel.

Speaker Paul De Zylva from Friends of the Earth gave a particularly inspiring talk – reminding us that we already know a lot of the things that we should do to help counteract climate change: we just need to do them. Action at local level is not futile - but it takes a lot of us to do it. And our MP Andrew Selous who chaired the meeting reminded us that writing to elected representatives – politicians at all levels - can make a difference by bringing influence to bear on councillors, MPs and even foreign ambassadors who can directly influence the people who take decisions.

The power of the pen

You can find email and correspondence addresses for elected representatives on the websites of Central Bedfordshire Council and the local town council. To find your MP's contact details, visit: www.parliament.uk/get-involved

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