

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday 30th October 2022, 4th Sunday before Advent, All Saints Day



Readings for Sunday 30th: 2 Thessalonians 1; Luke 19vs 1-10

Dear Friends

I wonder if you have been enjoying the beautiful Diwali fireworks this week. As the nights draw in, our friends and neighbours of other faiths are sharing in wonderful celebrations of light overcoming darkness.

At church last week Sarah organized our own Light Party for young families. We made lanterns, fruit rockets and joined in with Mark's interactive firefly story. We also made stained glass windows and put them up to let the light shine through.

Jesus called himself the light of the world (John 8.12). Think for a moment about what light does: it challenges the darkness, it brings hope and comfort, it brings warmth and life. All those things are important when we think about the light of Jesus. But Jesus' light also helps us to see ourselves as we are, people who sometimes get it wrong, who make mistakes. At the same time, that light reveals the way forward, a new path for us to embark on with Jesus.

As well as defining himself as light, Jesus also calls us lights: 'You are the light of the world' (Matthew 5.14). Paul takes up this image, applying it to himself, and Barnabas when he preaches to the people of Antioch. 'The Lord has commanded us saying, "I have sent you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." ' (Acts 13.47). Like the apostles, we are called not simply to gaze at Jesus' light and draw comfort from it, but to receive it in ourselves and let it shine through us to others.

When I see the autumn sun shining through beautiful stained glass windows with images of saints in them, it reminds me that we are all called to be saints, to be followers of Jesus, and that means letting his light of love and hope shine through us into the world.

Every blessing, **Anthony**



COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Friday 28th Oct 7pm Youth Club in parish centre

Sunday 30th 10am Holy Communion in church & on Zoom (ID: 820 0369 6332; password available from Qyan)

Sunday 30th 3pm Café Church

Tuesday 1st Nov 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group in church and parish centre

Wednesday 2nd 10am Evington Family History Group meet in parish centre

Thursday 3rd 2pm Staff Meeting in the church

Friday 28th Oct & 4th Nov 10am Musical Toddlers Group in parish centre

Friday 4th 7pm Youth Music Evening meet in the parish centre

Morning Prayer: Monday, and Thursday 9am in church

Open Church every Thursday: 10am Holy Communion (BCP said), the use of free wifi, and refreshments! All welcome.

Music Festival We are delighted to say that, after expenses, just over £1,000 was raised for the work of St. Denys during the recent music festival. Once again, many thanks to all the performers and everyone who helped out in any way practically, and especially to the few individuals who so generously donated refreshments, raffle prizes etc at considerable expense. It is appreciated immensely.

Worship Feedback Questionnaire Thank you to all who have returned their worship questionnaire. If you have yet to do so and would like your voice heard then please pick one up from the table at the back of church this Sunday, fill it in and return it to the green box. Many Thanks. **Mark**

Morning Prayer will take place only on Monday and Thursday of this week, 9am.

Jake's Last Sunday with us will be this coming Sunday, 30th October when he will preach at the 10am service. His 6 week placement has flown by! We wish him well as he continues his Ministry training and give thanks for what he has done with us. Many thanks Jake.



Pub Night will take place this Sunday 30th October, 7.30pm, in The Cedars.

Friends of Evington (Charity no. 1148649) are holding their Annual General Meeting from 6.00pm to 8.00pm at Evington Village Hall, Church Road LE5 6FA on Tuesday 1st November 2022. This meeting will discuss our 21/22 projects which have been the Evington Echo and Evington in Bloom and look at future plans, all important to the village. Please do let the secretary, Helen, know if you are coming. Tel: 0116 2204525/07910431044; email friendsofevington1@gmail.com



All Souls Service Sunday 6th November, 6pm To remember those who have died. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one. If you would like the name of a loved one, who has passed, read out at this service, please PRINT their full name on the list at the back of the church or alternatively contact Qyan, by this Sunday 30th. Thank you.

Café Church will NOT take place on Sunday 6th November due to the All Souls service taking place at 6pm.

St Denys Church Christmas Choir 2022 Do you enjoy singing? Can you pick up a tune by ear? We are looking for keen singers with any level of experience, to join us for our traditional Nine Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday 18 December. Weekly rehearsals begin on **Thursday 10 November at 8pm** and then on 17 and 24 November; 1 and 8 December all at **7.30pm**.



Our final rehearsals are on **Friday 16 December at 7.30pm** and **Sunday 18 December at 4pm**. We will also be singing carols at the Stoughton Grange Christmas Market on **Saturday 3 December** in the afternoon. For further information, please contact Wendy Lees-Smith: wsls99@yahoo.co.uk



Remembrance Day Parade and Service Sunday 13th November beginning at 10.45am. Join us as we pay our respects to those who fought and died for our freedom, in both world wars and more recent conflicts.

Stoughton Grange Christmas Market Saturday 3rd December. We will be singing carols and have a stall to sell goodies in aid of church funds. So, please get making, sewing and knitting!! Many thanks.

BRAND NEW ST. DENYS WEBSITE! The PCC and Staff Team are very grateful to David McBride for creating and implementing a fresh, completely new website for St. Denys. It has been long overdue and we owe a debt of gratitude to David for being willing to take on this challenge. Thank you David. Do go and check it out: <https://stdenys.org.uk>



Collect for 4th Sunday before Advent God of Glory, touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice to sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Mark Bulbeck, Mick Clay, Ann Harcourt, Marion Heygate.
Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Pauline Calow, Iain Davidson and all those who have died from Covid-19.



Reflection by Jake Godsell I can't believe it's been six weeks already. The time has flown by. This Sunday will be my last day at St Denys and I would like to thank the whole church for welcoming me so warmly.

During my time with you, I have made amazing new friendships and have learnt a lot about a different church tradition and style of worship in the Church of England. I would like to thank everyone for being so kind, so welcoming and inviting me into your homes to share in food and fellowship. It has been great getting to know all of you and I will deeply miss seeing you all on Sundays.

At St Denys, I have been really encouraged by the Ministry of Anthony and Mark, they have been great mentors and have challenged and grown me in my pursuit to follow God's call on my life to Priesthood. They are both an enormous blessing to St Denys and I am full of praise and thanks for them both. They have always been lovingly open to answer my questions and to help me understand why aspects of tradition are so important. They and the church have really made me pray and deeply reflect on worship and how people are able to connect with God in so many different ways. I have been inspired by Anthony's love and care not only for the congregation but also for the whole parish and community. This is definitely something that I will hold very close to the heart of my own ministry going forward.

It has also been an enormous honor to visit the local care homes. This is the first time I have experienced such ministry and I found it incredibly powerful and spirit filled. It was a privilege to pray and talk to the residents and share the gospel with them. I pray that this amazing work will continue and the residents will be filled with the peace that comes from knowing Christ.

I pray that the name of the Lord Jesus will continue to be glorified throughout this congregation and church according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

"And now all these remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13)

I thank you once again for your love, fellowship and the way I have grown from my time at St Denys. Your church will continually be in my prayers. Blessings, **Jake**.

Revd Anthony (Vicar) 0116 2155500 vicar@stdenys.org.uk (not Tues, Weds or Fri)

Gerry (Churchwarden) 07531 548793 geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com

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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

www.stdenys.org.uk