

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 22nd October 2023, Twentieth Sunday after Trinity



Dear Friends, we live in an incredibly dangerous world, where war and strife has been prevalent for generations and is massively increasing, and natural disasters are occurring much more. These conflicts and disasters are with us, here and now, not some far away universe in which we have no part! Whether it be the current conflicts in Ukraine, or Palestine and Israel and elsewhere, any right-minded individual must worry greatly for our world when we note the evil actions of aggressors, where innocent people are always the ones to suffer most. The heart breaking and terrible scenes of destruction, not just to property but far more importantly, to human life is deeply upsetting. We can legitimately ask; how can our fellow human beings be so inhumane to one another? It is almost incomprehensible but entirely due to mankind's sinful ways.

Here we are in the 21st century, technology advancing at a rapid rate, to be used for bad, as well as good – artificial intelligence is one example - the world's Western leaders twitching, not always knowing what to do for the best, in case their actions inflame already desperate situations and make them worse and other world leaders wanting that to happen for their own political and very questionable ends.

As Christians, none of this should be new to us! We believe that the Bible is the holy word of God, our truth, our hope, relevant to today even more now, than we might have thought before. We shouldn't be surprised by the world's troubles and the truth is that much of the last 2000 years has been marked by events such as those Jesus described to his disciples on the Mount of Olives (Matthew 24 verses 6-13): "...you will hear of wars and rumours of wars...such things must happen, but the end is still to come...there will be famines and earthquakes in various areas...at that time many will turn away from the faith and hate each other and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people..." all this is happening now, again, in our lifetimes!

Writing after the 2nd world war, but equally applicable today, the Christian writer, speaker and concentration camp survivor Corrie ten Boom said "We are not a post war generation; but a pre-peace generation. Jesus is coming." Having Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, as we profess publicly in church every Sunday by saying the words of the creed, we can look forward to the end times, when Christ's glorious second coming will see heaven on earth for all those who have been faithful to him. In the meantime, exercise the one powerful weapon you do have - prayer. Pray for the world, with all its tragedy and despair and an end to man's inhumanity to man, and earnestly seek Christ's return! Blessings, **Qyan**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Sunday 22nd 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan) **3pm FIRST Crafty Church** in the parish centre

Tuesday 24th 11am Funeral Service in church

Tuesday 24th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group meet in church & parish centre

Wednesday 25th 10am Evington Family History Group meet in parish centre

Wednesday 25th 7pm Journey in Faith Course in the parish centre

Thursday 26th 9.30 Gentle Exercise Group

Thursday 26th 11am Headway Charity Management Training in the parish centre

Thursday 26th 7pm First Choir rehearsal for Christmas Carol Service in church

Friday 27th 10am Musical Toddlers Group meet in the parish centre

Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am in church

Open Church every Thursday 9am—12 noon Holy Communion (said BCP) at 10am, free refreshments and use of church wifi

Readings for Sunday: 1 Thessalonians 1 vs 1-10; Matthew 22 vs 15-22

Stewardship Sunday will be marked on Sunday 22nd October at our 10am service. Stewardship Sunday is a day on which we particularly thank God for his generosity and abundant gifts to us. Our giving should always be in response to that generosity shown to us in Jesus Christ and so we are encouraged on this day to review our offering of ourselves - our time, talents, and treasure - to support the mission of God's church in the world and closer to home. We continue to face significant financial challenges at St Denys and sadly have not been able to pay the parish contribution we pledged this year to the diocese. We have received several one-off donations for things recently for which we are hugely grateful, but it is regular weekly or monthly donations that keep us financially afloat. If you are not already signed up, please consider joining the Planned Giving Scheme which makes a big difference in allowing us to budget more easily and more accurately for the future. With grateful thanks and prayers, **Anthony**

Christmas Choir! Do you enjoy singing? We are looking to form a choir to sing at the 9 Lessons and Carols service in St. Denys, taking place on Sunday 17th December, 6pm. **Rehearsals will begin on Thursday 26th October at 7pm** in church and continue every Thursday until 14th December (except 23rd November), rehearsing on the day itself at 4pm. The minimum age is 7 years but there is no upper age limit!! Please speak to Wendy Lees-Smith or Qyan if you would like to take part. Many thanks. **Wendy**



At the beginning of November, on Sunday 5th at 10am, the service will be Holy Communion, not Matins.

Our All Souls Service will take place on Sunday 5th November at 4pm in St. Denys Church. This is a quiet and reflective service during which the Ministry Team read out the names of all those who have died, and we pray for God's comfort and strength in our loss. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of our loved ones. After the service, tea and coffee will be served in the church—if you can help with serving refreshments, please contact me or let Anthony know. If you would like the name/s of a loved one/s read out, please PRINT their name on the list at the back of the church. The list will be removed next Sunday 29th October. If you can't make it to church to add names, please e-mail or telephone me, leaving a clear message on the answerphone if your call isn't answered. My details are in the Contacts section of this bulletin, on page 3. Many thanks. **Qyan**



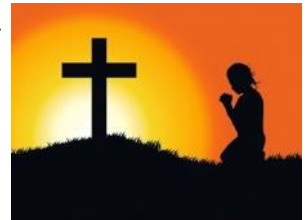
Remembrance Sunday is on 12th November. A short service will take place at the War Memorial at the later time of 10.45am, followed by a Parade to St. Denys where the service will conclude. At 3pm, all age Communion will take place in the church/parish centre.

Advance Notice! The time of **Evensong** will change for the winter months to 4pm with effect from Sunday 19th November.

Collect for 20th Sunday after Trinity God, our light and our salvation: illuminate our lives, that we may see your goodness in the land of the living, and looking on your beauty may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Gwilym Edmonson-Jones, Marion Heygate, Michael Matts, Valerie Moulden, Roman Orzel, Sian Rigby, Jill Sinclair, Patrick Smith, Phil Tyler

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of: Peter Brooks, Roy Hammond, Joy Tibbles



Revd Anthony Lees-Smith (Vicar) 0116 2155 5000 vicar@stdenys.org.uk

(not Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays)

Mark Batchelor (Curate) 07534 805454 m.batchelor@hotmail.co.uk (not Fridays)

Gerry (Churchwarden) 07531 548793 geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com

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Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer) 0116 2737717

Administrator (Qyan) 07803 828454 office@stdenys.org.uk

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

www.stdenys.org.uk



CHRISTMAS WREATH

Make your own!

on 23rd November 2023

St Denys Church Parish Centre, afternoon session
full. Evening 6.30pm start until 9.00pm

Extra Session on Saturday 25th November 2023

10.30am—1.30pm

Come along and have fun making a festive wreath,
with demonstrations of Christmas ideas.



Cost £15, all materials supplied. Please bring along
secateurs and gloves for holly! To book a place, ring Peter
on 07970 233324 or contact our Churchwarden Gerry
(details on page 3 of this bulletin) Spaces limited to 15
people per class.