

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 21st July 2024, 8th Sunday after Trinity



Readings for Sunday: 10am Ephesians 2 vs 11-end; Mark 6 vs 30-34,53-end; 4pm Job 13 vs 13- ch 14 v 6; Hebrews 2 vs 5-end

Dear Friends, Well, what a wonderful service of praise, joy and yes, even tears, we had on Sunday as we bid farewell to Anthony and his wonderful family! It was delightful to see so many people from across the community as over 132 of us came together as a living legacy of the way Anthony has guided and helped us to work alongside and across our community in all its joyful diversity. We celebrated afterwards with food, drink and cake and got to meet so many people we haven't for some time. It was also a service where Anthony laid down his keys in a very literal way, and after hugs and farewells went home to pack.

So, opening the church on Monday was a very sobering affair. No longer could I look forward to Anthony coming through the door with a friendly hello and his usual energy and vigour. Things seemed subdued, empty even. Morning prayer, usually led by Anthony emphasised his absence. I went off to my next appointment, organising a funeral.

Monday Meet brought busyness once more to the church buildings. But still there was a hush about proceedings. Would we see Anthony today we asked? "Well no" I patiently explained, that's it now. "He hasn't even got his keys; he has packing to do." And then suddenly, in total defiance of all I had said and thought, there he was. It was Anthony in the doorway. Real live, full of energy, Anthony. And in that moment, all my suppositions and general glumness was popped. Anthony was here, he'd never been far away, and we'll see him again soon in Chester!

Anthony had come to collect his grandfather clock, and I'll leave the rather comedic story of the treasurer, the warden, the vicar and the curate carrying a large wooden object out of the church draped in a blanket to the vicarage for another time, because after that I didn't feel so glum. I'd been reminded that we have a God who loves us, no matter where we are and whoever's company we are in. In that context the distance to Chester seems barely perceptible.

Anthony has gone from St. Denys and I'm sad about that. But I know he has gone to answer God's call in Chester and be such a blessing to them. And life goes on at St. Denys for us all too, and there is much to do.

Every blessing to us all, **Mark**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Sunday 21st 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan) **4pm Evensong** in church

Tuesday 23rd Lily House Bereavement Support Group in church & parish centre

Thursday 25th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Morning Prayer 9am in church

Thursday Holy Communion (BCP, said) 10am in church

Thursday Open Church 9am—12noon Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.



Marion Heygate Many of you will remember Marion, wife of Stephen who preceded Anthony as Vicar of St. Denys. It is with great sadness that we record her passing in the early hours of Wednesday 17th July. Marion had been seriously ill for some time. Please keep Stephen and the family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Thank you.

URGENT! Your Help Is Needed! There are some garden tools and a lawn mower belonging to the church, currently stored at the Rectory, which need to be moved because the Rectory has now been vacated and the property will soon be let. The Wardens would be very grateful if anyone with storage space would be willing to temporarily store these items. Contact the **Churchwardens** if you can help. Thank you.



Anthony's Installation LIVE in St. Denys! For those not going to Chester Cathedral on the coach for Anthony's installation on 27th July, we will be showing the service live on screen in the parish centre. Help yourselves to tea/coffee etc, feel free to bring cake! The service begins at 4.15pm, so I would advise arriving by 4pm at the latest. Grateful thanks are accorded to John, a local resident, who has agreed to set up and control the technology.

Date for your Diary The Hathern Band, who entertained us so brilliantly during last year's Music Festival, is making a welcome return visit, to perform for us in St. Denys on Saturday 12th October. Please do come and hear their brilliant music making again, featuring Revd Canon Stephen Foster, known to many of us. Further details will be made known soon. **Qyan**



Ode to Wendy and Anthony At the parish lunch following Anthony and Wendy and family's last service with us last Sunday, a few of us performed a 'Goodbye Ditti' written by Kay Smith, to the tune of 'So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen Goodbye' from the Sound of Music! We have had a request for it to be more widely available, so to this end, the words are replicated below. The singing was accompanied by a knitted bird on display, in reference to Anthony's skills at knitting, developed with the Faith and Friendship Group in recent months:

*There's a sad kind of silence in the pulpit at St. Denys,
And the choir stalls will seem empty too,
And in the Church Centre, an absurd knitted bird, is popping out to say
"Cuckoo, cuckoo, cuckoo."*

*So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye
O please don't go, and leave us at this time*

*So long, farewell auf wiedersehen, adieu
Adieu, to Anthony and Wendy too!*

*So long, farewell, au revoir, auf wiedersehen
Please stay, and be, our Vicar once again*

*So long, farwell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye
You leave, we all, now have a teary eye!*

*We're sad, you go, we cannot tell a lie,
The Tenor line, for us, will soon run dry!*

*No compline, no psalms, the sermon you deny,
And now, to Chester Cathedral you must fly!*

*So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen goodbye,
So thank, you both, you have exemplified.*

*So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, goodbye
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.*

More delightful Flower Creations by Kimberley



“Let gratitude for the past, inspire us with trust for the future” Francois Fenelon (1651—1715) Archbishop of Cambrai

Collect for the Eighth Sunday after Trinity Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Judith Chapman (recovering from a knee operation), Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Alison Kedditly, Ellen King, Roy Lee, Janette Pearson, Barbara Pinder, Jessica Saul, Margaret Steel, Andy White

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Marion Heygate,
John Rice



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