

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 27th October 2024, Last Sunday after Trinity



Dear Friends, if you consider yourself a Christian, a person of faith, a follower of Jesus, how visible do you make your Christian life to those around you, not only in church, but in the local community, the places in which you move, interact and have your being? What value do you place on living a truly Christian life? What does being a Christian mean to you?

Language evolves over time and meanings of words change. The word 'Christian' is one such word, but we need to be careful about any misunderstandings that happen when change occurs. According to the Book of Acts, Christians were first called "Christians" at Antioch. The word applied to them by outsiders because they followed Jesus Christ. They thought that "Christ" was a name rather than a title. The word only occurs on two other occasions in the New Testament.

Do you think that the definition of a 'Christian' is someone who merely believes in God generally, lives their life in a good way, fitting in with what you would expect of a decent person in society, who may or may not go to church because it isn't a pre requisite to being a good person and incorporates all who are like this? Perhaps for you, being a Christian means taking the Bible literally, having commitment to the gifts of the Spirit and being traditional or 'old school' in your view of all matters moral? In this approach, you might think certain aspects of the Church of England over the past few decades has become too liberal, watering down the faith and holding the view of "moving with the times!" May be the word 'Christian' and following Christ to you is being baptised or christened (and there is a difference between the two!) into the church, whether it be the C of E or other denomination, a common view I suggest!

Whilst I contend that only God can and should decide who is a true follower of his, and who will ascend into heaven on judgement day, for me the only definition of a Christian is one who, imperfect though we all are as human beings, truly lives every day of our lives following in Jesus' footsteps to the best of our ability including nourishment through study of his word, the Bible. The Church's task, and ours as Christians, is to preach the Gospel in a way that is engaging and challenges us all at the deepest level and to welcome all, who, in the words of the Baptism service, "turn to Christ".

I challenge myself and all who read this – can we do infinitely better for Christ on a daily basis? You bet we can! We should definitely try! Blessings, **Qyan**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Saturday 26th 12pm Bellringer's meeting in the parish centre

Sunday 27th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan) **3pm Crafty Church** in the parish centre

Monday 28th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 29th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 29th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 31st 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

diary

Monday -Thursday 9am Morning Prayer

Thursdays 9am—12noon Open Church with Holy Communion (BCP, said) 10am

Readings for 27th October: Hebrews 7 vs 23-end; Mark 10 vs 46-end

Ride and Stride 2024 A very big thank you to those who walked, church sat and sponsored our worthy team. Each year this event takes place on the second Saturday of September and raises a considerable sum of money. We get back half of what we raise but have also benefitted from a grant to fit security devices to our building. Total this year £325. Sadly we are not on the main route of visits which is a shame with having such a beautiful church, but for those who do come, it is so rewarding to be greeted by a person rather than a sign-in sheet on the door! Much appreciated. **Chris Hossack.**



Donations of Blankets, Throws and Hot Water Bottles!

These will be gratefully received at the back of the church whilst the lack of heating continues. If you wish to 'lend' a blanket etc rather than donate, please make sure your name is clearly attached to your item. Your help would be much appreciated.

Please note: The Lily House Bereavement Support Group that normally meets on a Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre and church is CLOSED until further notice.

I am still looking for people to join the intercessor rota which remains critically short of people. Also, if you would like to read bible readings in services and are not currently on the rota, please do come forward. This request is especially pertinent as two members of our regular congregation who are on the rota, will be leaving us soon. Thank you. **Qyan**



Free Group Walk in Shady Lane Arboretum on Saturday 26th October at 11am, led by the Volunteer Tree Wardens from the City Council. Places are limited and are FREE of charge but you must book your place via Eventbrite. Full details can be found by using the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/autumn-tree-tour-in-shady-lane-arboretum-tickets-1027131567167>

Ethics of Inclusion, Webinar Tuesday 29 October, 7.30pm Online Penny Pulan, a reader in our diocese, is sharing the results of her research into the experience of people of working age with chronic conditions or invisible illnesses in the Church of England. In this interactive and accessible webinar, you will hear the occasionally shocking results of Penny's research, and explore ways to help people with often-neglected illnesses, including ME and Long COVID, take their place fully within your church community.
[Book a place on this free webinar.](#)

All Souls Service Sunday 3rd November at 4pm, followed by refreshments in the parish centre. The list for recording the names of departed loved ones to be read out, will be removed this coming Sunday. Please add any further names that you wish to be read out, before the morning service begins this Sunday. Thank you. All are welcome to this service.

Leading Worship, for Everyone! Saturday 16th November, 10am—3.15pm at All Saints Parish Centre, Blaby. A workshop for any church member wanting to grow in skills and confidence leading others in worship, prayer and engaging with the Bible. The session will be interactive and practical with opportunities to share experiences and grow together. *Refreshments from 9.30am. Please bring a packed lunch.* [Visit our Learning Hub to register.](#)

Christmas Wreath Making Workshops On 27th November in the afternoon and 2nd December in the evening, wreath making workshops will be held in the parish centre. Look out for further details in forthcoming editions of the bulletin, places will be limited.

Christmas Carol Service Sunday 15th December 6pm in St. Denys! If you would like to participate by singing in the choir, please get in touch. People of all voice parts are needed. Practises will be on Friday evenings in church starting next month. Let us continue this beautiful tradition. **Qyan**

The Butterfly, a poem in preparation for All Souls, by Amy Van Derzee

Spread your wings and fly butterfly!
Your beauty has touched us all.
Your wings so very delicate,
But your spirit conquers all.



You've given us so much on earth
But God now reclaims his prize.
Spread your wings and fly butterfly!
Let your colours brighten the sky.

We will miss you dearly, but your
Transition is complete.
Your wings are now an angel's
To your Saviour go to meet.



Spread your wings and FLY, butterfly!

Collect for the Last Sunday after Trinity Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will, we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please continue to pray for the horrific situations current in Ukraine/Russia and the increasing tensions there, Israel/Palestine, Sudan, Myanmar and other places across the world.

Pray for the sick: Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Alison Keddilty, Roy Lee, Linda Perks, Barbara Pinder, Jessica Saul, Margaret Steel, Kimberley Tyler (recovering from a knee operation), Andy White

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Susan Johnston, Robert Mason

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

www.stdenys.org.uk

