

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 3rd November 2024, 4th Sunday before
Advent, All Souls



Dear Friends, Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us that there “is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.”

It then goes on to list many of these, including having “a time to plant and a time to uproot... a time to tear down and a time to build.” To this list I wonder if we should add, ‘a time to set down and a time to take up,’ because I find that this feels like the season we are in now. After Christmas we will be relying on the support of visiting clergy to keep our services going and there is a time of evaluation needed to see what energy we have to keep doing as a church.

At such times, it is tempting to draw back and start looking inwards on ourselves. However, I would urge us not to get drawn into thinking in this way, as it is to outreach that we are called as a church. To remind us of those words of William Temple “The Church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members.” Rather than getting ourselves trapped into negative thinking, let us consider the things that are most important to do, as we continue to follow the two commandments that are greatest of all: to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbour as ourselves. We may well need to re-evaluate and set certain things down in our lives, however, it may also be that for some of us this will be a time to be called to take up new things in the church also. So let us not grow despondent but instead keep our eyes fixed on what Paul would refer to as “the goal.”

This is certainly a time of evaluation and change, but, as we are faithful, it will also be a time of renewal too. Psalm 103 speaks of “our youth being renewed like an eagle’s” And while I’ve never fully understood why eagles are singled out for their renewable youth, it is certainly true that as particularly long-lived birds they have a certain permanence and magnificence about them. It is also true that from their lofty heights they can review the wider picture as they seek out the energy of the thermals to follow. This may well be the season where we must do the same thing as a church, discerning where the energy lies. In doing so, perhaps some of us will be challenged to take up new things too! These are exciting times indeed!

With Every Blessing, **Mark**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Friday 1st Nov 10am Musical Toddlers in the parish centre

Friday 1st 7pm Youth Club in the parish centre

Sunday 3rd 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan) **4pm All Souls Service** in church

Monday 4th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 4th 2pm Monday Meet meet in the parish centre

Tuesday 5th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 5th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Support church & parish centre

Thursday 7th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group in the parish centre

Thursday 7th 7pm PCC Meeting in the parish centre



Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am Morning Prayer

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

*Readings for **10am:** Hebrews 9 vs 11-14, Mark 12 vs 28-34; **4pm:** 1 Thessalonians 4 vs 13-18, Revelation 21 vs 1-4*

Qyan is still looking for people to join the intercessor rota which remains critically short of people. Bible readers are also needed! Please get in touch if you feel this is a ministry you might like to try. Thank you. **Qyan**

We are very grateful to Revd John Taylor who will be leading our worship and preaching this coming Sunday morning at 10am.

All Souls Service this coming Sunday 3rd November at 4pm, followed by refreshments in the parish centre. All are very welcome.

The PCC will meet on Thursday 7th November in the Parish Centre at 7pm. Please pray for us as we discuss and decide on a range of issues, some of them requiring difficult decisions. Thank you.

Coffee Morning The Old School, Church Street, Billesdon LE7 9AE on Saturday 9th November, 10.30am—12 noon. Please help Palestinian children today, the Jeel Al Amal Orphanage & School, Bethany and the Al Shurooq School for Blind Children, Bethlehem. Produce, Gifts, Books, Raffle etc will be available. To raise funds to support charities in Palestine whose income supply has dried up. Palestinian charities in the West Bank as well as Gaza have no income from visitors and no state support. Through the McCabe Educational Trust, we are able to get all money raised, directly to them. Thank you. **Canon Philip Norwood**.



Remembrance Sunday 10th November. There will be a short service, including 2 minutes silence at the War Memorial in Evvington Village at the later time of 10.45am with the uniformed organisations. This will be followed by a parade back to church where we will continue our worship. For those who wish to stay in St. Denys the whole time, for whatever reason, a short act of Remembrance will also be held at 10.45am in church, including a 2 minute silence.

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.](#)

St. Cecelia-Tide A concert at St. Thomas' Church, St. Thomas Road, South Wigston LE18 4TA on Saturday 23rd November, 2.30pm to celebrate the Patron Saint of Music, with local musicians Ian Orr (Organ & Piano), Roy-Anthony Birch (Baritone) Andrew Piper (Clarinet) and the Cantamici Choir. FREE entry with a retiring collection for LOROS. All are welcome.



Christmas Wreath Making Workshops will be held in the Parish Centre, led by Peter Felstead again, on Tuesday 26th November 2pm—4.30pm and Wednesday 27th November 2pm—4.30pm and 6pm—8.30pm. The cost is £15 per person which includes all materials but please bring your own gardening gloves to wear, secateurs for handling holly and decorations if wanted for your wreath. To reserve a place, contact Gerry. Please note that there are only four places left for the Wednesday afternoon session.

Service of 9 Lessons and Carols on Sunday 15th December 6pm in St. Denys! If you would like to join the choir being formed for this special service, please contact me by e-mailing office@stdenys.org.uk The music chosen is known and simple. It has been decided to rehearse on the afternoon of the day itself only, so you need to be able to attend this rehearsal in order to take part. Thank you. **Qyan**



Poem for All Saints Day (Friday 1st November) by Malcolm Guite

Though Satan breaks our dark glass into shards
Each shard still shines with Christ's reflected light,
It glances from the eyes, kindles the words
Of all his unknown saints. The dark is bright
With quiet lives and steady lights undimmed,
The witness of the ones we shunned and shamed.
Plain in our sight and far beyond our seeing
He weaves them with us in the web of being
They stand beside us even as we grieve,
The lone and left behind whom no one claimed,
Unnumbered multitudes, he lifts above
The shadow of the gibbet and the grave,
To triumph where all saints are known and named;
The gathered glories of His wounded love.

Collect for All Saints (Friday 1st November) God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy;; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for the 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

Please continue to pray for 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 Kedditly, Roy Lee, Linda Perks, Barbara Pinder, Jessica Saul, Margaret Steel, Kimberley Tyler Andy White, Richard Williams

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



Mark Batchelor (Curate) 07534 805454

Gerry Goode (Churchwarden) 07531 548793 churchwardens@stdenys.org.uk

Janette Pearson (Churchwarden & Safeguarding Officer) 0116 2414051
churchwardens@stdenys.org.uk

Sian Rigby (Reader) 07538 756709

Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer) 0116 2737717

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

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

www.stdenys.org.uk

