

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

The Parish of All Saints with St Saviour
WESTON-SUPER-MARE

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2021



'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens; a time to be born and a time to die; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance.'
Ecclesiastes 3.

Greetings to you all, dear friends in Christ.

It's been a summer of extreme weather conditions: an unprecedented heatwave along the Pacific Northwest and in Europe, wildfires across Greece, Turkey and California, a tornado in the Czech Republic, and severe flooding in West Germany, western Europe, and China, and we have been made ever aware of the impact of climate change, and the urgent need to reverse the damage done to this world.

With a rather cool and changeable summer coming to an end in the UK, we now look forward to the balmy days of autumn, and the glorious changing colours in the trees.

We held our APCM meeting Trinity Sunday as part of the Mass, and the following members were elected to the PCC: Terry Edwards, Janice Rice, Alan Yeates, Philip Pughe-Morgan, Owen



on

James, Diane Guy, Ray Armstrong, and Jude Forth. Anticipating a productive meeting in September with the Mission enabler, Father Gary, we look forward to developing our mission and outreach in the Locking Road area.



The sun shone on our Corpus Christi Mass on Sunday 6th June, which was celebrated with great joy outside, with singing from the choir and congregation, and a surprise for all at the end in the form of a Magnum ice cream for everyone, thanks to a generous

anonymous donor. What a welcome gift!

At that service we were also able to say a proper thank you to Father Stuart for his many years of service to All Saints as assistant priest. He will continue to join us in the future and celebrate Mass in Father Andrew's absence.



The 24th June saw the 12th anniversary of Father Andrew's ordination and this was marked within the context of a weekday Mass, with a good attendance and many congratulations.

And three days later we welcomed Gordon Pullin back into the fold, as guest conductor and organist. Gordon had been in the area for a musical reunion with the Bristol Chamber Choir, and it was a joy to hear his news and see him looking so well. At the end of Mass we presented him with a voucher and a bottle of wine to thank him for his immeasurable contribution over seven years to music at All Saints.

'Freedom Day' arrived on the 19th July, and the Standing Committee met that very morning to suggest a way forward for our church, prior to PCC approval. C of E guidance had made reference to 'locally appropriate decisions' and we took that very much on board, with the safety of our Parish family as our top priority. So, although congregational singing is now allowed, the wearing of masks will continue to be strongly encouraged, and social distancing will be respected for those who wish it.

Holy Communion will be administered as it has been, with the Celebrant alone receiving the wine. The whole situation will be reviewed in late autumn, but at all times we look to keeping people safe and feeling secure.

On Sunday 15th August we celebrated the Assumption of our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary, into heaven. This is a major feast day, one that marks the 'Dormition', or falling asleep



of the Mother of God', and her victory over sin and death. The choir sang the well-loved Marian hymns and we marked this wonderful occasion with a picnic in church after Mass.

The joy we are experiencing at the return of music and singing in church feels very special, and we look forward to concerts - live music! - in December from Weston Choral and the Costanzi Consort, but before that we have two events: an acoustic folk



evening on 11th September at 6.30pm, as part of our Heritage week, (when the church will be open for visitors from Thursday 16th- Saturday 18th September, 11am - 4pm) and the much anticipated,

Catrin Finch harp concert on Friday 1st October at 7pm.

And, of course, our annual Carol Service, so much an integral part of our town's life and community, returns on Wednesday 15th December at 7pm.

All this feels like a new beginning somehow. We have sorely missed singing as part of our worship and praise, and the experience of listening to superb sacred choral music again, and welcoming back our loyal concert audiences after all this time will be treasured.

A new beginning inevitably involves planning and hard work, and we are ever grateful to those who work so tirelessly behind the scenes keeping us informed and safe and looking after our church, which in itself can present some unusual challenges! So a huge thank



you to Terry, Janice and Alan, and to everyone who supports our parish family and All Saints' community through practical help and prayer.

It's painful when our loved ones are no longer with us. Several of our parish family have known grief and bereavement over the last few months, and on Thursday 5th August our dear Barbara Ellery left her earthly life to be in the tender care of our Lord.

Barbara was always fun to be with, always ready to laugh, and unfailingly interested in music, ideas, and people. She loved life, was an invaluable supporter of our concerts, and was possibly one of the least judgmental and most generous people we've ever known. We shall miss her very much, and we remember Roger and the family in our prayers.

And we continue to pray for you all, and to pray for each other. There are still a few members of our congregation who are shielding, and we look forward very much to seeing them back in our beautiful church.



May we be strong together as a family, rejoicing in the love of Jesus Christ and walking with Him each day, and may God bless you all.

Jude

Services in the Parish of All Saints with St Saviour

Mass every **Tuesday** at **10am** All Saints Church

Mass every **Thursday** at **10am** All Saints Church

Holy Hour and **Benediction** every **Saturday** at **10am**
All Saints Church

Choral Parish mass **10.30am** every **Sunday**
All Saints Church

Check our website allsaintswsm.org

for updates to service times and days

Facebook and YouTube accessible via our website.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS FOR THE WEEKLY PEW SHEET
PLEASE EMAIL TO allsaintsandstsaviour@btconnect.com**

Or

Phone the Parish Office 01934 415379

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