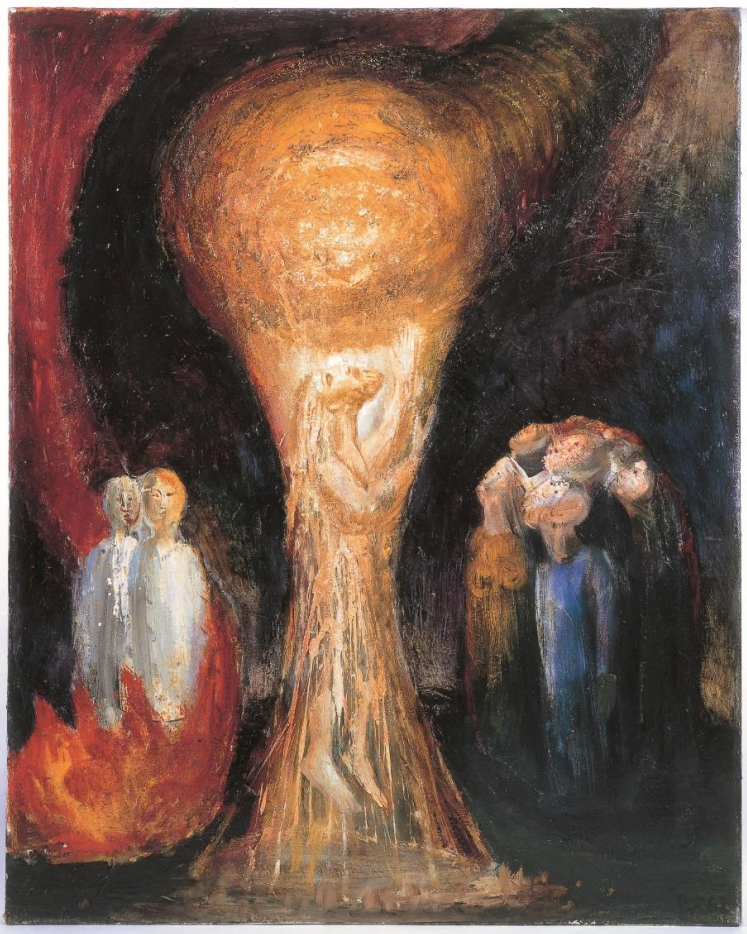


ALL SAINTS NEWS

24th May 2020
7th Sunday after Easter
Sunday after Ascension

The Ascension – An Artistic Reflection

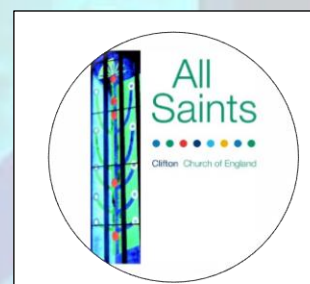


Imagine the problem. You are an artist, working in oil, and are commissioned to paint a religious picture – The Ascension.

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There is no shortage of traditional works. The disciples, feet firmly fixed to the ground, Jesus somewhere in mid-air – perhaps just his feet protruding from a cloud. A suggestion of two figures in white nearby might be expected. Maybe an angelic host in the sky and amongst the clouds.

And what about the message? What might you like those who look at the work to hold in their minds when they walk away? How would you like to disturb and challenge their thinking?

This work 'The Ascension' painted by Peter Rogers in 1963 includes the traditional items and yet stand out as being significantly different. In style it is somewhat reminiscent of William Blake, from some two hundred years previous, the combination of mythological and religious expression with a nod to the classical structures and using a similar technique.

Looking more closely, the disciples look to heaven, Jesus looks toward his Father in heaven, his feet point downwards toward the ground; the two men in white look out of the canvas towards us, the viewers.

Flames from heaven lick around the two men in white and curl up through the picture and around the special shape of the beyond which has moved through time and space. Jesus is wrapped in the heavenly light that shines through him and pools on this earth.

The disciples continue to look heavenward, but their feet are no longer rooted to the earth, their focus is heaven, wonderment is shining on their faces which reflect the golden light which illuminated the scene from above. The background to the whole work is the darkness of a broken world, there is the slightest hint of the dark spherical earth near the base of the picture.

The men in white continue to look out, toward us. We know what they are saying "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven?"

What is it that the artist wishes us to think? What is it that he challenges? Where is it that he wishes us to look?

The Electoral Roll

Are you listed on the Electoral Roll? It is only by being on the Roll that you have the opportunity to actively participate in the decision making of this church and shape the way we respond to the needs of this community and our world.

Having voice and the full ability to engage is important. It is especially so as we move out of the last few months of the Lock-Down and all that this has entailed and reshape ourselves for the future.

If you would like to come on to the Electoral Roll then please complete the Application Form on the website.

If you would like to know more about the Electoral Roll then please have a conversation with one of the Churchwardens or with Fr Charles.

'Letters from Chefoo'

Some may know of the Groves family who lived in Bristol (Greenway Road). I understand that Anthony Norris Groves (1795 to 1853) became known as the 'father of faith missions' and worked largely in Arabic speaking countries. Constance Douthwiate (née Groves), a member of this rather eccentric Brethren family, settled in China, as a missionary, aged 19 and in the year 1887 – she lived in the Shandong Province at the port of Chefoo.

'Letters from Chefoo: Constance Douthwiate's Life in China 1887 to 1896' is an account of her life in Chefoo, running a hospital and school – and simply surviving a time of great turbulence and change. This is a period which included the Sino-Japanese War.

Sheila McClure's account of her great grandmother may be of interest to many. The book is available at bookshops, Amazon and from the publisher (Little Noll Press).

Ian Yemm

Many have asked how Ian is getting on with his preparation for ordination since he left us and his ministry here at All Saints. The good news is that he will be made Deacon on Saturday 27th June 2020 (at 10.30am) at SS Peter and Paul, Llnadaff. He will serve his curacy in the parish of Cowbridge (in the Vale of Glamorgan and just West of Cardiff).

The uncertain news is that in this season of Covid-19 the ordinations may be put on hold. Fr Charles will keep us up-to-date as further news becomes known.

Meanwhile, we hold Ian in our prayers, as we do Bernhardt and all Ian's family, the Benefice of Cowbridge, and the work of St Padarn's Institute.

Parish and Festival Mass

Easter Seven Sunday 24th May

Mass will be broadcast at 11.00 am and a short homily will be available.

Services and Homilies are available on:

- All Saints FaceBook Page
- All Saints Website News

The Daily Office

The Daily Office continues to be said here at ASC each day – morning and evening. Whilst not said in church it is said somewhere within the parish or within our worshipping community.

If you would like to join the Daily Office Team then please let Fr Charles know. Also, if you would like to join in the words and readings can be found on the Church of England website, then click on the Morning or Evening Prayer icon:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

**We may not be *going* to Church,
but..... Church *is* very much open!**

Connecting Digitally

Don't forget, here at All Saints we can continue with the services, meditations and homilies that appear of both the **All Saints FaceBook** page (<https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsClifton/>) and the **All Saints Website**, see the News page (<https://www.allsaintsclifton.org/Groups/298553/News.aspx>).

Sunday Worship and the Homily will be on-line at or prior to 11.00 am.

The Friday Mailing

As you are aware (as you're receiving this) we send **The Friday Mailing** out each week - it contains the ASC News and the Service Sheets for the coming Sunday (or Festival). This goes out to a mail list of more than 200 people.

And the number is increasing.

During this period of lock-down a significant proportion of extra people have asked to be put on the list to receive the news. This is great and be assured the mailing list is managed according to the requirements laid out by GDPR.

However, if you are aware of anyone who might like to receive the Friday Mailing then please copy (Forward) them this email and ask them to contact me.

Zoom.....

Before we knew about FaceTime and WhatsApp Video! Now we know how to Zoom!

Zoom is a (free) video conferencing/meeting application that allows people to talk and see each other for the duration of the event. In the free version it's limited to 40 minutes – but that's pretty good!

Here at All Saints the two main weekly meetings are:

- ★ The All Saints Society Sunday Meeting (The Bar)
- ★ Churchwardens and Ministry Meeting (Wednesday)

One is very much a social and the other picks up the weekly business and planning. If you'd like to join the Sunday Zoom Gathering then please let Mike (Benton) or me know.

Sisters of the Church

The Project opened doors again on Monday 18 May and all went well!

The new system to maintain social distance and also serve those in need in the community seemed to operate without any hitches. Please keep the Sisters, the Project, the volunteers and all those they serve in your prayers.

Sister Teresa: *"Sisters of the Church have reopened the Loaves and Fishes Project. We have a small number of volunteers (at low personal risk) who have worked through last week. Beginning on 18 May, we will be open 10am - 12noon, Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays. Please pray we can keep our volunteers safe; and also for clients and those whom we serve. Donations of all kinds would be very welcome."*

Spring Garden Opportunity

If anyone is planning on replanting your gardens over the coming weeks, Ruth Harding has lots of plants – mainly shrubs and perennials – which she can divide and pot up for you. Since all the gardening centres are closed, Ruth thought it might be something people would like. If you're interested, then call her on 0117 924 1044 and she can let you know what she's got available. You'll need to collect your order from her front garden and all plants are free, though Ruth is suggesting people might like to make a small donation to 'The Sisters of The Church'.





A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Daily Hope phone line

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

“With many in our country on lockdown, it’s important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are.”

Archbishop Justin Welby



Time to Pray presents everything you need for Prayer During the Day, with variations according to the day of the week and the season of the Church’s year.

The app is compatible with smartphones and tablets (iPhone/iPad iOS 9.0+ and Android 5.1.1+).

You can use Prayer During the Day on its own, as your sole act of prayer and praise, or you can use it alongside Night Prayer – also provided here – in a pattern of prayer at the beginning and end of the day.

Access Prayer During the Day, together with full text of psalms and short readings from **Common Worship: Time to Pray**.

Follow a simple pattern of daily prayer that varies according to the season and day of the week.

Access Night Prayer, together with guidance on sustaining a pattern of regular prayer.

As of March 2020, Time to Pray is now completely free to use.

Time to Pray - now a podcast!

Daily audio for Common Worship Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer services to accompany the Time to Pray app. Watch out for more Daily Prayer audio in the weeks ahead.

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'
(John 14: 19).

Please let Wendy or Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list – or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.
(And please let us know about any corrections to the current list!).

Requests:

Those who we remember in our Prayers

Sunday Tabitha Clark, Marjorie Polyblanc, Ruth and Richard Harding, Cynthia Ashford, Neal Gordon, Jean Callow, Sarah Bradley, Immie, Enci and Katherine King, Nick McClean

Monday John Bradley Robert Paul, Nicky Cousins, Peter Maines

Tuesday Chris Callow, Elizabeth, Judy Torrens, Margaret Swindale, Diana Verity, Peter Martin

Wednesday Felicity Firth, Kate Thomas, Jean Bradford, Adam Holmes

Thursday Tom Hawkins, Nancy Kwasnicki, Richard Harris, Matt Mumford

Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Elizabeth Morgan

Saturday Merryn, Caroline Semon, Roger Durbin (Pr), Nicholas Edwards, Lori Houlihan, Alan & Poppy

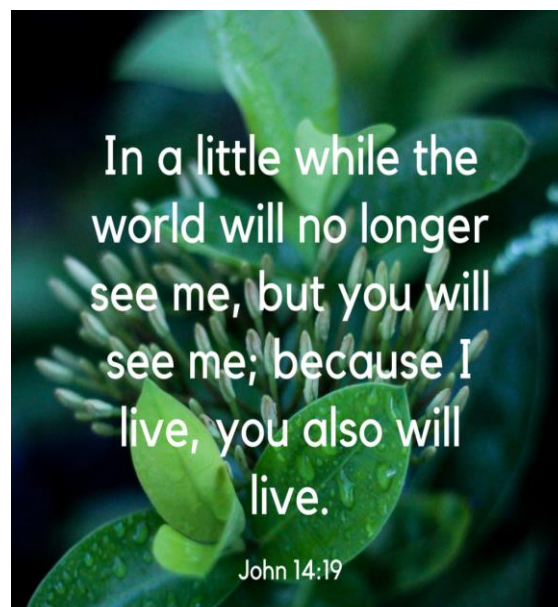
All those who come into our church to find the comfort of our Sacred Space.

The Departed

Andy McClean, Stephen Ostler, Ben Hawkins, Peter Spratt

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Eric Bird Maurice Tucker Pr Elizabeth Davies Peter Cobb Pr Violet Marshall
Henry Burrough Kenneth Phelan Beryl Hemming Myfanwy Davenport



Gospel Reading for Sunday 24th May - Easter 7

John 17. 1- 11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.



ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

25	Monday	<p>Venerable Bede 735</p> <p>O Christ, our Morning Star, Splendour of Light Eternal, shining with the glory of the rainbow, come and waken us from the greyness of our apathy, and renew in us your gift of hope. Amen (The Venerable Bede)</p>
26	Tuesday	<p>Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury 605</p> <p>(The other Augustine!). Pray for the 'English (British) Church' and the Anglican Communion. Augustine became the decisive influence in shaping the Church in Britain – despite being a globally divided Church we pray that we may find ways to hold our collective faith, worship God and work to bring His Kingdom closer for all people.</p>
27	Wednesday	<p>Pray for the Senior Citizens in our community. Many are vulnerable, some are at risk from the virus, some are isolated in our communities. However, very many serve the community and society in extraordinary ways – giving so much to life and health – often shaping and working at the heart of community and on the front-line of volunteering.</p>
28	Thursday	<p>Pray for the work of Amnesty International - which campaigns to bring an end to human abuse. Look at the Amnesty International Website today and simply remember them and all these issues in your prayers</p>
29	Friday	<p>Pray for those who suffer from hearing loss and deafness. This can be for many an isolating condition and is often the cause of significant frustration and upset. Pray for those who work to provide help, support and care and those who research the conditions.</p>
30	Saturday	<p>Josephine Butler, Social Reformer 1906</p> <p>Pray for all who work in the area of contagious disease – for medical and nursing staff, for researchers and academics, for educators and reformers. Pray for those working on the Covid-19 virus.</p>
31	Sunday	<p>Pentecost</p> <p>Pray for those who smoke and are attempting to give up. For those engaged in the tobacco industries. Also pray for those who suffer from addiction – not only tobacco but other substances. Pray for the AA and all who attend the sessions that take place here at All Saints.</p>