

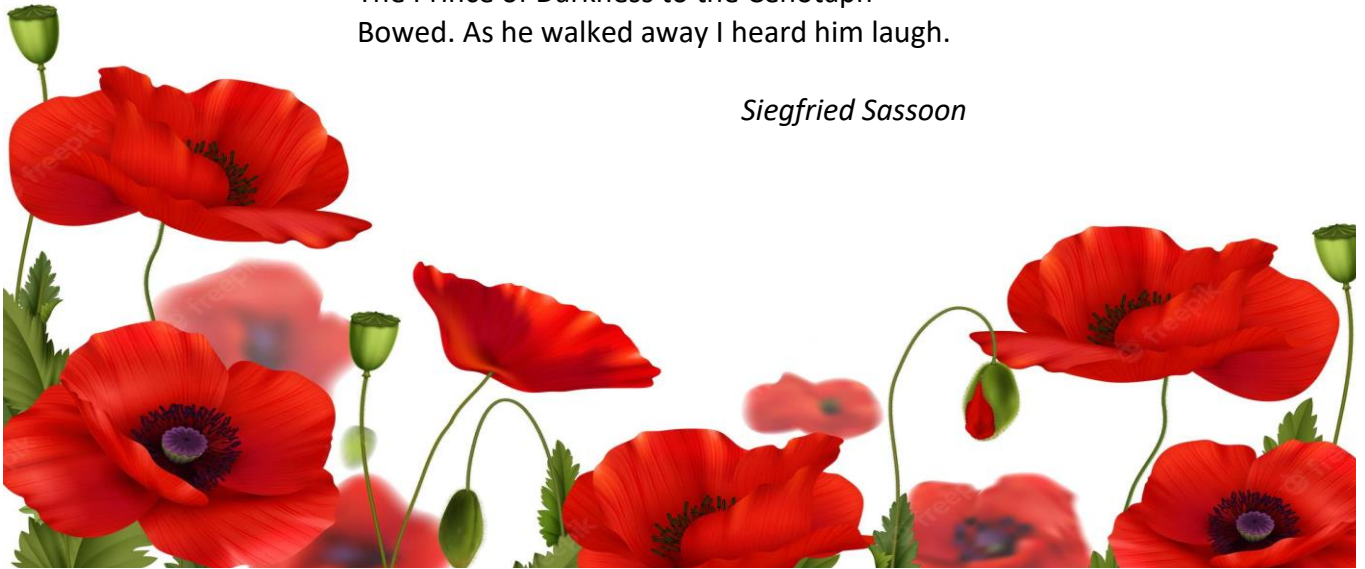
ALL SAINTS NEWS

13th November 2022
2nd before Advent
Remembrance Sunday

At the Cenotaph

I saw the Prince of Darkness, with his Staff,
Standing bare-headed by the Cenotaph:
Unostentatious and respectful, there
He stood, and offered up the following prayer.
'Make them forget, O Lord, what this Memorial
Means; their discredited ideas revive;
Breed new belief that War is purgatorial
Proof of the pride and power of being alive;
Men's biologic urge to readjust
The Map of Europe, Lord of Hosts, increase;
Lift up their hearts in large destructive lust;
And crown their heads with blind vindictive Peace.'
The Prince of Darkness to the Cenotaph
Bowed. As he walked away I heard him laugh.

Siegfried Sassoon

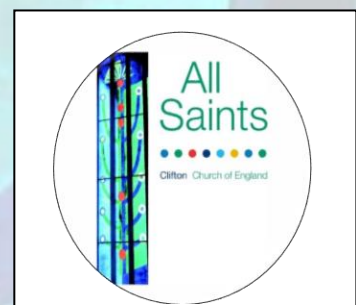


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Siegfried Sassoon (1886 – 1967)



Siegfried Sassoon was the product of two very different cultures, his Jewish father's family of merchant princes from Baghdad and his English mother's Thornycroft farming ancestors, turned sculptors, painters and engineers. The second of three sons, he grew up in rural Kent, where his father abandoned the family before Siegfried was five, dying four years later. After a late entry into the school system Siegfried failed to complete his formal education at Cambridge, devoting himself instead over the next seven years to poetry, horses, cricket and golf. He was also coming to terms with his homosexuality, in an age which criminalised it.

When War was declared on 4 August 1914 Sassoon had already enlisted enthusiastically, first as a trooper in the Sussex Yeomanry, later transferring to the Royal Welch Fusiliers in May 1915. The death of his younger brother in the Dardanelles in November 1915, his departure for the Western Front and his meeting with Robert Graves in France were significant factors in his changing attitude towards the War. Initially a fervent patriot writing in the vein of Rupert Brooke (see 'Absolution' and 'To My Brother'), by the time his first collection of war poems, 'The Old Huntsman', was published in May 1917 his tone had become predominantly angry, his style largely satiric, establishing him in poems like 'Blighters', 'The One-Legged Man' and 'They' as one of the most influential and historically important poets of the First World War.

Despite his courageous, at times almost foolhardy, acts in the face of danger, which won him a Military Cross and the nickname 'Mad Jack', Sassoon's opposition to the War hardened even further as he witnessed first the Battle of the Somme in July 1916, then the Battle of Arras in April 1917. It was while convalescing from a wound received in the latter and in close contact with Lady Ottoline Morrell and her pacifist circle that he made his famous anti-war protest, which was read out in Parliament in late July 1917 and published in The Times the following day.

Committed to a shell-shock hospital, Craiglockhart, in an attempt to silence him, Sassoon was brought into contact with Wilfred Owen, whose poetry was deeply affected by the encounter. He also met there the eminent psychiatrist Dr Rivers, who persuaded him to return to the fighting. After a few months in Palestine with the 25th Royal Welch Fusiliers, Sassoon arrived back in France in April 1918. Promoted to the rank of Captain, he commanded his Company until July 1918, when he was wounded in the head while holding the trenches in front of St Venant.

Sassoon's return to England coincided with the publication of his second collection of war poems, Counter-Attack, which contained many of his most effective satires on the war-mongers, including 'Base Details', 'Does It Matter?', 'The Glory of Women' and 'The General':

*'Good-morning; good-morning!' the General said
When we met him last week on our way to the line.
Now the soldiers he smiled at are most of 'em dead,
And we're cursing his staff for incompetent swine.
'He's a cheery old card,' grunted Harry to Jack
As they slogged up to Arras with rifle and pack.
* * *
But he did for them both by his plan of attack.*

In this poem the anger is focused on those most directly responsible for the soldiers' fate. The germ of this brief but highly effective satire seems to have come from an incident in Sassoon's journey to Arras, when his regiment, the 2nd Royal Welch Fusiliers, had passed their Corps Commander, Lt.-Gen. Maxse. In the poem the unsuspecting soldiers' praise of their General's bluff heartiness is contrasted starkly with the results of his incompetence, just as his speech is contrasted with the soldiers' cheerful slang. The use of generic names – 'Harry' and 'Jack' – which both personalises and depersonalises them, and the General's breezily repeated greeting, together with Harry's ironic comment and the brutal ending, convey the situation far more vividly than a more discursive piece. The colloquial 'did for them both', which follows unexpectedly on what appears to be the concluding rhyming couplet, is all the more shocking for its euphemism. It is even more effective than Sassoon's original 'murdered them both', to which several of his mentors had objected.

* * *

The War had really ended for Sassoon when he left France in July 1918, though technically he remained in the army on indefinite sick-leave until 11 March 1919, when the London Gazette announced his retirement. He later objected to being known mainly as a war-poet, but he was endlessly to recycle the material which had initially made his name. Less than a decade after the publication of Counter-Attack he would return to the War for a prose trilogy which was to consolidate his fame: *Memoirs of a Fox-Hunting Man* (1928), *Memoirs of an Infantry Officer* (1930) and *Sherston's Progress* (1936). And when that was completed he returned to the same material for the third time in his three-volume autobiography, *The Old Century* (1938), *The Weald of Youth* (1942) and *Siegfried's Journey* (1945). Significantly, a fourth volume, not based on his War experiences, was left unfinished. As though caught in a time warp, Sassoon seems to have had a compulsive need to re-live that particular part of his life in his work.

It might be argued that the War both made and unmade Sassoon. As a young man determined to be a poet but with no clear sense of direction, it had given him a subject as well as the experience and passion to turn that subject into memorable verse. And as a mature writer who appeared again to have lost a sense of direction, the War provided the way forward in his fictional and autobiographical prose trilogies. When that material was finally exhausted, however, so too was Sassoon's creative impulse. A failed marriage and increasing loneliness, exacerbated by the departure of his only child, George, for school and university, led him eventually to the Roman Catholic Church. There, in his last decade, he found a new subject for his poetry and a tranquil end to his turbulent life.

Jean Moorcroft Wilson (War Poets Association)

Advent - the period before Christmas of preparation, waiting and hope for the coming of Jesus Christ.

To mark the beginning of Advent on November 27th Early Worship at 9am will be followed (9.30 - 10.15) by refreshments in the Randall Room and a short Advent themed craft activity.

All welcome - including early arrivals for the 10.30 mass!





The Beyond Foam - Demonstration and Workshop led by Michael Bowyer was an outstanding success.

The event, a partnership between The Bristol Flower Club and All Saints, saw over 70 Church Flower from across the South West. Arrangers explored creating Church arrangements without the use of foam.

The stunning arrangements in the porch and church are all created in this way and All Saints is committed to arrangements without foam going forward.

Fr Charles welcomed delegates to the event and thanked Myra York and Ann Revell for leading the flower arranging team at All Saints over the years. When they first started flower arranging at the church it was just at the time of transition in the floral world with the introduction of floral foam and moving away from chicken wire and pin holders – and now things have come full circle and Myra is working with her daughter Jenny York to create fabulous beyond foam designs.

Look out next week for some stunning photographs of the event and information about plans for next year.



CAN YOU HELP?

A Ukrainian mum, now safely living in Pembroke Road with her two children, would like to bring her mother (fit and able, mid-60s) over to live near them. Their town in Ukraine has become too unsafe.

If you have a spare room, and could be her host-family, please be in touch: georginaharford@hotmail.com



LET'S DO LUNCH !



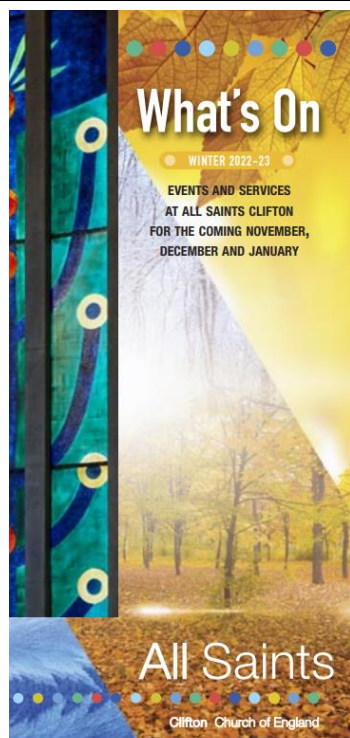
The first post pandemic Parish Lunch will be held following Mass for the Feast of Christ the King on Sunday 20th November.

A 3-course meal - main course, pudding, cheese and biscuits- for £6.

Cuisine is more traditional than haute, the bar is open, conversation is guaranteed and you will make some new acquaintances and friends.

Vegetarian and gluten free meals by arrangement

Put 12:30 on Sunday 20th November in your diary. Tickets on sale now



This year the All Saints Christmas Message and Invitation to Christmas Services are included in a colourful guide to all services and events covering the period between November 2022 and January 2023 .

The guide is now ready to be distributed to all the homes in the Parish – If you are able to deliver to any of your neighbours or the roads close to your home please take the labelled guides from the table in the Atrium.

The delivery of the Christmas Message and information about services and events at All Saints is a vital aspect of our continuing outreach work, your help is very much appreciated.

Thank you.


Thank you for all your kind contributions to All Saints, The Sisters of the Church and all the other charities that benefit from our support throughout the year. So that cheques can be processed correctly please make cheques for All Saints out to *Parochial Church Council of All Saints* and those for the Sisters to *The Sisters of the Church*.

Gift Aid can then be claimed by both organisations which increases the value of the gift substantially. Thank you for your help.

CAMENAE DE CYMRU

**THE BEST OF
ANTONIO VIVALDI**

Featuring Winter and Summer from the Four Seasons,
Concerto in B-flat major for violin, cello and strings,
Judith's aria 'Armatae face et anguibus' and more





Performers:

Kristina Bitina (opera singer, contralto, Latvia, Wales)
Yuri Savkin (violin, Latvian National Opera Orchestra, Latvia)
Ben Creighton Griffiths (harp, Concert Orchestra de Cymru, Wales)
Tabitha Selley (cello, orchestral musician, Quartet Draig, Wales)
Nichola Bojczuk (compère, poet and reciter, Ukraine, Wales)

Church of All Saints
 68 Pembroke Rd, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3ED
 Friday 25th November 2022, 6.00 pm
 Doors open at 5.30 pm

Tickets from £10.00
[Eventbrite.com/e/446081801677/](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/446081801677/)
 Website: camenaedecymru.com/tickets/



adventure babies

Join Adventure Babies Bristol Central at All Saints!

Each week we bring a different book to life through props, lights, sensory and messy play!

Not only do we have interactive stories and play for your little ones but we include time for you to meet other parents and enjoy a real conversation whilst your little ones play in our safe and welcoming classes. Classes are suitable from birth and we run sessions for different age groups.

Igniting a love of reading is one of the most important foundations we can give our babies. Come and adventure together! Mondays or Fridays. Termly courses and special one-off themed adventures. Next one - CHRISTMAS!

You can find out more, register your interest for new courses and special sessions and book here:
<https://www.adventurebabies.co.uk/classes/bristol-central/>

**All Saints Church,
Pembroke Road, Clifton BS8 3ED
Sunday November 20th 7.30pm**



*By the
Waters of
Babylon*

**Music of the Renaissance
about being far from home, a stranger in a foreign land**

**Phinot, Victoria, Isaac, Josquin, Monteverdi,
Clemens, Escobar**

Nova

Directed by Bruce Saunders

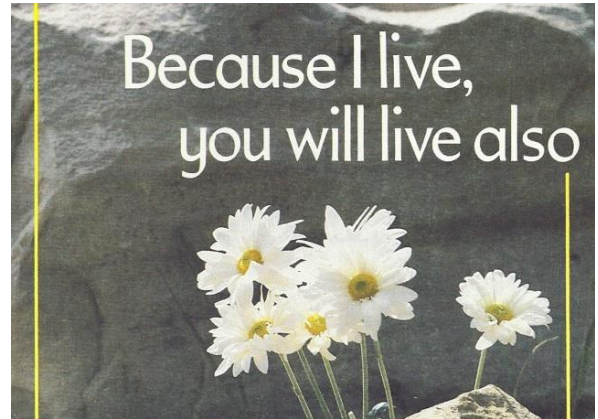
Programmes at the door £10 , Students £5, Accompanied under-16s free

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 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



Those who we remember in our Prayers

Sunday Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Jean Callow, Molly Sharpley, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford, Sarah Bradley, Sue Hilliar, Steve Cooper, Ruth Marson, Valerie Donkin

Monday

Tuesday. Diana Verity

Wednesday , Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Hugh Farry, Ros Hawkins

Thursday

Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Elisabeth Morgan, Caroline Semon

Saturday

The Departed

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Rob Graham, Maureen Gill, Louise Strachan, Jo McKie, Arthur Miles, Mary Rowe, Dorothy Ching

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

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|----------------------|---|
| Mon 14 | Samuel Seabury, first Bishop of N America 1796 Pray for the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community may they find a place in society free of suffering due to intolerance and misunderstanding. Pray for our Church that we may find ways to live the Gospel and not be divided by fundamentalist attitudes. |
| Tue 15 | Pray for individuals and organizations who operate philanthropically. Through their love of humanity they seek to care, nourish, develop and enhance the lives of others. May we adopt these attitudes and behaviours ourselves. |
| Wed 16 | Requiem Mass 10.00 am Margaret, Queen of Scotland, reformer 1093 Pray for those who work amongst people in need and in desperate circumstances, for the homeless and people who live on the periphery. In particular the work of the Sisters of the Church and the Julian Trust here in Bristol. |
| Thurs 17 | Pray for the work of Bristol Zoo – education, research and conservation, particularly during their move to the Wild Place. Pray for those who work with animals in our community, vets and their staff |
| Fri 18 | Mass 10.00 am Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia 1231 Pray for those children who are adopted or are in the process of being adopted. Give thanks and pray for the families who are willing and able to adopt children. This is a life-changing event for the children and the families. (International Adoption Day) |
| Sat 19 | Hilda Abbess of Whitby 680 Pray for the organization of this Diocese, and in particular the work and ministry of our Archdeacons; Neil Warwick and Christopher Bryan. The work of Diocesan House in support of the work and ministry of those who are ordained, licensed and disciples. |
| Sunday 20 | Sunday next before Advent Christ the King Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30 |

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below ;

Parochial Church Council of All Saints

Account No. 65256747

sort code 08 92 99

Gift Aid forms are available from the office

office@allsaintsclifton.org

