

ALL SAINTS NEWS

2nd July 2023
Trinity 4 Pr 8

All Saints' 155th Anniversary
and
the 56th anniversary of the consecration and dedication of this church.



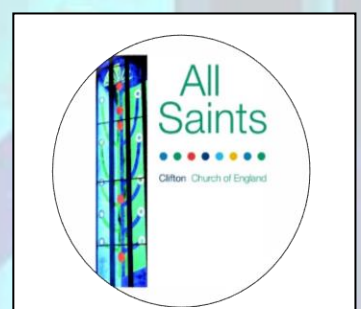
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The Season of Ordinations

At this time of year we pray for all across the country being ordained deacon or priest, especially remembering Sister Teresa and Lisa Price, both being ordained deacon this Sunday.

What are the origins of the ordained ministry as we now have it? The Acts of the Apostles tells us that James, the brother of our Lord, and leader of the Church in Jerusalem, gathered around him the remaining apostles of Christ, and added to them further leaders, or elders (Greek: presbyteroi, which later would be shortened to the English word 'priest.'). Seven deacons were added (Greek: diakonos, servant). But it is notable that at least two deacons, Stephen and Philip, carried out evangelistic missions of their own, the former becoming the first Christian martyr. So they were a great deal more than simply servants at the table! (Acts 6:2). As some of the presbyters became more prominent, they are referred to in the New Testament as overseers (episcopos, bishop).

Deacons were originally permanently in the diaconate. But by the Middle Ages the diaconate had become simply a probationary period leading up to the priesthood. The disappearance of permanent deacons has perhaps been a loss to the Church. It has been suggested, for example, that Lay Ministers (or Lay Readers) could form a new Order of permanent deacons.

It is clear in the NT that these ministries of service and leadership in the Church were often interchangeable: for example, St Paul in Acts 20 speaks to a group of presbyters whom he also refers to as overseers (bishops). He regarded himself as an apostle but also refers to himself as servant/deacon (2 Corinthians 3:6 & 6:4). So, although the threefold ministry that we have now certainly has its roots in the NT, it was only as local churches became more settled that it reached its present fixed form, by around 200 CE, earlier in some places.

The ordination Services (the 'Ordinal') make clear in powerful words what would be deacons and priests are being called to: deacons are 'to work with their fellow (church) members in searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.' Priests are to be 'servants and shepherds....they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for signs of God's new creation....messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord....to teach....to feed and provide for the Lord's family..... They are to call them to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins. With all God's people, they are to tell the story of God's love. They are to preside at the Lord's table.' (For the full texts, see the C of E website and search 'ordination.')

Of course the entirety of what the ordained person is called to is beyond the ability and capacity of any individual and the words of the Ordinal are actually reminding us of the vocation of the *whole* Church. And they will always need to be practised and interpreted in the light of any congregation's particular context and circumstances.

Some Christian traditions are uncomfortable about using the word 'priest' and prefer to revert to the NT word presbyter or elder, or to use something like 'Minister.' They want to make clear that there is only one priest, Jesus Christ, the one mediator between God and humankind, whose sacrifice on the Cross, as the Gospels put it, caused the curtain of the Temple to be torn in two (Matthew 27:51) - that is to say, on the Cross the gulf between God and humanity is destroyed. It is the whole Church that as the Body of Christ shares in the one Priesthood of Jesus Christ: 'Let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood.' (1 Peter 2:5). So it is that the bishop introduces the Ordination Service with the words, 'God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation.'

So why is it appropriate to stick with the word priest for those whom the New Testament calls presbyter? It is because this rich word is a constant reminder to all of us of the Church's vocation to adhere to the

priesthood of our Lord, to live out together the priesthood of all believers, to draw people to God's love, given to us in Jesus Christ. The word 'priest' constantly recalls the ordained person to her or his responsibility to enable, encourage, lead, strengthen, represent, inspire, and deepen the priesthood of the whole church.

Fr Paul Hawkins

The lighting in the Sacristy.



In the next few weeks electricians from Anthony J. Smith will be working in the church and sacristy to complete the lighting upgrade.

The lighting in the sacristy will soon be as flexible as the lighting in the church. The new control panel will also work in a similar way to the panel in the church.

The updated lighting will enable the sacristy to be used for a wide variety of purposes for example Lent groups, small meetings, Chapter meetings and small concerts. The new lighting highlights the beauty of the design of the Sacristy and its elegant panelling.

The electricians will also be carrying out testing on the main electrical circuits and checking all the portable appliances as required by health and safety regulations.



**allsaintsarts
2023
All Saints
Church
Pembroke Rd**

**Saturday July 1st
4pm**

**Ulrich Heinen
cello**

**formerly principal cello
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra**

with

**John Humphries
piano**

Bach - Schumann - Dvorak - Debussy

**admission to concert matinées is free retiring collection
refreshments after the concert**



Towel Appeal



Thank you all so very much for your response to our appeal for towels

As ever, the good parishioners of All Saints come up with the necessary when an appeal is made.

Thank you, Vera Sanders



Dedication Festival 2nd July 2023

Celebrate All Saints' 155th Anniversary
and
the 56th anniversary of the consecration and dedication
of this church.

Bring a picnic for your friends and family to eat in the All Saints garden and enjoy a glass of Pimms from the Bar, cash only please.

Don't forget your chair or a blanket for extra comfort

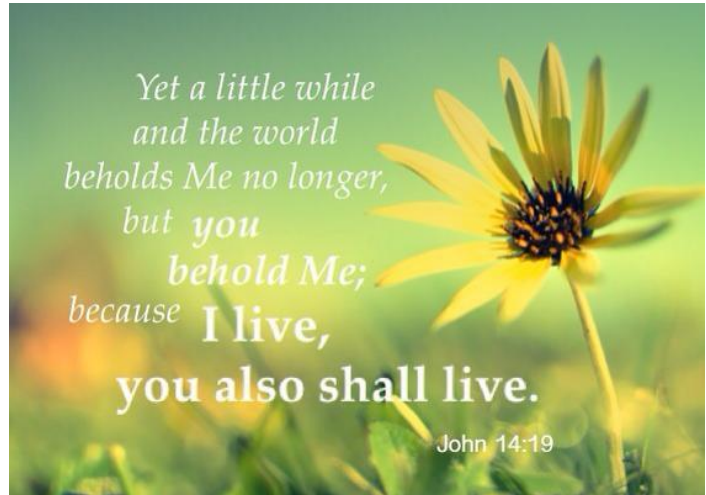


Prayers Requests

'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, Jocelyn and Jack Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Sarah Bradley Sue Hilliar Steve Cooper Ruth Marson Ryan Lindsey Joanne Cooper Mary Greenacre Jocelyn and Jack Charlotte Essex Lorna Osbon Nadine Benn Andrew Casimir

Monday

Tuesday. Diana Verity

Wednesday , Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Hugh Farry Shamin Azad

Thursday

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

Saturday

The Departed

Malcolm Davis Jeanne Callow Mileno Graca Rory Young Ros Hawkins Ron Gale Valerie Donkin Hugh Barron Chris Benton Rene Bloxham Hussein Lucus Helen Campbell Arnold Tyson

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Eliza Drewett Jean Weller Martin Henwood Gwen & Fred Iles Charles Cobb Paul Biddlecombe (Pr) Rhona Ray Rosemary Bird

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 3	Thomas the Apostle Pray for those who find it hard to believe, those who search for meaning in life, those who look for signs that they might believe. For ourselves in our own times of doubt
Tue 4	Independence Day USA Pray for the United States of America; for its administration and for those most negatively impacted by its government's policies and practices. Pray for the Episcopal Church in the United States.
Wed 5	Mass 10.00am As July and August stretch out ahead of us, all who will be on holiday in the coming months; and also those places that exist to serve the needs of tourists, remembering all who work in the many tourist focused businesses.
Thurs 6	Thomas Moore and John Fisher Reformation Martyrs 1535 Pray for those who find it hard to believe, those who search for meaning in life, those who look for signs that they might believe. For ourselves in our own times of doubt
Fri 7	Mass 10.00am Today is World Chocolate Day! Pray for those engaged in cocoa production, that their work and trade may be fair. Pray for those lobbying groups and organisations-like The Fairtrade Foundation which campaign to uphold Fair Trade policy and process
Sat 8	Pray for the fast-paced, complex and influential world of news broadcast media; for integrity, bravery and compassion amongst those who gather and present world news and comment upon it.
Sunday 9	5th Sunday after Trinity Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name. Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am

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

