

ALL SAINTS NEWS

23rd July 2023
Trinity 7



St John's VC CofE Primary School - The Foundation Governors.

Thank You Margarita Davison

On behalf of our whole Church community, we must thank Margarita, who has now finished her term of office as Foundation Governor for All Saints. She originally became a Foundation Governor in 2015 so has not only served a lengthy term but has also worked through the challenges of the Covid Season. Margarita has made very significant contributions to Governing Body and to the school in many areas, most recently through her work on Equalities policies and action, bringing to it both her own professional knowledge and skills and her insights as a parent of children at the school. This was of particular importance during the pandemic when significant decisions needed to be made rapidly by the school leadership team – throughout this period Margarita's professional advice and guidance was of huge benefit. Thank you Margarita.

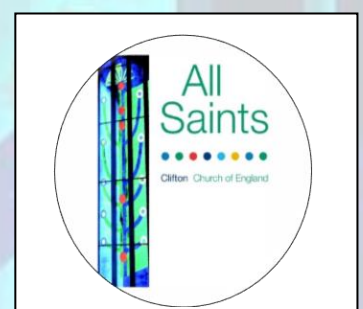
Welcome Jonathan Frere

A warm welcome and thanks to Jonathan Frere, who has stepped up to replace Margarita as one of the three Foundation Governors. Jonathan brings a wealth of experience in fields within and beyond education and we are so pleased to have him on board. Welcome, Jonathan!
The two continuing Foundation Governors are Caroline Davenport and Fr Charles.

Contact us

Office 01179741355
Web www.allsaintsclifton.org
Email office@allsaintsclifton.org
Address 68 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3ED

Vicar Fr. Charles Sutton
Mobile 07785912663
Associate Priest Fr Paul Hawkins



Home 0117 9078088
Email charleses@me.com

Church and School.....

From St John's Church to All Saints Church

Some of you may wonder about how this partnership with St John's came about, and what Foundation Governors are and do - and why we need them.



St John's School was founded by St John's Church (Whiteladies Rd) around 1851. The Church of England was most evident in its drive for the mass provision of Christian education for the poor in the early and middle years of the nineteenth century. Its principal instrument was the National Society, created in 1811. State provision for public education did not come until the Education Act of 1870, and it operated by supplementing rather than replacing voluntary provision.

The original school building still stands at the top of Blackboy Hill, now converted into dwellings on what is a large traffic island! It must have been idyllic once - a school whose doors opened straight onto the Downs for play and exercise. According to the National Archive *'The Church of St John the Evangelist consecrated on the 27th of April 1841 and created a district out of Clifton and Westbury-on-Trym by Order in Council, 12th November 1841. An extension was consecrated on the 16th of January 1865. In 1980 the church was declared redundant'* - a succinct and telling account of the rapid rise in church building and use in the 19th century, and equally abrupt decline in the 20th.

The church of All Saints was founded in the 1860's and its parish partially carved out of the growing St John's parish. The expansion of the city, changes in demographics and its distinctive churchmanship ensured its survival from WWII destruction, right through to rebuilding in the 1960's - and absorption of St John's Parish in the 1980's - including responsibility as the Foundation Church for St John's School. The connection is both historical and legal, enshrined in the Trust Deed and the Instrument of Government. The Trust Deed sets out the details of the foundation of the school and the basis on which the buildings and land were originally granted. It appoints the trustees of the school and sets out what activities are permitted on the premises. Traditionally the vicar and church wardens were the trustees of the church school. The Charity Commission has increasingly favoured the appointment of the Diocesan Board of Finance as the Trustee, as this is a permanent and incorporated body, thus ensuring clear continuity.

St John's is a Voluntary Controlled School

The Education Act of 1944 provided a new context in which Church schools were offered the option of increased State funding and control as 'Voluntary Controlled schools' (or lesser State support and greater independence as 'Voluntary Aided schools'). St John's is a Voluntary Controlled School so staff are employed and paid by the Local Authority. At the same time, the 1944 Act required all schools to have a daily act of collective worship and religious instruction. The Instrument of Government contains the ethos statement for the school. For the majority of Church of England schools, this is the common ethos statement drawn up by the National Society. The historic vision of the Church of England to provide education for all has, in this context, thrived. The Church of England, unlike many other 'faith' groups, does not seek to educate within the tenets of a particular faith but to engage with all. Thus the Church of England, uniquely among 'faith' education providers, balances the concepts of the service given to all with opportunities to nurture the spirituality of those who wish to develop this area of their lives. This "distinctively Christian" ethos becomes doubly important when placed alongside contemporary ideas of inclusiveness, equality, and equity.

Foundation Governors Responsibility

It is the specific responsibility of the Foundation Governors to ensure that the foundation of the school is sustained and developed within its Christian context and is underpinned by the ethos statement. The Foundation Governors are able to bring to the school its strategic relationship to both the local and diocesan church community and through this to the local community in a wider sense, and vice-versa. We consider the impact of each and every decision on all members of the school community. It is a highly rewarding kind of voluntary work from which we derive inspiration and new perspectives on our lives both professionally and personally.

The Governing Body of St John's has a mix of community governors, local authority governors, staff, parents/carers, and co-opted members alongside three Foundation Governors. No particular qualification is required of governors. In recent years everything has become more complex, so we have ensured through the appointment of co-opted governors that we have a range of necessary skills and knowledge. The Governing Body currently includes a lawyer, a child psychologist, an education academic, an airline-pilot, business leaders and three Foundation Governors.

What do Foundation Governors actually do?

Our role is strictly strategic, not managerial.

Foundation Governors work as a team with other members of the governing body and encourage positive links between the school, the Parish Church, and the Diocese. We aim to promote Christian values in the way in which the Governing Body conducts its business and to be good governors as 'critical friends' holding all decision makers to account. We attend meetings, we help to monitor strands of the School Improvement Plan, by asking questions, and talking to staff and children about their experience of St John's, we attend training to give us understanding of current issues and contact with governors of other schools, we have oversight of specific curriculum subjects, in particular the delivery of RE and Collective Worship (Father Charles leads this on a regular basis and played a key part in developing the school's Christian Vision), or of areas such as Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Equalities. We review policies and decisions on engagement with parents and other stakeholders. We show support at times of crisis and aim to foster good relations within the whole school community.



All Saints Church hosts the Junior School (Key Stage 2) three times a year:

- Easter Service
- Leavers Service in the summer, at which all Year 6 leavers are presented with a Bible (given by ASC)
- Christmas service which includes parents and carers

We hope to welcome the Juniors once again (post-Covid) on 'learning visits' showing them what we do as a Church and why. We visit the Infant and Reception classes in Lower Redland Rd, taking All Saints to them, as the distance to Pembroke Rd has proved too much and too time consuming for little legs.

We have strengthened our links with the school in recent years, but there is more to be done. We must always ask: Why are we doing this? Why are we doing it like this? Is this reflecting that we are a church school? How does this fit into the school development plan? Are we being distinctively Christian in how we do or handle this? And as a church school we need to ask whether those values of love, compassion and nurture are at the forefront of the work, or if they are being undermined by the pressures to perform. How is the School community supported by the Church community?

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

SIAMS is the Church of England and Methodist Church's outworking of the requirements of section 48 of the *Education Act 2005*. SIAM inspections take place, unannounced every five years.

The following is the summary statement from the SIAMS Inspection Report on St John's 2019:

*"The school's Christian vision 'Together, fly high like an eagle' (Isaiah 40:31) embodies our ambition for every person to be successful and the partnership needed to achieve this. It links with trust in God to provide strength to be the best person we can be and to enable others to do the same, so that we may all live life in all its fullness. There are six key values that turn the vision into daily living: **Respect Friendship Positivity Equality Determination Collaboration** Each has a well-chosen accompanying Bible story. Pupils know that the parable of the Good Samaritan teaches respect, determination, and a new definition of friendship, all vital in a diverse school and city."*

There are Future Challenges

Challenges for the future are:



1. The demographic changes in the area and much of northwest Bristol, with decline in numbers of children of primary school age, so that schools find it more difficult to fill all places - with consequent impact on funding.

2. Secondly, recruitment and retention of staff. On both counts St John's is currently very much holding its own, thanks to excellent leadership and many talented long-serving staff, but we are aware of the need to pay attention to both issues in the current climate

- 3 Ongoing projects are improvements to areas of the Worrall Rd building and plans to build an additional sports hall (to relieve the pressure on the present multi-purpose hall created for a school with fewer pupils) are future needs dependent on funding.
- 4 There is also the academisation question - much discussed recently but remaining a conundrum in the light of political uncertainties at national level.

If you feel you would like to volunteer as a Foundation Governor at some point in the future please let Caroline or Fr Charles know - the education of our children is so very important.

School Artwork in the Atrium

Currently there is a display of the children's artwork re-imagining All Saints in the style of the Catalan architect Antoni Gaudi (famous for the Expiatory Temple of the Holy Family - Sagrada Familia- in Barcelona).

You may also remember the exhibition in the Atrium by Years 5 and 6 of artwork created following work in Term 4. This examined the themes of Sacrifice and Salvation in Christianity. Each of the Flowers of Sacrifice decorated by an individual child, contains a note about its creator's interpretation of Sacrifice.



The All Saints Flower Team meet each Friday to arrange the beautiful flowers that take pride of place in the Church each week.

The flowers arrangements are linked directly to themes in the liturgical year and use sustainable holders and as many locally grown flowers as possible.



Summer Flowers and Music –
enjoy floral designs set to music

Saturday 12th August 2023

3.30pm – 6.00pm

All Saints Church,
Pembroke Rd, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3ED

Kathryn Delves, Master Florist,
will be working with
experienced demonstrators
Caroline Cooper and Lesley Hunt

Come and enjoy watching three talented floral designers create stunning arrangements of lovely summer flowers. At the same time, listen to a selection of evocative classical music in the beautiful church of All Saints, Clifton in Bristol.

Then learn how these designers have embraced sustainability by using locally grown seasonal English blooms and eco-friendly alternatives to traditional foam and mechanics to create their stunning displays.

'Summer Flowers and Music' will be using flowers grown by community enterprise Elm Tree Farm in Stapleton, Bristol. Elm Tree Farm is part of Bristol-based charity Brandon Trust.

There will be an opportunity to meet the designers and musicians after the demonstration.

See www.allsauntsflorist.org for details and the dates of forthcoming events

Tickets available on Eventbrite. £12.50

Free entry for Carers

Introducing sustainable flower arranging in an exciting programme of flowers and music is also the aim of 'Summer Flowers and Music'.

The second in a series of three events it links flower arrangers and musicians and highlights the talents of both.

Summer Flowers and Music is on Saturday the 12th of August from 3.30 to 6.00pm

Tickets can be obtained on Eventbrite, at the door or from the Church office.



The Leaders of the Bristol Bordeaux Exchange with the Exchange families and Cllr Jos Clark, Lord Mayor in 2019-21, who welcomed them to the city at a Reception in All Saints last week.



Friends Together - Dementia Friendly Cafe

Thursday 3rd August 10:00am – 12:00pm

A dementia accessible Café where everyone is welcome. Support, guidance, information and friendship

Tea, coffee and delicious home-made cake!

Friends Together Café is open to everyone for support, guidance, information and friendship – tea, coffee and delicious home-made cakes included! *First Thursday of every month 10.00am-12 noon.*

All Saints Church

Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3ED
 Friends Together Cafe
 First Thursday of every month: 10am-12pm
 Admission Free | allsaintsclifton.org

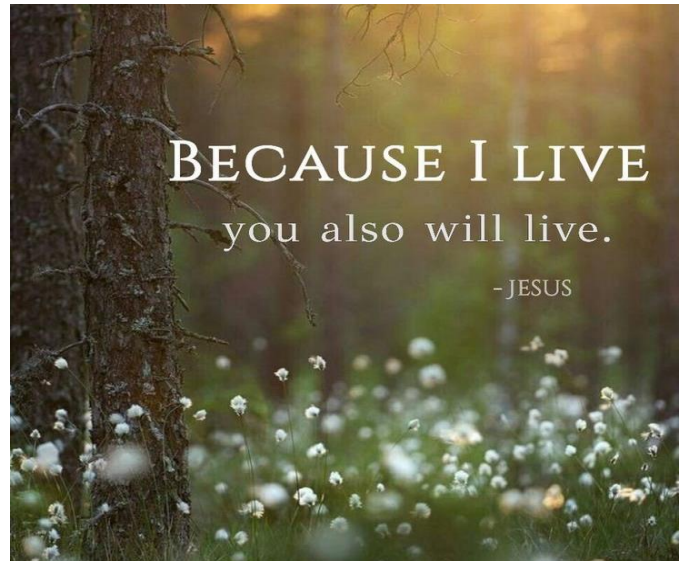


Prayers Requests

'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 Rev. Melvyn Matthews James Corner Kelly Norse

Monday

Tuesday. Diana Verity

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

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 Hussein Lucus Helen Campbell Arnold Tyson

Years' Minds - this week we remember

Michael Morgan Michael Ball Anne Hancock Margaret Edwards Patrick Dillon Charles McLean Madge Arnold Elaine Sanders Fr Ken Semon Trevor White (Pr)

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 24	Food poverty has a huge impact. Continue to pray for all those who work to enable communities to be better able to feed themselves; and for all suffering from malnutrition
Tue 25	James the Apostle James, son of Zebedee, one of the first disciples to be called by Jesus, along with his brother John, also witnessed the transfiguration. Pray that those who hear the call of Jesus in the midst of everyday life and work will respond wholeheartedly.
Wed 26	Mass 10.00am Anne and Joachim Parents of BVM Pray for parents, including step-parents and adoptive parents, especially those who parent amidst the extra pressures of disability, poverty or illness. Pray that despite the inevitable challenges, parents will recognise the privilege of parenting and the joy that comes with it.
Thurs 27	Pray for those who will this weekend be setting off on any kind of pilgrimage: for safety, companionship, insight and spiritual growth as they journey.
Fri 28	Mass 10.00am Pray for those who today will consider themselves “ forgotten” by family, friends or society in general: that they will find comfort, company and significance.
Sat 29	Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Mary, Martha and Lazarus are remembered as friends of Jesus. Give thanks for the value of friendships and pray for them: for our own friendships and for friendship groups that gather people together to tackle loneliness, especially amongst the elderly.
Sunday 30	Trinity 8 Pr 12 Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul 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

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
 The Parish Safeguarding Officers - Stephen O'Keefe
stephen.c.okeefe@gmail.com and Caroline Davenport
c2davbristol@hotmail.com