

ALL SAINTS NEWS

29th June 2025
2nd Sunday of Trinity
St Peter and St Paul

Earth's Crammed with Heaven

Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861), from *Aurora Leigh*, Book Seven, (1856)

Earth's crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees, takes off his shoes—
The rest sit round it and pick blackberries.

This poem by Barrett Browning was inspired by these lines from Exodus (Exodus 3: 1-5)



"Now Moses was pasturing a flock and led it to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed. So Moses said, 'I must turn aside now and see this marvellous sight, why the bush is not burned up.' When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, 'Moses, Moses!' And Moses said, 'Here I am.' Then the LORD said, 'Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground'."

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The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the All Saints Church community.

In her words, Browning reintroduces the notion of 'A Sacramental Universe'.

The purpose of this view of sacramentality is "to make the things of this world so transparent that in them and through them we know God's presence and activity in our very midst."

Such an approach to the sacraments is very needed in a world where the dominance of the secular is squeezing any sense of sacramentality out of ordinary human experience. One could say that concomitant with this advancing grip of the secular is the opposite tendency to flee the world by engaging in spiritual practices which deny a place for the material and the embodied. Both opposing tendencies prescind from the fact that we live in the tension between the spiritual and material. The sacramental principle then is to achieve a balance between these opposing dynamics.

Teach me, my God and King

George Herbert, in the poem '*The Elixir*', uses the allegory of alchemy. Through this he suggests that when we are involved in "mean" work (where *mean* carries the older definition of *base, unimportant, inferior, lowly*), we can realize that we're serving God and offer up our labour to Him. Thus, applying the *tincture* of this realization — we are doing it "for God's sake"

Teach me, my God and King,
in all things Thee to see,
and what I do in anything,
to do it as for Thee.

Herbert and Browning's ideas are far from new for their times. Thomas Aquinas expressed the presence of God in all things:

'God exists in all things by presence, power and substance.'

This is not pantheism, because he ensures that we understand that we do not see God in the way we see 'things'; rather it is that these things carry a sense of the mysterious presence of God. In short, nearly everything in creation carries a sacramental potential.

All of this leads us to the question.

Within the structure of our daily lives, are there times when we take off our shoes?

Historical Footnotes:

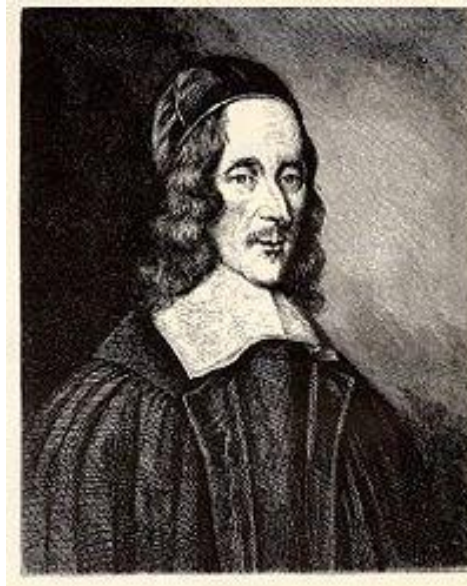
Elizabeth Barrett Browning was the oldest of twelve children and the first person in her family for two hundred years to be born in England (her family had lived in Jamaica where they owned sugar plantations).



An enthusiastic Christian believer, as a teenager Browning taught herself Hebrew to read the Old Testament in its original language and later studied Greek. By age fifteen she had suffered a chronic lung ailment and a spinal injury from a horning accident that virtually incapacitated her for the rest of her life.

When her brother drowned, she withdrew and became a near recluse. Her father bitterly opposed her romance with Robert Browning, who was six years younger than her, and with whom she exchanged nearly six hundred letters in less than two years.

In 1846 they eloped to Florence, Italy, where she died some fifteen years later.



Herbert, George, M.A., the fifth son of Richard Herbert and Magdalen, the daughter of Sir Richard Newport, was born at his father's seat, Montgomery Castle, April 3, 1593. He was educated at Westminster School, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating B.A. in 1611.

On March 15, 1615, he became Major Fellow of the College, M.A. the same year, and in 1619 Orator for the University. Favoured by James I., intimate with Lord Bacon, Bishop Andrewes, and other men of influence, and encouraged in other ways, his hopes of Court preferment were somewhat bright until they were dispelled by the deaths of the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Hamilton, and then of King James himself.

Retiring into Kent, he formed the resolution of taking Holy Orders. He was appointed by the Bishop of Lincoln to the Prebend of Leighton Ecclesia and to the living of Leighton Bromswold, Hunts, July 15, 1626. He remained until 1629, when an attack of ague obliged him to remove to his brother's, house at Woodford, Essex. Not improving in health at Woodford, he removed to Dantsey, in Wiltshire, and then as Rector to Bemerton, to which he was inducted, April 26, 1630, where he died.

Friends Together

at All Saints, Clifton

A Dementia accessible café **for all**.
Support, guidance, information and friendship
with tea, coffee and cake included.

Join us for...

- Reminiscence activities
- Support, guidance, and information
- Tea, coffee, cake
- Fun, laughter – and friendship!

WHERE? The Randall Room, All Saints Church

WHEN? 1st Thursday of **every** month

TIME? 10.00am-12.00pm

Café Dates 2025 ALWAYS THE 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

2 nd January	1 st May	4 th September
6 th February	5 th June	2 nd October
6 th March	3 rd July	6 th November
3 rd April	7 th August	4 th December



**Bristol Dementia
Action Alliance**

All Saints, Clifton supports the work of BDAA to make
Bristol a dementia aware city. For more information
about the work of BDAA see their website bdaa.org.uk

For further information, please call All Saints Parish Office
on 0117 974 1355 or see the website for latest updates.

All Saints

Clifton Church of England



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CHARITY VIOLIN RECITAL
7:30-8:45pm, Wed. 2nd July 2025



Antonia Zgółka - violin

Winner of the 2025 Bristol Rotary Young Musician Competition

Mr James Willshire - piano

Fauré - Violin Sonata in A

L. Boulanger - 'D'un matin du printemps'

Pärt - Fratres

Moszkowski - Suite for 2 violins (with Sophie Chung)

free entry - retiring charitable collection

**All Saints Church, Pembroke Road, Clifton,
Bristol, BS8 3ED**

CLIFTON



COLLEGE

Bristol Chamber Choir

Conducted by David Bednall in collaboration with

Bristol Brass Consort

**Fanfare
for
Summer**
Music for Choir & Brass

Sun 6 July 2025, 7 pm
All Saints Church
Pembroke Road, Clifton



Chilcott Gloria
& pieces by
Woelfenden
Pearce
Coleridge-Taylor
Purcell

bristol
chamber
choir



SCAN FOR TICKETS

Or visit: www.bit.ly/fanfare-tickets

£15 tickets available on door, cash/card
Student concessions, under 18s go free



All
Saints
Clifton Church of England

Dedication Sunday Parish Lunch

**SUNDAY 6TH JULY
@ 12.30PM**

**JOIN US IN THE GARDEN AFTER PARISH MASS
FOR
A DELICIOUS BUFFET LUNCH**
(in the Atrium if the weather's bad)

Please bring your own picnic chairs &/or rugs

**VEGAN/GLUTEN FREE CAN BE ACCOMMODATED
IF REQUESTED IN ADVANCE**

CASH BAR

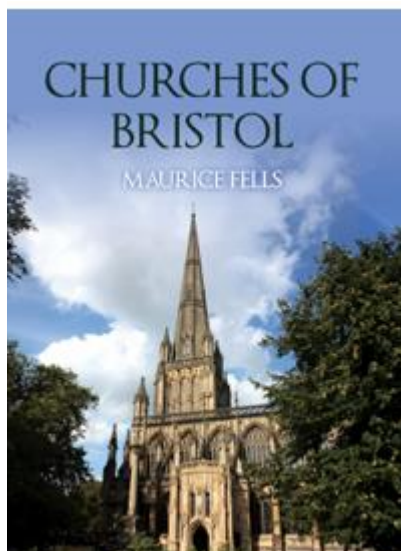
**TICKETS £7
(Family Ticket: £14)**

ON SALE IN CHURCH FROM SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

Contact Janice: rjhopkins57@yahoo.co.uk

OR

**All Saints Parish Office: 0117 974 1355
www.allsaintsclifton.org**



CHURCHES OF BRISTOL by MAURICE FELLS

All Saints, Clifton features in this new book, *Churches of Bristol*, which looks at a range of the city's churches, from early examples to recent years, telling the fascinating story of how they were built alongside some of the colourful history of the city, for both are intertwined.

Included are those still standing in the original part of the city and more modern examples built in the suburbs for Bristol's growing population.

A fascinating and important exploration of Bristol's historic churches over the centuries, will be of interest to all those who live in or are visiting this city. Publication: July 2025 Price: £15.99 ISBN: 978139812231

All Saints Church Pembroke Rd Clifton Bristol



**Saturday
July 5th
4pm**

**Ben Creighton Griffiths
Harp
Benjamin Teague
Organ**

**Handel
Grandjany
Elgar
Boëllman**

retiring collection

tea and cake

*We welcome the brilliant young harpist **Ben Creighton Griffiths** back together with Welsh organist **Benjamin Teague** (reed organ) combining the sounds of the Reed Organ and Harp for a unique blend of sounds and styles.*

The programme includes arrangements and transcriptions of works by Handel, Grandjany, Elgar and Boëllman.

This is amazing for Ben's versatility and innovative skills on this traditional instrument and the imaginative use of the 'telescopic' organ beloved of early twentieth century itinerant preachers and military padres of WW1 - not to be missed!

This Saturday, June 28 – Free Taster Event for Single Christians! Riverside Litter Pick | 10:00am – 12:00pm | Bristol – Booking deadline June 27, 9pm

Christian Eco-Dating invites single Christians to a free event where faith, friendship, and care for creation come together. Join us for a relaxed and purposeful morning litter picking along a beautiful Bristol riverbank—an opportunity to meet others who share your values and passion for making a difference. The event is completely free, and booking is essential – details on booking.

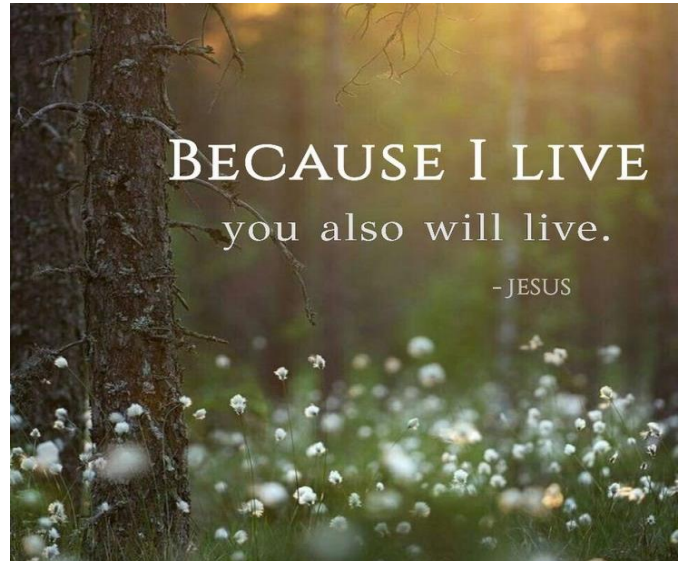
👉 **Reserve your place here:** <https://www.christianeco-dating.co.uk/home>
Come and be part of something meaningful!

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 of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our Prayers:

Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Sathia Aruliah the O'Sullivan family Susie King Arthur Cleaver Vyard Angel Wray Nicky Epina Oussama and Claire Sader Sarah Jean Bradford Adam Chivers Lucille Osafo Andrew French Swarna Simpson

Monday

Sue Hilliar Hugh Farry

Tuesday.

Ryan Lindsey George Lymperopoulos Pam Parker

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford

Thursday

Steve Cooper Barbera Freeman Remi Clarke

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nicole Kaneza Nadine Benn

Saturday

The Departed

Jean Detheridge Olivia Griffiths Ann Wardrop John Badman Charles Easmon Elisabeth Morgan Pope Francis Silvio Pegado Jo Greenbury Anthea Anthony (Pr)

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Peter Hellier Gordon Lishman Harold Harding Eliza Drewett Jean Weller Martin Henwood Gwen & Fred Iles Charles Cobb Paul Biddlecombe (Pr) Rhona Ray Rosemary Bird



ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 30	Pray for those who find this media allows them to lift spirit, communicate positively, find help and support. Pray also for those who are bullied or become overly focused on themselves. Social media has the power to do good and harm.
Tue July 1	Henry, John and Henry Venn Evangelical Divines Pray for our evangelical brothers and sisters in the C of E. The life and work of the Church Missionary Society
Wed 2	Mass 10.00 am . 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 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
Fri 4	Mass 10.00 am Ours is a world full of unresolved conflict; internationally, locally and in our homes. Pray for peace of mind and peace with others
Sat 5	Food poverty has declined faster than other types of poverty. Continue to pray for all those who work to enable communities to be better able to feed themselves; and for all suffering from malnutrition
Sunday 6	Trinity 3 Dedication Sunday We thank God for the witness of this place and its people over the last 157 years; and we pray for its continuing mission and ministry in the years to come 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 - Caroline Davenport & Janice Callow at office@allsaintsclifton.org marked for the attention of the Safeguarding Officer.