

Farmers' Market at All Saints School

All Saints School has opened up their playground to host a Farmers' Market, held every Sunday from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. If this venture is successful it will provide the school with some much-needed funds from renting the space to stallholders, and also provide a community focus. It is ideally placed for members of the congregation to visit after Mass; produce on offer at present include farm-made artisan sausages, fruit and vegetables, fresh flowers and plants, and more.

For more information, telephone 07904 021 944 or visit the website www.crystalpalacefarmersmarket.com.

Saint of the Month:

St Edward the Confessor, King of England 1042-1066.

Edward, son of the Saxon King Aethelred II (the Unready), was elected king by popular acclamation in June 1042 and crowned at Winchester on Easter Day 1043. He thus restored the rule of the House of Wessex after the period of Danish rule since 1016. His nickname "Confessor" reflects his reputation as a saint who did not suffer martyrdom (unlike his predecessor King Edward the Martyr, murdered in 978)

His personality is still something of an enigma, and it is possible that he has been underestimated. Edward was a peace-loving man with a reputation for religious devotion and generosity to the poor and infirm. Although often portrayed as a tame and ineffectual ruler with a traditional image as unworldly and pious at the expense of his kingdom, he dealt resolutely with the constant opposition of his powerful father-in-law Earl Godwin, as well as other grave difficulties.

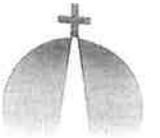
Since he spent the early part of his life in Normandy and was rather isolated from many of the nobility, he extended his patronage to Norman knights and churchmen, which offended much English feeling – the seeds of future revolution were being sown already!

Edward is famous for two things. Firstly, he refounded the small monastery of St Peter at Westminster which he richly endowed (and where his remains still lie); indeed, his plans for this great abbey, and his religious interests in general, seem to have filled the centre of his mind in his later years. Secondly, he promised his kingdom to his cousin and friend William of Normandy instead of Harold Godwinson, the choice of the majority of the English nobility but an ally of the Danes, with whom England had had dynastic struggles for over a century. And we all know what happened next! Thus was the history of England changed for ever.

His following as a saint was slow to develop; he was canonised in 1161



THE NEWSLETTER



ALL SAINTS CHURCH Upper Norwood

October 2018

The Vicar's Monthly Letter

Dear Friends

One of the most momentous British documents of the 20th century was the so-called Balfour Declaration, issued during the First World War. The end of that war was a hundred years ago this November. Unresolved ambivalences at the end of the war still affect the world in painful ways today. The Balfour Declaration promised Jewish people a homeland in Palestine, whilst seeking to guarantee the rights of the existing population there.

A depressing discovery about British imperial policy-making is how ill-informed it sometimes was. One of the reasons the Foreign Secretary of that time could be reasonably confident that this Janus-like promise might succeed, was the assumption that Arabs were on the whole nomadic people like the Bedouin, and that their transient lives wouldn't be too much disrupted by a few more settlers living amongst them. To be inappropriately flippant, one might say, 'Tell *that* to Palestinians who had lived in their houses, villages and towns for at least as long as English people have lived in theirs.'

There isn't much mutual understanding between settled and transient ways of life. The first murder described in Genesis arises from a rivalry between Cain, with his settled agriculture and his brother Abel, who travelled about with his animals.

In our own society, gypsies and other travellers can evoke strong emotions, distrust and hostility. In a society where property is so important, where successive governments have spoken so positively about a 'home-owning democracy', it is explicitly counter-cultural to go around with your home on your back, so to speak.

Perhaps, in our home-owning democracy, it is not as rare as you might assume to have no settled home. The dependence of sectors of our economy on short-term migrants is being exposed in the Brexit debate; more people are single, homeless and on the streets; many people live in short-term accommodation like bed and breakfast; and an indeterminate number are sofa-surfers (a singularly inapt description for something so unglamorous and probably unhealthy).

All these modern-day nomads live on the margins of our society, as part of a large underclass. We have recently donated our harvest gifts to the Manna Society for their work among the homeless, and this is the time of year marked as Homelessness Sunday - how much do we think about those who have no settled place to call their own?

It was with such as these that Jesus chose to align his own life. He is quoted as saying "Foxes have holes and birds their nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." He was no more of nomadic background than were those living in Palestine in 1917.

In the Gospel, Jesus travels around Galilee and says "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it;

but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel. will save it". What does it mean for us to follow such a man?

There is little we know about the family of the apostle Paul. But we know that he too made a radical commitment to a wholly different life, subject to leading by the Spirit and not to the norms with which he had grown up. He describes Christian life in terms recognisable to any nomad, then or now, for he writes of living in an earthly tent. The present, in other words, is unstable and uncertain. But Paul is convinced that what is really important is beyond all that instability---it is the everlasting fact of God, known now in transient glimpses of faith, hope, and love, and yet a more solid and reassuring fact than even the best human home: 'a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.'

We all need a secure place to be, but what is it that gives us our ultimate security?

What is it that makes you secure---Is it your home, your family, your work pension or savings? Or is it that we live in the presence of God, who is our ultimate only home?

Yours in Christ.

Fr. Leonard Marsh



CLERGY

Vicar

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All Saints' Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Important Notice

If a parent is considering asking about a Foundation place for their child at All Saints' school they need to let Fr Leonard know well in advance.

Eligibility has to be agreed with Fr Leonard before completing an application form at the school, and is dependent on church attendance.

SERVICES

All Sundays

8.00 am	Said Eucharist
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist
6.30 pm	Night Prayer

Tuesdays

7.30 pm	Said Eucharist
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1st Saturday of month

10.00 am	Said Eucharist
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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Articles etc. for inclusion are encouraged and can be sent to the editor (contact details above); we can include pictures as well if there is space. Email is preferable but we are happy to accept anything else in writing.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

3rd October (Wednesday): Termly Mass at All Saints School, in the school hall. Anyone wishing to attend (all Church members are warmly welcome) should contact Fr Len about start time and arrangements.

4th November: All Saints Patronal Festival at the 10.00am Eucharist.

3rd November (Saturday): 10am Mass for All Souls, remembering the Faithful Departed.

11th November: Remembrance Sunday -- Mass at 10am followed by the Act of Remembrance at 11:00.

Small Saints: Every Sunday (in 10 am Mass) - depending on staffing - for children up to 10 yrs.

St Teresa's Bookmark

Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things pass;
God never changes.
Patience obtains everything.
Whoever has God wants nothing.
God alone suffices.

Prayer of the Month

Father all powerful, Christ Lord and Saviour, Spirit of love. You reveal yourself in the depths of our being, drawing us to share in your life and your love.
One God, three Persons, be near to the people formed in your image, close to the world your love brings to life.

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The Church's Facebook page:

All Saints, Upper Norwood

Saints of the Month: October.

- 4th St Francis of Assisi; founder of the order of the Friars Minor, patron saint of Italy (1181-1226)
13th St Edward the Confessor, King of England and founder of Westminster Abbey (1003-66)
15th St Teresa of Avila, founder of the reformed Carmelites. (1515-82)
18th St Luke; evangelist and fellow worker of St Paul, patron of doctors, artists and surgeons.
28th Ss Simon & Jude, apostles and martyrs.

1st November: All Saints
2nd November: All Souls.