

All Saints Alive

VICAR'S VIEWPOINT



Remembering all

Dear Friends,

It is a deeply moving experience to meet with so many local people at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, the whole central area of Hertford packed with those who make it a special occasion to remember the many people who have lost their lives in conflicts from the First World War to the present day. I am so pleased that many also come to All Saints for further remembrance and reflection on an issue of huge importance.

This year the Royal British Legion has made it explicit (on their website) that we remember members of the Armed Forces who have lost their lives, including friends, allies and Commonwealth nations who joined Britain in defending our freedoms, values and way of life, yet also acknowledging those innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism. We also pay tribute to the special contribution of families, as well as the emergency services. This has always been implicit in our remembrance, and furthermore the Earl Haig Fund – to which we invite generous contributions – cares for those who survived but whose lives have been changed or broken by doing their duty.

Digital technology has made it possible for the films of people from the early 20th century to be upgraded with the speed adjusted and presented in colour. Previously the black and white images recorded at variable speeds on early film equipment made the “Great War” seem distant, but now the people involved in that terrible conflict are revealed clearly as people just like us. The names on our War

Memorial and in the Memorial Chapel at All Saints also tell us that these were local people, perhaps from our families, with names much like ours – people who felt fear and pain, courage and commitment.

How should we feel on Remembrance Sunday? I cannot tell you what to feel, but I do suggest that whatever we believe, we try to allow the reality of what has happened to sink into our consciousness afresh. I find the ceremony a very solemn one, as befits such remembrance, and I lament the lives that have been lost, yet I am also deeply thankful to those who put their lives on the line and concerned for those whose lives today continue to be affected physically or psychologically by war and violence. And I vow to seek and work for peace in our troubled world.

As I write, I notice that there are many deeply troubling conflicts in our world: we have soldiers working in dangerous areas of the Middle East; concerns about the effect of Brexit on the peace process in Northern Ireland; Daesh members escaping prison in Syria following President Trump's sudden withdrawal of U.S. troops; terrorism in Africa; escalating knife crime in the U.K. – and in cities such as Santiago, Barcelona and Hong Kong violent demonstrations by ordinary citizens continue to manifest the violence of mankind, with all its painful consequences.

Remembrance Sunday encourages us to move away from conflict and violence towards peace. The great Remembrance hymn speaks of God's all-embracing love and of “Our hope for years to come”. We need to find hope for ourselves and for our future on this planet. May we, through this

profound Remembrance, allow ourselves to experience the power of such awareness and hold fast to a caring, sustainable and hopeful way of living.

Love
Jo

Rev Sally Dryden

My name is Sally Dryden and I am really excited to be part of the Hertford Team Ministry at Holy Trinity, Hertford Heath. I became a Christian 16 years ago at St Barnabas, North Finchley and been ordained for 4 years. I served my curacy at Golders Green Parish Church and was Associate Vicar there for a subsequent year. I have never lived outside the M25 before, a bit of a townie, and have been totally surprised that I may be a closet country girl, my wellies are getting lots of use. It's so great to be able to see the horizon on a daily basis and really appreciate God's creation. I was born and raised in Ponders End, Enfield and went to Bullsmoor School (now Lea Valley High) in Waltham Cross. My family all live along the A10, A1 corridor and it is great to be near them.



The Holy Trinity Church family have been so wonderfully welcoming and after only two weeks in post I feel like I have never not known them. They coped amazingly through the interregnum and I am so proud to be joining in with what they have been doing. My prayer is that Holy Trinity Church will become a community hub, a safe place, a meeting place for the local community; a place where we can laugh and cry together, where we can celebrate

and commiserate; where barriers are broken down and where love is real. William Temple said "The Church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members" and I totally agree with him.

Heavenly Harmonies

9th November 10.45 for 11.15

**ALL SAINTS
HERTFORD**

HEAVENLY HARMONIES

Coffee, Cake and Choral Classics

Short Choral Concerts featuring well-loved classics of religious choral repertoire explored through song and word.
Refreshments from 10.45am Concert from 11.15am-12.00pm

SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2019

All Saints' Choir

'Remembering'

Encompassing All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance

Music by Bruckner, Bullock, Byrd, Elgar, Harris, Palestrina, Rutter, Victoria, Walford Davies and Whitbourn.

Free Admission with Retiring Collection
Book the Date - For Future Concerts
Saturday 11 January 2020, Saturday 15 February 2020, Saturday 7 March 2020
From 10.45am -12noon

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsainshertford.org

Coffee and cake from 10.45. Concert from 11.15-12.00.

Free admission with retiring collection.

The theme is 'Remembering' and takes us through the seasons of All Saints and All Souls and Remembrance Sunday.

The programme includes perennial favourites such as *Christus factus est* – Bruckner, *Give us the wings of faith* – Bullock, *We will remember them* – Elgar *O quam gloriosum* – Victoria, and *God be in my head* - Walford Davies plus works by Byrd, Harris and others.

If anyone is able to bake cakes and/or help on the day, please speak to Martin Penny.