

ALL SAINTS'



This week's Newsbulletin

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

Services/events for this week

Second Sunday after Trinity 13th June

10.00 Family Eucharist in All Saints, with choral and organ music. Theme: The Mustard Seed

16.00 Prayer and Praise on Zoom

Theme: Summer

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85853370175>

Meeting ID: 858 5337 0175

Tuesday 15th

11.00 Morning Prayer on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87458760537>

Meeting ID: 874 5876 0537

Please note the revised number.

'Zoom'-ing by 'phone

Call 0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237, 0203 481 5240 or 0131460 1196 and use meeting id followed by #

The Mustard Seed

Dear Friends.

This week we reflect on the "mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

Jesus' images of the kingdom are alive and organic. This mustard seed has its own pattern of growth, a tiny plant that grows into a massive tree with room for every creature. It reminds us that we should never imagine that we are the architects or builders of God's kingdom. It is enough for us to be part of planting the seed, be caring and patient, the seed will grow animated by God's Spirit.

Simple things we say or do can have a big influence. One person can affect many, even without knowing it. The kingdom of God grows of its own impetus in the world, and nobody

can stop it, like good seed growing underground. God is the God of here, there and everywhere. Seeds may sprout anywhere in the field, and the kingdom can find its way into the lives of individuals and communities in ways that may be surprising. The mustard seed becomes a tree for all; the kingdom of God is for every man, woman and child. Can we bring something of the kingdom of God – of love and peace, prayer and faith, justice and hope? We may not see it or recognise it, but let's fill our minds and hearts with gratitude as we pray.

Creator God, we think about seeds, imagine holding them in our hands and seeing their smallness, weakness, insignificance.

Yet you see potential, growth, significance. Tiny seeds grow by your power into amazing plants and trees.

They provide food for the hungry and homes for your creatures.

From the darkness of the earth springs forth your life, your harvest.

Your Kingdom is like a tiny seed.

When we look at your church, and our own lives,

We may see smallness, weakness, insignificance.

yet you see potential, growth, significance.

Give us eyes of faith and willing hands to see your Kingdom grow in us.

May we reflect on our faith, stewardship and welcome, may we reflect on what it is to be your family and plant the seeds and gather the harvest your love has provided.

*In Jesus' name and the power of the Spirit we commit our lives to you again.
Amen.*

Love, Jo

Thursday Holy Communion

We are hoping to go back to holding Holy Communion on Thursdays from June 24th. We will need two volunteers each week to assist with recording names and hand sanitising.

How about bringing a picnic to eat afterwards if it's sunny?

A House for a Refugee Family in Hertford?

Catherine Henderson writes:

I am writing because a family related to one of our Ware families is due to be resettled and we have currently been unable to find housing.

We've been told that it would be ok if we could find a 3-bed property with a philanthropic landlord/landlady who would rent at the LHA rate. I'm wondering if there might be someone in your congregation who could help with this, or if you have any other suggestions for who we could ask and where we might look.

We may well not find somewhere local and are looking in Welwyn, Hatfield and Stevenage too, although Ware/Hertford would be much better as the two families could be near each other.

Please contact Jo if you can help.

Opening the Church

When we had the church open during Thy Kingdom Come, the people who ventured in were all from the general public, not our own congregation.

It showed us that there is a need for people to be able to come in, and we would like to open the church every Saturday morning from 10 – 12.

If anyone is willing to volunteer to be in church on a Saturday morning once a month or once every two months, depending on how many volunteers we have, please contact Janet (07798 692797 or 01992 587544) or Nerine (07535 803529 or 01992 504893)

The Alban Pilgrimage 2021

This year's pilgrimage will take place on **Sunday 27 June**. Giant carnival puppets re-enact the story of Alban, Britain's first saint, the man after whom St Albans is named. Roman chariots, centurions, lions and roses all take their place alongside Alban and Amphibalus in a dramatic procession.



This year, we will be reverting back to the original historical route, beginning at St Michael's Church, processing through Verulamium Park before reaching St Albans Cathedral.

All are welcome to join us for festivities throughout the day, from activities on the Abbey Orchard to our celebratory services.

<https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/event/the-alban-pilgrimage-2021>

Procession of the cleaners



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