

ALL SAINTS'



ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone



The feast of Pentecost, which we celebrated this year on 19th May, is one of most important festivals in the Christian calendar coming 50 days after Easter and 10 days after Ascension Day. Pentecost celebrates the day when the Holy spirit came down on the disciples, with tongues of fire. When they spoke about God, the crowds of people who had come from many distant lands were able to understand the disciples as though they were speaking in each of the listeners own language. This year at All Saints it also coincided with the Annual Civic Service when we welcomed Cllr Rachel Carter as the new Mayor of Hertford.

At a time when there is so much division in the world, and so much suspicion, wouldn't it be wonderful to live in a world where everybody understood what the other was saying. No misunderstanding, no confusion over meaning, just straight talking, treating one another with respect and even more importantly everybody really listening to what is being said.

We often feel these days that the world is getting smaller. Travel is far easier than it used to be, although we know that emissions from cars and planes are adding to the problems of global warming. When I was a child, admittedly quite a long time ago now, the only people who went to Australia were those who were emigrating to start a new life - you rarely heard of anybody coming back! Not only have I visited Australia (and come back) but I know many people who visit regularly to meet up with family or friends. Today we are able to travel all over the world, if we can afford the fares. Young people take gap years, other people are fortunate to go on

"round the world" cruises and we briefly experience all sorts of different cultures. We might try to learn a few useful phrases in other languages but unless we can truly converse in another language, we may be risking misunderstanding what is really being said.

Even when we are speaking in our own mother tongue there are times when we don't understand what we are being told. When language is highly technical or scientific or philosophical it may not really make much sense to those of us who are less academically inclined. Theology perhaps falls into this category. Basically, theology relates to thinking and talking about God and studying the Bible. Theos comes from the Greek meaning God and logos meaning word. Of course, many learned scholars have studied the Bible and the human response to religion and there is much that we can read and learn. However, at its most basic, theology is about finding God in our everyday lives, putting God first and following the teaching of Jesus,

Jesus gave us a basic commandment by which we can all live "*Love God and love your neighbour as yourself.*" The whole world is our neighbour regardless of language, culture, or class.

How can we hope to make a difference? Listen to what people are saying and respect the different views they may have. Help those who need help and encourage and support those in need. Become a volunteer if you have a little free time and can afford to give it - you will probably make new friends in the process. Thank you to all those who already do so much for others but if you are wondering what you might do it is never too late to start. Ask around - you will soon find something to suit you, either within the church perhaps helping the Flower Club or joining the coffee rota or volunteering elsewhere to support one of the many active charities in the town.

Blessings to you all - Janet

Plant Sale/GreenWatch

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Plant Sale, Coffee Morning and Green Watch. The combined event raised £1,675 for All Saints and £150 for Christian Aid.

Afternoon Tea



You are invited to join us in a Summer Afternoon Tea in St John's Hall on Saturday 29th June from 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm.

Any offers of help will be gratefully received!

Open garden



The Bishop of St Albans will be opening his garden every Sunday between Sunday 9 June and Sunday 11 August for people to come and look at the beautiful gardens and the summer display. Those who saw the

snowdrops will have seen the potential that the garden had for the summer and will be delighted at the change a different season brings.

The two acres of garden is an oasis in central St Albans and visitors frequently comment on the fact that they did not know the garden was here or how extensive it is.

Entrance is £5 per person (children free) and dogs on leads are welcome, there will also be plants for sale on some weekends. Please wear footwear suitable for the time of year.

All money raised is donated to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust

Abbey Gate House, Abbey Mill Lane, St Albans AL3 4HS

Alban Pilgrimage



The 2024 Alban Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday June 22nd (The actual feast day). The day starts with a procession from St Peter's church at 10.45 and ends with a Pilgrimage Evensong at 16.00 in the Cathedral.

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

June Soundbites

ALLSAINTS HERTFORD All Saints Welcomes Everyone

Soundbites

A Term-Time Series of Concerts on Wednesday
Lunch-Times
(Light Lunches served from 12noon
for Concerts at 1.00pm)

Wednesday 5 June 2024
Mine Doğanant-Dack (Piano)
Guillaume Tardif (Violin)
Felipe Avellar de Aquino (Cello)

Mine Doğanant-Dack is a concert pianist whose playing has been described as 'an oasis' and 'heaven on earth'.
Violinist Guillaume Tardif pursues an active career as a performer and pedagogue. He regularly travels on recital tours and appears as soloist with orchestras in prominent venues, worldwide.
Cellist Felipe Avellar de Aquino obtained his musical education in Brazil as well as in the United States, where he has developed intense and

Wednesday 12 June 2024
In collaboration with
HERTFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC
Litsa Tunnah (Violin)
James Francis Brown (Piano)

Litsa Tunnah returns to the festival to beguile audiences with her virtuosic

diversified musical roles, seeking connections between music and other forms of art expressions fine-arts, ballet, literature and philosophy.
Music: Piano Trio in A minor, Op.50 - Tchaikovsky

This late romantic masterpiece was inspired by Richard Mühlfeld's clarinet playing at the first performance of Brahms' Clarinet Trio Op.123 in 1886.

Wednesday 19 June 2024
Amberg Trio (Clarinet, Cello, Piano)

Kahn's Op.45 Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano, the most of his chamber music, is marked by authentic melodic inspiration, excellent part writing and a brilliant use of instrumental colour and timbre.

It is followed by Vaughan Williams' The Lark Ascending, a piece synonymous with serene beauty.
The recital concludes with James Brown's second violin sonata.
Music: Ludwig Van Beethoven - Violin Sonata No.5 in F major, Op.24 'Spring'
Ralph Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending
James Francis Brown - Violin Sonata No.2

Wednesday 25 June 2024
Musicians from Simon Balle School
Music: In preparation for their forthcoming diploma recitals.
Free Admission with Hertford Collection in Aid of All Saints' Church

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

Hertfordshire Festival of Music



The Power of 2: Musical and Artistic Dialogues 7-15 June

This year's Festival includes three concerts in All Saints:

Sunday 9th: Coffee Concert
Birce Kayhan – *Clarinet*
Chloe Harrison – *Horn*
Daniel Swain – *Piano*

Wednesday 12th: Soundbites
Litsa Tunnah – *Violin*
James Francis Brown – *Piano*

Saturday 15th: Festival Finale
Katya Apekisheva – *Piano*
Charles Owen – *Piano*

Full details of these, other concerts and booking links are at <https://www.hertsmusicfest.org.uk/>. Note that the Weds Concert is Free Admission, Retiring Collection as usual.

The importance of Wonder Thought for the day broadcast 4th May 2024

This week I was amazed to hear about a wild Sumatran Orangutang in Indonesia treating a gaping wound - by chewing a medicinal leaf and carefully using its juice and leaves as a healing poultice. It's the first time a primate has been seen applying a plant in this way. Clearly, we have so much more to learn about them. We have also discovered 5000 new species deep in the Pacific Ocean - 90% completely new to scientists.

These stories fill me with wonder reminding me of Elisabeth Barret Browning's poem 'Aurora Leigh' where she writes:

*'Earth is crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God:
But only he who sees takes off his shoes.'*

Recently I went on pilgrimage to an island in the middle of Derwentwater in the Lake District to find where my calling would take

me next. In this exposed lone house, I found myself sheltering from storm lsha with booming 90mph winds and horizontal rain funnelling across the lake rattling our windows.

I huddled around a fire with a fellow pilgrim and discovered that he was from the Amazon. It was his first time in the UK and he had decided to travel the western world to tell us about mother earth so that we would stop destroying her. He told me his village were gathering thousands of healing medicinal plants for a walled garden, as most are on the verge of extinction, so they could be protected for generations to come.

He said *'first they came to our land with axes, then electronic saws, then large tractors with saws attached that can cut 200 trees per hour and 2 football pitches a day'*. He said *'they don't understand that the earth is their lungs, their medicine, their body, their mother. Every man in those tractors is hurting their grandchildren.'*

Late into the night, we shared our experience of wonder. I told him about William and Dorothy Wordsworth and their friend Coleridge, finding awe in the land around us; of Emily Bronte in Yorkshire writing *'Every leaf speaks bliss to me.'* He showed me his colourful ritual feathers and explained plant medicine which helped him experience the Divine Mother who talks to him through forest trees.

At that time, I realised that wonder is not only about being inspired but also about being humble and willing to listen. As soon as we lose it, we are in danger of blind arrogance. I now realise that listening with wonder is the first step to having respect for the world around us. Only then, can we take off our shoes and collaborate.

Marie-Elsa Roche Bragg

<https://marie-elsarochebragg.com>



"Procession of the Cleaners."

Parish Diary June 2024

Sunday 2nd First Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am All the Family Service
6.30 pm Parish Communion

Wednesday 5th (Boniface)

12.00 noon for 1.00 pm Soundbites
Guillaume Tardif - *Violin*
Felipe Avellar de Aquino - *Cello*
Mine Dođantan-Dack - *Piano*

Thursday 6th (Ini Kopuria)

11.00 am Holy Communion
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 7th

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Sunday 9th Second Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
11.45 am Coffee Concert (HFoM)
Birce Kayhan - *Clarinet*
Chloe Harrison - *Horn*
Daniel Swain - *Piano*
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 12th

12.00 noon for 1.00 pm Soundbites
Litsa Tunnah - *Violin*
James Francis Brown - *Piano*

Thursday 13th

11.00 am Morning Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 14th (Richard Baxter)

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 15th (Evelyn Underhill)

9.00 am Work Party
6.00 pm HFoM Festival Finale
Katya Apekisheva - *Piano*
Charles Owen - *Piano*

Sunday 16th Third Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Eucharist
6.30 pm Choral Compline

Wednesday 19th

12.00 noon for 1.00 pm Soundbites
Amberg Trio
Clarinet, Cello, Piano

Thursday 20th

11.00 am Holy Communion
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 21st

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 22nd (Alban)

10.45 am Alban Pilgrimage
12.00 noon Pilgrimage Eucharist at Cathedral
4.00 pm Pilgrimage Evensong at Cathedral
7.30 pm Concert by HCS
'Songs from the West End'

Sunday 23rd Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 26th (Ember Day)

12.00 noon for 1.00 pm Soundbites
Musicians from Simon Balle School

Thursday 27th (Cyril)

11.00 am Morning Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 28th (Ireaneous)

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 29th (Peter & Paul)

3.00 pm Parish Afternoon Tea in St John's Hall

Sunday 30th Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Service suitable for the season

JULY Wednesday 3rd (Thomas)

7.30 pm Concert by Rock Choir

Thursday 4th

11.00 am Morning Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 5th

5.30 pm Choir Practices

Sunday 7th Sixth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am All the Family Service
6.30 pm Parish Communion

Contact information

www.allsaintshertford.org

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