

All Saints Shooters Hill: February 2012

We warmly welcome you to our Sunday Services

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful. 1 Corinthians 13:4

5 February: 3rd Sunday before Lent

- 10:30 **Holy Communion (CW)**
1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (1086) , Matthew 5:1-12 (916) (P Winslow)
Sidespeople: L Otieno, E Skeete Counting: E Woods, G Sheath
Refreshments: F Olarewaju, S Owen
Sunday school: J Walsh, A Paul, R Owoade
- 6:00 **Service of the Word**
Philippians 2:12-28 (1114) (H Owen)

12 February: 2nd Sunday before Lent

- 10:30 **Morning Prayer (BCP)**
Deuteronomy 8:1-10 (178) , Matthew 6:25-34 (918) (J McQuillen)
Sidespeople: P Cutts, H Hughesdon Refreshments: P Cutts, L Otieno
Sunday school: J Walsh, K Baxter, B Ogundimu, R Owoade
- 6:00 **Holy Communion (CW)**
2 Corinthians 11:16-31 (1100), Luke 8:4-15 (979) (H Owen)

19 February: Sunday before Lent

- 10:30 **Holy Communion (CW)**
2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (1096) , Mark 9:2-9 (956) (F Olarewaju)
Sidespeople: F Mibuulo, B Ogundimu Counting: V Aigbirhio, G Sheath
Refreshments: K Byfield, M Agboluaje
Sunday school: J Walsh, P Sheath, R Owoade
- 6:00 **Evening Prayer (ASB)**
1 Kings 19:1-16 (346), 2 Peter 1:16-21 (1155) (A Brown)

26 February: 1st in Lent

- 10:30 **Family Service**
Sidespeople: B Wilhelm, R Wilhelm Refreshments: V Aigbirhio, B Ogundimu
- 6:00 **Holy Communion (CW)**
2 Corinthians 6:1-10 (1097), Matthew 4:1-11 (915) (H Owen)

Weekdays in February

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| Wed | 1st | 8pm | Prayer Meeting at 106 Herbert Road |
| Thurs | 16th | 8pm | House Group at 106 Herbert Road |

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| Wed | 22nd | 10.30am | Ash Wednesday Holy Communion in Church |
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Advance Notice: Friday 2nd March 10am Women's World Day of Prayer Service in All Saints Church



All Saints Shooters Hill

www.allsaintsshootershill.org

Newsletter

February 2012

Love is...

As I write one of the headlines in the paper is about providing for old age. With the numbers of those over sixty five set to increase how we cater for old age is increasingly relevant. Life expectancy continues to rise in the UK. Visit the local swimming pool, gym or dance studio and keeping fit involves the old as much as the young. Yet how we care for an ageing population is often a sign of where our priorities lie.

In the Bible we read that 'God is love' 1 John 4:8. As was mentioned in a recent sermon this means more than 'God is loving' or that 'God sometimes loves'. As one writer puts it, 'God loves not because he finds objects worthy of his love but because it is nature to love. His love for us depends not on what we are but on what he is.' Thus we can say God always wants the very best for us as he understands it. Now that of course may not be as we see it. This was the issue in the Garden of Eden when God said one thing and mankind thought another and acted upon it. Yet although like disobedient children we turn our backs on him it doesn't stop God loving us. As John in his gospel tells us 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life'.

Human beings are dependent not simply on one another but on God himself for as the apostle Paul said to the people of Athens, "He (God) is not far from each one of us for 'In him we live and move and have our being.'" We do not simply live for ourselves: we are at different times more or less dependent on others. And we are always ultimately dependent on God whether we acknowledge it or not. And God loves us constantly and sacrificially as the coming of Jesus reveals. Caring for others whether they are children or ageing members of our society is a God given responsibility. And how we do it perhaps challenges us as to whether the love of God is truly at work in us.

All Saints Church exists to help people live the best life possible through our commitment to serving God, the community and one another.

Olympic Sports Quiz

As part of the churches initiative for the Olympics a Sports Quiz is being held on Friday 9th March, 8pm at Charlton Athletic Football Club with tickets £5 per person. The Sports Quiz is an evangelistic event hoping to attract church regulars & non regulars. Christians In Sport (CIS) will be providing the quiz. The event will be hosted by CIS with a guest speaker. There will be 20 tables of 10 and it is hoped to at least secure 50% of sales by having churches commit to one table each. It is possible that All Saints might have table. If you are interested in being part of a team please speak to the Vicar or Churchwardens.

Parish News

Please continue to remember **Ros Burton** and **Doreen Wenham** in your prayers. **Margaret Hyland** is keeping in reasonable health at home. **Naomi Sanusi** who was in the Queen Elizabeth hospital for observation has given birth to a baby boy. The baby who is several weeks premature is being kept in hospital for the time being. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Flowers in Church

If you wish to donate flowers for the Communion table please sign the list in the entrance. Alternatively if you wish to contribute to the Flower Fund, donations are much appreciated. Thank you to all who give towards the flowers in Church. If anyone would like to be involved in arranging flowers in church then please speak to Linda Bailey. We are always on the lookout for new flower arrangers.

Sunday School

The **Sunday School** meets on Sundays at 10.30am. Children 3-10 years continue to come into church for the beginning of the service and then go into the hall for teaching appropriate for their age. Children under 3 years are encouraged with their parents or carers to make use of the Children's room near the hall where they will find activities more suited to their children's needs. The loudspeaker extension enables parents to hear the service with their children. We continue to need more teachers and helpers in Sunday School. If you would be interested in finding out more of what this might involve then please speak to Joanne or Pauline.

Lent Study Groups

We are arranging some study groups during Lent. Material for the studies will be available later in the month. If you have any questions please speak to Harry. In order to have some idea of numbers please sign the list at the back of church if you hope to attend. For a number of years All Saints has used the season of Lent to support the wider mission of the church both in this country and overseas. This support has included work amongst children and young people in the UK and an initiative in Uganda concerned with orphaned children. Last year we supported the work of the church in Zimbabwe which has specific links with the diocese of Southwark. Information about the Lent project for 2012 will be available at the end of the month.

A Rocha

As mentioned in a newsletter a few years ago '**A Rocha**' is a Christian nature conservation organisation, the name coming from the Portuguese for 'the Rock'. The first 'A Rocha' project began in Portugal in the early 80's. It was there that a field study centre and bird observatory was established near the Alvor estuary and it has been visited by people from many parts of the world.

All over the world Christians are realising that important habitats and their wildlife urgently need protection and so, since 1994, new 'A Rocha' projects have started in other parts of Europe, the Middle East, Africa and North America. 'A Rocha' projects are frequently cross-cultural in character, and share a community emphasis, with a focus on science and research, practical conservation and environmental education. We live in a rapidly developing world with increasing pressure on the environment. Over the years 'A Rocha' have tended to work with individuals more than with churches. They recognise however, that biblically, God's normal way of working is through the local church – the body of Christ. Now, as churches are increasingly aware of God's call to look after his world, 'A Rocha UK' has launched a Partner Churches Scheme to engage with churches. For those interested further information can be found on their website

www.arochoa.org

All Saints website

Those of you with the internet can visit our website at www.allsaintsshootershill.org You will find copies of the most recent newsletters, details of rotas and services, social events and a brief history of the church. There are also many photographs of events that have taken place in the last few years together with comments from former members. It is a treasure trove of information. If you have access to a computer and the internet do have a look. To be useful a website needs to be kept up to date so our thanks to Geoff Sheath who maintains the website.

Ripplings

Ripplings is a successful and friendly pre-school that runs in the church hall every morning in term time. For further information look at www.rippplings.org

Cleaning Party

Thank you to those who continue to help with cleaning the church. The group generally meets on Friday morning at 10am. If you are able to help in this way please speak to Linda Bailey to check whether they are meeting during the coming week.

Church Office

For information about activities at All Saints (including weddings and baptisms) please contact Rev Harry Owen (h.d.owen@talk21.com 020 8854 2995) or call at the Vicarage, 106 Herbert Road, on any Monday evening between 7pm – 8pm.