



# All Saints

## Shooters Hill

[www.allsaintsshootershill.org](http://www.allsaintsshootershill.org)

Newsletter

March 2017

## If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation

### ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE – Colossians 2:1-23

Is it springtime right now in your life? Or maybe you're just crawling slowly out of a dark cave of disillusionment and discouragement? You can come out now; don't be afraid, the sun is out there and inviting you to try out its splendour warmth, to believe anew. This reminds me of the last verses in **"Morning has broken"** which says *'Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!'*

The same Lord who renews the trees with buds and blossom, who renews the green in place of brown, is ready to renew your life with faith, hope, love and courage. Look all around you and see the promise of change and if you are ready why not allow it to start now as you pray and read Luke's gospel?

Good trees have strong roots to stabilize their growth. This is crucial for their deep green, nicely-shaped leaves and fragrant blossoms. If this is true for trees then it must be certainly crucial for the children of God - the body of Christ - the church. Roots strengthen and support us against the prevailing winds of persuasion. When the mind-bending gales attack without warning, it's the network of solid roots that holds us firm and keeps us straight. The beautiful branches and lacy leaves, no matter how attractive, fail to fortify us as the wind increases. It takes stubborn, deep, and powerful roots to keep us standing tall. Not surprising then that Jesus said in the parable of the sower that plants withered because they had no roots. We too can wither if we don't have stubborn, deep and powerful spiritual roots to hold us firm and keeps us straight. Let us take it from Paul when he prayed for the young energetic Ephesian Christians, *"May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvellous love."* Why? So that you have the power to understand *how his wide, long, high and how deep love* can keep you up straight. We cannot be a church firmly rooted, built up and established in our faith if our roots are not deep rooted and strong to stabilize growth.

Just a piece of warning; **there are no short cuts**. There is no instant set of strong roots that you can buy from the internet. **It takes time** for the roots to go down deep, to stabilize growth. It demands your time - so is **hard work** - because there are lots of

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

obstacles to break through. The stronger and deeper the roots, the less visible they are. No sermons or teaching promise strong and deep roots in thirty days or your money back. It's slow, and goes through a process of **Renewal, Reset, Reflection and Reverence**. It demands God's currency called faith, which gives life to your prayers and cultivates intimacy with God through studying his word. Although the process is silent, the final product will be irreplaceable and invaluable. *Why not plant something today to constantly remind you of your need to grow deep roots.*

Revd Herbert Aparanga.

## Spanish Siesta

Our collaboration with Sally, Jeremy and WOW opera was a resounding success. The comments on feedback sheets and on Plumstead People were all wonderfully positive, for example, *"What an amazing event! Divine voices, great talent! I'm so grateful for being able to attend such a wonderful event close to home and free! Thank you and looking forward to your next one on 30th April!"*, *"Fabulous, it really took my breath away"*. Thanks so much for all All Saints members who came and particularly to those who provided and helped with the refreshments. We made nearly £200 which should pay for all our expenses for our collaborations with WOW. WOW's collection raised over £400 which nearly covered their £500 expenses. We had about 106 adults and 26 children and are hopeful for more next time, which should mean we cover our costs in future.



## Church Office

For information about activities at All Saints (including weddings and baptisms) please contact the Priest in Charge, Revd Herbert Aparanga.

To get it touch with Revd Herbert Aparanga please email [vicar@allsaintsshootershill.org](mailto:vicar@allsaintsshootershill.org), write to him at 106 Herbert Road London SE18 3PU, call at the **Church on any Friday morning between 10am – 11am** (if the church door is closed look for the bell) or phone **020 8854 2995** (but this will only be answered and messages listened to on Friday mornings). General enquiries should be sent to [office@allsaintsshootershill.org](mailto:office@allsaintsshootershill.org)  
**For Hall Bookings** see [allsaintsshootershill.org](http://allsaintsshootershill.org) and follow the links.



## Receiving Christ: Lent Studies 2017

5 sessions starting Wednesday 8 March at the Vicarage, 106 Herbert Road.  
*Choose 2pm or 8pm meeting (or mix and match)*

### Course Synopsis

*'To all who received him ... he gave power to become children of God.'* (John 1.12.) This raises big questions. **Aren't we all children of God anyway? Just how can we receive Christ? And what does it mean to have 'a relationship with God'?** In a course crammed with discussable questions, John Young teases out from the New Testament at least three different ways in which we receive Christ. John's course booklet is supplemented by four leading Christians, from a variety of backgrounds, on the course CD. Together they demonstrate that St John's theology in his magisterial Gospel has very practical implications for our day-to-day lives.

### Five Sessions

- Session 1:** Receiving Christ: as children of God
- Session 2:** Receiving Christ: in the stranger and the needy
- Session 3:** Receiving Christ: in Holy Communion
- Session 4:** Receiving Christ: through prayer and fellowship
- Session 5:** 'Christ in you, the hope of glory' (Colossians 1.27)

### PARTICIPANTS on the course CD:

**BISHOP NICK BAINES** worked as a Russian linguist at GCHQ before ordination. He chairs the Sandford St Martin Trust promoting excellence in religious broadcasting and is a member of the House of Lords.

**MARGARET SENTAMU** is an independent diversity and leadership development consultant and a Non-executive director of the Leeds & York Mental Health Trust, and Traidcraft Plc. She is also a trustee and patron of several education, health and poverty charities.

**REVD DR KEN HOWCROFT** is a former President of the Methodist Conference. He served the English-language Methodist congregation in Rome; establishing an ecumenical office there on behalf of the worldwide family of Methodist churches.

**THEODORA HAWKSLEY** trained as a theologian before leaving her academic career to become a nun. She is currently a novice at the Bar Convent, York.

**The course booklet is written and by Canon John Young** who worked for two Archbishops of York, and was for many years a member of the General Synod of the Church of England. A Canon Emeritus of York Minster and Co-Founder of *York Courses*, he's written over 30 books/booklets. John's work has been translated into several languages, including Chinese and Russian.

**The course CD is produced by Canon Simon Stanley** who is a Co-founder of *York Courses* and interviews the participants. He is a Canon Emeritus of York Minster, and a former BBC producer/presenter. He has also written a booklet on the sacraments.

# All Saints Shooters Hill: March 2017

We warmly welcome you to our Sunday Services

*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:7*

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**5 March 2017**      **1st Sunday of Easter**  
**10:30 AM**      **Holy Communion- Fundamental Purpose of Prayer**  
Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga  
Reader: M Akpewrene: Psalm 19:1-4, John 17:1-5 Prayers: N Nelson  
Sunday School  
Refreshments: P Sheath, C Elemike Sidespeople: P Sheath, A Baxter

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**12 March 2017**      **2nd Sunday of Easter**  
**10:30 AM**      **Service of the Word- What is Prayer?**  
Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga  
Reader: H Nwolu, Psalm 69:1-13, Luke 18:9-14 Prayers: P Sheath  
Sunday School  
Refreshments: M Akpewrene, J Anyasi Sidespeople: L Bailey, J Anyasi

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**19 March 2017**      **3rd Sunday of Easter**  
**10:30 AM**      **Holy Communion- Forms of Prayer!**  
Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga  
Reader: M Popoola, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, Matthew 7:1-8 Prayers: R Taylor  
Sunday School  
Refreshments: M Popoola, B Jatta Sidespeople: N Nelson, S Nwolu

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**26 March 2017**      **4th Sunday of Easter and Mothering Sunday**  
**10:30 AM**      **Family Service- Mother's Comfort**  
Led by: Rev Herbert Aparanga  
Reader: R Taylor, 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 Prayers: L Bailey  
Children in church for Family service  
Refreshments: S Okolie, CNaefulu Sidespeople: V Aigbirhio, J McQuillen

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## Weekdays in March

**Church office and cleaning group Every Friday at 10am in Church**

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Fri	3 Mar 2017	2:00 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer: St Paul's Church Bentham Road Thamesmead
From	6 Mar 2017		6 - 10 March Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice Free Will Week <a href="http://www.communityhospice.org.uk">www.communityhospice.org.uk</a>
Tue	7 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Bible Study at the Vicarage
Wed	8 Mar 2017	2:00 pm	Lent study 1 at the Vicarage
Wed	8 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Lent study 1 at the Vicarage
Tue	14 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Prayer Group at the Vicarage
Wed	15 Mar 2017	2:00 pm	Lent study 2 at the Vicarage
Wed	15 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Lent study 2 at the Vicarage
Tue	21 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Bible Study at the Vicarage
Wed	22 Mar 2017	2:00 pm	Lent study 3 at the Vicarage
Wed	22 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Lent study 3 at the Vicarage
Wed	29 Mar 2017	2:00 pm	Lent study 4 at the Vicarage
Wed	29 Mar 2017	8:00 pm	Lent study 4 at the Vicarage

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