

KEEP IN TOUCH

Newsletter No.10

25th September 2020



Canon Martin Greenfield writes,

Dear friends,

I write at a time of great change in the parish of Sanderstead. Following decisions taken by the Church Council, the Team Ministry is to be dissolved, and St Edmund's Riddlesdown is to be transferred to the parish of St James Riddlesdown. There will be one Parochial Church Council for All Saints Sanderstead, with St Antony's. We are looking at new ways of co-operating across parish boundaries and of spreading the gospel of Jesus in Sanderstead, particularly to revive the work in Hamsey Green.

As well as these, we should expect and be ready to make further changes in the way we operate as a church. Especially in this uncertain time of COVID, we need to have organisational structures that are light and adaptable. Henry George wrote: "There is danger in reckless change but there is greater danger in blind conservation." So let us pray,

At this time, Lord, change our lives; change your church; lead and guide us in the way of your gospel.

We have just held our All Saints' AGM. There are many people to thank, and I will not be able to mention them all.

Thank you to...

Michael Turner, All Saints treasurer, who continues so faithfully although he would like to hand the role on to someone else.

Jeremy, our Assistant Priest, with all his skills, experience and energy.

Sandra, our Pastoral Minister, who has worked so hard to co-ordinate care within the congregation at this time of COVID.

Our paid staff: Paul and Rosanne in the office; our Organists John and Michael; Ben and Tony; our recently appointed Children and Families' Pastor Chris Newman with his wife Sam and family, whom we welcome warmly.

There are so many others...

Corrie for looking after the website; Tony for working to make sure we have had online worship (and of high quality) and for pursuing further opportunities of using technology.

So many have contributed and I cannot mention everyone by name.

But thanks go in particular to our SIX churchwardens who have worked

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

tirelessly, with great energy and patience in serving the church and ensuring that buildings are well-maintained, halls are managed, and worship services are conducted in a befitting manner. All six are stepping down from their roles:

Linda Etheridge and Barbara Webster Dudley at St Antony's.

Chris Babbs and Richard Wragg at St Edmund's.

Lynne Davison and Kevin Wright at All Saints.

Our thanks to you all.

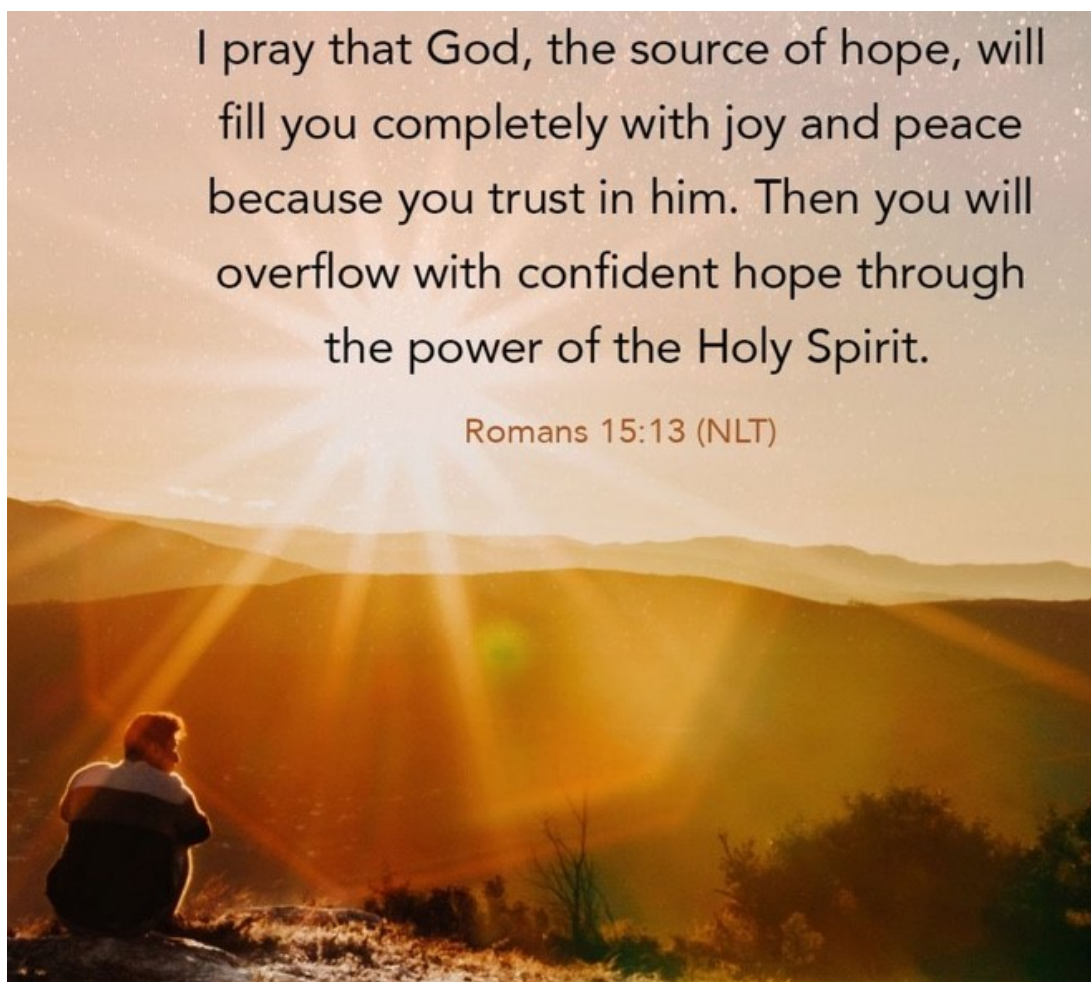
I am delighted to let you know that we have elected two new Churchwardens, to be formally approved at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 6th October. They are Mike Fixter and Sue Thomas, and we assure them of our support and our prayers.

As we look forward to the future, let us follow the example of St Paul at Philippians 3:13-14. I paraphrase:

"Of course, let us be thankful as we look back; but let's not live in the past. Focus on the future and press on to fulfil God's will and bring glory to our Lord Jesus Christ".

God bless us all as we seek His kingdom.

Martin
Rector



I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 (NLT)

Dear friends,

Following the new government guidelines I am pleased to tell you that church services can continue if the venue is following COVID-19 Secure guidelines. Therefore at All Saints we are able to continue to host more than 6 people in total but no one should mix in a group of greater than 6.



This means that when you visit All Saints for worship you must:

- follow the limits on the number of other people you should meet with as a group – no more than 6 people unless you all live together (or are in the same support bubble).
- avoid social interaction with anyone outside the group you are with, even if you see other people you know
- Provide your contact details to the organiser so that you can be contacted if needed by the NHS Test and Trace programme.

This means that upon arrival at All Saints' you will be shown by a Steward to your seat and you must stay in that seat throughout the service (except when it is a Communion Service and you go up to receive the Bread) and you can only have social interaction with anyone who is in the same household as yourself. You must NOT wander around the church having conversations with your friends.

I appreciate that this appears to be very draconian but I am doing the very best I can to keep everyone, especially the vulnerable, safe.

With Love & prayers,

Lynne

Sunday services at All Saints will continue at 9.30am throughout October. Please continue to use the sign-up system to register by midday on the preceding Thursday. Each service has its own Sign-up link which can be found on the front page of our website <https://sanderstead-parish.org.uk/> or call the Parish Office Tel: 8657 0665.

Midweek Communion services - All welcome, just turn up.

- Midweek HC at All Saints: Thursday 8th October, 12.30pm (and on subsequent 2nd Thursdays).
- Midweek HC at St. Antony's: Thursday 22nd October at 2.30pm new time (Not 2pm) (and on subsequent 4th Thursdays).

Family Fun September Zaccheus online - encourage the children that you know to join in at home
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVG36ITHcI8>

MISSIONARY NEWS

Tanzania Development Trust

The Britain Tanzania Society
**TANZANIA
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

We have received the Annual Review 2019-2020 for the work of the Tanzania Development Trust—it covers Education, Clean Water, Youth Business Entrepreneurship, Youth Vocational Skills, Girls' School Hostels, Women's Empowerment, and much more.

Mama Rhobi's work

has its own separate section on the TDT website and is also reported on separately. Rhobi is working hard with her team to run two safe houses and to care for about 100 girls. Covid-19 precautions are sound and well observed. Our winter, their "summer" 2020 will sadly be a major 'cutting season', so the team will be hard pressed.

Best wishes,
Julian and Ann Marcus

Chris and Alison Hawksbee in Paraguay

They have sent us their latest Prayer letter giving updates of lockdown and an interesting remedy for Covid-19.

If you would like a copy of either of the above news,
please email or telephone Rosanne

Floodlighting Sponsorship

If you would like to sponsor the church floodlighting, to mark a particular event, birthday, anniversary, please complete and return the relevant form which can be picked up from the Parish Office or found on the website here <https://storage.googleapis.com/parish-images/uploads/document/file/968/floodlighting.pdf>

Suggested sponsorship:
£20 per week during weeks beginning 1st October to 31st March
£15 per week during weeks beginning 1st April to 30th September.



Calling all budding photographers...

At All Saints Parish Praise on 11 October we will be commemorating Harvest. I'd like to put some images of Harvest on the "big screen" during the service.

So to all budding photographers out there, please send me some exciting photographs on a Harvest theme by no later than Sun 4 October. We will also include them in the recorded service. You've done brilliantly at this kind of thing in the past so I'm hoping you'll come up trumps again. **Entries, please, to grmbj@aol.com by no later than 4 October.**

Here's one I took the other day - any idea where I might have been?

Jeremy

Donations

We will be collecting the following items for the **Croydon Refugee Day Centre**, Registered Charity No. 1064465.

- ◆ Biscuits
- ◆ Cereal
- ◆ Coffee
- ◆ Jam
- ◆ Tinned fruit, meat, fish
- ◆ Soap & other basic toiletries
- ◆ Clothes and trainers

**For a fuller list,
see page 8**

*Praise the Lord!
Oh give thanks to the
Lord, for He is good,
for His steadfast love
endures forever!*

PSALM 106:7



Thank you!

Please bring any donations with you to Church on Harvest Festival Sunday (11th October) or Sunday 18th October, or leave in the large box outside the Parish Office. Paul & Jill James will collect and take them to CRDC.



INVITATION

Sunday 11th October at 9.30am

To celebrate Harvest at All Saints, we shall be running a Children's service in tandem with the usual Harvest Festival. Join us on Sun 11th October for one of these two events.

Register for these services using the following sign-up links by midday on Thursday 8th October, or telephone the Parish Office on Tel: 020 8657 0665, or you are also welcome to turn up on the day.

♦ 9.30am—10.30am **HARVEST Parish Praise in Church**
<https://sandersteadparish.churchsuite.co.uk/events/9fzdpbwc>

♦ 9.30am—10.30am **Children's HARVEST Festival in the Church Hall.**
<https://sandersteadparish.churchsuite.co.uk/events/8okrfuxg>



Parents / carers can drop children off at the Church Hall (as long as they are staying for the Parish Praise service in church) from 9.15am.

Chris's puppets will be there, and there will be action songs and games.





In association with



Croydon Refugee Day Centre is a friendly, safe meeting place offering practical assistance to all asylum seekers and refugees.

Food donations

Tinned sardines, tuna or mackerel
Tinned chick peas / sweet corn
Tinned corned beef
Tinned kidney beans
Sacks or Large or small bags rice (NOT easy cook)
Pasta / Lentils
Tinned coconut milk
Biscuits
Tinned tomatoes /peas / carrots / potatoes
Dried packet potato
Instant oats - just add boiling water
Soups especially vegetable and chicken
Ordinary oats
Bottles / cans vegetable oil
Sugar
Tinned fruit
Long life milk
Squash (not lemon)
Long life pure fruit cartons
Tea / Coffee



This is our chosen charity
for Harvest this year.
(See also page 6)

In addition we're on the lookout for **clothes and trainers** for young people from the ages of say 16 to 30. And quite unusually, we've pretty much run out of **soap and other basic toiletries**. If people preferred to support us **financially** our bank a/c details are as follows:

Name of a/c: Refugee Day Centre, West Croydon
Sort Code: 56-00-46
A/c number: 58814442

Please do pass on our thanks to all at All Saints for their amazing support over so many years.

Best wishes,
Peter (Peter D. Hall)

Please bring any donations to the All Saints Parish Office (check our website for opening hours). Or make contact directly as follows:

[Registered Charity No. 1064465]
West Croydon Baptist Church, Corner of Whitehorse Road & St. James Rd, Croydon
CR0 2JH, Church Tel No. 020 8689 4527, Mobile: 07796 975886

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

ADVENTure Online 2020

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

In the past, we have used our garages to present Advent in a series of 24 displays around a central theme. This year we may not use garages, so we are having an ADVENTure online. Our theme will be **Christmas around the World** and each day we will be able to 'open' a new door of our online calendar to see a 5-minute film of how Christmas is celebrated in different countries. This will be followed-up with another click of the button with a question of the day and short explanation of the daily steps of Advent that Christians take towards Christmas.

Our Children & Families Pastor, Chris Newman, is using his expertise in setting up the online facilities that we have not done before. Mike & Anne Fixter are providing their knowledge of the community in and around Sanderstead, whom we hope will get involved. And we are all delving deep into our creative juices to present a positive and joyful experience of the build-up to the birth of Jesus.

As in previous years we will encourage the homegroups, individuals, other church-based groups, the uniformed organisations, as well as local schools, traders and groups to participate by taking a date in December and choosing a country where they either have first-hand knowledge of the Christmas traditions and celebrations, or wish to research.

We are launching the event by end of September with the training and information to be issued by early October. We would like the completed videos ready by mid-November with a short extension for the schools.

For those of you who would like to be involved in any way, please let Mike and Anne know by email and we will be in touch – and please remember this event in your prayers.

mike@gesharpe.co.uk
sudanne@gmail.com

(Mike and Anne's email addresses)



Remember when the Reindeer arrived in 2018?



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The changing role of All Saints caretaker Tony

I was taken on as a caretaker in December 2017. At the time my duties were to assist the full time caretaker and because I live on the premises I could check that all doors and windows were shut at night.

As we all know in March this year everybody's life changed overnight due to Covid19. As I was a resident, the church warden decided not to furlough me as I was still needed to keep an eye on the premises.

The first 4 weeks were very difficult for me because normally I am used to talking to people but under the lockdown there was nobody around. Even when I was walking around the Gruffy it was so quiet and empty, there were hardly any cars or people in sight when it is usually quite a busy intersection. Things began to change when P&I Fruits started renting the car park 2 days a week. To begin with the market was very busy and it broke the monotony of the previous weeks which was a great help to my mental wellbeing.



P&I Fruits in All Saints Carpark, every Wed and Sat mornings

Eventually the government started to lift some of the restrictions of the lockdown but the church and the halls remained closed. The church was the first to open and then the halls were given permission to reopen. Both premises had to be made Covid secure which took a lot of work by Paul and the church wardens to achieve this. The reason for this was we had to give the residents of Sanderstead the confidence that they would be safe as some of them were coming out of the shielding period.



View from my flat

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

Now that both premises have reopened, members of the church and patrons of the halls have some difficult decisions to make on whether to come back using these facilities. From my own point of view I have decided that it is more important to me to have a good quality of life so with the halls being reopened I can now go back to meeting and talking to people but always at a safe distance.

After talking to people who have already made the decision to return to worship and activities in the hall, the feedback I have received has all been positive in feeling safe in both settings.

My hope for the future is that we can return to some sort of normality but I understand every individual has to make up their own mind on their future. We have made the church and the halls as safe as possible for people to return and to meet up with friends whom they haven't seen since the beginning of lockdown. If anybody has any questions about the reopening, there is always somebody available to put your mind at rest.

Tony Novell, *All Saints Caretaker*



"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS... Kathleen has moved to Cardiff!



From 23 July 2020,
this is my new address:

**Shire Hall Care Home
Overstone Court
Dumballs Road
Cardiff
CF10 5NT**

It would be great if you wanted to drop me a card or letter and share all your news, especially as visits to the care home have been stopped due to Covid so nobody can visit me at the moment.

Kathleen

Mrs Kathleen Walder

And a message from us to you...

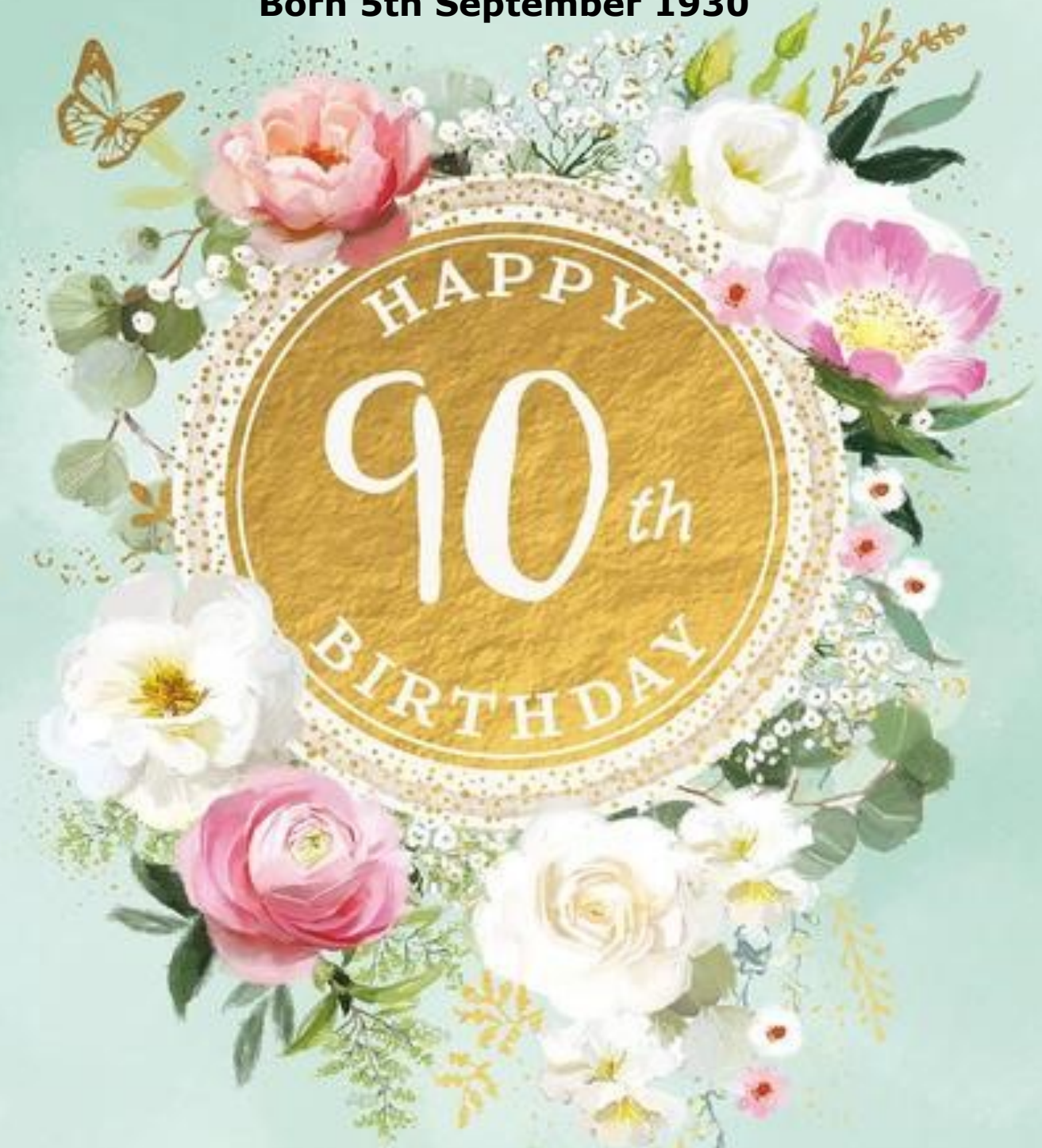
We hope you enjoy Cardiff, and we send you our very best wishes.

With love from
Your Sanderstead friends



"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

Born 5th September 1930



**Happy 90th Birthday
to the beautiful Pat Seely!**

Sending much love to you from all of us.

We love the place, O God

The last week in August sees the contributor in "NEW DAYLIGHT" (my choice of Bible Reading Notes) thinking about his favourite hymns and why they are both significant and inspiring. The hymn "We love the place, O God" struck me as specially relevant during this prolonged period of lockdown when some of us are unable to be "wherein thine honour dwells."

**1 We love the place, O God,
wherein thine honour dwells;**
the joy of thine abode
all earthly joy excels.

2 We love the house of prayer,
wherein thy servants meet;
and thou, O Lord, art there
thy chosen flock to greet.

3 We love the sacred font;
for there the holy Dove
to pour is ever wont
his blessing from above.

4 We love thine altar, Lord;
O what on earth so dear?
for there, in faith adored,
we find thy presence near.

5 We love the word of life,
the word that tells of peace,
of comfort in the strife,
and joys that never cease.

6 We love to sing below
for mercies freely given;
but O we long to know
the triumph-song of heaven.

7 Lord Jesus, give us grace
on earth to love thee more,
in heaven to see thy face,
and with thy saints adore.

William Bullock

Shared by Pat Seely

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

My books and I

by Edgar A Guest

My books and I are good old pals,
My laughing books are gay,
Just suited for my merry moods
When I am wont to play.
Bill Nye comes down to joke with me
And oh the joy he spreads
Just like two fools we sit and laugh
And shake our merry heads.

When I am in a thoughtful mood
With Stevenson I sit.
He seems to know I've had enough
Of Bill Nye and his wit.
And so, more thoughtful than I am,
He talks of lofty things
And thus our evening hours we spend
Sedate and grave as kings.

And should my soul be torn with grief,
Upon my shelf I find
A little volume, torn and thumbed,
For comfort just designed.
I take my little Bible down
And read its pages o'er,
And when I part from it, I find
I'm stronger than before.

Shared by Sally Nicholas

I rather like this poem which I first heard at the funeral of a dear Uncle. I didn't know of Bill Nye so I was surprised how much detail of him is online. And also Edgar A Guest.

With love, Sally

Hands of Love

This reflection ponders moments when Jesus reached out and touched people.

Healing the leper – Matthew 8:3

As Peter walked on the water – Matthew 14:31

Thomas seeing the risen Jesus – John 20:27

In these days of social distancing, when we can touch so few others, we can still reach out to Jesus.

Take time to reflect on what this might mean for you.

Jesus full of compassion heard the pleading

despite the clamour of the crowd
His hands reaching out to one kneeling at his feet
touching him
healing him
Hands that care
Hands that recognise the glimmer of faith and hope

In acceptance and trust the leper was cleansed by
the power of those hands of Love

Jesus with unwavering support witnessed
the eagerness of faith then the struggle to keep going
His hands reaching out to one floundering in the water
catching him
rescuing him
Hands that care
Hands that forgive any fear of being untrusting & faithless

In acceptance and trust Peter relied on
the faithfulness of those hands of Love

P.T.O.

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

Jesus the risen Christ understood
the need for reassurance in the face of doubt
His hands reaching out to one seeking assurance
scarred hands
reborn hands
Hands that care
Hands that ease questions of doubt and disbelief

In acceptance and trust Thomas knew those were
the scarred hands of Love

When I kneel at His feet struggling to keep going
in need of reassurance
Jesus offers me His hands
healing hands
forgiving hands
Scarred hands that care
Faithful hands that ease the doubt recognising my glimmer of faith

In acceptance and trust Jesus offers me
His sacred hands of Love

Mary treasured the moment when her hands
first reached out to Jesus
Offering her unconditional love as she
embraced Him
cradled Him
Hands that cared
Hands that shared a feeling of wonder and awe

In acceptance and trust He reached out for
her cherished hands of love

©A.Jones 2020

By Angela Jones

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

Dear Friends of Joy,

How are you ? I hope you're all well and surviving this pandemic.

It's hard to believe it's more than two years since Joy left us.

You might have seen photographs of Joy's grave and tree, but you won't have seen her new bench. It's within sight of her monkey puzzle tree, in the Wewtern Tree Garden in Sanderstead. A few of us had a picnic round the bench at the end of August to celebrate its arrival. It's in a lovely spot. We were lucky with the weather.

Here are a few photographs of all three things in her memory.

Love

Sarah Jane



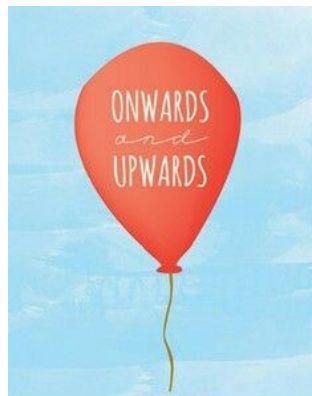
Judith Shone writes...

What a lovely keep in touch letter to all who added such thoughtful pieces. Like many of you, I too have had difficult days. Bible reading jigsaws keep the brain active plus a short break in the Cotswolds. The sunshine has helped alongside games of croquet.

We have all been grateful for the lovely weather enabling us to get out for a walk too. I often walk past the church, stand by the main door and remember all the times we have shared worship there.

As the old saying goes, onwards and upwards.

Peace be with us,
Judith



Caption Competition

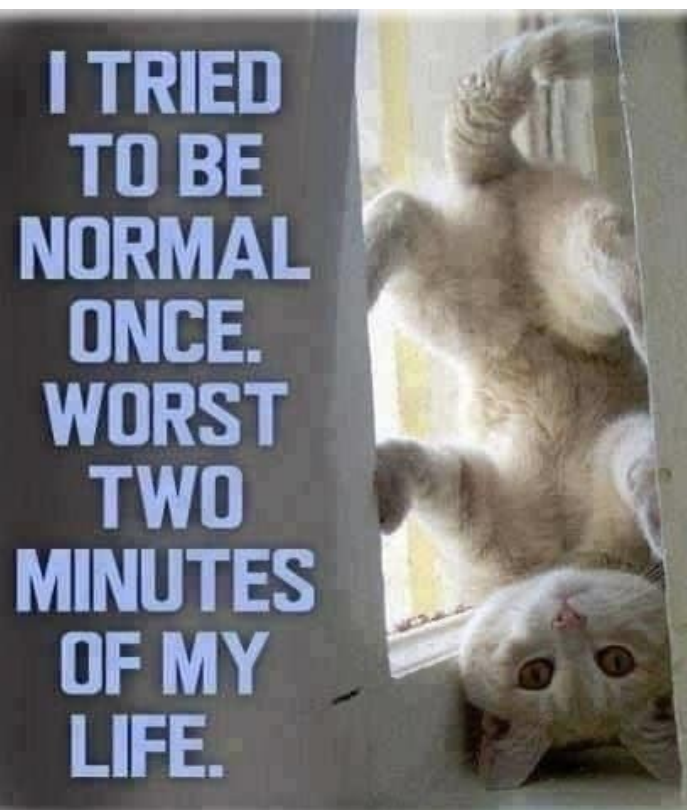
Email your entries to Rosanne
admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk
or call the Parish Office by 11 Oct.



Please read ALL directions
before assembling your cat



Shared by Sheila Wilkie



Shared by Sheila Wilkie

"Press on to fulfil God's will..."

The church building and Church Halls have re-opened!

Please go to our website for all church services and updates,
and to Sign-up for Sunday services.

www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk

Or call the Parish Office on 020 8657 0665.

"The LORD bless you and
keep you; the LORD make His
face shine upon you, and
be gracious to you; the LORD
lift up His countenance
upon you, and give you
peace."
Numbers 6:24-26



From me to you...

As and when you can, continue to send your articles, news, thoughts, to me.

Keep In Touch newsletters will be published periodically, when we have enough material.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Rosanne Morris
Rector's Admin Assistant

Tel: 020 8657 0665
Email: admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk

