

All Saints Church, Perry Street, Northfleet

July/August 2024 Newsletter

We are now in Ordinary time, the Altars are and vestments are green (except for Feasts and Solemnities), the Mass readings often follow on from day to day and week to week. As usual the hymns reflect the readings.

Summer is finally here, long warm days, looking forward to holidays. It won't be long before the children break up for the summer. Some will be moving to a new school, some moving on to university, and some starting work for the first time.

Times and seasons continue to change, as does our world, but we can be certain of one constant in our lives, God doesn't change, he is always there whenever we need him in good times and bad.

God is here in our world 24 / 7 and we can talk to him in prayer whenever we need to.

ACTS - ADORATION CONFESSION THANKSGIVING SUPPLICATION

Have you ever thought of how you can help your Church?

We are always looking for more people to read at Mass, to Serve, to sing in the Choir, to serve the coffee, to arrange the flowers.

We are setting up PCC sub-committees for **Fabric** (to look after the buildings and grounds), **Social** (to arrange our events), and **Mission** (to look at ways to share the Gospel with our Community).

Maybe you feel called to serve on one of our sub-committees or to take on a role in the Mass or in its preparation.

I love the spring.

New fresh, bright green leaves appearing on the trees and shrubs and flowers carpeting the undergrowth.

This year is no exception.

I ventured out to Trosley Country Park on Sunday afternoon and was not disappointed.

Trosley, once part of the Trosley Tower Estate covers 170 acres of beautiful woodland and chalk Downland on the North Downs and is home to much natural life.

Part of the park is a Site of Scientific Interest or SSSI. This is mainly due to the chalk grassland slopes. Areas created by early settlers who cleared the woodland to graze their livestock. In fact today sheep can be seen grazing in some areas.

This area is known for the variety of butterflies it attracts including the rare Chalk hill Blue.

It also boasts several variety of Orchid including the extremely rare Musk Orchid.

It has four main marked walking routes, the Woodland walk which takes about 40 minutes and has some stunning views across the weald below.

The Downland Trail which takes about 45 minutes and has challenging steep slopes and explores the chalk Downland. For the very fit this walk can be extended. In spring the area is alive with wildflower.

You can also extend this by leaving the park walking along part of the Pilgrims Way to visit the Coldrum stones, a neolithic long barrow built of earth and around 15 sarsen stones.

Or you can follow the shorter Trosley Trail where you can play music in the woodland orchestra, learn more about local history at the wood henge enjoy stunning views play on the swings or use the fitness trail.

This trail is mainly surfaced making it the easiest route for visitors.

The day in I went the undergrowth was covered with patches of white wood anemones. Yellow celandine and blue bells all fighting the growing fern.

Many trees have fallen and you can see the exposed roots. I was amazed how such big trees could have stood with such shallow roots.

Some trees have been left lying and new shoots are beginning to grow.

Nature at it's best.

Sissinghurst Castle Gardens

Set in and around a great Elizabethan Manor house are formal garden, meadows lakes woodland, farmland and vegetable garden.

The former home and vision of Harold Nicholson and Vita Sackville West. Two advonguard writers who between them created a magical varied garden.

Harold being responsible for the more formal gardens and Vita for the less formal gardens.

These are all adjoining separate rooms each one creating a different effect yet giving it's own riot of colour even in early spring.

The tower dominates the garden, the energetic may climb this.

Part of the house is still occupied by a grandchild and is not open to the public.

Also off limits is the holiday cottage in the Greek themed garden.

However the cottage in the south is open for tours at various times throughout the day as is the library.

The vegetable garden is worth a visit and this supplies the cafe.

It's worth a walk to the woods starting beside the flowing stream and crossing the fields you may be lucky enough to catch the bluebells in bloom.

These coat the woodland floor with blue a lovely contrast to the new green of the trees.

Near Biddenden and Cranbrook this National trust gem has something for all

Local walk - Woodlands Park

With an entrance from both Wrotham Road and Dashwood Road, Woodlands Park is within walking distance from most of us

It has flat and sloping grassy areas a small coppice, a children's play park, an area to explore nature and a few fitness machines as well as a netball/slash basketball court.

There is a natural path around the perimeter of half a mile which is well used by walkers and runners. This goes over the bunker which is occasionally open to the public.

There is a tarmac path through the park joining Wrotham Road and Dashwood Road.

If you are lucky you may see squirrels playing chase around the trees or eating nuts

There is a refreshment van inside the park at certain times or the occasional ice cream van at the Dashwood Road entrance where you can rehydrate on hot days.

A local site and free to use, sorry no dogs allowed.

The Friars at Aylesford

This is home to a Community of Carmelite Friars

Founded on the banks of the River Medway in 1242 it is a blend of mediaeval and modern treasures.

There remains some original mediaeval buildings, to name; two walls of the cloisters, the cloisters Chapel, the Priors hall and the pilgrims hall which offers lunch which is made using local ingredients.

There is an open-air Chapel with five various sized Chapels off, one of which houses relics of Saint Simon Stock.

Walk around the beautiful grounds, the Rosary walk with its mosaics and fragrant roses, the peace garden where you can learn to say Peace or Pax in many languages, some you may not have heard of, or relax by the pond or feed the ducks.

Besides a gift shop are tea rooms you can visit. There is an on-site Potter and upholsterer, you can watch them at work, you can even book a stay if you feel so inclined. Enjoy your visit Pace, Pax, Peace.

LAMP SPONSORSHIP

Each week the four lamps burn in the Church, the Lamp of the Blessed Sacrament (white), the Lamp of Our Lady (blue), the Sanctuary Lamp (red) and the Memorial Lamp (red).

You may like to Sponsor these to Celebrate a Birth, Wedding, Wedding Anniversary or in Memory of a Loved One.

On the Weekly Bulletin we publish the name(s) of those in whose Memory the Lamps are burning for the current week and they are prayed for at Mass.

We ask for a donation £10 to cover the cost of the Lamp Sponsorship.

To arrange a date for Sponsorship please speak to Martin. Donations can be placed in an envelope and left in the box in the south aisle.



The Society
In the Diocese of Rochester



Pilgrimage to Aylesford

**Saturday 31st August 2024
11.00am Mass**

**Please bring a Picnic Lunch
and a deck chair**

Rosary walk after Mass

SATURDAY CUPPA

WITH 100 CLUB DRAW

**SATURDAY 20TH JULY
& SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST
10.00 A.M.**



IN THE CHURCH HALL

ALL WELCOME

SUPPORT THE...

**BONE
CANCER**
STAMP APPEAL



We collect stamps for the Bone Cancer Stamp Appeal.

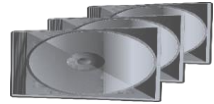
Collection boxes are available
in the Church and Church Hall.

*The first large envelope of used stamps for this year has been sent to the Bone Cancer Research Trust. Another envelope will be sent shortly once further supplies of Bone Cancer envelopes are received. Please keep collecting your used stamps. **Thank you.***

Fund Raising for Church Funds.



A big, "Thank you" if you have donated your Books, DVDs, CDs and Games. Please continue leave your items in the Collection Boxes in the South Aisle or in the Church Hall, but please no Library Books.



**Have you considered joining the Parish Easy Giving site.
There are over 8,000 brands, who will donate to the Church
when you make an on-line purchase.**

So far we have received almost £100

Help increase our chances of winning £250! Sign up to support All Saints Church Perry Street on #easyfundraising today! Each new person who joins counts as an entry. It's completely free, and winning would really make a big difference to us! Plus, you get to support us for free all year round as you do all your online shopping! Get started:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/all-saints-perry-street/f4iqq0/c2s/FZ9Up2Ac/CE809/facebook/>

JULY & AUGUST MAJOR SAINTS and FESTIVALS

3 July - St Thomas the Apostle is famous for doubting the resurrection of Jesus when his fellow apostles told him about it; but if he is the sceptical apostle, he is also the believing apostle, for having seen and touched a risen man, he made the immediate leap of faith and so became the first apostle to call Jesus God.

Nothing is known about Thomas's later career. A well-known apocryphal document called the *Acts of Thomas* relates his missionary journeys to Persia and India.

11 July - St Benedict - was born in Nursia, in Umbria, and studied in Rome; but he was unable to stomach the dissolute life of the city, and he became a solitary hermit at Subiaco. His reputation spread, and some monks asked him to be their abbot; but they did not like the discipline he imposed and tried to poison him.

Benedict organised various small communities of monks and nuns in various places, including the great monastery of Monte Cassino. He drew up a set of rules to guide the communal life of monasteries. Although this was not the first monastic rule ever, the Rule of St Benedict has proved so wise and balanced that it has served as the foundation of practically every attempt at communal living ever since – and not only in religious communities. The Rule of St Benedict recognises that people aim at perfection but often fall well short of it, and aims to be a “rule for beginners” in which even the least perfect and least able can grow in spiritual stature.

22 July - St Mary Magdalene - was healed of “seven devils” by Jesus. She ministered to him in Galilee and was present at his crucifixion. She was in the group of women who were the first to discover the empty tomb, and it was to her that the risen Jesus first appeared.

25 July - St James - was the brother of St John and, like him, a fisherman. He was one of the witnesses of the Transfiguration and one of those who slept through most of the Agony in the Garden. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred, being beheaded by King Herod Agrippa I to please the Jewish opponents of Christianity. He was buried in Jerusalem, and nothing more is known about him until the ninth century.

26 July - St Anna and St Joachim - An ancient tradition, already known in the 2nd century, gives these names to the parents of the Virgin Mary. The cult of St Anna became popular in the 6th century in the East, and in the 10th century in the West, where she is the patron saint of Brittany; Joachim was added a long time later – too often the fate of fathers.

Although the information about Mary's parents is found in an early apocryphal writing that gives many miraculous and highly-coloured stories about the early life of the Virgin Mary, there is no reason to suppose that such a straightforward fact as her parents' names should be wrong, since there is nothing to be gained from falsifying it. It does not occur in the Gospels simply because the most reliable evangelists (the only ones whom we have allowed into the Bible) felt they had more important things to talk about.

29 July - Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus - In the West, her feast day comes a week after that of St Mary Magdalene because of the old and probably erroneous tradition that Mary Magdalene was the same person as Martha's sister.

Modern scholarship having made matters clearer, Martha, Mary and Lazarus have since 2021 been celebrated together on this day, which was formerly assigned to Martha alone.

31 July - St Ignatius Loyola was born in the Spanish Basque country. He was a soldier, but was wounded in the battle of Pamplona (against the French) at the age of 30. During a long convalescence he read a life of Christ and a collection of lives of the saints, and discovered that his true vocation was to devote his life wholly to God. He was as systematic about this as he had been about his military career: he spent a year's retreat in a Dominican friary, made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and then set about learning Latin.

Such enthusiasm in a layman caused grave suspicion in the Spanish authorities, and he was questioned and imprisoned more than once.

6 August - The Transfiguration of the Lord - can sound embarrassingly magical. Jesus goes up onto a mountain and his clothes become dazzlingly white. Prophets appear and talk to him. And then it is all over and Jesus tells his disciples to say nothing.

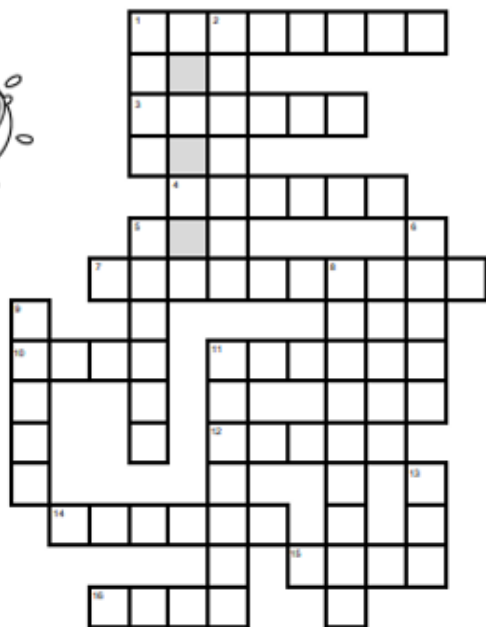
15 August - The Feast of the Assumption - The commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary is known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into heaven. This tradition was already present in the sixth century; by the beginning of the twentieth century it was widespread; and after consulting the views of bishops all over the world, the Pope formally and infallibly declared the doctrine of the Assumption to be part of the authentic and ancient doctrine of the universal Church.

22 August - Our Lady, Mother and Queen - The doctrine of the Assumption was promulgated in 1951, with its feast on 15 August. As was normal for the greater feasts, this celebration was echoed for a week afterwards, and today's memorial of Our Lady, Mother and Queen, marks the conclusion of that period of celebration.

We remember that the Blessed Virgin reigns in heaven together with her Son. She reigns not because she is in any way equal to God but because she is the mother of Christ the King. Her privileges come from her willingly agreeing to become the Mother of God and make our redemption possible.

24 August - Saint Bartholomew - was born at Cana and brought by the Apostle Philip to meet Jesus. Nothing further is known for certain. Eusebius speaks of him in India, but the Roman Martyrology has him martyred in Armenia, skinned alive according to the Persian custom. Because his relics were enshrined on the island in the Tiber that is principally used as a hospital, he has become a patron saint of the sick.

Summer Crossword



Across

1. The period of time off from school or work when you go on holiday
3. The season when it is sunny
4. A two-piece swimsuit for women
7. You wear these to protect your eyes from the sun
10. Large public garden often with swings
11. A meal eaten outdoors on the grass
12. A large farm where cattle is bred and also a salad dressing
14. When you go on holiday on a huge boat
15. What you sleep in when you go camping
16. You can go swimming in one of these

Down

1. Some places require this document to visit or stay
2. When you go for a holiday in a tent
5. You use this to make sandcastles
6. A place to go for the day with lots of sand
8. You put this on your skin to stop it burning
9. You use this to dig at the beach
11. An umbrella that keeps the sun off you
13. You put this on your head to stop the sun burning your scalp

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 6th July 9.30 a.m.
Church cleaning

Saturday 13th July 9.30 a.m.
Mass for Walsingham

Saturday 20th July 10.00 a.m.
Saturday Cuppa

Saturday 31st August
Pilgrimage to Aylesford

The September edition of the Newsletter will be available on Sunday 25th August. Items for inclusion in should be sent to Martin by Sunday 18th August .

Weekly at All Saints

Sunday
9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
10.00 a.m. Parish Mass

Tuesday
9.30 a.m. Mass

Wednesday
10.00 a.m. Little Lambs

Thursday
9.30 a.m. Mass

All Saints Hall for Hire

**Regular Bookings
or one-off events**

**Contact Angela
on 07598 160 937**

Winnings for you,
Money for the Church

All Saints 100 Club

Pick up a leaflet from the table in south aisle and return it to the Church.
The more people that are in the 100 Club, the bigger the prizes!

June 100 Club Winners

1st – Elspeth Southward
2nd - Finnian Rook
3rd – Rita Shaw

Who's Who at All Saints

Parish Priest
Post Vacant

Honorary Assistant Priests
Fr James Southward 07805 770 042
Father Simon Walker 07794 523 179

Churchwardens
Garth Fisher 07359 138 267
Rita Shaw 07734 505 554

Safeguarding Officer
Susan Johncock 07984 616 906

Parish Administrator
Martin Hill 07756 736 548
allsaintsperrystreet@gmail.com

To book a Baptism, Wedding or for general enquiries please contact the Parish Administrator.