

MARCH 2023



All Saints' Church

*Loving Jesus,
Loving Our Communities*



Rhythms punctuate our lives, from the time the sun rises and sets, to the seasons of the year. Since the beginning of Christianity these rhythms have been used to give scaffolding to men and women wanting to come closer to God.

In the Church of England for many years Christians have punctuated every day with prayer, morning, noon and night. Each emphasises the rhythm that the day will follow including helpful phrases:

- Morning prayer includes - *'As we rejoice in the gift of this new day'*.
- Evening prayer *'As our evening prayer rises before you, so may your mercy come down to us and set us free to sing your praises'*.
- Night prayer *'The Lord grant us a quiet night and perfect end to the day'*.

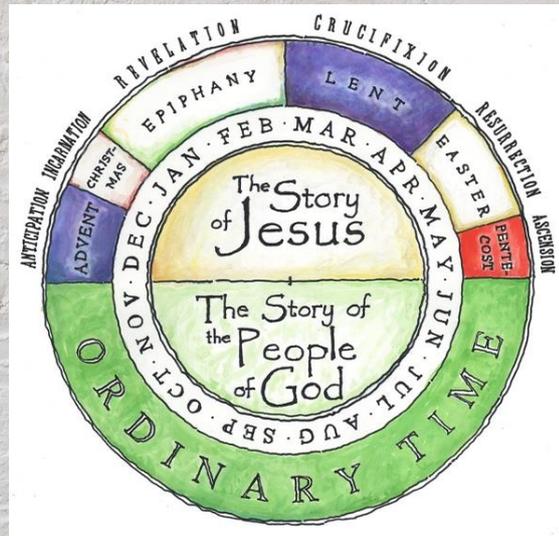
Every week is punctuated by a day with a difference; the sabbath. This day with a difference is being reclaimed in many churches, with people finding new ways to experience rest and focus on God.

The writer John Mark Comer writes how in his home they all gather to pray and light a candle, putting all mobile phones in a box at the start of the sabbath to prepare them to rest. Jews pray at this point in the week how God has “Favoured us and given us in love his holy Sabbath as an inheritance, as a remembrance of the act of creation”. This day is a gift to us. A way of stopping us harming ourselves by being so dominated by busyness that we lose who we are as children of God.

The year too has rhythms which can help us. Times to celebrate like Christmas and Easter Sunday. Times to prepare our hearts like Advent as we wait for Christmas. Times like the one we are in in Lent to say sorry, to remember our mistakes and ask God to forgive us and form us more to being like him.

In many churches like ours these daily, weekly, and yearly rhythms are perhaps not as well-known and used as they would be in more traditional churches; but there can be value in them. In them we find a safeguard from being more and more busy for more and more of the time. In them we find variety in how we approach God and perhaps they act to give us rhythms which make our pursuit of God fresh.

So can I commend you if you are seeking new ways to encounter God, borrow from our history as Christians, from our history as the Church of England, and from the natural patterns given us as God’s good gifts to us.



Matt Levinsohn

St Paul's – The Road Goes On

It is great to know that you are praying for us and supporting us as we continue in building church here at St Paul's. It is wonderful to know that we have Jesus, who binds us together as part of his body.

Serving God at St Paul's is awesome! We can really see God at work here. From the kids in our youth club beginning to make right choices in life, to our wonderful toddler group where community worship and mission seem to just work, or our regular coffee mornings or other community events that reach people and connect with them to help them to see more of God's love in this part of town.

God has grown the church family: we now have a community of nearly 60 people, and we have needed to start a new service to make room. The congregation is now much younger. About half are new Christians or returning to church. Our life group has experimented with planting a café and prayer space (called Oasis) in our local community centre and this has proved a valuable place for people who need it as well as a great lesson in taking risks for Jesus.

It can be easy to let some of the challenges blind us, despite God's goodness here. We are growing fast and needing to keep pace with growth in our structures, relying on a small team of volunteers which can be exhausting. Whilst we have some great ministries happening, we know that our ability to afford them financially is still very dependent on money from the central church which has a time limit on it. But we put our trust in God and know that where he wants things to happen, he will motivate people to pray, to give, and to serve with his love.

Do keep praying for us that we may continue to see people coming to Jesus, and for his provision. I'll leave you with some words from one of our older members: "I used to tell people I was thinking about them. Now, I tell them that I am praying for them."

Paul Arnold



Ukraine Family Support Café

It's hard to believe that it is a year since the war in Ukraine started and some time since the first meeting of the café in May. The meetings have been invaluable for hosts and guests as they arrived and chatted and picked up advice on various aspects of settling in. The café has also been regularly attended by staff from Stockton Council who have been available to answer questions or give advice.

It has been good to build friendships with hosts and guests, and our team of helpers has expanded. This has meant there have been enough people to circulate and get to know people and there have been some opportunities for prayer. We had a wonderful Christmas Party which was hosted in the Church with tables set around the edge and an amazing mixture of traditional foods from both countries. We had dancing and games and a Bible Reading and reflection which was led by Matt.

More recently we have also had other visitors including the local Police Community Support Officers and a representative from Preston Park talking about their Competition to design traditional Pysanky Eggs. The winners are going to be made into large eggs to be positioned around the park.



As guests are gradually settling into life in the UK their needs have changed, but having a safe and friendly place to come and meet others has been important to them. Please pray for the team as we consider how to develop the café and identify ways for Ukrainian guests to integrate into our church activities and to build wider friendships in the community. The Facebook page for the Support Hub now has over 600 followers and we would like to build on sharing information and events that will be helpful for people. If you would like to get involved, then please do chat to Judith or myself or email the church office. It would be great to have more people join the team.

Ruth Johnson



Rev Rachael Phillips update

What a lot has changed for us since we were part of the All Saints' church family. Elizabeth is enjoying Forest School and will start reception at a local primary this September. Dickie recently left paid work to become a stay-at-home Dad. This way we'll actually see each other! He's really enjoying the change of pace.

Ministry is predictably full-on but it's also incredibly life giving and fun. Mine isn't a normal curacy as I'm planting a church, and so in that respect I'm a bit of a guinea pig. Our Diocesan staff are watching with interest to see how it works out. Juggling regular curacy stuff whilst starting up a brand-new church from nothing has its challenges, but God is with me.

I'm blown away by the prayers I'm seeing answered and the pace at which this new church is moving. There's no way I could have done all this had God not been ahead of us and alongside us every step of the way. The experience has really built my faith up and helped me to rely always and only on God.

As recently as December I was anxiously praying 'God please send us some people' (at that time it was just me and the vicar!) Then in early January one cold, dark night, we marked the 100-day countdown to the church launch around a fire pit and 60 people came. And last night, to celebrate progress so far, we gathered the church's leadership team and founding members and counted 14 of us, with a further 6 who couldn't make it. God has sent us some people indeed. And what an eclectic bunch! Several families from Hillsong, an Anglo Catholic, a family who were part of the original 24/7 prayer movement and lived in a religious community, and a core of charismatic evangelicals from Greenside Parish.

We believe embracing diversity will be our strength, and I'm sure we'll have to learn great lessons in tolerance and grace and God's aptitude for creativity! One thing at least we all agree on: Jesus is the centre of all we do.

You keep up with developments by following us on social media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089387064151>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/magdalene_community_church/



Rachael Phillips

What does the PCC actually do?

The PCC or Parochial Church Council, are a bit like the governing body for the church. We are the trustees of the church for the charity commission. We are a group of church members elected by the church at the Annual Church Meeting. If you've never been to a PCC meeting here's a snapshot of what our monthly meetings are like.

We always start with a time of prayer and reflection, giving thanks for what God has been doing in our church recently. Our agenda has some regular items like church finances, safeguarding and maintaining the church buildings, decisions are prayerfully made about the best way to be good stewards of our resources.

As well as our regular agenda items each meeting, we focus on different elements of our mission. We have working parties within the PCC that meet separately to co-ordinate different aspects of church life like, social, property, discipleship, community, and environment. As part of our monthly meetings, we hear from these groups and what they have put in place. We pray and listen as we discern God's plan for our church. Sometimes there are items that we are asked to discuss by the Deanery or Diocese and have a wider implication than just All Saints.

PCC minutes are available for you to read on our website.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the PCC at the upcoming APCM why not grab a PCC member and ask some more about it. It's not that scary honestly.

Sarah Hope



Sharing Faith

Finding your voice to share God with
your friends

Thursday 16 & 30 March
7.30pm – Youth Rooms

The Shapes Course



Tuesday 14 & 21 March

7.30pm - 9.15pm
Meeting Room

Come along and find out
the amazing way God
has SHAPED you for his
kingdom purposes.

ALL SAINTS MEN'S GROUP



BOWLING NIGHT

THURSDAY
2ND MARCH
7.30PM

HOLLYWOOD BOWL
TEESSIDE PARK

2 GAMES AND A DRINK £12

TO BOOK A PLACE CLICK
CONTACT MARTIN HOWARD
ON 07970595777

WE NEED TO PAY IN ADVANCE SO
PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE
COMING BY SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY.



BRING & SHARE LUNCH

Followed by a walk in the park

Sunday 5th March



Just bring
along some
food to
share



Ladies Easter Craft Evening



all these crafts to
try and more too!

Saturday 18 March 7pm-9.30pm

Please see ChurchSuite (or the calendar on our website)
for more details and to sign up

Our Annual Meeting (APCM) is on Sunday 23 April at 10am

Please join us to hear about last year and our plans for this year



Electoral Roll

If you have been a member of All Saints' for more than 6 months, you may be eligible to be on the Electoral Roll.

Please speak to Gill Wake or contact the office for more details.

There are purple enrolment forms at the church entrance and you need to complete and return them by 31 March.

Coming up later this year

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CAMP
FRI 7 - SUN 9 JULY

HOLLYBUSH CHRISTIAN CAMPSITE
THIRSK

PAINT AND POUR

Join us for an evening where you become the artist

SATURDAY 01 JULY 2023 | 7PM-9.30PM | ALL SAINTS' CENTRE

MICHAEL DAVISON OF 'ART & SOUL' WILL GUIDE YOU STEP-BY-STEP TO CREATE A BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF ART

ART, DRINKS, CANAPES AND A WONDERFUL EVENING!

SEE KATHRYN BELMONT FOR TICKETS £30

BUILD HOME MEXICO FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY 5 MARCH

Hospitality

Matthew 9: 9-13, 2 Chronicles 30:23-27

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Kathryn Belmont

SUNDAY 12 MARCH

Simplicity

Hebrews 13:1-16, Micah 6.1-8

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Communion

Speaker Amy Burns

SUNDAY 19 MARCH

Sabbath

Exodus 20:8-11, Mark 2: 23-28

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship, led by our Young People

Speaker 9am Matt Levinsohn

Speaker 10.30am Youth Team

SUNDAY 26 MARCH

Recap on Practises for Living Like Jesus Preaching Series

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Andrew Killick

You can watch our live-streamed 10.30am services on
<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>

March 2023 Dates				
Worship	Midweek	Youth	Children & Families	Other
Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316	Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre	Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms <i>(no Life Group on 1 March due to team meeting)</i>	Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre	Choral Group Mon 27 Mar 6.30pm-7.30pm Church
Prayer & Worship Sat 11 Mar 9am-10am Meeting Room	Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7pm-9pm – Centre	Play and Praise Fri <i>term time</i> 10am-11.15am – Centre	Shapes Course Tues 14 & 21 Mar 7.30pm-9.15pm Meeting Room
Encounter Sun 26 Mar 6.30pm-8pm Church	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am services – Youth Rooms	Easter Messy Church, Sun 12 Mar 3.15pm- 4.45pm Centre	Sharing Faith Course Thurs 16 & 30 Mar 7.30pm-9pm, Youth Rooms
	Connect Lunch, Tues 14 Mar 11.45am -2pm	Refresh, <i>Back in April</i>	Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service - Centre & Meeting Room	Mens Bowling Night Thurs 2 Mar 7.30pm Hollywood Bowl
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Centre (not on Connect lunch club days)	Café Church, Tues 28 Mar 6pm-7.30pm Costa, Yarm	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tues (dates to be confirmed) 4.15pm-5.15pm Youth Room	Bring & Share Lunch Sun 5 Mar followed by a walk in Preston Park
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 19 Mar during the 10.30am service	Puppet Practice Mon 7pm-9pm – Centre <i>term time</i>	Ladies Craft Evening Sat 18 Mar 7pm-9.30pm, Centre
	Monday Night Social Mon 27 Mar 7.30pm-9pm Centre	Doulos Youth Leadership Training Mon 20 Mar 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms		
	Ukraine Support Café Thurs 9 & 23 Mar 7pm-9pm Youth Room	Doulos 201 & 301 London Trip Sat 11 Mar – Sun 12 Mar		

Standing Committee Mon 6 Mar 7.30pm, The Vicarage, PCC Mon 20 Mar 7.30pm Meeting Room

Contact us at: email – office.allsaints@gmail.com
 phone – 01642 783814

Find out more about us on our website: www.allsaints-church.net/
 or our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ASEaglescliffe