

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday 15th May 2022, Easter 5



Dear Friends, I'd like to begin with a big 'thank you' to all of you who have helped me with my recent research for college, on the importance of the idea of parish. As I write this, I'm in the midst of compiling and analysing the questionnaire data, and the results are quite clear: many of us still value the parish - some passionately so.

The idea of parish has been with us, even from before the foundation of St. Denys! It was regarded as particularly important from the times of feudal fiefdoms right up to the start of the industrial revolution. Most life was centred around agriculture and village, and the church was the focal point for many communities. All that changed radically with the arrival of the industrial revolution and rapid urbanisation. Since then, we have all become far more mobile and all sorts of communications technology, so useful during the pandemic, have transformed how we approach the business of community. It has allowed people to join our church from all around, even another continent! In our modern context, 'networks' are the new community, our notion of geographical space is changing, and churches have sometimes struggled to keep up with these changes.

Yet the idea of parish continues to be so important. True, that modern times are less rooted in geographical space, but that does not mean to say that people do not need roots. The idea of being rooted in the land is a deeply scriptural one and our current age needs roots like never before. I continue to be awestruck at how, in St. Denys, we get to worship, like the countless generations before us, in the ancient and sacred space of our beautiful church building. There is the font that has been used to baptise the children of the local community for over 800 years and the aisle that has been walked down by countless marrying couples for all that time. This can seem to be the very definition of what it is to be rooted in our local community, in our local parish.

This historic connection is only part of it however. God is very much alive, active, and dwelling with us, and he calls us into community with one another. Consequently, the parish continues to sit there as God's continuous challenge to call us out into it; to love and to serve and tell the Good News of Jesus to all who live there. With every blessing, **Mark**

COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Friday 13th 10am Musical Toddlers Group meet in the Parish Centre

Friday 13th 7pm Youth Group meet in the Parish Centre

Saturday 14th 10am Neighbourhood Art Group meet in the Parish Centre

Saturday 14th 2pm Wedding of Katie and Chris in Church

Sunday 15th 10am Matins with hymns in Church

Sunday 15th 3pm Christian Aid Week Informal Service with Communion

Sunday 15th 7.30pm Pub Night at the Cedars. All welcome.

Monday 16th 2pm Monday Meet in the Parish Centre

Tuesday 17th 10-12 Coffee, Cake and Fellowship in the Parish Centre

Tuesday 17th 7.30pm Cruse Bereavement Group meet in the Parish Centre

Wednesday 18th 10am Evington Family History Group in the Parish Centre

Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9am in church.

Open Church every Thursday; 9am Morning Prayer, 10am BCP (said) Holy Communion, free wifi and refreshments! All welcome.

Readings for Easter 5: Acts 11 vs 1-18; Revelation 21 vs 1-6

Crucifer at Sunday Morning Services 10am We would like to have someone to carry the cross at the beginning and end of Sunday morning services. If you would like to fulfil this role, please be at church by 9.45am at the latest on Sunday and Anthony will guide you as to what to do.

Choir Sunday Morning services If you would like to be a part of a group of like minded folk who love to sing as part of a 'choir,' please come at 9.30am on Sunday, for a short practise before the service begins.



Nigel Rostock's last service with us at St. Denys will be on Sunday 29th May at 10am the only service in church that day. If you would like to contribute to a parting gift for Nigel and Alison, please give it to our Treasurer Michael White, in a marked envelope by Sunday 15th May. Many thanks.

The Revd Nigel Rostock - Licensing date

Nigel's Institution and Induction as Vicar and Pioneer Priest in the Benefice of St Peter Braunstone Park will be conducted by the Bishop of Leicester, The Rt Revd Martyn Snow on Monday 18 July at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Braunstone. Please let Nigel know if you would like to come.



Christian Aid Week is Sunday 15th – 22nd May

Join us for a lively interactive 3pm service on Sunday 15th which will be a special Christian Aid Week family service.

Envelopes will be available in church for church members to donate or use the link to give electronically. Deliver only envelopes will be going out with collection points at Nisa in Evington Village and The Co-op in Downing Drive.

This is the link for Christian Aid Week for St Denys Church:

<https://giving.give-star.com/microsite/christian-aid/christian-aid-week/team/d9da3ad9-7197-4457-b8da-a273e4a3e2d8>



Christian Aid QR Code - scan this code to be taken straight to the St. Denys Christian Aid page where you will find more information, and to donate.

Are you someone who likes reading? I am looking for more people to join the rotas for reading the lessons and preparing and delivering the intercessions during Sunday morning services. Your 'turn' would be once every few weeks, shared amongst everyone who is on the rota. A few people have had to pull out permanently for various reasons leaving us short. If you think you could be a part of this important ministry, please do get in touch to find out more. E-mail: office@stdenys.org.uk or telephone 07803 828454 **Qyan**



STOP PRESS! At the Annual Meeting on Wednesday Gerry Goode was re-elected as Churchwarden but with a new Warden Team, each with different responsibilities: Gerry will be Warden (Fabric); Michael White will be Warden (Finance); Kimberley Tyler, newly elected to PCC, will be Warden (Pastoral) and Janette Pearson will be Warden (Safeguarding) although Sian Rigby will continue to cover Janette's role as Janette cares for David. Please pray for the new Warden Team!

Please pray for our Youth and Community worker, Sarah who is doing amazing work with the children and young people of St Denys and the Evington community. Pray that she will be sustained in her work. Pray also that those being contacted about sponsorship / grants will have their hearts moved by the Lord and assist us with the necessary funding so that Sarah's work can continue.



THIRD TUESDAY COFFEE, CAKE & FELLOWSHIP 10—12 noon! Ladies & gentlemen that were part of the Mothers' Union and Ladies Group, will meet in the Parish Centre on the Third Tuesday of each month to maintain fellowship with friends made over the years.

EVERYONE is welcome, whether you were part of these groups before or not! If the pandemic has taught us anything, it has made us all aware of the need for friends! Please join us - partners and friends, **all are welcome!** A small charge of £2.50 each is made, for freshly made cake and as much coffee as you like! See you this Tuesday, 17th!

The Ratcliffe Choral from Leicestershire will be performing a concert of music in St. Denys Church on Saturday 18th June (evening, exact time to be confirmed). Please reserve this date in your diary! All welcome.

Collect for 5th Sunday of Easter Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Pray for the sick, in mind, body and spirit, including: Brenda Bedingfield, Mick Clay, John Nightingale, David Pearson. **Pray for those who mourn**, including the family and friends of Peter Burgess, Edith Flewitt, Harry Houlden, The Reverend David Morris (Minister at Wycliffe Church and Community of Grace) Joyce Reece, May Weir and all those who have died as a result of Covid 19.



If you need to talk, please get in touch:

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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

www.stdenys.org.uk