

Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish:
Anglican and Methodist Churches in
partnership

Sunday 1
November
2020

**All Saints'
Day**

Having adjusted to the clock change last week – my dog does not understand why his meals and walks are an hour later! - it is truly the season of Autumn now and I have been enjoying blackberries and apples from my garden, the lovely colours of the trees and the crisp crunch of leaves underfoot.

At this time of the year, I always remember John Keats' Ode to Autumn, written 200 years ago, beginning "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" and ending with the gardener's friend "The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft; And gathering swallows twitter in the skies". Sadly, the swallows have long gone, but there are plenty of other feathered friends around: we are fortunate to have a troupe of long-tailed tits and a group of goldfinches visiting from time to time, as well as an occasional wren, several robins, sparrows, blackbirds, starlings, great and blue tits, the inevitable parakeets, some collared doves and the pigeons who sit out of reach on the garage roof to wind up my dog! Like many fellow gardeners, I have begun tidying up and settling down the garden for the year, often supervised by the aforementioned robin.

November already: it seems that 2020 has gone rather fast. In these troubled times, I have been counting my blessings and considering the Beatitudes of this Sunday's reading, as well as remembering that today is All Saints Day, with Advent and Christmas just round the corner. As yet, the format Christmas will take this year is unknown: one blessing is modern technology, to keep in contact with family and friends at a (social) distance, by telephone, Zoom, Skype, e-mails or physical letters. The opportunity for St Dunstan's limited number physical services and Zoom services are huge blessings, for which I give grateful thanks.

Dee Howley

Church Notices: Southville Methodist

Services in church at Southville are taking place on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. The next is:

Sunday 8th November at 10.30am: **Holy Communion** - Revd. Juliet Ushewokunze

- followed by 22nd November, 13th December, and so on.

Meanwhile the Staines **Zoom Service** continues each Sunday at 10.30am. Contact Matt Sendorek (matt.sendorek@btinternet.com) for an email invitation, or Roz Sendorek on 01784 459984 or 07712 816163.

Circuit Bible Study by zoom on Thursdays starting at 9.30am studying Matthew. Please contact Jonathan Griffiths for details to join – you can join by phone. Email contact: jonathan.griffiths@sfmc.org.uk

Church Notices: St. Dunstan

Services this week

Sunday 9.30am: **Holy Communion** (said service) with baptism of Alyssa Spencer, in church. Please note due to the baptism this **service is now expected to be full**. Anne Dollery has spoken to those who have already asked to attend, confirming they are coming to the service. If more spaces become available Anne will send round an email on Saturday.

10.30am: **Zoom service** (joining details as before)

Wednesday 4th November 10.00am: **Morning prayer** in church

Services next week

Sunday 8th November 9.30am: **Holy Communion** (said service)
Booking closes at noon on Saturday 7th November

10.30am: **Zoom service** (joining details as before)

Wednesday 4th November 10.00am: **Morning prayer** in church

Many thanks to those who are booking for the Sunday service; it really helps. Bookings for Sunday 8th and following Sundays can be made by email to admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk or phone (0208 890 2011). Please give your name, the number from your household who wish to attend and your contact phone number. You will have to wear a mask in church unless you are exempted.

Following our Annual Meetings last Friday – many thanks to all who attended – we can announce two **new members of the PCC**: Louise Hunter, and Ian Stuchbury (who was previously coopted, being also our Treasurer). Duncan Forsyth agreed to carry on as our only churchwarden; Marilyn Wade and Rachel Stuchbury are our representatives on Deanery Synod. We are deeply grateful to all who take office at St. Dunstan, when every year it becomes harder to find people willing to take such responsibilities; special mentions this year of Duncan and Ian, also of Catherine Day, who has retired as PCC Secretary. Also of Brenda Cook and Susan Collins, retired from their ministry with our children and young people. Not to mention Beryl Gamble, after so many years as Organist of St. Dunstan's. The list could go on and on!

A note sent to the editor: From Grateful Parishioners: **We would like to thank** all those who have kept us in touch during this difficult time. To those who have arranged services, those who have been making regular deliveries of newsletters and other information (particularly to those without computers), those who have arranged the Zoom services, those who have been readily available to do shopping and other errands for others and those who have been keeping in touch with regular phone calls. It has made life a lot easier knowing our Christian worship and fellowship can continue even if we all cannot meet regularly. We are thankful to God for our Church family.

Bible Study by zoom 8pm Monday 9th November studying Philipians. Please contact Anne Dollery for details of how to take part (remotely).

Feltham Food Bank : our box is open! No pasta or tinned soup at present please (due to over-supply).

Planning permission has been granted for the **work to provide improved disabled access** from the church yard into the church and we have received two tenders for costs. We are now able to go ahead with more fund raising, including applying for grants.

Calling **online Christmas shoppers**: don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising website when you're buying your Christmas gifts online this year. It is really easy to use and St Dunstan's stands to

gain financially at absolutely no extra cost to you. Simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and navigate from there to John Lewis, Argos, Amazon, EBay, Next, M&S, booking.com and the list goes on, with over 2,700 companies included.

Dates for your diary

Remembrance Sunday 8th November: there will be **no 3pm Feltham Remembrance Parade** or service at the War Memorial. All are invited to remember at home those who died serving in the armed forces and in other ways due to war. Individual tributes are invited to be laid, socially distanced, at any time during the afternoon. We are asked please not to gather at the War Memorial.

Thursday 12th November 7.00pm (on Zoom): **Hounslow Friends of Faith** will hold a celebration of its 20th Anniversary, during Interfaith Week. This will be marked by the launch of a history of HFOF and a calendar for 2021. The Interfaith Knitting Group has prepared a special knitted banner which will show the symbols of all major faiths. The directory of Places of Worship on HFOF's website is being updated during this anniversary year. All are welcome; email info@hounslowfriendsoffaith.org if you wish to attend.

Also on 12th November for Interfaith Week: this year's **Younghusband Lecture**, organised by the World Congress of Faiths, will take place (online) from 4 to 5.30pm (i.e. not clashing with the previous item). The theme is the dialogue between science and religion, and there are three distinguished speakers:

- Prof. Nidhal Guessoum (Muslim), Algerian astrophysicist and professor at the American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- Swami Medhananda (Hindu), Assistant Professor and Head of Department of Philosophy, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, West Bengal, India
- Dr David Gosling (Christian), Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge

Book a place on www.tinyurl.com/wcf-yhl. There is no charge but a donation to expenses would be welcome.

Tuesday 24th November, repeated on Monday 7th December, 7pm to 8.30pm: **Bishop of Kensington's teaching evening**. Subject this year is 'What is true freedom?', examining the differences between secular and Christian ideas of freedom. The Bishop is known as a lively and accessible speaker who encourages interaction. Book at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-is-true-freedom-why-freedom-may-not-be-what-you-think-it-is-tickets-126125931055> and the Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Online series of short retreats, run by St Augustine's Theological College, West Malling, Canterbury. The first will start 18th October, the last next June. Brief details are available in printed form from Rachel Stuchbury if you want them. The retreats are free but you are required to register. They seem to provide a recorded address (or possibly several) with materials for you to use for reflection.

People

Brenda Cook, Jackie, Janine and Sarah would like to thank everyone who has sent messages and cards with their kind thoughts and words during this sad time of loss of their beloved husband and dad, John Cook. **Funeral arrangements** have now been made for Friday 6th November at Hanworth Crematorium. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this will be close family only. The family

would ask that if you would like to pay your respects to John, you may do so by witnessing the passing of the funeral cortège at 2:50pm on the grass area at the southern (Hamilton Road) end of Sunbury Road, before the mini-roundabout, by the bus stop. Please remember to socially distance. Alternatively, if you wish to join us, the service is being live-streamed (and will also be available to view for a short period afterwards). If you text Jackie on 07789673746 we will be able to provide you with a private link. Family flowers only. Donations to either The British Heart Foundation or The National Trust via Lodge Brothers please.

The **Revd. Michael Davies** has recently died aged 87. People involved when our Ecumenical Parish was formed will remember him; as Provincial Moderator, he represented the United Reformed Church on the EP's original sponsoring body (along with the Anglican Bishop of Kensington and the Methodist District Chairman). Later he represented Britain and Ireland on the World Council of Churches. We thank God for his example to us and his achievements for us.

Asking for your help

Hounslow West Food Bank are appealing for old (but serviceable) **waterproof coats, trainers or smartphones**. If you cannot make it to St Paul's Church, Bath Road, Hounslow West, TW3 3DA on a Monday or Wednesday morning then items can be dropped off at the Good Shepherd vicarage, Beavers Lane, TW4 6HJ. Or if you can't go out, let Rachel Stuchbury know and she will collect from you and deliver to Hounslow.

Has anyone got a **spare car** for a short loan? Anne Dollery's car requires a new part which is not available until the New Year; the repair is expected to be completed in January or early February. If you can help, please contact her on 0208 890 8347 or email her on annedollery@yahoo.co.uk.

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