

# All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine  
July 2023





# All Saints' Croxley Green

## Sunday Worship in Church

**8am Holy Communion BCP**  
(First Sunday of the Month)

**9.45am Parish Communion**

**11.30am Family Service**  
(Third Sunday of the Month)

## Weekdays

**Morning Prayers 8am in Church**  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion

**The Church is Open Daily** for private prayer and meditation.

**The Parish Office** is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109

**Parish Administrator:** Judith Man

**Website:** [www.croxleygreenallsaints.org](http://www.croxleygreenallsaints.org)

**Email:** [office@croxleygreenallsaints.org](mailto:office@croxleygreenallsaints.org)

## Magazine

[magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org](mailto:magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org)

## Vicar:

Revd. Canon Miriam Mugan  
The Vicarage WD3 3HJ Tel: 772109

## Honorary Priests:

Revd. Dr Anne Shaw Tel: 827663

## Assistant Curate:

Revd. Paul Palmer Tel: 07740871289

## Churchwardens

Lyndon Palmer Tel: 720856  
Anne Oke Tel: 220782

## Assistant Churchwardens:

Ann Palmer Tel: 720856

## Sacristan:

Chris Oke Tel: 220782  
Assistants: Mary Bittles Tel: 771275  
Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

## Parochial Church Council:

**Secretary:** Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

**Treasurer:** Andrew Nobbs

Tel: 770039

## Hall hire email;

[hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org](mailto:hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org)



**July 2023**

**Revd. Canon Miriam writes:**

Dear Friends,

It was a little disappointing that only 13 people attended the Parish Half Day last month. However, we were able to reflect and give thanks for the way God has blessed us in our work and outreach during 2022 and explore where God might be at work in our Church at the moment. At the Parish Morning in 2022, we decided that we would look to see where God is at work in our Church/community and join in rather than trying to impose our own plans and ideas. We agreed that, as God has blessed us so much in the last year, we would continue with this way of being and growing our Church. Prayer and waiting on God was a recurrent theme in our discussions at this year's Parish Day so we decided that we would spend some time in prayer, waiting on God over the coming months to discern where and what he is calling us to as individuals, a community of faith, and a Church serving the community of Croxley Green. We will explore this further in the next Pastoral and Evangelism Group and I will keep you updated.

At the Parish Day we focused on a passage of scripture: 2 Corinthians 12 verses 12-27. This passage talks about how we are the body of Christ and that each and every one of us has a specific role and purpose and each and every one of us is important. Just as each part of the human body has a vital role to play if we are to remain healthy, so it is with a church community, the body of Christ. So please don't think that you have nothing to offer, or that you are not important in our Church community because you are called by God to be a blessing in this community. For our Church to grow and be effective in serving God, one another and our neighbour your presence and input is essential.

I wonder if you read about the comments that our Archbishop, Justin Welby, made recently at the Religion Media Centre's Festival in

London? The issue of falling church attendance was raised, and the Archbishop said that he felt some accountability for the declining numbers in our churches. I have to say that I don't agree with him and I don't blame him at all for the situation the national church is in. I think changes in society over the last few decades, the impact of the Covid pandemic and the reluctance of some churches to change in order to meet the changing needs is perhaps why numbers are dropping. Looking at the national church attendance figures pre and post pandemic there has been an overall 19% reduction in numbers attending church. When I looked at our numbers at All Saints' over the same period we have managed to buck the trend and we have seen a 7% increase in the number of people attending our church! This, I think, is a sign of God's blessing and grace. We have allowed him to lead us as we developed more accessible services, deepened our faith, and built up our relationships with God, each other and the local community. And YOU have played a key role in this. Being who you are and sharing the gifts that God has given you as you have supported and encouraged, welcomed and prayed, has enabled God's purposes for our Church to develop and grow, so thank YOU, and may God continue to bless you as you bless us.

As always, there is lots going on at All Saints'. Over the summer the major Hall Refurbishment Project will get under way. We are hopeful that the works will be completed by the start of September. There is more information about this further on in the Magazine.

Those of you who attended the concert organised by Vicky Vandy during the Flower Festival last year will remember what an amazing event it was, better than attending the Proms at the Albert Hall I heard some people say. I am so excited that Vicky has once again gathered the orchestra together for another concert to take place on Saturday 15th July at 7.30pm. Tickets are available on line via our web page or from the Parish Office, this is an event not to be missed so make sure you let everyone know. Why not bring a group of friends with you?

During August we are exploring the possibility of running the Thursday Pop Up Café for carers of children under 5 and the Friday Café. Both will need to be held in Church. Can you help? Can you spare a couple of hours to help with refreshments on one of the weeks? Can you bake cakes? Any way in which you can help, whether large or small will be so gratefully received; please let me know.

With my love and prayers

*Miriam*



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## **Parish Register and Records**

### **BAPTISM**

28th May 2023

Hallee-Rose Kay CAMERON

### **BURIAL OF ASHES**

**Chilterns Crematorium Garden of Rest**

3rd June 2023

Margaret (Peggy) WILSON

### **Woodcock Hill Cemetery**

12th June 2023

Reg DEE



## Readings

Sunday 2nd July

4th Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 10 v 40-end

Sunday 9th July

5th Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 11 v 16-19 25-end

Sunday 16th July

6th Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13 v 1-9 18-23

Sunday 23rd July

7th Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13 v 24-30 36-43

Sunday 30th July

8th Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13 v 31-33 44-52

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## Christian Aid

Thank you to all the people who helped with the Christian Aid collection locally by either delivering the envelopes or being a drop-off point for their collection.

The donations from Friday Coffee during Christian Aid Week were added to the collection money to make a grand total of £473.30.

Thank you to all of you who made a donation at coffee, in an envelope or online. The money will be used to further the good work carried out by Christian Aid.

# Family Service

Sunday 18th June



Fishing for fish ...

... and we made flying fish.



Finley brought his four week old brother to his first Family Service.



Here are our octopus prayers which we have put into Church.

We made a seaside scene with play dough creatures.

## 18th May : Ascension Day Service

This year All Saints' hosted the Deanery Ascension Day Service. With a collaboration choir from the different churches there was a wonderful sound in the Church.



Simon Cutmore, Rural Dean, lead the Intersessions. We were asked to write one word, on biodegradable paper, that we wanted to pray for. These were added to a basket and we sent our prayers up, up and away ...



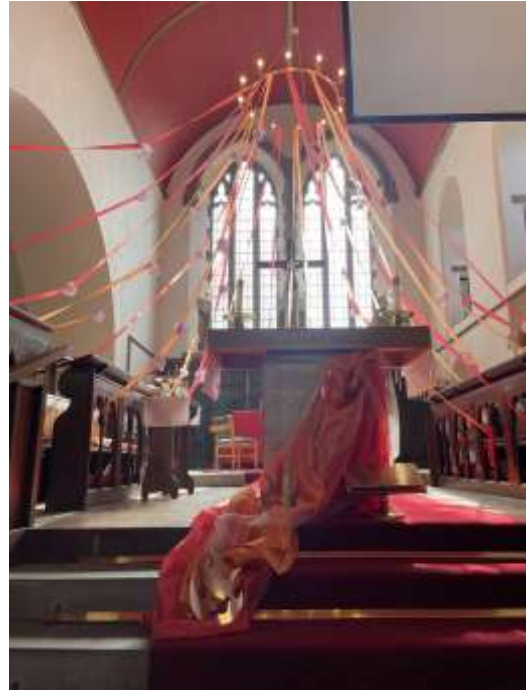
... well eventually, after a few goes





## 28th May : Pentecost

Thank you to Sam, Kelly, Janet and Eddie for decorating the Church ready for our Pentecost Service on 28th May. It really was a stunning sight as we walked into Church.



The decorations really added to the atmosphere in Church and made the service extra special. The children also enjoyed the popcorn...once the machine was working!



## Revels on the Green 17th June 2023

On a very hot sunny afternoon, The Green was buzzing with stalls, activities and events in the arena; it was the annual Croxley Revels.

The All Saints' stall was in its usual spot and had something for everyone: large cakes, small cakes and bags of cookies, a ping pong game run by Miriam, beautiful home-sewn bags to take your goodies home in and a Prayer Tree for people to add messages to.



Thank you to all those who helped by setting up, taking a turn on the stall, clearing away and baking earlier in the week. We raised a fantastic £506.78 for Church Funds.



# Summer Cream Tea



**Saturday 29th July**

**3pm until 5pm**

**All Saints' Church Garden**

**Price : £5**

**Tickets from Anne : 01923 220782**

**EVENT IN THE CHURCH IF WET**

**Raising funds for The Big Summer Appeal**

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

## Hymns and Pimms

As many of us gathered together on Sunday 11th June, I thought what a lovely way to spend a hot sultry afternoon in the cool and calm and comfy seats of All Saints' Church where we could sing or just sit and listen to a great variety of hymns old and new, sometimes they were prayerful and sometimes had more upbeat tunes.

The hymns had been chosen by different people and as Miriam and Paul introduced each hymn they told us who had chosen it. It was lovely to hear from some of the people as to why they had chosen them. Valerie Kendle chose 'Brother Sister Let Me Serve You' which is such a beautiful hymn.

Peter and Wendy Rennoldson chose 'Lord of the Dance' as they always played it in the car with their children when they were young as they drove down to Cornwall on holiday. Paul chose 'I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say' which he remembered was a favourite of the residents in a care home that he used to visit. It was also been sung at his Ordination. He told us how the words .... 'I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in Him a resting place and he has made me glad' mean so much to him in challenging times of his life.

Rae chose the hymn 'Loves Divine, All Loves Excelling' that she and Jack had at their wedding and her parents had at theirs. I loved this one as I also had it at my wedding with the same tune that Rae had, which isn't the one that we usually sing to today. Then we were chatting at the end as we wandered over to the back of Church for a refreshing glass of Pimm's when we realised that David was playing Widor's Toccata on the organ which we also both had at our weddings. There were so many more, all with such lovely meaningful words. I thought that my favourite was going to be 'The Lord's My Shepherd' to the tune by Townend. The music and especially the chorus 'And I will trust in you alone, For your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home' always leaves me with a wonderful feeling of being safe because God will always be there for me, but having the opportunity to sit and listen to so many lovely hymns they all seem to have those encouraging, comforting words.

The children had their moment as well when they joined Miriam to sing and show us all the actions to 'Our God is a Great Big God'. They encouraged several of the congregation to join in as well; a great keep fit exercise!

A big thank you to David who moved seamlessly from organ to clavino to play the music with the hymns and accompany the children unrehearsed.

As we gathered together, had refreshments, chatted with friends and met new people we reflected on how hymns and music can have such a positive effect on our lives as we listen to them, think of the words and recall memories. And as the sun disappeared and the cloud came Jensen, who was on weather watch, let us know when the rain began. He was carrying a balloon but on chatting to him I don't think it was a weather balloon! Luckily the rain disappeared as quickly as it had come so I think we all had a dry journey home.



## **A different kind of Hymn picking!**

### *Parish Pump*

One Sunday a minister announced that the church needed some extra money. He asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra, and as an enticement, added that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

The offering plate was passed around, and to the minister's amazement, someone had put in a cheque for £1,000. He shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to thank the person who'd given the cheque. A very quiet, elderly lady shyly made her way down to the front of the church. The minister told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much, and asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation. She pointed carefully to the three handsomest men in the building and said: "I'll take him, and him, and him."

## July Prayer Diary

<b>Date</b>	<b>In our Church Family</b>
1st	Anne and Chris Oke
2nd	Margaret and Dick Paddick
3rd	Paul, Siu and Kelly Palmer
4th	Lyndon and Ann Palmer
5th	Wendy and Peter Rennoldson
6th	Francesca Sams
7th	Cathy Scarborough
8th	Sarah and Cameron Selleck
9th	Wendy Shafe
10th	Revd. Anne and Don Shaw
11th	Dorothy Sims
12th	Anthony and Mary Smith
13th	Marjorie and Tommy Stevenson
14th	Alice Tims
15th	Lilian and Jenson Tsang

16th	Vicky, Katherine, William and James Vandy
17th	Derek Wakefield
18th	Katie, Martin and Scott Wakefield
19th	Mary Wong
20th	Michael Adam
21st	Shirley Barnes
22nd	Jane Bates
23rd	Sam Beard
24th	Nik and Fran Bennett
25th	Mary Bittles
26th	Shelagh and Tony Booth
27th	Rae Bowyer
28th	Ben, Michelle, Sanna and Sophie Brogden
29th	Kelly Buckle
30th	Alick and Hazel Burge
31st	Carole Chesterfield



# Hall Refurbishment Update

WE ARE NEARLY THERE!

Work is due to start at the beginning of August. We are having new lights and the ceiling, walls, radiators and woodwork are all being redecorated. A new wooden floor is being fitted and then, finally, we will hang new curtains. The plan is that all the work should be completed by the beginning of September.

Thank you all for the support you have given to our fundraising to refurbish the Hall. The Tea Dance, Hymns and Pimm's and Friday morning sales tables have been a success and we have also received donations to add to the fund. We have not quite reached our target yet so we are planning some more fundraising events over the next few months. Look out for another Tea Dance on 16th September and the Friday morning sales table is due to return at the end of September.

To help raise funds for the Hall, back by popular demand, we are holding another

## Virtual Balloon Race



A virtual race works in the same way as a helium balloon race, but the balloons fly around their own virtual island rather than in the atmosphere.

The balloons will be **'released'** on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July** at 12.00 noon to fly around the virtual island. At 25 and 55 minutes past the hour, each balloon travels a random distance. At the **end of the race, on Friday 21st July** at 12.00 noon, the owner of the balloon which has travelled the furthest will win a **£30 Amazon voucher**, with a **2<sup>nd</sup> prize of a £20 voucher** and **3<sup>rd</sup> prize of a £10 voucher**.

Winners will be notified and names put on our website. If there is a tie, the prize will be shared.



**Each balloon will cost £5.** When you purchase your balloon, you can choose your own colour and add your own message to put on the tag. Why not buy one each for your children or grandchildren? Or be part of the race yourself; maybe have a mini race within your family? This was previously very popular, with family members around the world competing against each other.

You can purchase balloons online and once the race has started you can track your balloons using our own race page which is below:-

[www.balloonrace.net/asc](http://www.balloonrace.net/asc)

For those who don't have internet access and would like to purchase a balloon please contact the Parish Office on **01923 772109**. You will be asked to provide your name, contact number, choice of colour and the nickname you would like to use for the balloon and, if you wish, an optional message. Alternatively, you can pick up a form to complete with your details. We will then put your balloon details into the website for you.

The balloon colours, shapes and designs available to choose from are:

Poppy Red, Purple, Pale Pink,  
Jet Black, Lavender, Snowdrop White,  
Gold, Ivory, Pearl, Orange Pearl,  
Amber, Canary Yellow, Lime Green,  
Emerald Green, Racing Green,  
Turquoise, Sky Blue,  
Sapphire Blue, Velvet Blue, Fuchsia.

red, pink, blue, gold or fuchsia hearts;  
red, blue, pink, purple or yellow ducks;  
red, yellow, blue, pink and purple kites;

coffee shop designs – donut, cupcake, slice of cake, coffee cup or takeaway coffee cup; Christmas designs – candy cane, present, Santa hat, reindeer or snowman;

Easter designs – Easter egg, basket, rabbit, lamb, chick; Halloween – witch, pumpkin, spider or a ghost.

We thank you for your support and good luck!

*All Saints' Hall Committee*

## Plea for your unwanted toys

The Children's Tombola was a very popular activity at last year's Christmas Market and sold out very quickly.

We would like to repeat our success at this year's market but need your help.

If you have any unwanted good quality toys, please bring them to the Church Office or contact Jane Bates so that we can have another sell-out stall and some very happy children!

Thank You



*Jane Bates*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Smile Lines

Advert in local paper: 2016 Nissan Micra for sale. Reverend owner from new, never missed a service.

Whoever said "Out of sight, out of mind," never had a large spider disappear in the bedroom.

### **Cry baby**

A woman took her four-month-old baby to visit her neighbour, but the baby began to fuss as soon as they arrived. The neighbour's five-year-old son asked where the baby had come from. "He was sent down from Heaven," the mother replied, above the screams.

The little boy watched the baby crying for a few more minutes, and then turned to his mother. "I bet I know why he was sent from Heaven. God wanted some quiet up there!"

*Parish Pump*

## **God's Garden**

**Plant three rows of peas:**

**Peas of mind**

**Peas of heart**

**Peas of soul**

**Plant three rows of squash:**

**Squash gossip**

**Squash grumbling**

**Squash selfishness**

**Plant three rows of lettuce:**

**Lettuce be faithful**

**Lettuce be obedient**

**Lettuce love one another**

**Plant three rows of turnips:**

**Turnip for services**

**Turnip for meetings**

**Turnip to help one another**

**Plant three rows of thyme:**

**Thyme for God**

**Thyme for Bible study**

**Thyme for prayer.**

**Finally –**

**Water freely with patience,**

**Cultivate with love,**

**And remember – you will only reap what you sow.**

*Parish Pump*

## Social and Fundraising Committee Diary



### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July : Music Concert

Our Summer Music Concert will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm and tickets are now on sale!

Come along and enjoy an amazing selection of light classics performed by ‘The Festival Chamber Orchestra’ made up of local professional and semi-professional musicians assembled by Vicky Vandy.

Interval refreshments are included and tickets will cost £7.50 (for adults) and £5 (for children under 16). They can be purchased after the Sunday 9.45am Parish Communion Service, from the Office or online from the website [www.croxleygreenallsaints.org](http://www.croxleygreenallsaints.org)

If you enjoyed the 150th Celebration concert last year, be sure not to miss this one.

### Upcoming dates

We have started planning for some events later in the year which include:



Harvest BBQ on 17th September

Our second Beer Festival from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October



Christmas Market on 18<sup>th</sup> November

Further details will be provided nearer the time but please put these dates in your diaries!

*Ann Palmer*

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### Smile Lines *from Parish Pump*

Friends sympathized as our curate complained that her back was really sore from moving furniture. “Why don’t you wait till your teenage son gets home?” someone asked.

“Well, I could,” our curate replied, “but the couch is easier to move if he’s not on it.”

## 29<sup>th</sup> July Olaf



### **King and patron saint of Norway**

If you led a wild life before your conversion, then Olaf is the saint for you. Indeed, anything you have done could hardly match him, for he was a brigand and pirate who roamed the Baltic and Normandy around 1015 AD, maiming and killing, stealing and destroying, feared by all.

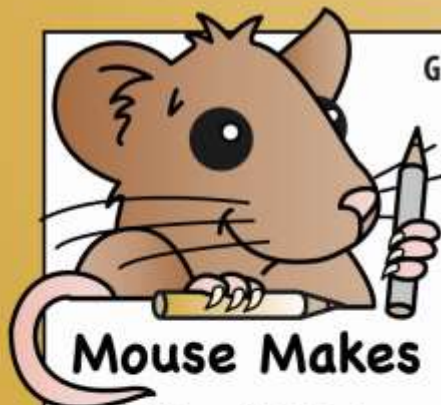
Then on one particular raid off Normandy, Olaf met his match: he boarded a ship with Christians on it and was converted to Christianity. The shock of this sent him inland, off the ships, to England, where he joined forces with Ethelred II for a time. But soon his entrepreneurial spirit was asserting itself, and an ambition was born: to return to Norway and convert the country to Christianity.

Olaf was never a man to do things meekly: he sailed for Norway and, helped by his own military ability and the flight of his rivals, seized power and became King. Once king, Olaf gave his subjects peace and security. He remade old laws, and insisted on their just execution, ignoring all bribes or threats.

Above all, Olaf began to convert the country. He was helped by a number of Viking converts and English monks who were missionaries to Norway. But the old paganism was strong in many places, and soon there was a rebellion. Olaf was exiled in 1029 and died the following year in a battle to regain his throne.

He was buried, but his story did not end there. For Christianity had established a foothold that would grow and grow. And it was soon reported that springs of healing water flowed from Olaf's grave, and miracles happened. So Grimkell, the English bishop of Trondheim, built a chapel on the site of his grave and declared him a saint. Olaf's cult grew in popularity until by 1070 his feast day was celebrated throughout Scandinavia. He was popular in England too, with about 40 ancient churches dedicated to him, possibly due to benefactors of Viking origin.

*Parish Pump*



**Goliath**, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.  
*"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"*



The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:  
*"The Lord who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...



Where did Goliath come from?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 17:4



How tall was Goliath?

\_\_\_\_\_ cubits.

1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

\_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 17:5,6



What weapons did Goliath carry?

a JAVELIN,

a \_\_\_\_\_

and a \_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



\_\_\_\_\_

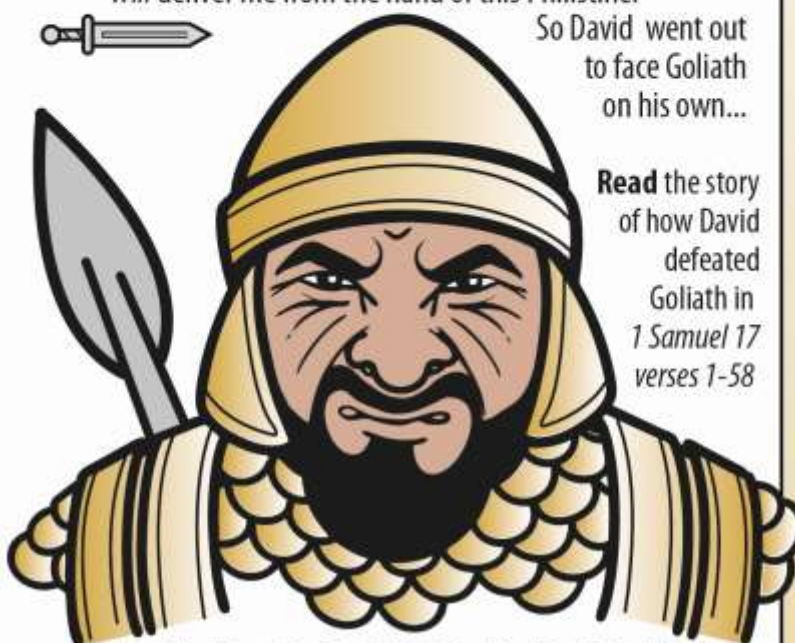
1 Samuel 17:40



Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1 Samuel 17:49



Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58

I L A D E S W O R D B K L  
 P A C A M P L I O N A D B  
 H I F I V E S L I N G A R  
 I T L E B A T T L E O V O  
 L E B E A R J A V E L I N  
 T S S I X M K H C F I D Z  
 S T A F F O R E H E A D E  
 T R U I I U P L A L T L G  
 O U L S G R I M M L H O O  
 N C P R H S H E P H E R D  
 E K G A T H I T I D E D O  
 S H I E L D G R O U N D M  
 P H I L I S T I N E S O U

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 CHAMPION • GOLIATH • HELMET • ARMOUR • JAVELIN • SHIELD • FIGHT • BEAR  
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# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL REFURBISHMENT

# VIRTUAL BALLOON RACE

This virtual balloon race is to help us raise the final funds towards our Church Hall refurbishment being carried out this summer.

**Race starts on Friday 14th July and ends on Friday 21st July.**

Prizes: 1st prize £30, 2nd prize £20, 3rd prize £10  
(Amazon vouchers)

Balloons cost £5 each and can be purchased online at  
[www.balloonrace.net/asc](http://www.balloonrace.net/asc)  
or via the Parish Office  
on 01923 772109





# Could a Personal Assistant make life a little easier?



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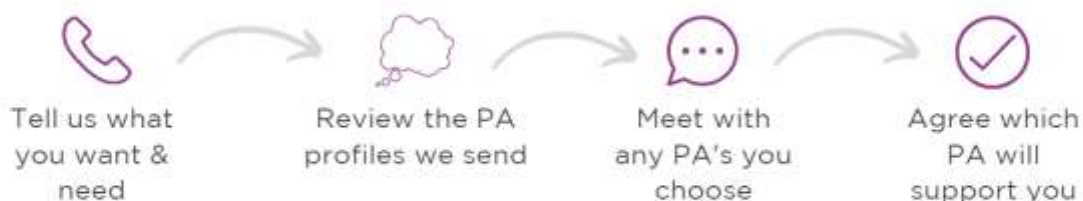
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for more details

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July the Church remembers St Thomas, also called Doubting Thomas, because he would not believe his fellow disciples' news of the Resurrection. But 'doubt' did not mean that Thomas did not love Jesus! Only a few weeks before, Thomas had urged his fellow disciples to follow Jesus to see Lazarus in Bethany, despite danger from the Jews. "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus had brought Lazarus back to life. Thomas was

sometimes very confused about just where Jesus was headed. But in John 14:5 Jesus untangled his confused commitment: "I am going to my Father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me." Finally, after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to Thomas, showing him the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was electrified, and his response immediate: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff). Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of people down the centuries.

July  
 Thomas  
 Resurrection  
 Doubt  
 Doubting  
  
 Love  
 Jesus  
 Follow  
 Lazarus  
 Bethany  
  
 Danger  
 Jews  
 Die  
 Life  
 Confused  
  
 Going  
 Father  
 Wounds  
 Crucifixion  
 Response  
  
 Immediate  
 Lord  
 God  
 Honest  
 Faith  
 reassurance





# SUMMER CONCERT

'The Festival Chamber Orchestra', consisting of local professional and semi-professional musicians, will play a selection of light classics.



**Saturday 15th July 2023 @ 7.30pm**  
**at All Saints' Church,**  
**Croxley Green, WD3 3HJ**

**Tickets £7.50 Adults / £5.00 Children (age 12 or under)**  
**includes refreshments during the interval**

available from  
[www.croxleygreenallsaints.org](http://www.croxleygreenallsaints.org)  
or Parish Office 01923 772109



SCAN ME



**Friday Coffee  
will continue throughout  
August**



As the Hall is being refurbished in August, we will meet in Church  
**on 4th August, 11th August, 18th August, 25th August and  
1st September.**

Please be aware that we will be using the Church Hall toilets  
which will have to be accessed by the front door of the Hall  
involving a short walk and a few steps.



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15th August for September

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**This month's cover** is a design from Church Photos

### **Acknowledgement**

Unless otherwise stated, pictures are taken from Parish Pump or else they are produced by members of the magazine team.

*We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.*

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Sam Beard

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