All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine November 2023





All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday Worship in Church

8am Holy Communion BCP

(First Sunday of the Month)

9.45am Parish Communion

12-12.45pm Family Service (First 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

Email:office@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Magazine

magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org

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Treasurer: Andrew Nobbs

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Hall hire email;

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Revd. Canon Miriam writes:

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful time we had at the Beer Festival. It was fantastic to see so many people in Church and enjoying themselves. It was a great opportunity to reach out to people who would not normally come into our Church and in the process of selling Prize Draw tickets we were able to have some really interesting and insightful conversations. Thank you so much to Ben Guest and Sam Beard who organised it along with Scott from the Anchor Tap & Bottle and Wendy Shafe and her team who spent the weekend in the kitchen preparing and serving delicious food.

Our next major fundraising event is our Christmas Market which will be on 18th November. There are sign-up sheets in Church for helpers so please add your name if you can. We are also collecting items for our tombola, so if you have any unwanted gifts or are able to donate a bottle that would be gratefully received. Jude and Andrew will also welcome donations of chocolate items for their very popular chocolate tombola and Jane Bates is collecting good quality soft toys for her children's tombola.

As we go into November, I always feel that it is a month that bids us to pause or slow down, especially at the start of the month when there is such a strong call to remember. All Souls, which we will be keeping on 4th November, is a time for us to pause, reflect and remember our loved ones who have died. We have a lovely service at 10.30am to which everyone is invited to attend, where we will remember those whom we have loved and cherished as we put a flower in their memory into a display and light a candle to symbolise the light of their love that lives on within us.

On November 5th we remember the Saints, both named and unnamed, who have given so much in their life and witness and helped to build the Christian faith and the church. Come and celebrate the Saints with us at our special service at 9.45am.

On Sunday 26th November we will be having another time of prayer for our Church at 5pm. Do please come along if you are able as we seek God's guidance in the future mission and ministry of our Church.

Looking ahead to early December you might want to make a note in your diary of the following events:

3rd December Advent Evening Service at 6pm

7th December Quiet Church 7.30-8.30pm

10th December Christingle at 5pm

There will be more information about other services and events in December in next month's magazine.

With my love and prayers

Miriam



November Readings

Sunday 5th November

Revelation 7 v 9 -end

All Saints' Day

Sunday 12th November

1Thessalonians 4 v 13-end

Remembrance Sunday

1 Thessalonians 5 v 1-11

Sunday 19th November Second Sunday before Advent

Sunday 26th November Christ the King

Ephesians 1 V 15-end

A new kind of Remembrance poppy

For the first time in 28 years, there is a new kind of poppy for Remembrance Sunday this year: it is plastic free.

Director of the Poppy Appeal, Andy Taylor-Whyte explains: "We are very proud to introduce the plastic-free poppy. It will not only enable people

to support our Armed Forces community but also continues the RBL's commitment to sustainability."

The new poppy has been three years in the development and making. The aim was to reduce the use of single-use plastic and to "be economical, sustainable, and less impactful to the environment."

The new poppy design has a 40% smaller carbon footprint, and it made from "bespoke red and green paper." The paper comes from a blend of renewable fibres, 50 per cent of which has been recovered from the waste used in the production of coffee cups.

The plastic-free poppy will be available alongside remaining stocks of the current poppy, to reduce any waste of poppies already produced. Poppies containing single-use plastic can be returned to Sainsbury's stores for recycling.

Parish Pump







Blessing of Animals Service

Sunday 8th October 2023

On a very warm October morning, a large number of pets gathered to be blessed in the Church Garden. They brought along their well-behaved owners who joined in the service with prayers and singing.

Miriam asked us all to think about the 'blessing' and not so much that the animals need a special blessing but that, in fact, we have been blessed by the animals and we want to say a thank you to them and to God.

Miriam also reminded us that we have blessing work to do and that we need to look after animals across the world as well as our own pets. We need to look after those animals who are at risk of losing their habitats due overdevelopment and we need to take care of the fragile ecosystems and beaches that are home to rich bio-diversity. We want to ensure that no more creatures pass extinction because we made it impossible for them to adapt.

After Miriam's talk, Miriam and Paul blessed the animals one by one. Loved pets who had died were remembered by lighting a candle which was placed on the altar.









The pets came in all sizes...some large, some small, some as toy pets, and photos of loved pets who had died were brought along too.



Blessing

May God, who created the animals of this earth as friends and a help to us,

Watch over us all and help us to care for them as He has directed

And the blessing of God Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you, your pets and all animals this day and always. Amen

November Prayer Diary

Date	In our Church Family						
1st	Richard and Patricia Hall						
2nd	Anne Harris						
3rd	Clare Hearnshaw						
4th	Gretel and Ron Hibbert						
5th	Francis Hilsden						
6th	Matthew, Sarah, Emily and William Hilton-Dennis						
7th	Phil and Linda Hobbs						
8th	Val Hunt						
9th	Karen, Paul, Amelie and Olivia Jarvis						
10th	Carly, Paul, Lucas, Oliver and Finley Johnson						
11th	Sam, Simon, Carys and Nerys Jones						
12th	Valerie Kendle						
13th	Margaret and Roger Kircher						
14th	Anni and Tom Lowery						
15th	Lorraine, Nigel and Isobel McCobb						

16th	Jean McLaughlin
17th	Sue and Roger McKeague
18th	James McShane
19th	Gill and Brian Main
20th	Jude, Yin and Alex Man
21st	Jane, Ed, Joseph and Ben Manning
22nd	Janet, Graham, Zoe and Samantha Martin
23rd	Jan Mills
24th	Miriam and Rao Mugan
25th	Judith and David Muir
26th	Valerie and Michael Murray
27th	Faith Nazir
28th	Sheila Newman
29th	Andrew Nobbs
30th	Anne and Chris Oke



Social and Fundraising Committee Diary

Christmas Market: Saturday 18th November

Thank you for all your donations so far for the Tombola and Chocolate Tombola. We still need plenty more prizes to make these stalls a success. You can leave your donations in the Parish Office or bring them along to Church.

Also, please keep sending in your empty clean jam jars for the children's activities.

If you would like to help on any of the Church stalls on the day there are up sign-up sheets at the back of the Church or please speak to either myself or Kathryn Duffy.

We would also really appreciate some help on Thursday 16th November from 7.00pm to clear the Church ready for the Market. We will also need help with clearing up after the Market on Saturday from 3.30pm onwards.

Grand Prize Draw

Grand Prize Draw tickets are now on sale along with various bundles of tickets to take to sell to family and friends. The proceeds from the Prize Draw make up a large percentage of our profits from the Market so the more tickets we can sell in advance the better.

Upcoming events

As always, in the lead-up to Christmas, we have a number of events planned so please put the following dates in your diaries.

2nd December 3pm The Watford Community Orchestra

Christmas Concert at followed by tea and

cake

3rd December 6pm Advent Service followed by wine and

nibbles

9th December Parish Council Christmas Market

10th December 5pm Christingle Service

17th December 6pm Carol Service followed by mulled wine

and mince pies

24th December 4.30pm Crib Service

7th January Carols and Christmas Cocktails

Christmas Post Box

The Christmas Post Box (for Croxley Green addresses only!) will be at the back of the Church from Sunday 26th November. The suggested donation is 30p per card and all proceeds will be donated to Crisis.

As always, please ensure that all cards have the correct name (including surname) and full postal address including post code.

Please note that we will not be able to deliver any cards which are not correctly addressed.



Ann Palmer



Congratulations

Congratulations to Judith and Yin Man who celebrated their Pearl Wedding anniversary on 5th October this year.



Correction

In last month's magazine we congratulated Marjorie and Tommy Stevenson on 62 years of marriage that they celebrate on 5th November. We apologise for our error.

Marjorie and Tommy celebrated 63 years of marriage on 17th September this year. We still send our congratulations and hope they enjoyed the celebrations.



Watford Community Orchestra

Christmas Concert

Conductor: Ryan Bunce

Saturday 2nd December, 3 pm at All Saints' Church Croxley Green

A varied programme of orchestral music and carols

Admission is free Refreshments will be available in the church after the concert

Watford Community Orchestra is a small orchestra based in Croxley Green. We provide an opportunity for adult players of all standards to enjoy a varied repertoire in a friendly environment.

We welcome new players and would love to hear from you if you would be interested in joining us.

We rehearse most term-time Thursday evenings at 8pm, St Oswald's Church Hall, Croxley Green.

> For dates and contact information find us at: www.watfordcommunityorchestra.org

Spiders

On a chill November morning
A spider's web, bedewed
With the moisture of the dawning
Will cheer our wint'ry mood.

'Tis one of nature's wonders
'Tis lovely to behold
Till a moth, unwary, blunders
Into its sticky fold.

The spider's role is savage
Its killing bite is sure.
Sweet nature then will ravage
'Tis red in tooth and claw.

Such goings-on we pardon, We do not moan or grouse If kept within the garden – But not inside the house!

For webs across the doorway
Or underneath the bed
Are pretty much a sure way
To get me seeing red!

No house stays clean and tidy When spiders are about, Their webby messes spidery – You cannot help but shout!

I wish, to our eight-legged friends I could request, "Oh, please, "Just go outside, don't be a pest!" But I don't speak spider-ese.

By Nigel Beeton from Parish Pump

22nd November St Cecilia patron saint of musicians

If you are going to any concerts before Christmas, spare a thought for St Cecilia - the patron saint of musicians.

Cecilia is one of the most famous of the Roman martyrs of the 2nd century. As far as is known, she was born a noble lady of Rome who, despite her vow of virginity, was forced to marry an older pagan nobleman named Valerian. During the wedding, as the musicians played, Cecilia sat apart singing to God in her heart, and for that she was later declared the saint of musicians

When the time came for her marriage to be consummated, Cecilia told Valerian that watching over her was an angel of the Lord, who would punish him if he sexually violated her but would love him if he respected her virginity.

Understandably startled by this, Valerian then asked to see the angel for himself. Cecilia replied that to do so, he must go to the third milestone on the Via Appia and be baptised by the Bishop of Rome. Valerian seems to have been a good-natured husband, because the story goes that he followed her suggestion, was baptised a Christian, and sure enough, saw the angel protecting his wife.

Being a Christian in those days was dangerous, and when the next wave of Roman persecutions began, Valerian and Cecilia were among those arrested. It is said that they died at the hands of the Roman prefect Turcius Almachius, perhaps in Sicily sometime between 176 and 180 AD.

One story goes that Cecilia was struck on the neck with a sword, and as she lay dying, asked that her house be converted into a church. Certainly an early Roman Christian church, Santa Cecilia, was founded in the fourth century in the Trastevere section of Rome, reputedly on the site of the house in which she lived.

In the centuries since then, a number of musical compositions have been dedicated to her, and her feast day has become the occasion for many concerts and musical festivals.

St Cecilia is frequently depicted playing a viola, a small organ, or other musical instrument.





All Saints' Beer Festival 20th-22nd October



Work started for the Beer Festival a few days before the event as everything needed to be set up and organised, the beer allowed to settle and the chairs and tables set up.

Friday afternoon soon came round and the customers just flooded in...some who had come last year and some who had never been to All Saints' Church before.

The drinks and conversation flowed and the atmosphere in Church was welcoming and warm.

On Saturday evening there was live music in Church and the rugby was on in the Hall.





The Beer Festival continued into its third day this year as we managed not to run out of beer like we did last year!

Throughout the whole weekend there was a wonderful buzz of

conversation as friends and neighbours met up to chat as well as sample the many different beers on offer. Food was also available to complete the event.

Thank you very much to all the people who made this Beer Festival possible: the Anchor, Tap and Bottle, Ben Guest and Sam Beard, the people who moved furniture, those who served behind the bar and cleared and washed glasses, the people who helped in the kitchen ... and, of course, all the people who came and sampled the beer.

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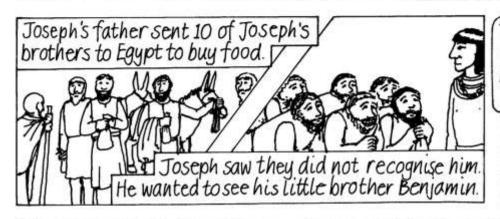




A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapters 41:46 - 45:28

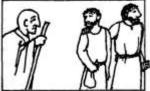
Joseph: sold by his brothers, taken to Egypt, now in charge of the stored food as famine spreads through Egypt, and beyond...



To prove you are not spies, you must bring your other brother to me.



They needed more food so they had to take Benjamin to Egypt.







You have stolen my master's special cup.



The servant took them back to Joseph.



You are a thief and But Judah said must stay as a slave.





It would break our father's heart. Let me take his place.

Joseph saw that his brothers had



Tam your brother Joseph. You sold me but God sent me to Egypt

I can look after you.] Come and live with me.



So all of Joseph's family moved to Egypt.



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little changed sack sent test Joseph brother God family slave cup food spies Egypt father master

sold Judah famine heart recognise Benjamin servant thief

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4		8						3

Sudoku

Place all the numbers from 1 to 9 in each column, row and square.

Solution on page 26

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Training in the Hall Kitchen

Sausages rolls being expertly glazed ready for the oven during the Beer Festival.



Thank you to everyone who helped in the kitchen during the three days of the Beer Festival. Sometimes it was very busy and sometimes it seemed quite slow but we managed to sell out on each of the three days without running out of food. We made a fantastic profit of £993.97 for Church funds.

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Smile Lines from Parish Pump

Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and it seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

Answered prayer

During the minister's prayer one Sunday, there was a loud whistle from one of the back pews. Tommy's mother was horrified. She pinched him into silence and, after church, asked, "Tommy, whatever made you do such a thing?" Tommy answered soberly, "I asked God to teach me to whistle, and He did!"

Clocks

It is told of the great preacher C H Spurgeon that after preaching at length one Sunday he said: "I don't mind people looking at their watches, but I do dislike to see them holding them to their ears, to see if they are still going."

Thine

A Yorkshireman wanted an inscription on his wife's grave to read: 'She was Thine'. The engraver mistakenly put 'She was Thin'. The man wrote to explain that they had left off the 'e'. The next attempt read: 'E', She was Thin.'

Scare it

A man had the courage - but not always the skills - to tackle any home-repair project. For example, his garage was littered with the pieces of a lawn mower he had tried to fix. One day his wife found him in the living room, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "I can't get this thing to cooperate!" he exclaimed. [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied, "Why don't you just drag it out to the garage and show it what happened to the lawn mower?" [SEP] His wife replied where the lawn mower?





Croxley Parish Nurse Ruth Owusu-Ansah Registered Mental Health Nurse 07305084948

croxleyparishnurseruth@gmail.com



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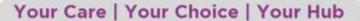
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MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

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Please e-mail contributions to magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org by the copy dates below. If you have any queries, please contact one of the team above. Thank you.

Final copy date: 15th November for December

15th December for January

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR: Fran Bennett

This month's cover is a design from Parish Pump

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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