



# All Saints

## Shooters Hill

[www.allsaintsshootershill.org](http://www.allsaintsshootershill.org)

Newsletter

April/May/June 2018

### What matters the most?

**W**hen we think of the 5 Ps, Power, Property, Prosperity, Prestige, and Pompousness, there is always something that brings us down to earth to face the reality of life. Paul challenged our present day thinking and attitude

saying, even if you have all the five Ps above, miracle working, offering our bodies as a burnt offering, without knowing what matters the most, all these would be of no value whatsoever. {1 Cor 13:3}. What really matters most to God our Father? Jesus said *God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.*{John3:16} This godly love was modelled clearly in Jesus' life, in his death and his resurrection.



Because God is love, he wants all his family on earth to learn how to love, and it is in loving that his children are most like him. So love is the foundation on which the whole law is made complete in this one command, *"Love your neighbour as you love yourself."* {Galatians 5:14}. As we all know learning to love is not an easy task for any of us because it runs counter to our self-centred nature. But God in his wisdom has given us a lifetime to learn it. God wants us to love everyone, but he is particularly concerned that we learn to love others in his family, as both Paul and Peter said *"Show special love for God's people."*{Galatians 6:10 and 1 Peter 2:17}. Why does God insist that we give special love and attention to our Christian brothers and sisters? Because God wants his family to be known for its love more than for its doctrinal beliefs. Our love for each other is our greatest witness to the world, and a proof that we are the disciples of Jesus {John 13:35}. In training us, God has given us a family responsibility - *to practice loving each other.* This

All Saints Church exists to help people live the best life possible through our commitment to serving God, the community and one another.

demands that we be in regular close fellowship with other Christians so we develop the skill of loving, especially around those who are irritating, and frustrating. Through fellowship we learn that life is all about love. Love cannot be learned in isolation.

Why should you make learning to love you goal? Because Life is Love: so love should be your primary objective and greatest ambition – *“let love be your highest goal...”* {1 Cor.14:1}. Relationship must have a priority in your life above everything else because life without love is worthless. Busyness is one great enemy of relationship. You become preoccupied with making a living, paying bills, and achieving goals as if they are the only point of life. But the greatest point of life is learning to love God and people. The maths is very simple: **Life minus Love = Zero.**

Love lasts forever. Make Love your top priority because it's eternal: *“These three continue forever; faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is Love”* {1 Cor.13: 13}. It's how you treat others not your accomplishments that has the most enduring impact you can leave on earth as your lasting heritage, because love leaves a legacy.

Love will measure the quality of your relationship. God will not use your career, hobbies or bank account to review how you treated people especial those in need, but how you loved Jesus by loving his family and caring for their practical needs. He said, *“... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”* {Matthew 25:40}

Love is time. You can make more money, but you can't make more time, and by giving someone your time, you are giving them a portion of your life which you can't get back. It's not enough to say you love someone if you don't invest time in them. *“... we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring.”*{1 John 3:18}

You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving – *“God so loved the world that he gave....”* {John 3:16}. Love means giving up your time for the benefit of someone else.

Love is now. You don't know how long you will have the opportunity because situations changes, and you have no guarantee of tomorrow, so you better express your love now.

Consider these questions and ask God to help you to work out the best way forward:

1. *Who do you need to start spending more time with?*
2. *What do you need to cut out of your programmes to make it possible?*
3. *What sacrifices do you need to make?*

**Life is about love, expressed in the time we invest in others now. That is *WHAT MATTERS TO MOST!***

May God bless you and encourage you as you make priorities for your life and take hold of his gift of life and live it to the full. Amen.

Rev. Herbert Aparanga

# **PCC Elections: 2018-19 Parochial Church Council**

*Priest-in-charge:* Herbert Aparanga

*Church wardens (2018-19):* Linda Bailey, Geoff Sheath

*Elected to Deanery Synod (2017-2020):* John McQuillen, Pauline Sheath

*Elected at the APCM 2018:* Abigail Olaniyi, Constance Benard, Eugenia Sabiiti, Herbert Nwolu, Ibiene Willie-Harry, Jenny Anyasi, Kathy Byfield, Margaret Akpewrene, Mark Pitts, Ola Ogundemi, Norma Nelson, Paul Winslow, Richard Taylor, Sharon Nwolu

## **All Saints PCC Minutes Wednesday 28 March 2018**

### **SERVICES**

The Easter services were agreed. The Friday morning service is proving a valued service with up to 10 people attending

The Bishop is coming on Pentecost Sunday. There will be a baptism followed by 9 candidates for confirmation. We will follow this with a lunch.

We have received a grant of £100 to spend on a prayer corner to support our Pentecost daily services (as last year)

### **FINANCE**

Geoff said that we had £39,346.65 in our accounts at the end of 2017. Our income in 2017 was £47,419 with the main sources being: £6580 (planned giving – standing orders and envelope scheme), £12,831.60 (collections), £11,436.50 (hall lettings) and £12,000 (Mereworth Drive rent).

Our outgoings were £40,270 with the main items being £18,000 (Quota: contribution to the Diocese which pays for Herbert and his vicarage), £4,800 (repayment of heating loan – finishes this month), £3,653 (insurance), about £5,000 (hall cladding and plumbing), £4,582 (gas and electricity).

Herbert N asked a number of detailed questions and suggested asking for donations of things the church needs to save money.

*Hall lettings* In term time the hall is let for around 80 hours per week. The fees are making a good contribution to our church.

*Stewardship* Herbert has this in hand

*Charitable giving* We will leave decisions on this to the new PCC

### **MUSIC AND WORSHIP**

*Service book* This is nearly ready to go to print.

*Sound system* Herbert N said that he often could not hear what was going on in church.

Everyone agreed that we needed to improve the sound system. We had had one quote for about £10,000 to completely replace the sound system and Paul had promised to contact DM music to get another. Herbert N said he liked it when the projector and screen was used, particularly in Family Services. Geoff said that the projector was broken and needed replacing and it was agreed to do this.

It was suggested that the church could put aside £5,000 from its reserves for a new sound system and seek to raise the other £5,000 from the congregation. This was agreed, subject to getting at least one more quotation.

## **BUILDINGS**

*Church heating* This is working well. Even in the coldest weather the hall and church reached comfortable temperatures in time for the services or the hall users. On the coldest day the hall heating went on 5 hours before needed whereas on warmer days it might be only 1 hour. The Nest calculated this automatically

### *Hall repairs*

**ELECTRICAL REPAIRS** We will probably aim to fit new lights in the hall over the summer break

**BLINDS** Geoff is hoping to fit these during the Easter break

*Plaque* The restorer picked up the plaque and says it will probably take a month to restore. Bishop Christopher wants to come to the dedication. The restorer wants to use it for a case study.

Paul has done an enormous amount of work tracing information about most of the individuals on the plaque. He is building a web site which should go live soon even though he will probably add things afterwards. We may persuade Paul to give a talk during a Sunday service in due course.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

There was general agreement that we should try to have a regular programme of social events. Developing this would probably be part of our Mission Action Plan. It would be helpful to get a number of people who might organise an event each to spread the load. Subu was particularly thanked for the wonderful food her team produced at many of our events.

## **ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE**

*Update on Vicarage site* Roger Molyneux, the Diocese's architect, spent today getting parts of the Vicarage ready for building to start.

*Feasibility of refurbishing or rebuilding existing hall* We are still waiting for costings on refurbishing our existing hall.

## **MISSION ACTION PLAN**

A report of meeting Wednesday 7 March 2018 would be presented to the next PCC.

## **ADMIN**

*AGM* This would be organised by the church officers.

*GDPR* "The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will apply from 25 May 2018"

Geoff alerted the PCC to the new regulations which meant that we had to have written permission from individuals to store and use most kinds of data and we needed to ensure data was stored securely.

*Safeguarding* Herbert N asked some questions and the church's procedures and documentation was shared

## **AOB**

Disability Service (to be held at Woolwich Polytechnic School) that was called off because of the weather has been rearranged. Herbert will lead it as the Bishop cannot make the new date.

# **PCC Minutes Wednesday 18 April 2018**

**Committees:** We decided to try to form the following committees (led by): Music and worship (Paul), Building: (Herbert N), Children and young people: (Eugenia, Constance

and Margaret), Social: (Ola, Ibiene and Jenny). At the next meeting we will split into groups and draw up terms of reference

### **Services and other arrangements**

*Pentecost services:* Herbert A has written a draft of the service for approval by the Bishop. The food for the meeting with the Bishop and the deanery and after the confirmation will be discussed with Subu

*Dedication of the plaque:* The plaque has been restored. There are also three smaller plaques. They would cost £925 to restore. Paul gave some details of those memorialised. There was a little money left in the plaque fund. It was agreed that we pay for the restoration. Herbert will see if he can arrange the consecration for All Saints Day 2018

*Autumn services – a season of celebration* We will try to fix dates soon for Harvest, All Saints Sunday (Plaque dedication), Remembrance Sunday, Advent + Christmas Services

**Mission Action Plan** We briefly reviewed the Mission Priorities discussed at the special meeting. Some of the priorities we considered were: Build a church that cares for our young people, Get to know each other better, Develop links with local schools based on the local Sacre curriculum for RE, Seeking mission opportunities, Developing new forms of worship, Developing whole-life discipleship. We will discuss further at our next meeting.

**Finance** A full report was given to the AGM. Geoff has found someone to help with resolving issues in the accounts.

Our Charitable giving needs to be decided

**Music and worship** Paul suggested some changes to the services in the book. He asked if the Table was to be moved forward or left against the wall. It was decided to leave it against the wall. In a recent baptism some people had used cameras intrusively. It was agreed to put a note in the new Service book and Herbert A will remind people as necessary.

### **Buildings**

*Hall repairs:* We would find contractors to replace the lights in the hall during the summer holiday. The building committee will organise the fitting of blinds either on a Saturday or during half term

*Church:* Free-standing pews will be sorted out by the building committee. Sacks of salt need to be moved into the basement

### **Arrangements for the future**

*Vicarage site:* The Diocese was putting pressure on the architect to take this forward.

*Feasibility of refurbishing or rebuilding existing hall.* We still await a response from the architect. Geoff will contact him again and consider briefing someone else if he cannot do it quickly.

### **Admin**

*The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)* will apply from 25 May 2018. Herbert is going to a meeting on Thursday

*Rotas* It was suggested that particularly the children would benefit from being involved more in services

**Date of next PCC meeting** Wednesday 9 May at 8pm [Subsequently moved to the 21<sup>st</sup> May]. Geoff would ask members which days were best for PCC meetings.

The meeting closed at 10:08 with a prayer.

# **PCC Minutes Monday 21 May 2018** (re-scheduled from 9 May)

## **SERVICES**

Herbert has made arrangements for services for the whole of June while he is away

### *Confirmation Service Feedback*

The service was delayed because the Bishop did not bring the correct attire and Herbert was dispatched to another church to try to borrow it. The African music group were very good but it would have been helpful to have known what they were doing more in advance. When there are large numbers of people in church (there were about 170) it would be helpful to plan more precisely how people would move around the church e.g. to take communion. There was a long discussion about mobile phones and taking photos. Should we provide an "official" photographer maybe stationed on the balcony with a long lens, ask people not to take photos during the service but let people have the official photos afterwards for a small fee or donation? We need to have a planning group for a big event to look at these issues more carefully.

### *Hall use by church*

After a big Church event we need to make sure we have a team of volunteers to clean up effectively. Maybe we should

### *Breakfasts*

This went well with the Confirmation Candidates, the Bishop and some members of All Saints attending and the Easter Sunday breakfast was also a success. We might institute breakfast once a month with croissants, fruit and a hot drink in the autumn though it needs further discussion.

### *Giant hogweed*

Is re-growing because it self-seeded. We have asked John the gardener to treat it as soon as possible.

### *Organist*

The organist who played at Patience's funeral is free on the fourth and fifth Sundays of the month. It was agreed to see if he might to play on the fifth Sunday in the month as a trial.

## **HALL**

*Key safe for the hall* Geoff suggested installing a Key safe for one-off users of the Hall. A key would only be put in it just before a one-off booking and the user would return the keys to the vicarage as now. Geoff will check with our insurers before proceeding.

### *Getting an estimate for upgrading our hall*

It was agreed that we ask Alex Halil who built the church kitchen to give us some suggestions for upgrading the hall and help us to cost it. Paul thought we could look at a modular building on the existing hall's plinth

### *Projector*

It was agreed that Geoff buy a replacement projector, a Epson EB-X41 at £329.99

### *HMO (House of multiple occupation) application for 43 Mereworth Drive*

We need to register with Greenwich Council as Mereworth Drive is considered an HMO. The registration fee is £377 and we will also have to provide floor plans and an energy certificate which will cost about £100. We also need to change most doors to 30-minute fire resistant. Geoff will pursue this.

## AOB

Paul has received a pro-forma from DM music preparatory to them quoting for a new PA system. Paul will take this forward while Herbert is away.

Herbert had printed off the information about Church growth that Geoff had circulated. He said that some new people have come via the Church website.

There was some discussion about the MAP

A suggestion had come from Deanery Synod that we might fund a Youth worker in conjunction with other Parishes.

Following Herbert and Pauline's attendance at a meeting about autism awareness here was a discussion about how we welcome people with disabilities in Church. Suggestions included: we need to have a quiet corner; we need to be mindful about the needs of others, to be able to care for others we need to know them better - hidden disability is an issue.

Our preferred date and time for dedication of the Plaque will be 4th November at 3pm.

Herbert will ask Bishop Christopher if he is able to come on that day to preside.

At our next meeting we will fix the dates of our Autumn Season of Celebration.

The July PCC meeting will be at 8pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July when our MAP focus will be "Building a Church that cares".

## Mick and Patience RIP



We are sad to mark the passing of long-standing members of All Saints, Mick Wenham and Patience Vincent.

Mick continued to come to church every Sunday after his wife's death until he had to go into a home nearer to his relatives. A number of members of All Saints

attended his funeral at Falconwood on 25 April.

Patience had not managed to get to All Saints for some time through ill-health but her funeral service was held in All Saints on Friday 4 May by Herbert and Dele Ogunyemi.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Ibiene and her family following the recent death of her father.



## Church Office

For information about activities at All Saints (including weddings and baptisms) please contact the Priest in Charge, Revd Herbert Aparanga.

To get it touch with Revd Herbert Aparanga please email

[vicar@allsaintsshootershill.org](mailto:vicar@allsaintsshootershill.org), write to him at 106 Herbert Road

London SE18 3PU, call at the **Church** on any **Friday morning** between

**10am – 11am** (if the church door is closed look for the bell) or phone

**020 8854 2995** (but this will only be answered and messages listened to on Friday mornings).

General enquiries should be sent to [office@allsaintsshootershill.org](mailto:office@allsaintsshootershill.org)

**For Hall Bookings** see [allsaintsshootershill.org](http://allsaintsshootershill.org) and follow the links.



# All Saints Shooters Hill: June 2018

We warmly welcome you to our Sunday Services

*Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.*

*Then you will know what God wants you to do." (Romans 12:2)*

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## 3 June 2018 1st Sunday after Trinity

### 10:30 am Service of the Word - It Takes time to Mature

Led by: Geoff Sheath, Preacher: Colin Wilkinson

Reader: J McQuillen: Ephesians 4:17-25, Philippians 1:3-6 | Prayers: S Nwolu  
Sunday School

Sidespeople: L Bailey, J Anyasi | Refreshments: B Jatta, C Benard

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## 10 June 2018 2nd Sunday after Trinity

### 10:30 am Service of the Word - Always be prepared

Led by: Kathy Byfield, Preacher: Geoff Sheath

Reader: M Olarewaju, Jeremiah 1:17-19, Ephesians 6:13-15 | Prayers: O  
Ogundemi

Sunday School

Sidespeople: H Nwolu, SM Nwolu | Refreshments: F Olarewaju, K Byfield

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## 17 June 2018 3rd Sunday after Trinity

### 10:30 am Holy Communion - What Matters Most

Led by: Archdeacon: Alastair Cutting

Reader: L Bailey, 1 Corinthians 13, Matthew 25:31-40 | Prayers: M Olarewaju  
Sunday School

Sidespeople: V Aigbirhio, J McQuillen | Refreshments: P Sheath, N Nelson

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## 24 June 2018 4th Sunday after Trinity

### 10:30 am Family Service - This is our Story

Paul will be sharing his research into the people from our parish who lost their  
lives in the First World War and whose names are on our plaque.  
Not to be missed.

Led by: Linda Bailey, Preacher: Paul Winslow

Reader: P Sheath | Prayers: H Nwolu

Children in church for Family service

Sidespeople: A Okoro, N Umeokafor | Refreshments: M Akpewrene, J Anyasi

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## Every Friday at 11am: A short service of Morning Prayer

If you are unable to do a duty can you let Kathy know as soon as possible.

The up-to-date rota is at <https://go.gl/MyUDYR>

If a name has a \* against it it has been changed from the original rota.

## Weekdays in March

Church office and cleaning group every Friday at 10am in Church

Bible study resumes on 3 July and the Prayer Group on 10 July at 8pm in the Vicarage.