

The Fairtrade Benefice of All Saints Churches of Clifton and Southill

Our Clergy Team	Our Churchwardens:
Rector/Vicar: Revd. Anne Hindle revdanne@clifton-beds.co.uk 01462 819436	Clifton: Kathy Blackmore 01462 646371 Keith Pledger 01462 629020 Southill: Nico Rodenburg 01462 811927 Liz McCartney 01767 314669
Active Retired: Revd Paul Lanham Associate Priest: Revd. Caren Topley Reader: Robin Welsford	Deputy Wardens: Clifton: Kevin Gray and Sue Welsford Southill: Meg Pexton 01767 317031

Services 19th February- Sunday before Lent

09.15 Southill Parish Communion – Revd. Anne
11.00 Clifton Parish Communion – Revd. Anne
18.30 Clifton Evensong – Revd. Paul Lanham

Readings at Communion Services:

2Kings 2:1-12; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9: 2-9

Readings at Evensong

Psalm 2; 1 Kings 19:1-16; 2 Peter 1:16-end.

Collect for today

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer List - Please pray for all who are ill including:

Ray Davey, Craig Harvey, Bob Slavin, Effy Hilditch and baby Cleo.

Living God's Love Prayer

Living God, draw us deeper into your love;
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.
Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us to live your love with
generosity and joy, imagination and courage;
for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus, Amen.

2.Kings 2.1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

2. Corinthians 4.3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.

For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Mark 9.2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Thursday Prayers – Every Thursday 11.30am-Noon

Reverend Anne is leading a series of weekly sessions to pray for the Life and work of the Church.

Please feel free to come along to the Rectory.

Easter Monday Pilgrimage

Please let Revd. Anne know if you would like to join the group walking (part of the way) to the Cathedral.

Maundy Thursday

There will be a traditional Maundy Service at 11.00 am in St Albans Cathedral. All are invited to attend this special service. Please let Revd. Anne know if you wish to attend.

Preparation for Lent

Don't forget the Benefice Ash Wednesday Service at Clifton on Wednesday 22nd Feb. At 8pm – an important start to our Lent Season.

Details of the Diocesan Lent Initiative can be found on the website www.livethechallenge.co.uk.

Music at Clifton – Hymn 955

At the 11.00 am service at Clifton this morning, we continue with the new setting of the service.

Sing Up

Do you like singing? All Saints Lower School has started a weekly (Thursday 3.20 – 4pm, in the School) community singing session. All children, parents and members of the local community are very welcome to come along and join in. These weekly sessions follow the nationwide Sing Up initiative (www.singup.org). Come along and join us, it's great fun and will cost you nothing.

Annual Church Meetings - Clifton

These take place on Monday 12th March in the church. The first meeting - the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (to elect the Church Wardens for the year 2012-2013) - starts at 7.45pm and will be followed immediately by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. There are 4 vacancies on PCC this year, 3 for a term of 3 years and 1 for a term of 1 year. Members have to be 16 years and over and included on the Electoral Roll. If you feel that you can offer your time to serve the church, please contact the PCC Secretary Anne Sullivan (01462 817491) for a nomination form, or, to find out what the role entails speak to Anne, Revd. Anne or the Wardens.

Deputy Warden for Clifton

Kathy Blackmore will be retiring as Senior Warden in May when Keith Pledger and Kevin Gray are sworn in as Wardens. We therefore will shortly have a vacancy for a Deputy Warden. The usual term of office is 4 years with 2 years as Deputy followed by 2 years as Warden. In addition to the visible duties in church one Sunday in four the Deputy would be expected to join PCC at some time during the first year and also to participate on Fabric Committee as part of the preparation for the responsibilities as Warden. This is a really important job in the church but is flexible as it doesn't involve a weekly commitment and Reverend Anne has promised not to leave for ages so you wouldn't have to deal with an interregnum!

Spring Working Party in Clifton Churchyard – 28th April, 10 am – 1 pm

We are arranging a working party in the front churchyard to get everything tickety boo for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. I have it on very good authority that the 28th April will be pleasantly warm and DRY so come along and lend your trowel/edging iron/spade/secateurs to the tasks in hand and enjoy the company of other keen gardeners while you are doing it. Please put the date in your diary and we will get a list in church for you to sign up after Easter.

Services and Events next week

Mon	20 th	Feb.	Prayer Group, 116 Shefford Road.
Tues.	21 st	Feb.	Mothers' Union- Pat Wisby
Wed	22 nd	Feb	Navigation Group 1.00pm
Wed	22 nd	Feb	Ash Wednesday Service 8.00 pm
Thurs	23 rd	Feb	Under 5s Moses and the Red Sea
Sat	25 th	Feb	Saturday Club – see below

Services 26th February- First Sunday of Lent

08.00	Clifton	Holy Communion - Revd. Anne
09.15	Southill	Parish Communion – Revd. Anne
11.00	Clifton	Family Communion – Revd. Anne Speaker - Gillian Richardson, Community Support Officer.
18.30	Clifton	Evensong – Revd. Paul Lanham

Readings at Communion Services:

Genesis 9.8-17; 1.Peter 3.18-end; Mark 1.9-15

Readings at Evensong

Psalm 2; Genesis 2..

Other Dates for your Diary

Mon 27th Feb Craft Club

Sat 3rd Mar Farewell Service for Bishop of Bedford at St Paul's at 4 pm

Sun 4th Mar. Clifton Church Hall Teas

Thurs 8th Mar Under 5s – Easter theme

Mon 12th Mar Clifton APCM

Thurs 22nd Mar Under 5s – Easter theme

Sat 24th Mar. Rev Paul Lanham will lead a Quiet Morning

Sat 24th Mar Biggleswade Choral Society Concert in Clifton Church

Musical Activity Workshop at Saturday Club

Clifton Church from 2-4pm on Saturday 25th February, to which all children are very welcome.

Mothers' Union 21st February

Pat Wisby will present "A trip to New Zealand".

Congratulations and many thanks to Clifton WI

The Coffee Morning last Friday raised a wonderful £216 for the Church Hall Restoration Project. As well as providing a truly warm welcome on such a cold wintry day.

Clifton Electoral Roll

It is approaching APCM time and each year we revise our electoral roll. If you are not on our electoral roll and a regular worshipper at our Services, you can join any time. During the weeks 8th to the 22nd February the roll is open for revision. A copy will be in the Church porch for you to check if you are on it, and if you wish to be added please see a warden for a form. Once completed please give it to Linda Dawes by the 24th February. Thank you

Mission Committee news.

Sunday March 4th. A representative from East Anglia Air Ambulance will be speaking at the morning service.

Saturday May 19th 10.30am. We are entering the 5km Milton Keynes Race for Life in aid of Cancer Research, any one who would like to join us is very welcome. Registration (£14.99 plus the all important tee shirt) is already open and my name is down.

Monday June 4th Diamond Jubilee Celebration Book Stall; please may we have your old books, I'll happily collect.

Thank you, Marjorie Cakebread

Biggleswade and District Choral Society will give a concert in All Saints Church, Clifton on Saturday 24th March 2012. The programme will include Faure's Requiem and Feel the Spirit, an arrangement of spirituals by John Rutter. Tickets are priced at £8, (no concessions), and can be pre-booked by calling 01462 700462 or by speaking to Ray Watson from the church choir. Interest shown so far is good so book early to avoid disappointment.

An Olympic Flower Festival In Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee 2nd, 3rd, 4th June.

As Part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations we are holding a flower festival in all Saints Church Clifton. To make this a truly special event we are inviting members of the Village and Church congregation to sponsor an Olympic Flower design in memory of a departed loved one or special anniversary. £30 sponsorship will enable us to produce a splendid display.

If you are happy to take part your name and details of your loved ones or anniversary will be displayed on a card along side the flowers.

Responses please by the end of April to Suzanne Stapleton
01462811929 mobile 07967585946

email suzanne_jenny_stapleton@hotmail.com

The Friends of All Saints Southill have planned the following events - with more to come?

28th April South African Night - Taste of South African Food Drink and Culture By Mr Charles Whitbread Parish Hall)

22nd September - Autumn woodland walk through Southill Estate with lunch in the Shoot Hut

26th October - An evening of Music and supper with the Flitwick singers (Church)

This year we will again remember the death of Admiral John Byng. The bells will chime 52 times at 12 noon with a short service led by our reverend

Southill is taking part in the diocesan Open Church Sunday 24th June 2012. The Church and the Vault will be open for those visiting.

All Saints Southill Church

The Southill parochial church council was forced into a very difficult decision

The 100 year old boiler is on its last legs and to maintain heat in the grade 2* listed building there is no alternative to change the boiler.

This has many implications. The removal of asbestos and a chimney which reaches to top of the tower.

An approved scheme by the Diocese of St Albans will cost £ 28,000 and this will take all funds and more from the Parochial Church Council. Organisations like English Heritage and the Lottery do not give grants for boiler replacements and the funds need to be found from within, with hopefully the help from some local grant bodies. The building can not survive without heat.

There is a problem of rising damp on some walls and the heating of the building helps to keep this under control.

The PCC would appreciate any financial help from any organisation or individual and for further information, please contact Nico Rodenburg (Churchwarden) on 01462 811927 or by e-mail rodenburg@btinternet.com

Mission Sunday 4th March

Paul Ayreton, representing East Anglian Air Ambulance, will speak at the morning service at Clifton

The speaker at Southill will be from the Children's Society.

Life of Christ - Wintershall – Sunday 24th June 2012

Would you be interested in experiencing this dramatic reconstruction of Christ's life? This is an Open Air Play performed by a cast of over 250 actors at the Wintershall Estate; Nr. Guildford in Surrey. Colour leaflets giving details are available near the entrance to Church. The cost will be £30.00 (£20.00 up to the age of 18). If you are interested in going, please speak to Jim or Jean Peacock or call them on 812514.

Abigail & ELVIS at Clifton Cuisine

On March 21st Clifton Cuisine are holding an Elvis night in support of Abigail Smith's visit to Brunei, where she will be assisting in a Community Service Project at an Orphanage. The evening will consist of a meal plus lively music and chat from an Elvis tribute.

If you are interested and would like to know more, or for tickets please see Abigail, Linden or Terry Sullivan. Tickets are £20.00 each with a donation going towards Abigail's Brunei trip.

They are selling fast – 60 out of 90 having been sold already!

Sailing soon from – Southill on Friday 29th June and Clifton Saturday 30th June.

Would you like the opportunity to "sing on the crest of a wave" regardless of how well you think you can sing? Here's your opportunity to "join the crew" people just happy to sing Jonah Man Jazz and all manner of sea songs at either Southill or Clifton Church or both! Clifton school are already "up on deck" and Revd. Anne is on the Bridge just waiting to pipe you on board. The first rehearsal will be held after Evensong on Sunday 29th April – further dates will be arranged with the conductor, Susan Sims.

Jubilee Barn Dance with Bricks & Brussels on Saturday 26th May 2012.

There will be a Licensed Bar and Hog Roast. Admission will be by ticket only available at £20, which includes the Hog Roast supper and a suggested donation towards All Saints Church Clifton funds. To guarantee your tickets please contact Jim Peacock on 812514 as soon as possible. The dance will be held at Clifton Bury Farm by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Donald Brace and Mr John Wall. Please Note: it will be advertised in the next edition of The Chronicles and is likely to sell out fast!

Pew Sheet Notices; Future notices/news to Arthur Clarke on 01462 850220 or email clarke.157@btinternet.com by Wednesday evening please.