

All Saints Gosforth

'The Community of All Saints: living, thoughtful, caring faith' Website: <u>allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</u>

Sunday 25th February 2024 Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am 9.30am 4.00pm 6.30pm

Holy Communion Parish Communion Faith @4 Choral Evensong

For live and recorded services please visit allsaints-gosforth.org.uk

At St Hugh's 11.00am Parish Communion

Thought for Today

Last week we read about Noah, this week we have Abraham and next week we have Moses and the Ten Commandments, three examples of God's covenant with his people. In these covenants the initiative rests with God, he gives unconditionally and only in the third is anything demanded of individuals in return.

There is an emphasis in all our readings today on the importance of faith. Abraham is a wandering alien but is promised land and he and Sarah are promised a child despite their age and Sarah's infertility but God is to be trusted beyond their wildest dreams.

But God's promises can pose challenges. God is valued as trustworthy only if we want what he offers more than we desire our comfort or security or having our own way and Peter in the gospel reading hasn't quite grasped that message as Jesus insists that he must suffer. Peter, and perhaps we too, would like to bypass the suffering, to have Easter without Good Friday but we need to learn to trust God for what he actually promises and not what we would rather have.

So Lent is a good time to remind ourselves of what God has promised to us through Jesus and to trust that he will fulfil his promises however impossible that might seem.

Ruth Birnie

Old Testament: New Testament: Gospel:	Genesis 17:1-7, 15 Romans 4:13 to er Mark 8:31 to end			
8.00am	Holy Communion	I		
Presiding:	Revd Ruth Birnie			
Preaching:	Revd Ruth Birnie			
9.30am	Parish Communion			
Presiding:	Revd Dr Miriam Jones			
Preaching:	Revd Ruth Birnie			
Processional :	Brown 38	Christ's is the world in which we move		
Gradual:	Green 148	The God of Abraham praise		
Offertory:	Green 64	Be thou my guardian and guide		
Communion:	Brown 23	Be still, for the presence of the Lord		
Recessional:	Green 439	Praise to the Holiest in the height		
Anthem:	Kindle a light – Fleming			
	Please stay for tea and coffee after the 9.30am Parish Communion Service			
6.30pm	Choral Evensong with Address – 15 minutes on prayer by Revd Canon Andrew Shipton Psalm: 135 Hymns: 337, 84, 374			

A *warm* welcome to you if you are a newcomer. Please complete a green Contact Card and place it in the box provided, or hand it to one of the clergy or churchwardens.

Children in Church. Children are always very welcome in church, and there is a dedicated Children's Corner at the back with some quiet activities available for children to use there or to bring back to their pew.

On the second Sunday of each month we hold an 'All Together' service which is less formal and with plenty of opportunities for young people to take part. Please speak to the clergy or churchwardens for more details of these and of other activities for children and young people.

Have you problems with mobility? Please let a steward know if you need assistance going up for communion, or would like communion to be brought to you.

Hard of hearing? If you use a hearing aid, please switch it to the 'T' position to use our loop system.

To gain access to the All Saints YouTube channel please go to: <u>allsaints-gosforth.org.uk/youtube</u>

Prayer and Worship

Sunday: Services at 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.30pm. Monday – Thursday 8.45am Morning Prayer in Church. Enter by the South Porch Tuesday's Holy Communion is at 10.15am in church

A Prayer for King Charles Heavenly Father, whose love enfolds us with healing and hope, we pray for Charles our King as he faces the challenge of cancer. May your healing touch bring him quickly back to health and wholeness. Look with kindness on Queen Camilla and all the Royal Family at this testing time. Give wisdom, skill and compassion to those who are caring for the King. Father of mercies, grant to Charles our King, comfort and sure confidence in you, and keep him in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray this for all who we know also diagnosed and being treated for cancer.

Upcoming Events

The Christian Meditation Group meets today Sunday 25th February at 5.15pm in the Upper Room.

Coffee and Conversation. We look forward to seeing everyone for coffee and chat in the 'WARM' Centre at 10.30 - 11.30 am every Monday morning.

Little Saints Pre-School Children and Parents Group Tuesdays 1.00 – 2.30pm in the All Saints Centre.

SING at the **Centre** Please come and join us on **Tuesdays** at 3pm in the Upper Room (or 2:30 if you need sustenance first)! In the run up to Easter, we're looking ahead to a more contemporary repertoire Adele Adkins' 'Rolling in the Deep' and other, older popular songs, some Easter themed. Please see the ad below. *Thank you. Diana Lavin*

The Gardening Group will meet on Saturday 2nd March at 10.00 am. We plan to replant a couple of tubs in the Garden of Remembrance and attack any weeds coming through on the paths before they really take hold! Refreshments as always. If you haven't been before do come along and join us, it's a lively social occasion - no great expertise needed.



Fellowship Lunch. Our next lunch returns to the first Sunday of the month and will be next Sunday 3rd March at 12.00 noon. This will be in the form of a finger buffet in the Centre. Anyone who feels in need of a bit of company is welcome just let me know so that we can be sure of enough food. Vic Spong. 0191 236 4532 <u>victorspong@btinternet.com</u>

Mothering Sunday is on 10th March 2024 and help is needed on 9th March at 10.00am in preparing the Mothering Sunday Flowers. Please see Pam Taylor.

Ann Shaw The scattering of Ann's Ashes is at 11.00am on Saturday 16th March at West Road Crematorium. Everyone who attends is invited back to 13 The High Gate for refreshments

Farmers' Markets 2024 Our first market of the year is **March 16**, 10-2 and we're almost ready to go! We've a full cohort of 16 stalls, introducing some new ones I think you'll like. We are growing and supporting some great charities – Tyneside Welcomes, Great North Air Ambulance to name just two. *Help? Yes please!* Mainly between 08:30 & 09:30 (and later, from 13:45) but largely for light activity – (the stallholders are self-sufficient setting up and striking). *Please* give Marian Cave or me a shout if you have 20 mins or more to offer. *Thank you.* Diana Lavin

News from St Hugh's -

• Revd Canon Andrew Shipton is leading worship today.

Notices

Please can all amendments to the newsletter be in by 11.00am on Thursday.

Our thanks to Glen Simpkins for repairing the Copes. She has done remarkable work and the Copes are now ready to wear on special occasions.

Work on installing the new carpet in the church has started.

Amnesty International Please join us today after the 9.30am service in the Centre for letter writing on behalf of someone less fortunate than yourself. If you do not have the time to write, please log onto www.amnesty.org.uk/cases to sign the general appeal.



Starting on 3rd March we will be having a book sale at Parish Breakfast on the first Sunday of the month. Some of the books will be ones that the Book Group have been discussing but there will be others too! All proceeds to church funds. *The Book Group.*

Call for extra team members for the Kitchen & Tableware Upcycling/Recycling Stall at Farmers' Markets this year! A fantastic team of stalwarts has manned this stall from the start, raising money for church funds (I think it's the only stall that does) and takings have averaged over £100 per market. The brief is to be friendly, engage people in conversations on whatever, invite them to use anything they can to avoid landfill and contribute what they choose to. It is not a heavy sell, we're reminding people what a decent, open-minded and friendly bunch we are! The task is to be seated for about ½ hour so you don't get too cold or wet. Please contact Rosamund Place if you feel able to help in this way!



Change of thinking about pianos! Many thanks for prompt responses about piano tuners' details! The Centre pianos are past their best so I am having a re-think about how to proceed! Thank you for your help and suggestions! Rosamund Place.

An Afternoon Service, for people who cannot attend our usual morning services, will be held on Sunday 24th March at 3pm. If you know of anyone who might appreciate an invitation to the service, please let Lesley Atkinson know on 07484195492 (please do not use her landline number). If you could offer to help on the afternoon, or bake a cake in advance, please sign the list at the back of church. Thank you.

Keeping in Touch the latest edition can be viewed online at <u>https://www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk/27th-november-2023-keeping-in-touch/</u> There are also copies at the back of church. To submit an article of no more than 400-500 words please email: <u>intouch@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</u> or pass to: Christine Willoughby, Dermot Killingley, Lesley Atkinson or Ann Cross.

This year, Lent commenced on Wednesday, the 14th of February, with Holy Week beginning on Palm Sunday, the 24th of March, and Easter Sunday falling on the 31st of March.

At All Saints, there are numerous opportunities to participate in Lenten activities, and a leaflet detailing these is now available. For instance, the Lent Groups provide a deeper engagement with Lent, along with special addresses on Prayer held on Sunday evenings. Additionally, you're welcome to join us for peaceful reflection at the church on Tuesday mornings from 9:45 to 10:15am, followed by a service of Holy Communion. Every weekday morning, except Fridays, the clergy team lead morning prayers at 8:45 am, and you're warmly invited to join them.

Let's journey together through this season of reflection and preparation as we anticipate Easter. *Andrew Shipton*

Sundays in Lent 15 minutes of Prayer at Evening Prayer 6.30pm

Speakers are asked to share:

- One or two stories from their experiences of praying.
- Stories about a time when they were taught, or discovered, something about prayer, that they found meaningful.
- Times when praying has felt like a struggle or a disappointment
- How the ways that their praying has changed
- What helps them to pray in the ordinary times of life

25 th February	_	Revd Canon Andrew Shipton
3 rd March	-	Deanery Evensong at St Columba's, Wideopen, at 4.00pm
10 th March	_	Revd Dr Miriam Jones
17 th March	-	Charles Foister

Lent book This year our Lent groups are using the book *Cover to Cover Lent Study Guide: The Prayers of Jesus,* by Amy Boucher Pye (ISBN 978-1-78951-250-2). You do not need to buy the book to take part in the Lent course, but some participants - or others who are interested! - may want to order their own copy for reading at home or bringing to the group. (Group leaders will be given a copy.) The book is available from several online retailers. Please be careful when ordering that you select the right book - another book with a very similar title is also on the market! Please see details about the Lent Groups at the back of church, meeting from 19th February. It is still possible to join a group after the start.

We plan to send out a glossy Easter Card to the homes of the Parish showing all the services and events happening at All Saints over Easter. Children aged 12 and under are invited to design the front picture for the card. The design should show what Easter means to the young person (i.e. you) and relate to the real meaning of Easter. Entry forms are at the back of church. Entries should be in by Friday 1st March.

Food donations are now being taken to Kenton Foodbank. Their most needed items currently are tinned soup, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, biscuits and long life milk. Thank you to everyone who continues to bring donations and leave them at the back of the church.

Mission of the Month for February Tyneside Welcomes, a local charity run by a small group of volunteers on Tyneside with no single political or faith-based affiliation. Their aim is to take on the responsibility for resettling Syrian refugee families on Tyneside through a Government approved Community Sponsorship scheme.

Donations

We now have a number of ways to donate to All Saints online:

 By QR code. Simply hold your mobile phone camera over the code, follow the link to your browser and follow on-screen instructions Or



• go to https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8ecfe5b6-18c7-4179-aba0-2ebc43a82f7b

Please note that cash on the plate goes to our Mission of the Month, money put into the yellow envelopes goes to pay for the work of All Saints. Thank you!

Contact Us

Vicar of All Saints and Priest in Charge of	Andrew Shipton	284 5540	andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
St Hugh's				
Rest Day: Saturday				
Assistant Curate to All Saints and St	Miriam Jones	07474095190	miriam.jones@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Hugh's				
Rest Day: Friday				
Assistant Priest	Ruth Birnie	284 1393	ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Not available on Wednesdays				
Hon Assistant Priest	Rebecca Watts	285 9840	rebecca.watts@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Director of Music	John Lewis	07981 156751	jonnyonthekeyboards@gmail.com	
Churchwarden	Nick Glover	285 6594	Nick.glover@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Churchwarden	Christine Willoughby	07733 963660	christine.willoughby@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Treasurer	Chris Bolland	285 1180	chris.bolland@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Safeguarding Officer	Kath Davies	07880 618911	kath.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	
Parish Administrator	Louise Waugh	0191 213 0450	post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk	



Holy Week Services at All Saints, Gosforth

Palm Sunday 24th March

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Procession of Palms and Eucharist
3.00pm Holy Communion in the Centre
6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Monday 25th March

7.30pm Compline and talk. Holy Week through Medieval Eyes – Gethsemane

Tuesday 26th March

9.45am Peaceful Reflection

10.15am Holy Communion

7.30pm Compline and Holy Week through Medieval Eyes – The Cross

Wednesday 27th March

7.30pm Compline and talk. Holy Week through Medieval Eyes – Holy Saturday

Maundy Thursday 28th March

7.30pm The Eucharist of the Upper Room

Good Friday 29th March

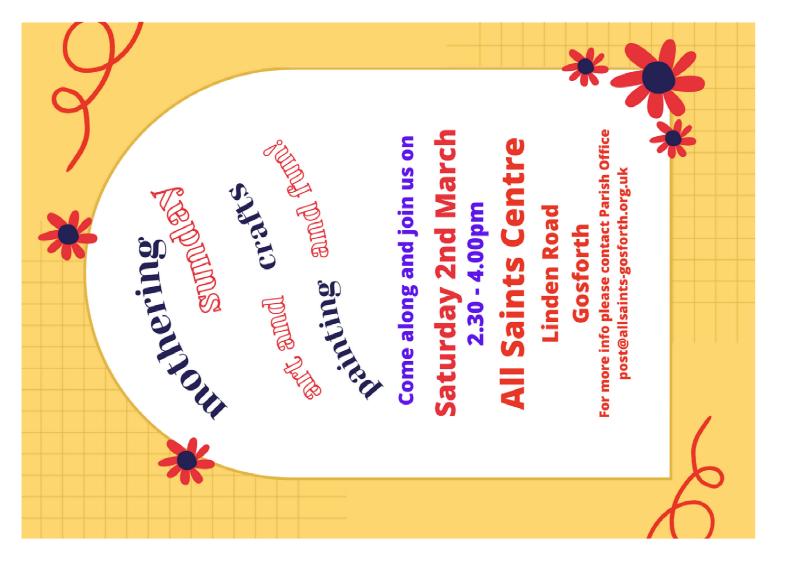
10.00amInformal Service in the Centre followed by refreshments11.15amAct of Witness at Trinity Church2.00-3.00pmThe Final Hour led by the Very Reverend Geoff Miller

Holy Saturday 30th March

8.00pm Easter Vigil and lighting of the Easter Candle beginning in the Centre

Easter Day 31st March

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion
- 4.30pm Faith @4
- 6.30pm Choral Evensong



ALL SAINTS CHURCH GOSFORTH: AMNESTY GROUP LETTER FEBRUARY 2024

Ahmed Mansoor, an engineer, poet, blogger, human rights activist and loving husband and father, is currently in al-Sadr prison in Abu Dhabi. Ahmed regularly raised the issues of unfair trials, detention and torture of critics of the government and about violations within the judicial system. In March 2017, security forces searched his home and arrested him. For a year, no one including his family knew where he was. In May 2018 he was sentenced to 10 years in prison on charges including "insulting the UAE and its symbols". Ahmed has twice gone on hunger strike in protest at prison conditions, putting his life at risk. He is kept in solitary confinement and is allowed out of his cell only three times a week.

Specimen letter

Feel free to put the following letter into your own words. It is to be forwarded to the President of the United Arab Emirates by the Embassy in London. A first- or second-class stamp is required.

25 February 2024

President of the UAE Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayad Al Nahyan c/o Embassy of the United Arab Emirates 1-2 Grosvenor Crescent London SW1X 7EE

Your Highness

Ahmed Mansoor

I am writing to you to express my concern at the imprisonment of Ahmed Mansoor, a poet, human rights activist and loving husband and father who is being held in al-Sadr prison in Abu Dhabi.

Ahmed was given a 10-year sentence in May 2018 on charges which include "insulting the UAE and its symbols". He is being held in solitary confinement without access to books, paper or pens, does not have a bed and is allowed to leave his cell only three times each week.

Ahmed has been imprisoned solely for his peaceful human right activism. I call upon you to release him immediately and unconditionally and to quash his sentence and conviction.

Yours sincerely

