

Parish Notices

Robin Barnes

It is with great sadness that the death of Robin Barnes is announced. Robin, age 50, was the son of the late Revd. Brian Barnes and Una Barnes. Robin died as a result of Covid 19 in the last week of January. Along with his twin brother, Ian, Robin was a faithful chorister at All Saints Church over many years. Please remember him in your prayers, along with his family and many friends.

Rest in peace, Robin.

As our services have currently been suspended, please find below the https links to join the Zoom services kindly offered by St Martin's. **Just click on the https links below to join either the Sunday or Thursday morning services. This is a direct link to the zoom service, a dialog box will pop up - click on open if not click the Launch Meeting button on the same screen.**

Sunday Morning Holy Communion 10.00am - St Martins Church Zoom Link for Services
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/856888392>

Thursday Morning Holy Worship 10.00am St Martins Church Zoom Link for Services
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/866070731>

The draft 2020 accounts for the Parochial Church Council can now be found by clicking on this link
www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk/annual%20parochial%20church%20meetings.htm

The draft accounts and supporting documents are now on their way to our Independent Examiner for presentation at the APCM due in April 2021.

FACULTY APPLICATION

Details of the Faculty application in respect of the plaster work fall can be found on All Saints website by clicking on this link <http://www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk/Faculty%20Notice%20-%20Form%204A%20Plaster%20fall.pdf>

The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil
www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk

Sunday 31st January
The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
Candlemas

No Parish Eucharist



Collect

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading

Deut. 18.15-20

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak that prophet shall die.'

Gospel

Mark 1.21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Post Communion

Generous Lord, in word and Eucharist we have proclaimed the mystery of your love: help us so to live out our days that we may be signs of your wonders in the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Reflection is attached from +Peter

Additional Notices



Live Worship is streamed from Canterbury Cathedral Please click [here](#) to join the service.

Worship Times

Morning Prayer – 10am, Evening Prayer – 5.30pm
Sunday Eucharist – 12noon, Sunday Compline – 8pm

Easy Fundraising -

Help us get 2021 off to a great start for The Parish of All Saints with St Philip, Maidstone by signing up to support us for FREE on #easyfundraising. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 4,300 retailers including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S and more. This will make a BIG difference to us during this difficult time.

Sign up today:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/the-parish-of-all-saints-with-st-philip-maidstone/?referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox

Special prayers for those in need

*Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'*

Paul Crease, Vera Alflatt, Audrey Little,
Daphne Holland, Nigel Gunyon, Mary Wheeler,
Jane Sadler, Tricia (Barbara's Sister) David Johnson,
Ray Stephens,

Special Prayers of Hope and Compassion

Rosemary & John Fowler, Keith Manuell & Family

Departed

Robin Barnes

Pat Donald

Marion Holmes

Andrea Lever

Millie Moss

June Dorothy Meeking (Janet Dredge's Mother)

Our thoughts are with the families of
Robin Barnes, Pat Donald, Marion Holmes,
Andrea Lever, Millie Moss, June Dorothy Meeking

**Please pray for Clive Lever who needs our support
and prayers at this difficult time**

***If anyone would like to add anything to the
weekly notices please speak to***
[***mollieneaves@gmail.com***](mailto:mollieneaves@gmail.com)

Parish Office - 01622 688270
[**office.allsaintsmaidstone@gmail.com**](mailto:office.allsaintsmaidstone@gmail.com)
[**www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk**](http://www.maidstoneallsaints.co.uk)
[**www.stphilipschurchmaidstone.co.uk**](http://www.stphilipschurchmaidstone.co.uk)

Our Facebook Page:
[**Click Here for our Facebook Page**](#)

Church Wardens:

Denise Joy – denisejoy@maidstone.gov.uk
Telephone – 07788 634047
Robert Philo –
[**philorob@uk.ibm.com**](mailto:philorob@uk.ibm.com)
Telephone - 07775 813258

He taught them as one who had authority

Over these past months and especially since the rapid rise in Coronavirus cases since Christmas, there has been one continual plea from those in authority, 'follow the rules'! We have taken the view that the experts, in this case the health professionals, know best and so we have done as we were told. However, when the evidence is often contradictory and the messaging confusing perhaps it's not surprising that not everybody has. Trust in our leaders and their authority is pretty low.

The Scribes and Pharisees at the time of Jesus used their authority to exert power and influence over a submissive people. The rules were clear and obeying God meant obeying their rules so that even healing on the Sabbath was forbidden! No wonder the people were 'amazed' at the teaching of Jesus. He did not use his authority for power or for profit, but for healing and compassion. He didn't demand faith in himself as the pre-condition of receiving his message, or use his status to convince people of what he said.

What gave Jesus his authority was never just his words, but his actions, who he was. He lived and breathed integrity and he invited people to open their eyes and their ears and to see in him the true nature of God – the one who is always seeking the best in us; the one who is always seeking the welfare of all God's children. As we acknowledge the authority of Jesus for our own lives let us pray for the grace of God to enable us to shine with the light of love, mercy and compassion as he did.

Amanda Gorman, the young poet laureate who spoke at Joe Biden's inauguration put it like this. 'One thing is certain, if we merge mercy with might and might with right then love becomes our legacy. When day comes we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid. The new dawn blooms as we free it. For there is always light if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it.'
So be brave-be the light in these days of sadness and shadow.

+Peter

DEANERY PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

Thank you for your continued prayers for the churches and people of our deanery through these difficult times.



We give thanks for the amazing work which goes on and on, in every one of our parishes, as we continue to find and sustain new ways of ministering to our communities—in worship, prayer and practical support. Please pray for continued strength, inspiration and blessing for all of us to keep going!

Through the previous year, we have all been in the same boat, with similar needs and concerns, so our prayers have been for the whole deanery. It's time now to return to our practice of offering focused prayer support to each of our parishes and organisations in turn. This month we ask you to pray in particular for All Saints with St Phillip's and St Stephen's, currently in vacancy. They ask us to:

Please give thanks:

- ◆ For the way in which our church wardens and PCC are being supported, particularly giving thanks for Rev Chris, our Area Dean.
- ◆ For the fellowship and support we receive from Rev Joyce and St Martin's, as our parishes join in online worship.
- ◆ For the willingness of PCC members to be brave and open to new possibilities for the future of the parish.

Please pray:

- ◆ That God will bless the continued development of this process of discernment, leading to the creation of a new Parish Profile, filling it with a spirit of faith, trust and adventure!
- ◆ For the election of parish representatives to take part in the appointment process.
- ◆ That God will even now be sowing seeds in the heart of the person he will send to lead us in the future.
- ◆ For the heavy burden we carry in caring for our buildings—particularly at this time, the structural work needed in order for All Saints Church to be made safe to re-open.
- ◆ For Denise and Robert, Church Wardens, as they carry the responsibility of leadership.

Please pray for all the parishes of our deanery, as we respond to the call from Bishop Rose and her team, to look, think, talk and pray about our organisation, structures and resources as we seek to find the best ways to share our mission, bringing God's love to the people of Maidstone.

And please pray for the Winter Shelter team, particularly Gwyn and Claire (Project Manager and Assistant Project Manager), working incredibly hard to provide take away meals for homeless people every day.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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