

## Today's Services

### Bible Readings Communion Services:

Old Testament		Pew Bible/OT p
New Testament	Romans 4:1-5, 13-13	Pew Bible/NT p150
Gospel	John 3:1-17	Pew Bible/NT p90

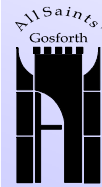
<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Early Communion</b>
	Revd Canon Andrew Shipton
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion with Holy Baptism</b>
	Revd Canon Andrew Shipton
	<i>Processional:</i> Booklet 19 Lord God your love has called us here
	<i>Gradual:</i> ✕24 Be still my soul
	<i>Offertory:</i> 64 Be thou my guardian
	<i>Communion:</i> ✕215 Peace, perfect peace is the gift
	<i>Recessional:</i> ✕207 One more step along the road
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>St Oswald's Hospice Service</b>
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer with Reflection</b>
	<b>Psalm 135 Hymns: 333, 445, 357</b>

## We pray

- for Margot baptised today
- for those longing for a new beginning
- for those affected in anyway by the Coronavirus
- for those forced from their homes in Syria and who have been uprooted and exiled
- that we may know what it means to be born of the Spirit
- that during Lent we might let go of the things that keep us from trying to pray
- for our Mission of the Month: The Friends of the Murambinda Hospital in Zimbabwe.

### All Saints' Mission Statement

Working together as a church we are pursuing a vision to put All Saints' at the heart of the wider community. Our vision is to be a vibrant, inclusive, compassionate and outward looking church with a sensitive and thoughtful approach to faith, where there is excellent pastoral care and encouragement for all and where diversity is welcomed and our worship inspires us to transform the world.



## All Saints' Church

'The Community of All Saints': **living**, **thoughtful**, **caring faith**'

### In Touch Weekly

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Second Sunday of Lent

[www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk](http://www.allsaints-gosforth.org.uk)

Find us on Facebook <https://facebook.com/allsaintsgosforth>

Follow us on Twitter: @AllSaintsGos

The Parish Office is open Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm Tel. (0191) 2130450



## Thought for Today

Nicodemus is a distinguished scholar and a leader of his people. He is drawn to, but confused by, the peasant preacher Jesus, who he visits under the cover of darkness. Nicodemus thought he was already part of God's people by being born an Israelite but Jesus tells him that he needs to be 'born from above'. Jesus says that eternal life is not a natural birth right but rather the gift to a people who encounter and are possessed by the generosity of God. This experience of mercy, compassion, love, generosity, and joy sets them free from all regulation and external conformity. Nicodemus is challenged; his thinking is governed by the need to follow and uphold laws and regulations.

I think Jesus was telling Nicodemus that the Spirit from above drives us out into the deep, and challenges us to do new things and be a different kind of person. Nicodemus had to let go of certainties and to live by a risky faith.

We don't know how he responded to Jesus' words but he reappears at the end of John's Gospel among those who bury Jesus' body (19.39). Nicodemus seemed to have understood in the end.

**Andrew Shipton**

Welcome to All Saints' especially to all those visiting for the weekend, or worshipping with us for the first time. Children are especially welcome. There is a Children's Corner at the back of church where younger children may like to go during the service with books, work-sheets etc, which may be taken back to pews. There are children's activities during the Service in the Centre. We may take photographs during the service to add to our website. Please let the office know if you do not want your photograph taken.

<b>The Goodbox plate by which you can donate to the church with a debit/credit cards will be available this morning.</b>
<b>We welcome Margot Hogg for Holy Baptism today</b> with Katie and Lewis, her Mum and Dad and the whole family
<b>We plan to send out a glossy Easter card to the homes of the parish</b> 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. Entries can either be put in the box at the back of church, or given to a leader or to a teacher at Archbishop Runcie First School. <b>Entries should be in by Sunday 22nd March.</b>
<b>Mother's Day Bouquets</b> will be made on Saturday 21st March in the Columba Room at 10.00am. Donations of greenery would be appreciated
<b>A Parish Away day has been booked at Shepherds Dene</b> for Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2020. Please let the office know if you intend to attend.
<b>Jesus Christ Superstar ( Concert version)</b> <b>Good Friday Evening in Church at 7.30pm</b> <b>Free entrance</b> Jesus Christ Superstar is a Rock Opera written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. It follows the last weeks of Jesus' life told from the perspective of Judas Iscariot. Whilst the story is a biblical story Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice have stated that they neither wanted to confirm nor contradict that Jesus was the Son of God, instead offering a show that looks at the psychology of Jesus the human being, and those who followed or opposed him. Please see the Lent and Holy week leaflet with full details of our Lent and Easter programme.
<b>Sundays in Lent Evening Prayer at 6.30pm</b> A simple form of evening prayer with hymns (Evensong on 29th March) and 10 minute address on 'major influences in my life as a Christian'. 8th March Vic Spong 15th March Andrew Shipton 22nd March Isaac Wilkinson 29th March Beverley Davies
<b>Reports for Annual Meeting</b> We are starting to put together our Annual Report for the AGM in April. Please send your report to the parish office at <a href="mailto:post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">post@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
<b>The Annual Confirmation Service</b> will be held on Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> May. Please contact the clergy if you are interested in being Confirmed.
<b>In Touch Magazine</b> The deadline for articles is Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March. Please send them to: <a href="mailto:allsaintsintouch@outlook.com">allsaintsintouch@outlook.com</a>
<b>Bell Peal Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March from 5.15 – 9.00pm</b>

## During the week

<b>Monday</b>	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	1.45pm	Mindful Body Dance
	2.00pm	Mothers' Union
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	10.15am	Holy Communion
	1.00pm	Little Saints
	3.00pm	Afternoon Tea Club
	6.00pm	Evolution
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Sew, Knit & Natter
	3.15pm	Painting for Fun
	7.3.00pm	R Group
<b>Thursday</b>	8.45am	Morning Prayer
	1.30pm	Lent House Group
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
<b>Friday</b>	5.15pm	Bell Peal
<b>Saturday</b>	12noon	Children's & Youth Worker Interviews

## SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Third Sunday of Lent

<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Early Communion</b>
Presiding:	Revd Ruth Birnie
Preaching:	Isaac Wilkinson
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
Presiding:	Revd Ruth Birnie
Preaching:	Isaac Wilkinson
<b>5.15pm</b>	<b>Christian Meditation Group</b>
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>

## Bible Readings for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 9.30am.

Old Testament	Exodus 17:1-7	Pew Bible/OT p66
New Testament	Romans 5:1-11	Pew Bible/NT p151
Gospel	John 4:5-42	Pew Bible/NT p91

Vicar	Andrew Shipton	2845540	<a href="mailto:andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">andrew.shipton@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Assistant Curate	Bev Davies	07989 145610	<a href="mailto:bev.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">bev.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Assistant Priest	Ruth Birnie	2841393	<a href="mailto:ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">ruth.birnie@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Hon Assistant Priest	Rebecca Watts	2859840	<a href="mailto:rebecca.watts@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">rebecca.watts@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Churchwarden	Paul Wilkinson	2368070	<a href="mailto:paul.wilkinson@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">paul.wilkinson@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Churchwarden	Rosamund Place	2857244	<a href="mailto:ros.place@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">ros.place@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Treasurer	Fred Carr	01661 825863	<a href="mailto:fred.carr@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">fred.carr@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Safeguarding Officer	Kath Davies	07880618911	<a href="mailto:kath.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">kath.davies@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>
Caretaker:	Tricia Maylia	07922920058	<a href="mailto:caretaker@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk">caretaker@allsaints-gosforth.org.uk</a>

NEWCOMERS? – Please complete a green Contact Card and place it in the box provided, or hand it to one of the clergy or churchwardens. MOBILITY? – Please let a steward know if you need assistance going up for communion, or would like communion to be brought to you. LOOP SYSTEM? – If you use a hearing aid, please switch it to the 'T' position to use our loop system.



### Lent Courses

During this five-week programme we shall look at Superstar—a reflection and exploration of issues raised by the production Jesus Christ Superstar.

#### Monday afternoon: 1:30pm.

First Session 2<sup>nd</sup> March last session 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Leader: Beverley Davies, Tel: 07989 145610, Venue: Beverley's Room

#### Wednesday evening: 7.30pm.

First session 4<sup>th</sup> March last session 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Leader: Vic Spong, Tel: 236 4532 - venue 9 Elgy Road, Gosforth

#### Thursday afternoon: 2.00pm.

First session 5<sup>th</sup> March last session 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

Leader: Valerie Hedley, Tel: 284 9045 – Venue: 26 Eddlestone Avenue, Kenton

#### Thursday afternoon: 1:30pm.

First session 5<sup>th</sup> March last session 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Leader: Karoline Wellborne: 1:30pm – The Upper Room, All Saints' Centre

#### Friday afternoon: 2:30pm.

First session 6<sup>th</sup> March last session 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Leader: Ruth Birnie, Tel: 284 1393, Venue TBC

**Jesmond Choral Group Saturday 21 March at 7.30pm Church of St Mary the Virgin, Claremont Gardens, Whitley Bay. Tickets available on the door £12.00.**

**Mothers' Union at 2.00pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March in the Columba Room.** The visiting speaker is Sylvia Hickey our Vice President. All welcome.

#### Fairtrade Fortnight: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

All Saints' is a Fairtrade Church, we use fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar at parish breakfast and many of you regularly chose fairtrade products. During these 2 weeks we are asked to make a special effort to chose products displaying the fairtrade mark when we shop. Many supermarkets and other high street retailers stock fairtrade products - keep your eyes peeled! See <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/> for more information about how you can support those who grow our food but may struggle to feed their own families. The Traidcraft stall will be at parish breakfast on 23<sup>rd</sup> February but unfortunately I won't then be with you until 15<sup>th</sup> March. On March 8<sup>th</sup> we will be offering cakes and biscuits made with fairtrade ingredients at parish breakfast, donations gratefully received.

**Special Palm Sunday Service 5<sup>th</sup> April 3pm** This will be a simple service with communion, followed by tea in the church hall, during which the excellent Semitones Orchestra will play for us. Everyone is welcome, particularly those who find it difficult to come along to our regular morning services. If you know of anyone who might like an invitation, with the offer of transport, please tell Lesley Atkinson Tel 2847163. If you are able to volunteer help with tea or transport, please sign the list at the back of church.

Anyone keen on buying eco-friendly products may like to check out this website: <https://bowercollective.com> This company offers a wide range of items for home and personal use and their prices seem quite competitive.

#### Could you take care of an actor overnight in mid-August, please?



The award-winning comedy group *the Handlebards* are performing *Macbeth* on All Saints' Green on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Five people will each need a bed, a shower, a light evening meal and breakfast, and storage space for their bike. They will need to wash clothes ready for the following day's performance in Hexham before they head up to the Edinburgh Festival.

Please let Ros Place (CW, details in the pew sheet) know if you could help. You could share a guest by dividing up the provision with a friend!

PS Does anyone near the church have storage space for 1 or 2 trailers?

The current recommendations from the House of Bishops with regard to the **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** are that we:

- *Maintain good hygiene, including priests and servers washing their hands and using alcohol-based hand-sanitiser before Holy Communion.*
- *Advise against the practice of 'intinction' – when the consecrated bread is dipped into the wine - as this could represent an infection transmission route.*
- *Ensure that adequate supplies of cleaning materials are readily available and that there are procedures for regular cleaning of hard surfaces.*
- *Ensure that hand hygiene facilities are adequate and working properly; if/when updating or repairing facilities, consider installing automatic or foot-operated taps, dryers and waste bins. Ensure that you have stocks of tissues, paper towels and soaps.*
- *Consider how you might use hand cleansers, for example at the entrances to rooms or sites without hand-washing facilities.*
- *Check that you have procedures for isolating (with appropriate supervision) anyone who falls ill within a service.*

Although the Government advice is not currently suggesting that churches should suspend the use of the Common Cup, parishioners with coughs and sneezes should certainly be encouraged to receive Communion in one kind only and to refrain from handshaking during the Peace.

**Carolyn Rigby writes: For 21 years the Friends of Murambinda Hospital (FMH)** have been supporting Murambinda Mission Hospital and the local clinics which supply it. I am a founder member, trustee and treasurer and worked at the hospital myself when a newly qualified GP from 1994-1996.

The hospital serves a population of around 300,000 and provides a full range of medical services- maternity services including Caesarean sections, outpatients and surgery which we called minor: but ranged from bone-setting to skin-grafts and everything else in between. There are in-patient wards too, invariably full, common diseases being TB and malaria, with a very large proportion of the patients being HIV positive or having AIDS related illnesses.

As many of you will know two years ago Robert Mugabe, who had been president since Zimbabwe became independent in 1980, was ousted in a political coup and it was hoped that after many years of mismanagement and economic turmoil that everything would improve.

You may remember that in 2009 Zimbabwe adopted the US dollar after hyperinflation destroyed the value of the Zimbabwe dollar. Those with very good memories will remember the trillion dollar note I brought along in 2008 to show you which then just about bought a loaf of bread. But, because more US dollars were leaving the country - in the form of payments for exports - than coming in, US dollar cash was in short supply. So in 2016, the government introduced bond notes and coins, which were supposed to be worth the same as the US dollar, to make up for the cash shortage but no-one had faith that they were equivalent and bond notes lost value against the dollar. You could still use other foreign currencies to pay for things but exchange rates would cause great confusion and an item would cost a different amount depending on the method used for payment. Time for another solution introduced at the beginning of 2019: a new single currency, the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) dollar, which only existed electronically. This didn't really work though and its value decreased massively from February to October so from November 2019 the Zimbabwe dollar was reintroduced to solve the cash crisis. On 19.1.20, one Zimbabwe Dollar was worth around one third of a US cent! (Or to put it another way you would need 300 Zim dollars to get one US dollar.)

So, unfortunately, no improvement and hyperinflation again. Doctors in the cities have been on strike since September 2019 and most have fled the country to work elsewhere. Those who have stayed have lost all the value of their savings and pensions. Those without any savings are destitute. We have been here before, it is utterly depressing, and the Friends of Murambinda Hospital are needed more than ever.

The weather has also conspired to add to the misery. At the beginning of 2019 Cyclone Idai which devastated Mozambique caused severe flooding and storm damage to the region around Murambinda. Since then as severe drought has hit southern Africa, Victoria Falls was running dry and the water level in Kariba Dam has fallen so low making the hydroelectric power station useless. Prolonged power cuts are the norm.

We often have to make difficult choices when it comes to funding decisions. For many years we have supplemented the salary of all the staff as well as paying the full salary of several key members, but two years ago we stopped paying supplements in order to prioritise medical equipment and pharmacy and hospital maintenance. However, because of the economic situation, two doctors have left and although the other three have never been on strike we feel it is a priority to keep them at Murambinda by supplementing their salaries again. At Christmas we also gave every member of staff a food parcel to ease their hardship a little. Last year we also sent essential medical supplies and paid for essential drugs as well as renovating staff accommodation and tiling the outpatient department and paid for new security gates.

Please see the display at the back of church if you want more information.

**I am visiting the hospital for a week at the end of February 2020 (at my own expense) and am looking forward to telling you more up to date news at the morning service on 15.3.20.**

Any help you feel able to give I can ensure you will be well used, and I repeat every penny will go to the Mission as FMH has no employees and the trustees pay all administrative costs ourselves.

Thank you for helping the hospital get this far, your support has been much appreciated. Thank you!

Please see our website [www.fmh.org.uk](http://www.fmh.org.uk) for more details and ways to donate

