

saints

Kettering All Saints
Monthly Update

Alive!

**“The Church in the Park – Growing
in Faith, Hope and Love”**



Ceramic by Louise Crookenden-Johnson

JUNE 2023

kettallsaintschurch@gmail.com

CALENDAR FOR JUNE

3 rd June	8.30-11.30	Pre-loved and new – tabletop sale
Sun 4th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity Sunday
5 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
Thurs 8 th	7.30pm	Corpus Christi (at All Saints)
9 th	7.30pm	Malcolm Hupman - illustrated talk on Australian Wildlife
10 th	2.30-4.30	Tea Dance
Sun 11th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 1
12 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
	8pm	PCC
16 th	7.30pm	Fun Quiz
Sun 18th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 2
19 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist with Healing & Wholeness
24 th	10.30-12.30	Listening to God
Sun 25th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 3
	2-4pm	Bands in the Pleasure Park with strawberries and ice-cream in church
26 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
1 st July	8.30-11.30	Pre-loved and new – tabletop sale
Sun 2nd	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 4
	2-4pm	Bands in the Pleasure Park with strawberries and ice-cream in church



Listening to God

Christian meditation group meeting
 24th June 10.30 – 12.30
 Ring Jennie Loasby on 07990 588135



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JOHN

“We belong together”

I am writing this in the final few days before the coronation whilst attending a meeting from which Archbishops and Senior Bishops keep slipping away to take part in rehearsals for the great event! It's all very exciting and strangely moving.



The part of the service that touches me most is the only part that most of us won't actually see; the anointing of His Majesty the King with holy oil, conducted behind a special screen, symbolising his private covenant with God.

In confirmation services we anoint the candidates with holy oil, using words from the Old Testament; "God has called you by name and made you his own". God is our God and we are his people. We belong together.

At the coronation, King Charles will pledge himself to serve us and all his subjects. For the first time, we shall all be invited to pledge our loyalty to him. He is our new King and we are his people. We belong together.

In the past it was only members of the House of Lords who pledged themselves, now all citizens are included. We all share in his calling to serve each other and those in need. I believe in this way we can serve the purposes of God and advance the coming of his Kingdom.

Above the altar in Westminster Abbey are written these words; "The kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdom of our God and of his Christ".

May God save the King and all of us.

With my love, prayers and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'B'.

+John
Bishop of Brixworth

The Christian Chronicle

Media Christianity

The pace of change and development has certainly increased; everything seems to be faster now. World War II has certainly had an impact in many ways – on politics, society, and no doubt on religious thinking too. Whether increasing because of the war, or despite it, there's increased clamour for information and a sense of wider interaction. All forms of media have moved on, "advanced", changing in both style and content. The writing in media is both bold and enquiring, not just in academic texts. Radio is commonplace, and television is on the rise. Films haven't just gained sound, they've become "epic" in so many ways. We've reached the end of 1960 and, as always, there have been numerous changes since the last report. There are a few secular notables along the way, but there's quite a bit to cover in relation to the church and religion in a wider sense.

Increased media presence is both an opportunity and a challenge for the church. Previously, we noted the evangelism of Billy Graham. Not only does that continue, but it's growing with many of the events and crusades now broadcast on TV. Roman Catholic Bishop Fulton Sheen has hosted a very popular TV lecture programme on Catholic theology for much of the last decade, entitled 'Life is Worth Living' and Seventh-Day Adventist George Vandeman has started half hourly TV programmes entitled 'It is Written'.

Radio is not to be outdone either. 'Family Radio' is effectively a complete Christian radio station; non-denominational it covers a range of Christian music especially hymns and songs. A series of short radio programmes on the BBC during wartime has proved to be the basis of one of the most noted works of theology in the last decade. The 10–15-minute radio slots involved contemplations on a number of topics by Clive Staples Lewis (better known as CS Lewis). The scripts for these broadcasts have now

formed the basis for Lewis' 1952 book 'Mere Christianity'. Lewis' easy style has meant that he's also able to write suitably for children. Whilst fictional and fantastic in nature, the 'Chronicles of Narnia' are laced with Christian theology.

Not everything related to Christ have been well received. The 1951 book "The Last Temptation of Christ" by Greek author Nikos Kazantzakis, debates contradictions of 'Humanity vs Divinity' in Christ. Receiving condemnation from many sections of the Church, it's been described as heretical and blasphemous, with calls for it to be restricted or even banned. Even so, it's now a popular read in many countries, and just been published in English.

In 1923, Cecil B DeMille directed a film entitled The Ten Commandments. That was an early colour silent movie, at just over 2 hours it was a long film for its time. In 1956, DeMille reprised the film in totally "epic" fashion. This new version is so long it needs a comfort intermission midway through as it nears 4 hours in length. It's helped to coin the phrase "Hollywood Blockbuster", with huge acting stars such as Charlton Heston, Yul Brynner and Edward G Robinson. Despite a massive budget of \$13 million to make, it returned nearly 10 times that amount on initial release.

Eugenio Maria Giuseppe Giovanni Pacelli was a major figure in the Roman Catholic church for 30 years. As Cardinal Secretary of State, he concluded numerous treaties with European and Latin American countries thus empowering the Vatican as a Sovereign State. Controversially, this included a 'Reichskonkordat' with the new Nazi German Reich in 1933. In March 1939, Pacelli became Pope Pius XII. During WWII the Vatican was officially neutral but was criticised for public silence and apparent inaction over the treatment of the Jews. Behind the scenes, however, Pius engineered numerous discrete activities, providing aid and probably saving hundreds of thousands of lives. Despite sharing intelligence with the Allies, the strongest Papal condemnation of the Jewish genocide was considered inadequate. On the other hand, Nazi's viewed him as an Allied sympathiser. Is this a definition of neutrality, that each side thinks you're leaning towards the other? During his papacy the Catholic church also issued a

Decree against Communism. The response from the Eastern Bloc countries involved severe prosecution and deportation of many Catholic Priests.

Over the centuries, there's been much debate within the church towards the position of Mary, Mother of Jesus. The Roman Catholic church now has 4 formal dogmas relating to Mary, in addition to various doctrines and devotions. Some of these are shared by other denominations, but not all. 'Theotokos' or Mother of God is perhaps the oldest, being formally decreed at the Council of Ephesus in 431. Next is the concept that Mary is free from personal sin; this takes the acceptance of Mary as a virgin mother to Jesus, as in the Nicene Creed, and extends this to a position of perpetual virginity. This was established by the Council of Trent in the mid-16th century.

Pope Pius IX concluded further centuries-old debate in 1854 by decreeing as dogma Mary to be of Immaculate Conception - hence free from original sin. (In other words, not born as a result from normal sexual relations.) The 19thC First Vatican Council established the concept of 'Papal Infallibility'; in 1950, Pius XII became the first to invoke this, declaring a 4th Marian Dogma regarding the Assumption of Mary. The declaration read "We proclaim and define it to be a dogma revealed by God that the immaculate Mother of God, Mary ever virgin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven". The Eastern Orthodox refer to the 'Dormition of the Mother of God' rather than Assumption.

Amongst Pius XII's other activities, he supported the development of an institute of Catholic Sisters known as the 'Missionaries of Charity' based in Calcutta, India under the leadership of Reverend Mother Teresa. Pius also openly entertained the idea that the human body might have evolved from earlier forms – a major step towards the meeting of science and religion.

Pius XII died in October 1958, to be succeeded by Pope John XXIII. One of John's first acts was to announce plans for a Second Vatican Council, it will be the first full Ecumenical Council in over 100 years.

Elsewhere in the wider church, a new movement has started in Seoul, South Korea. "The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of Christianity"

(also known as ‘The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification’, or more simply, the ‘Unification Church’) was founded by Sun Myung Moon; as a result, followers are often referred to as “Moonies”. In his book, ‘The Divine Principal’, Moon considers himself to be the Second Coming of Christ and that the mission, started by Jesus, will be completed with a new family of wider human lineage, free from sin. Despite support from many areas of society, the movement has also been considered as a dangerous cult.

Elsewhere in the world, at least from a British perspective, there have been things to note. In February 1952, King George VI died, meaning his eldest daughter became Queen Elizabeth II, aged only 25 – it therefore looks likely she’ll be Queen for some time. Even before the Coronation, English Scientist Francis Crick assisted by American James Watson published a scientific paper describing the double helix structure of Deoxyribonucleic acid (or DNA for short), the genetic building block for all known life. Continuing on the science front, Alick Glennie has developed something called ‘Autocode’, believed to be the first computer programming language. New Zealand is, of course, part of the British Commonwealth; it’s therefore considered a “home achievement” that Kiwi Edmund Hilary, and Sherpa Tensing Norgay became the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 1953. Then in May the following year, Dr Roger Bannister became the first to officially run a mile in under 4 minutes. The last 5 years have also seen the introduction of commercial television, the first nuclear power station, and the opening of the first stretch of road designed as a motorway in the country.

Finally, despite its very Protestant background in terms of settlement, the United States of America has just elected its first Roman Catholic President. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, often referred to as JFK, will also be the youngest to be elected as President when he’s sworn in early next year. The world is certainly moving forward quickly, and media developments can only mean that communication will drive this change evermore swiftly.

AS SPRING LEAVES WINTER FAR BEHIND

When springtime turns to summertime
a world of wonder we can find,
to gladden the heart and brighten the mind
as spring leaves winter far behind.

When spring leaves winter in the mist
with a blue sky that's sun kissed,
as springtime turns to summertime
in this garden green of mine.

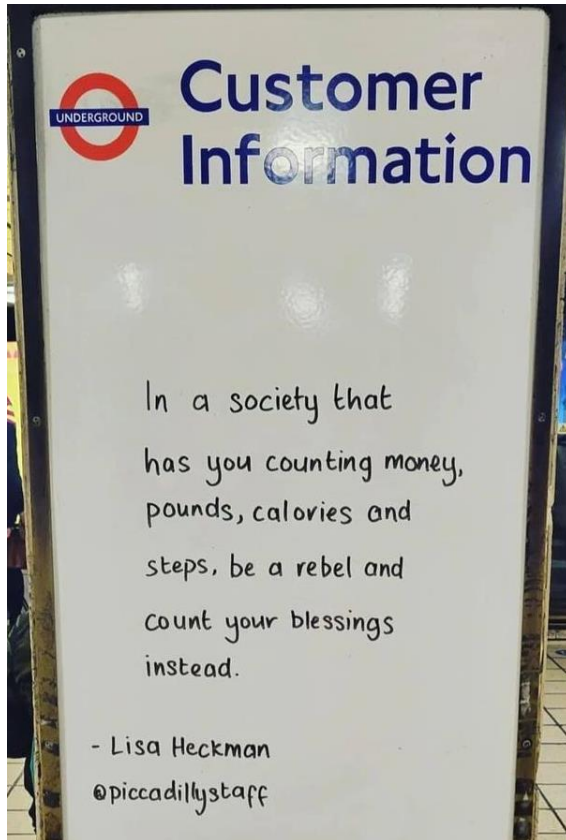
See the foxgloves start to flower
feel the strength of nature's power,
as springtime turns to summertime
in a sunbeam and a shower.

See merry May meet Flaming June
with red roses all in bloom,
as springtime turns to summertime
with a sweet melodic tune.

See the allium spring to glory
see the daisy tell spring's story,
as springtime turns to summertime
in this garden green of mine.

When springtime turns to summertime
a world of wonder we can find,
to gladden the heart and brighten the mind
as spring leaves winter far behind.

UNDERGROUND BILLBOARDS



There are plenty of difficult obstacles in your path. Don't allow yourself to become one of them. Ralph Marston

I would rather walk with God in the dark than go alone in the light. Helen Keller

THE LADY CHAPEL

Did you know we had a Lady Chapel at All Saints? I must confess that I didn't, at least until very recently. I knew we had a statue of Our Lady, I think I even knew that we had a blue light alongside her which is meant to draw our attention but in my case it obviously didn't!



Perhaps it's because the area containing the statue was always referred to as 'the vestibule' by Fr Ron, rather than any reference to Our Lady or her statue. Intriguingly, very little is known about the statue, Angela tells me that in the church archives it simply records that 'Sister Maribel's image of Our Lady from Kilburn came to All Saints in 1929'. I wonder if anyone in our congregation knows anything more?

Recently a member of the congregation asked if the statue could be moved into the chancel. The request was brought to PCC and it was found that it would be very difficult to move the existing statue (she is very fragile) and even more difficult to re-site it in the chancel, so Our Lady must stay where she is. But perhaps we should make more of the Lady Chapel,

it does seem to have been rather overlooked of late. There are some feasts in the church year which focus particularly on Mary and we could incorporate the statue into our liturgy on those days, beginning or ending the service there perhaps? Have a look at our Lady Chapel and the Statue of Our Lady and let members of the PCC know what you would like to see happen.

Submitted by Jennie Loasby

Community Highlights for July for Your Diaries!

1 st – Pre-loved and New, Table-Top Sale 8.30-11.30am open to public. Contact Richard on 07887617978 you must book!	7 th – Illustrated talk by Ian Luck. “Kettering’s Artistic Heritage” 7.30pm – 9.15pm. £6 entry includes tea/coffee. Raffle available.
14 th – Fun Quiz evening £2.50 each includes tea/coffee. Max 4 in a team. Bring your own drink and nibbles. Raffle. 7.30pm start.	21 st – Illustrated talk by David Brown. “Bog Bodies Uncovered” 7.30pm – 9.15pm. £6 entry includes tea/coffee. Raffle available.

Sundays July 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th - Bands in the Pleasure Park (in church hall if wet.) Strawberries & ice-cream in church from 2-4pm.

We have 501 people checking our events page on:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Ketteringallsaintsevents>

Email: kettallsaintschurch@gmail.com

Website Address: <https://kettallsaintschurch.chessck.co.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsparishchurchkettering/>

Or follow us on **Twitter** @[AllSaintsKett](#)



NewsLetter

DEADline

COPY - Please send in your snippets, news, prayers etc to Angela. The deadline for the July edition of Saints Alive! is 27th June. It will be available from Sunday 2nd July.

The September issue still available to sponsor.

CHURCHES AROUND OUR AREA THIS MONTH

(Photographs by permission of Caroline Bantock-Brown of churches, porches, spires, grotesques, stained-glass windows etc.)

Grade 1 listed, St Mary the Virgin church, Titchmarsh (named Tyshemersche meaning Goat Fields or Marshes.) The birthplace of John Dryden (poet).

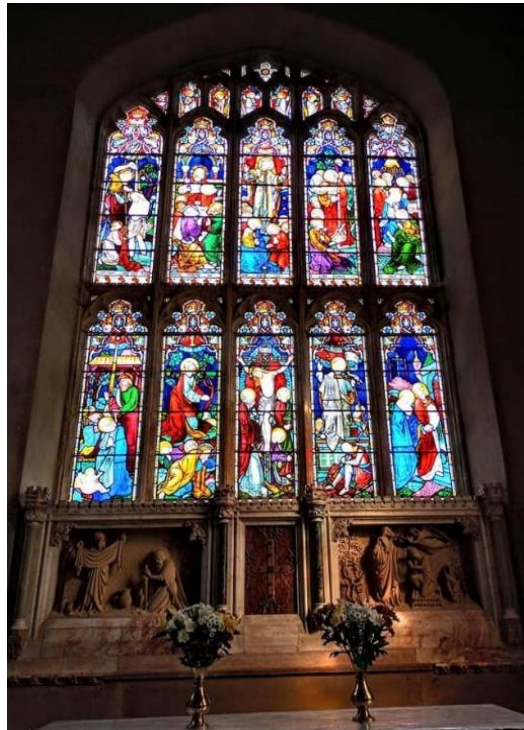
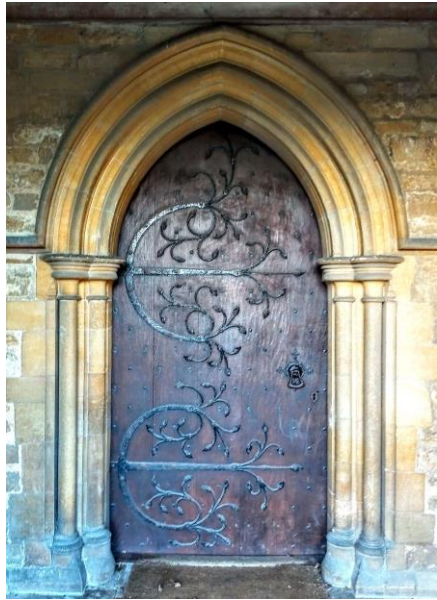
The tower houses a fine ring of eight bells.



Miss Agnes Saunders painted the murals in the chancel. "Thou art the King." Sister-in-law to the Rev F. M. Stopford 1861- 1912



The Font dates from the 15th century.



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OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN

Lots of work has been going on in the Community Garden with Mandy and Martin McQueenie and their spades! Several people from William Street lend a hand, along with All Saints Ward Councillors, the Mayor, people that come to our community events also turn up, and some children love looking for fat worms! We have a resident robin that sits on the fence waiting for any length of worm! A pair of blue tits visit, looking for grubs to feed their chicks.



Emily, the newly elected Mayor of Kettering, photo-bombed the “before” photo of the fence! She does work, as well as eat!

Volunteers don’t mind getting their hands dirty! Tea, cake and biscuits usually hiding somewhere.

If you take a walk around the car park you will see what is going on. I think all the spinach has been harvested.

Angela



REST IN PEACE FATHER BRIAN



23rd July 2006 – saw the Retirement of Rev Canon Brian Lee at Spratton with The Venerable Michael Chapman, ex archdeacon of Northampton.



Photos from <https://www.sprattonhistory.org/>
(Permission granted for use of the photographs.)

“FATHER BRIAN” EULOGY

Andy and I would like to thank everyone for coming today. It is wonderful to see how loved and respected Dad was by so many of his family and friends.

Dad was born in Yorkshire (although you would never guess this from his accent) to Arthur and Lily Lee. He was the eldest of three brothers: Stuart, and Richard. Even at a young age, Dad always had a thirst for knowledge and as a child he attended grammar school where he studied English, French, German, History, and maths. Amazingly he could remember everything he was taught and could easily help Andy and I with any homework - he must have had a photographic memory. He attended Boys Brigade where it's likely he was inspired to consider his own faith and beliefs.

Dad completed his National Service in the RAF, and it was at this time that he met Mum, Hazel. They were married in 1959 and had a loving and supportive marriage. Andy and I remember Dad reading our bedtime stories to us and we had many a happy holiday in Cornwall. Dad would wake us very early in the morning to make the long drive from Calow, near Chesterfield to Cornwall. Not one for sitting in traffic, there was always a tiny road Dad would find to try and beat the queues.

In 1972, Dad was very excited for us all to attend the Tutankhamun exhibition at the British Museum which fuelled his love of Egyptology and History.

Dad started a new hobby, making his own wine from anything growing in abundance. One year he brewed a very special wine. We heard a couple of popping sounds and found that the corks had popped on some of the bottles. To his amazement and great glee, Dad had managed to brew a batch of sparkling peapod wine. It had to be drunk really quickly before any more corks popped!

Dad became very involved with St. Peters, the local church and eventually became church warden there. During Dad's early 40's, our mum asked if

he had ever thought of going into the church and in 1978, we moved to Lincoln for Dad to study at the Theological College. Mum's only stipulation when Dad made the decision to become a Priest, was that his sermons could be no longer than 10 minutes long!

I remember Dad, Zan, and I spending many happy hours playing table tennis in the crypt under the college, we had great fun. Dad joined the colleges' choir whilst there and staged a memorable production of the Pirates of Penzance and a lifelong love of Gilbert and Sullivan began. I'm sure lots of you will remember Dad and his love of singing, he sang hymns with his heart and soul and wo betide anyone should try and cut out any verses.

In 1980 we moved to Duston in Northampton where Dad became curate, and he was ordained in Peterborough Cathedral in 1981. We lived in two different homes whilst in Duston and over the years Dad taught us our decorating skills and we all became adept at decorating a whole house at speed during our frequent moves.

Dad became involved with the Third Order of the Franciscans whilst still a curate. The Franciscans provided an important grounding for his life and ministry, demonstrated in his wearing of his Franciscan Cross when celebrating the Eucharist. He became Area Chaplain and during his 40+ years in the Third Order, he undertook a number of posts supporting others in their own Franciscan journey.

In 1984 we moved to Spratton where Dad became the Vicar, and Priest in Charge to Creaton and surrounding villages. Dad settled in Spratton for the next 22 years. During that time, Dad had a great many achievements and through his admirable leadership and hard work managed to raise funds for the restoration of the church tower, restoration of the window stonework, re-created the internal side chapel, created a kitchen area at the back of the church and installed an under-seat heating system which we were all extremely grateful for at the time.

In 1991 Dad married Gary and I in Spratton church and the following year Andy and Richard. He could honestly say that he had not only married his wife, but his two daughters as well, and more recently in 2022, he

married his granddaughter Annice to Sam. Dad also christened all his grandchildren Annice, Holly, Thomas, and Emma. He was immensely proud of all his grandchildren.

In 1994 Dad became the Rural Dean of Brixworth, a position he held for 7 years, and in 1998, Dad was thrilled and honoured to be nominated as a non-residentiary Canon, acknowledgement of his hard work, discipline, and reliability. We were all so very proud to attend Peterborough Cathedral when Dad was made a Canon.

Over the years both Mum and Dad created a wonderful vicarage garden from the wilderness they found when they first moved to Spratton. They held lots of events in the garden; barbecues, Gardens Open and many a celebration, including Andy's wedding reception. Dad would spend hours mowing the grass and a young Thomas would follow behind him like a mini shadow pushing his own small toy lawnmower.

Mum and Dad had their first camping experience in a borrowed tent which leaked following a heavy downpour. All our clothes got wet, meaning we had to return home early but despite that they developed a love for camping and bought their own tent, and had years of happy camping holidays with both Frankie and then Poppy, their Old English Sheepdogs. Eventually they upgraded and bought a caravan, and it didn't matter if it rained after that.

Sadly, our mother passed away in 2005 and the following year Dad retired from Spratton at the age of 68. He moved to Kettering and joined All Saints church where he was welcomed and made many new friends. He continued to take services when needed both at All Saints and in other parishes around the county. He made a very close friend in Pam, and they became constant companions these past few years. Dad was very happy spending time with Pam and called Pam his "lovely lady", and she really is a lovely lady.

In 2002, Dad was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis, thankfully he learned to manage his condition with the correct treatment.

Over the years, as Dad's health problems increased, he quietly accepted his limitations and determinedly made the most of every day. Dad

enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved to start the day with his coffee and a crossword and enjoyed listening to classical music, in particular Beethoven, some of his favourite tunes played in church today.

During covid, we started weekly family zoom meetings which we continue still to hold. This enabled Dad to see his granddaughter Holly in Miami, Son-in-Law Gary in Saudi Arabia, granddaughter Annice in Lincolnshire and our dear family friend and cousin Gill in East Grinstead. We held weekly quizzes and Dad was most definitely the quiz master of us all. We frequently had quiz questions on James Bond (his favourite films), cars, classical music, and many other topics. When it was our turn to create a quiz, the challenge would be to devise a quiz that Dad wouldn't win! And of course, Dad wouldn't be Dad if he didn't have his glass of Blossom Hill on the go during the zoom call.

One of Dad's loves in his life in recent years was his beloved Renault Laguna Coupe. He loved to drive. As his health problems increased, he was at least able to feel normal when he got behind the wheel of his car. He celebrated his birthday by travelling to Thornton-le-Dale to meet his TV hero Derek Mathewson from Bangers and Cash, hence the presence of the Bangers and Cash baseball cap *{on his coffin}* he loved to wear.

Dad eagerly looked forward to watching formula one racing. Every time he would watch the first couple of laps before falling fast asleep and then amazingly always managed to wake up in time to watch the final few laps!

During Dad's last few days in hospital, he was pleased to be able to speak to many of his friends and family to say his goodbyes. Annice managed to sneak in a bottle of Blossom Hill to the ward and he enjoyed a very small glass of wine and we played some of his favourite Beethoven music for him. Even on Dad's last morning, he was still trying to devise quiz questions for us and telling jokes. We were honoured to be with him till the end.

Dad you are loved and will be sadly missed. Be at Peace. God bless you.

Kindly submitted by his two daughters Andrea & Zaneta.

WHO'S WHO AT ALL SAINTS PARISH CHURCH

Priest-in-charge	Rev. David Walsh	
Reader	John Stapleton	520342
Reader	Alan Ridley	529426
Churchwardens:	Richard Lewis	513703
	Angela Brett	522158
Safeguarding:	Julie Loake	07743400812
Hall Manager:	Lyn Ridley	529426
Secretary:	John Sockett	501851
Treasurer:	Marie Morrison	725219
Saints Alive!	Angela Brett	522158

**This edition of Saints Alive is in memory of
Father Brian Lee.**

**A dear friend to many at All Saints, Kettering
and a great support during Lockdown.**

