

saints

Kettering All Saints
Monthly Update

Alive!

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



MAY 2023

kettallsaintschurch@gmail.com

CALENDAR FOR MAY

1 st	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist (Bank Holiday)
6 th		Coronation of King Charles III
Sun 7th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist - Easter 5 - with cream tea after the service. (Booking required)
8 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist (Bank Holiday)
12 th	7.30pm	Happy Together Ukulele Band £6 pay on door
13 th	2.30-4.30	Tea Dance
14th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist - Easter 6
	12 noon	Plus APCM
15 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
	8pm	PCC meeting
Thurs 18th	7.30pm	Ascension Day Joint service at SS Peter & Paul
19 th	7.30pm	Fun Quiz
Sun 21st	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Easter 7
22 nd	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist with Healing & Wholeness
27 th	10.30-12.30	Listening to God
Sun 28th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Pentecost
29 th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist (Bank Holiday)
3 rd June	8.30-11.30	Pre-love and new – tabletop sale
4th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity Sunday

Don't forget you can order two scones, jam and clotted cream for £5 to take away on Sunday 7th May or stay for a cup of tea.



Listening to God

Christian meditation group meeting

27th May 10.30 – 12.30

Ring Jennie Loasby on 07990 588135



A MESSAGE FROM DAVID WALSH

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

I know the sad news of Father Brian's death will have affected us all. Despite our sadness, we have so much to be thankful for from his time with us.

I am struck by the way Father Brian kept serving right to the very end. That is a lesson I will not forget. Exactly two weeks before his death, I had been washing the feet of twelve members of the congregation at P & P and found it profoundly moving, especially when it was followed by singing words from a great hymn by another Brian, Brian Wren: 'Great God, your love has called us here':

'Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.'

I've already mentioned two Brians, and here is a third. On the day I made my second visit to Fr Brian in hospital, this time to commend him to God as it had become clear he was approaching the end, I drove to the hospital from Peterborough, where I was attending the inquest of Brian Chapman, the verger at P & P for several decades who was killed in a road traffic accident in June 2018. We'd been waiting just under five years for the inquest.

I've looked again at the words I said at Brian Chapman's funeral, and they remind me that this Brian also understood what it meant to serve:

‘Brian understood that what God wanted from him was nothing more and nothing less than himself. The whole of himself. In the words of his favourite hymn, ‘Just as I am’.

This month we have our annual meeting, the APCM, a time when we review last year and have a chance to ask questions about the future, especially who is going to fill the various roles needed to sustain the life of our church and hopefully enable it to flourish. In a couple of months the PCC also plans to have an away day, asking questions about the future of All Saints.

I hope during these conversations each of us will be asking ourselves ‘How can I serve? What is my role in this story?’.

We follow someone who showed us the way. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote: ‘the Cross itself is the true tree of life. We do not find life by possessing it, but by giving it.’

The Christian Chronicle

Lost, Found and New Starts

We’ve made it to 1949, and the world has made it too - that’s something that hasn’t always been guaranteed over the last 10 years. The last report concluded with the start of another Great War, now referred to as World War II. If the Great War (a.k.a. WWI) wasn’t bad enough this 6-year conflict has well and truly encircled the world. Whilst there are bits to pick out from the conflict and background, I’ll pass on most of the detail as there’s, already, almost too much information out there. As we’ll see, much was lost in the war, but since then things have also been found, and there have been new starts, all of which are more important than the loss.

We’ll start in Germany, returning to the period that was a prelude to war. Such was Hitler’s desire to control everything, he even looked to take over the Christian Church. Even before Hitler became Chancellor, the German

Landeskirche was in division between the Nationalistic Deutsche Christen movement and other “Young Reformers”. Within months of Nazi control, the Regional Leader of the Deutsche Christians in the small province of East Prussia was elevated to the position of Reichbischof (Bishop of the Reich). Ludvik Müller, a military Chaplain in WW I, had been a supporter of Nazism since the 1920’s and had met Hitler many times. The Deutsche Christen movement even sought to eradicate large sections of the Old Testament as heresy - described as Jewish corruption - and Christ was identified as Aryan.

From the young reformers there have emerged two significant names, each respected and associated with modern academic theology. Together they play fundamental parts on founding the ‘Confessing Church’ as the counter to Nationalism. Dietrich Bonhoeffer had been an anti-Nazi dissident from the early 1930’s. Ordained in 1931 at the age of 25, Bonhoeffer was one of the first to speak out publicly against Hitler, just as he was installed as Chancellor, even though his radio broadcast was abruptly, mysteriously, cut short. He was vociferous in his condemnation of Hitler and the persecution of the Jews. His 1937 book entitled “The Cost of Discipleship” centres on the Sermon on the Mount and spells out what it means to follow Christ.

Bonhoeffer was influenced by Karl Barth, a Swiss Reformed theologian already recognised for his 1920’s work “The Epistle to the Romans”, and who’d started a systematic review of Church dogmatics from the mid-30’s. Whilst Barth and Bonhoeffer differed in some of their theological thinking, they were united in their attack on the nationalism of Deutsche Christens.

Whilst Barth survived the war and continued cataloguing and reviewing Church Dogma, Bonhoeffer was arrested and interned in 1943, and hanged for his dissent shortly before the end of the war. Ludvik Muller committed suicide shortly after Hitler’s fall. Bonhoeffer’s initial dissent had been in response to localised persecution, exclusion, and ill-treatment of Jews. It was not until after the end of the war that the extent of Hitler’s fanatic barbarism was revealed, as the various isolated concentration camps were liberated. The revelations brought into sharp focus the term “genocide”.

Prior to WWII, wars consisted of a series of battles each generally confined to a region or field of battle, whether that be on land, at sea, or, more recently, in the air. Battles were fought by fighting men, civilian casualties were limited and usually accidental. Not anymore! WWII saw mass bombing of civilian populations, not just military or support infrastructure targets. Wars could often be foreseen, but that, too, is no longer guaranteed. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, December 1941, was both unannounced and unexpected; it opened up the overall conflict to the other half of the world around the Pacific Ocean. Whilst more traditional manoeuvres from allied and Russian forces led to the end of the conflict in Europe, the United States chose to unleash a far more devastating action on Japan to force an end to the Pacific war. For the first time atomic bombs were detonated over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6th and 9th August 1945 respectively. The true loss of life through these two events is unknown but estimates suggest around 200,000, mostly civilians, died as a direct result of the bombs, with further loss of life due to radiation in the period after.

Has war lost its innocence, its naivety? What has happened to honesty and integrity? Are we at risk of losing our humanity?

The end of the war, devastating as it was, has seen a desire for renewal, for looking forward, which sometimes involves understanding the past. Global communication is here. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) had started regular television broadcasts in the 30's. Newsreel footage was often shown in cinemas, and now television sets are gradually entering everyday homes. People don't just read or hear about events around the world now, they can see images of what's happening too.

Somethings, however, don't come to light very quickly. It seems that a young local farmer unearthed a sealed jar near the upper Egyptian town of Nag Hammadi in 1945. Scholars are only just getting to examine the documents contained in these jars, but they appear to be previously unseen early Christian and Gnostic texts from the 4th century AD. Documents like these must be like, as the saying goes, London buses - you wait hundreds of years to find them, and then two lots come along at once. In a cave at Qumran, near the Dead Sea, Bedouin shepherds found more

stone jars in 1947; these contain texts dated between 3rd century BC and 1st century AD. Work to recover the jars, and their contents, is still ongoing, hampered by conflict in the area, but there's lots of excitement as to what might be contained in them. At least one of these 'Dead Sea Scrolls' is already making an impact. Work has commenced on a Revised Standard Version of the bible in English - the intension: to update the Authorised (King James) Version to be more readable in modern times, whilst seeking to amend some of the issues that have become clear over time. One of the first scrolls to be recovered contains virtually the entire Book of Isaiah. Written in Hebrew, it's the oldest complete copy of Isaiah and, it's said, will be used to ensure accuracy in the new RSV when it appears.

Prior to the war, even before WWI, there'd been talk of an 'Ecumenical Movement', seeking to bring links and collaboration between different Christian branches and denominations across the world. Bonhoeffer had played a part in this movement in the 30's, leading to an agreement to establish a world-wide council; but then WWII got in the way. However, in 1948, the World Council of Churches was finally formulated as delegates from 147 churches around the world assembled in Amsterdam. It's far too early to talk about reunification, but the development is very positive.

Britain is trying to translate the necessary wartime collaboration into building for the future for all during peacetime. During the war there'd been cross party agreement on the need for a system of health across the nation. In 1946 that was put into legislation, and on 5th July 1948 the National Health Service came into being. Railways also played an important part during the war, and, post-war, the Labour Government has brought the previous 4 companies together as a nationalised organisation - British Rail.

Moving overseas, India has been lobbying for independence from Britain, especially through the enigmatic Mahatma Ghandhi, but the religious situation in that part of the world is quite complex. Most of the area of the British Raj in India is predominantly Hindu. However, the northeast and northwest corners are essentially Muslim, although following separate branches of the Muslim faith. But the picture is not clear anywhere with Muslims in the Hindu areas and Hindus in the Muslim areas; add onto that

many Sikhs across the country and, following British influence and missionary work, many Christians too. India was granted Independence in 1947, not as one nation, but as two nations/three territories – India with a Hindu leadership, Pakistan (both east and west territories together) with Muslim leadership. The transition was far from smooth with many violent encounters as whole swathes of people migrated across these new borders to be in accordance with their religious beliefs; Ghandi, himself was assassinated in January 1948. So, India is not now part of the British Empire, but India and Pakistan are still part of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Talking of nations, before WWII there'd been a 'League of Nations' but that closed down with the outbreak of war in 1939. Now the war has ended, there's a new 'United Nations' organisation established with aims of maintaining peace. Also, many of the countries that formed the 'Allied' group during WWII (with a few additions) have recently signed a treaty creating the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). Yet another in the series of new starts.

Finally, something for us to keep an eye on. In America, a Southern Baptist Minister called William Franklin Graham Jnr is gaining immense popularity. He hosts large scale Evangelistic campaigns. The first, in 1947, was attended by 6,000 people and each one since seems to get bigger and bigger. His focus is on the Good News, especially the Gospel according to St John, and people are invited to come forward 'to ask Jesus to be their Saviour'. His approach is loud and dramatic – is the established church ready for this?

NEW BLUE SKY

All life's troubles from yesterday
they're gone in the blink of an eye,
when every day's a new day
with a new blue sky

All life's fears and worry woes
that rise from time to time,
funny how they comes then goes
in the bright sunshine

Every day's a new day
with a new blue sky,
when all life's troubles from yesterday
simply float on by

All life's troubles from yesterday
don't seem important now,
when every day's a new day
they disappear somehow

Worry woes can mess you up
and make your stomach churn,
but when that new sun rises up
peace and calm return

All life's fears and worry woes
that made you curse and cry,
funny how they comes then goes
with a new blue sky

Every days a new day
with a new blue sky,
when all life's troubles from yesterday
simply float on by,
yes, all life's troubles from yesterday
simply float on by

All rights reserved – **Steve Howkins (from Rothwell)**

APRIL PCC meeting

Items of note discussed:

Statue of Our Lady – There remains divided opinion in respect of this statue. No decision was made but an article will appear in Saints Alive

about our statue of Mary, and David will consider possibilities of including that area for relevant celebrations for instance the Annunciation.

Parish Priest's Items – Away Day 8th July 2023 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Venue to be confirmed. The new curate will be moving in soon. The Rota for priests presiding in the three Churches have been adjusted following the loss of Father Brian.

APCM 2023 – Sunday 14th May immediately following the 10.30

Eucharist. (i) The Trustees' Report was agreed. (ii) Preparations for this meeting are in hand (iii) Retiring PCC members are Jennie Loasby and Richard Peaden. If they are agreeable, they can be nominated for re-election.

Link with Church in South Korea – A meeting has now been arranged.

David is much involved with the development of the links with South Korea in the UK including those of Southwark Cathedral and the arrival of Bishop Moses in New Malden. David will arrange to give a talk on his time in Korea when a convenient slot can be arranged later in the year.

Community Garden Project – Phase 1 has started which includes the growing of vegetables and flowers. Some fencing will be treated by the Garden Project community.

Church Development To Do List – The exterior work on the windows and doors will proceed as soon as the weather is more reliable.

All Saints' Community Events – Please consider offering your help for any of these events particularly on the catering side. Those already involved are not precious about this involvement and would be grateful for any additional help.

Finance and Stewardship – (i) 2023 accounts to end of March received.

(ii) Fuel costs are not complete as a Gas bill is awaited. (iii) The auditor has returned the books to Marie our Treasurer the formal report is awaited. (iv) As our outgoings remain higher than our income it will not be possible to pay additional Parish Share at present. (v) Please have a look at the certificate acknowledging the part payment of Parish Share on the notice board.

Hall Matters – (i) Mother and Toddler Group considering the use of the facilities one weekday from possibly 9 am to 1 pm. (ii) Volunteers for a kitchen cleaning rota are needed.

Health and Safety – Alan is working through the Risk Assessment for home visits.

Fabric – Quotes are in for LED lighting. Richard Lewis has sourced a grant of £1500 towards some of this work and the exterior windows and doors.

Date of Next Meeting – 12th June 2023 at 8pm

Submitted by J. Boutchier

32nd ALL SAINTS RAINBOWS

Did you know that Girlguiding has changed its trefoil?



We help all girls know they can do anything.

We have been getting ready for the coronation of King Charles III. We have been trying to make some bunting using our hands for the King to hang in the palace. Do you think he will put it up? We hope he does!

We are working towards a badge called a Cup of Kindness:

K = King (make a Union flag related craft – our bunting)

I = influence (do something to boost awareness of Girlguiding – this article in the church magazine)

N = neighbours (support a local charity – we helped a local hedgehog charity)

D = discover
(find out the
family tree for
the royal
family – in
progress)



The other side of the wall

There was a young woman who took great pride in the growth and care of the flowers in her flower garden. She had been raised by her grandmother who taught her to love and care for flowers as she herself had done. So, like her grandmother, her flower garden was second to none.

One day while looking through a flower catalogue she often ordered from, a picture of a plant immediately caught her eye. She had never seen blooms on a flower like that before. "I have to have it," she said to herself, and she immediately ordered it.

When it arrived, she already had a place prepared to plant it. She planted it at the base of a stone wall at the back of her yard. It grew vigorously, with beautiful green leaves all over it, but there were no blooms. Day after day she continued to cultivate it, water it, feed it, and she even talked to it attempting to coax it to bloom. But, it was to no avail.

One morning weeks later, as she stood before the vine, she contemplated how disappointed she was that her plant had not bloomed. She was giving considerable thought to cutting it down and planting something else in its place.

It was at this point that her disabled neighbour, whose garden joined hers, called over to her. "Thank you so much! You can't imagine how much I have enjoyed the blooms of that vine you planted." The young woman walked through the gate into her neighbour's garden, and sure enough, she saw that on the other side of the wall the vine was filled with blooms.

There were indeed the most beautiful blooms she had ever seen. The vine had crept through the crevices and it had not flowered on her side of the wall, it had flowered luxuriantly on the other side.

Just because you cannot see the good result of your labour does not mean that it bore no fruit.

Randy Reynolds

THE POWER OF WORDS

Hate has four letters, so does love.
Enemies has seven letters, so does friends.
Lying has five letters, so does truth.
Negative has eight letters, so does positive.
Anger has five letters, so does happy.
Under has five letters, so does above.
Hurt has four letters, so does heal.
Cry has three letters, so does joy.
Wrong has five letters, so does right.
Negativity has ten letters, so does positivity.
Life is two sided. Choose the better side of it!

Unknown

Life is a double-edged sword, if you can think of any others, let me know.



Christian Aid Week 2023

Once again there will be no street collection for Christian Aid this year. Instead, we will continue to have a collection in church in much the same way as we collect for USPG in Lent. Envelopes will be distributed in church on Sunday 14th May, the beginning of Christian Aid Week and we would ask you to bring them back to church – with your donation of course – on Sunday 20th May.

If you are unable to do that you can either donate directly to Christian Aid through their website at caweek.org or give your donation to Jennie Loasby who will add it to our parish total.

This year Christian Aid Week focuses on the people of Malawi, and in particular their ability to pay for their children's education. Soaring costs are affecting people all around the world and families in Malawi are paying the price of this global crisis. Food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months and hard-working farmers are seeing their harvests fail as the climate crisis brings increasingly erratic weather. As a result, families are having to choose which of their children to educate. Christian Aid week is supporting them and many others to help them secure a better future for their families and communities. It is

vital that we support this collection for Christian Aid Week, especially since we no longer have a house-to-house collection. Please do what you can to help. Thank you. Jennie Loasby



NewsLetter

DEADline

COPY - Please send in your snippets, news, prayers etc to Angela. The deadline for the June edition of Saints Alive! is 30th May. It will be available from Sunday 4th May.

June/July/September issues are still available to sponsor.

Community Highlights for June for Your Diaries!

3 rd – Pre-loved and New, Table-Top Sale 8.30-11.30am open to public. Contact Richard on 07887617978 you must book!	9 th – Illustrated talk by Malcolm Hupman. “An Australian Adventure and its Wildlife” 7.30pm – 9.130pm £5 entry includes tea/coffee. Raffle available.
10 th - Tea Dance starts 2-30pm-4.30pm. Raffle available. Entry £3.50 includes tea/coffee and cake.	16 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.

We have 484 people checking our events page on:

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

Email: kettallsaintschurch@gmail.com

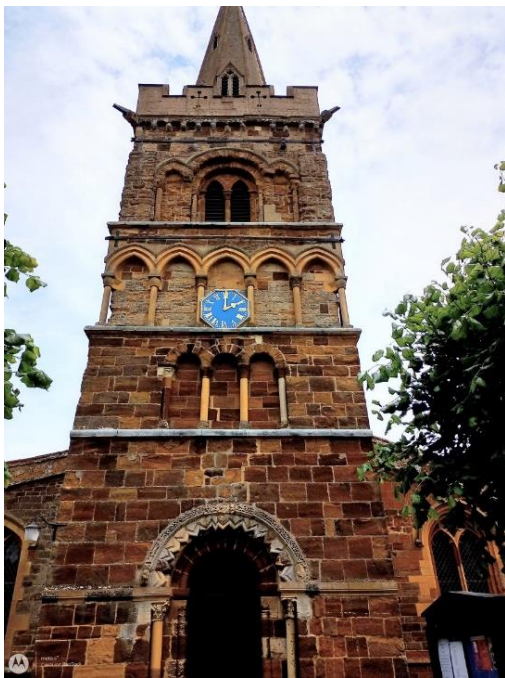
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CHURCHES AROUND OUR AREA THIS MONTH

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

St Andrews Church, Spratton (this month's church in memory of Fr Brian)



Built from ironstone. The original building probably dated from Saxon times but was enlarged and strengthened in 1120 in the days of Henry I and parts of the old church still survive. The bell tower (with six bells) was built in about 1195 AD and a north aisle added.

Recumbent effigy of Sir John Swinford died 1371. His feet rest on a lion. There are links to George Washington in the church.



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 sponsored by:
Pam Chandler and family in loving memory of Deric,
a treasured husband, father and grandfather.
Always in our hearts.**

