

saints

Kettering All Saints
Monthly Update

Alive!

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



Ceramic by Louise Crookenden-Johnson

Getting Greener!

OCTOBER 2023

kettallsaintschurch@gmail.com

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Sun 1st	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 17
Oct	3pm-4pm	Pet Blessing
2nd	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
5th	11am	Home Communion at Avery Court
7th	8.30-11.30	Preloved and new Table-Top Sale
Sun 8th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 18
9th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
	8-9.30pm	PCC meeting
12th	11am	Home Communion at Ashley Court
13th	7.30pm	Fun Quiz
14th	2.30-4.30	Tea Dance
Sun 15th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 19
16th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist with Healing & Wholeness
21st	10-4pm	Model railway (hall hire)
Sun 22nd	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Trinity 20
23rd	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
27th	7.30-9.30pm	Ada Nettleship - Fashion Revolution by Bernadette Millar £6
28th	10.30-12.30	Listening to God
Sun 29th	10.30am	Parish Eucharist – Last Sunday after Trinity
30th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist
Thurs 2nd Nov	7.30pm	All Souls Service
4th	8.30-11.30	Preloved and new Table-Top Sale
Sun 5th	10.30am	Patronal Service with meal afterwards
6th	7.30-8pm	Holy Eucharist

Listening to God



Christian meditation group meeting

28th Oct 10.30 – 12.30

Ring Jennie Loasby on 07990 588135



A MESSAGE FROM DAVID

All Saints is acquiring a reputation for our interest in the natural world: caring for God's creation. The community garden we have opened up to local residents is an obvious example. Our archdeacon recently visited, loved what we are doing and encouraged us to continue making progress in this area.

Our role as a church grows out of our responsibility as stewards of God's creation. We have been given these gifts to nurture, to care for, to enjoy and benefit from and then to pass on to others.

We live in an age when much of this is threatened. We are not in positions of power to make the important decisions which could affect the future of our planet. But we can make a difference on our own patch of land. And we can be a prophetic witness to our community.

We have reached the moment of the church's year when these issues are at the forefront of our attention. A few weeks ago we celebrated our Harvest Festival. As well as giving thanks for the harvest, we spent time out in the Garden, prayed around the Bug Church, allowed our prayers to be inspired by our surroundings.

On 1 October we once again have a Pet Blessing service, giving thanks for our friendships with other animals and for the way they enrich our lives. This happens close to the Feast of St Francis on 4 October. Francis is known and admired for his love of God's creation, his love of nature.

In his 'Canticle of the Sun', Francis imagines the whole of creation engaged in praise of God. In this vision, we are part of a family spanning the whole of creation, so that our prayers and praises are accompanied by 'Brother Sun', 'Sister Moon' and 'Mother Earth'. It is because we are all together part of God's creation that we have a responsibility towards our universe. The earth, the sun and the moon have helped look after us and now we need to take care of them.

One more link we have with these themes at All Saints is the presence in our community of a group of Third Order Franciscans. At this moment in the year we can join with them in giving thanks for Francis's rich legacy.

Understanding ourselves as stewards is not just relevant to the natural world. We are stewards also of all we have received by grace - as a free gift - in our life together as a church, in our individual lives as children of God. This is especially true for those of us engaged in public ministry: as the apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth: 'think of us this way, as stewards of God's mysteries'. (1 Cor 4.1). But actually it is true for all of us who have known God's grace, God's gifts, in our lives.

One area in which we are clearly stewards is that of possessions and money, gifts from God like everything else in our lives. Indeed for a long time the Church has used the figure of the steward in its conversations about giving, by adopting the word 'stewardship' when talking about our giving to the church.

As we've seen, 'stewardship' is a far broader idea, relating to the whole of our relationship with God's creation. But it is undoubtedly true that money is one area in which we are called to recognise our role as stewards.

We are also stewards of All Saints itself. Whether we are able, as faithful stewards, to pass our church on to a future generation will partly depend on how well we steward our money. We need to face up to the challenge of offering back to God the 'first fruits' of his creation in such a way that worship and Christian witness will continue to shine in William Street for years to come.

David

The Christian Chronicle

Millennium un-bugged

Well, we've made it! Many didn't think it would (or even could) happen, but we're now definitely in the 21st Century, the third millennium! That is, of course, Anno Domini (AD), in the year of our Lord, but also now referred to as 'CE', the common era. It feels like a milestone but, in reality, not a lot's changed – there's still conflict around the world wherever you

seem to look and there isn't universal harmony in the church either. But it does give us chance to take stock.

There has been quite a bit of confusion about when the millennium actually starts and concern about what effect there would be on our modern computer systems. Let's start by trying to clear all of that up; we've covered about the Julian and Gregorian calendars previously and also how Christ was probably born in around 4 or 5BC, but here's the summary. Quite frankly, as the early church started counting 'Anno Domino', the year of our Lord, they got the historical part a bit wrong. There is, of course, no birth certificate for Jesus so we have to look at references of other events. We're told Jesus was born in the time of Herod the Great, yet he died (as we know from other historical records) in 4BC, so Jesus was born, most probably, in 5BC. This also ties in with a comet that was visible in Bethlehem.

In Jewish tradition adulthood follows Bar Mitzvah (usually around age 12 or 13) but maturity as an adult is not recognised until about age 30. By linking bible references with other records and noting there's no year 0 (either BC or AD), it's likely Jesus was baptised by John and commenced his ministry in 29AD. His ministry extended over 3 Passovers, so evidence points to Jesus being crucified on Friday 3rd April 33AD. That's as per the Julian calendar in use at the time. In the 16th century Pope Gregory VIII formerly recognised the scientific correction needed to realign to the solar cycle – the Gregorian calendar was introduced and adopted by various countries over the next 400 years. Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1752 when 11 days were "skipped". Turkey and Greece didn't change until the 1920's so had to lose 13 days; by 2100 the difference will be 14 days.

So, most of the world now uses the Gregorian calendar - 365 days most years with an extra "leap day" (February 29th) in years divisible by 4 except in years that are 100's unless that's divisible by 400 (with it so far?) So, there was a February 29th in 2000 but not in 1900 and won't be in 2100. Now, mathematically speaking, (and remember no year 0) the first millennium ran from 1st January 1AD until 31st December 1000 AD. Likewise the 2nd millennium was 1st January 1001AD to 31st December 2000.

However, popular social culture has chosen to ignore this true mathematical interpretation and most people considered the new millennium to start with the new year 1st January 2000. Confusing? Yes, but given we are at the end of 2002, whichever way you look at it we are in the 3rd millennium.

It's still relatively new science, but already computers are dominating our world: clocks, finance and banking, business generally and, above all, communication. With so much brain power being applied to this technology you'd think that the advent of the year 2000 would have been taken into account, but it seems that was not the case. From around 1998, there was a mad panic around the world: could these systems, on which everything was now dependent, cope with moving to the year 2000. The fear was that many would not and there was a rush to update both hardware (the term applied to the actual machines) and the software (the computer programming stuff) in time for the year 2000. It got called the 'millennium bug'. Despite all this action lots of businesses had stacks of paper, pencils and pens – just in case! For certain religious groups this was also seen as Doomsday, a date for Armageddon. But here we are, I suppose the next anniversary that people will question will come in 2033, 2 thousand years after Christ's crucifixion.

Last time we noted that the former country of Yugoslavia starting to break up - that's now extended further and there are various other conflicts in Europe and around the world. The so called "Troubles" in Northern Ireland have formerly ended with an agreement signed between various groups on Good Friday 10th April 1998, although not everybody's satisfied by this as a splinter group calling itself the 'Real IRA' detonated a car bomb in Omagh in August that same year. Some of the local conflicts have been on the borders of the former USSR and in Russia a new era of leadership has started as Vladimir Putin became President on 31st December 1999.

Within the Islamic faith a group has emerged, often referred to as fundamentalists, with radical anti-Western culture (and anti-American in particular) approaches. This militarised faction is known as Al-Qaeda, it's led by Osama bin Laden. In 1998 bin Laden issued a fatwah (legal ruling on Islamic Law) declaring Holy War (Jihad) against America and the West.

There've been various attacks but by far the most significant occurred on September 11th, 2001. 19 Al Qaeda members hijacked a total of 4 passenger airliners and succeeded in crashing 2 into the twin towers of the World Trade Centre in New York, which then collapsed, and 1 into the Pentagon building, Washington; the 4th plane was intended for another Washington building, possibly the White House, but passengers aboard succeeded in overpowering the hijackers and crashing the plane in the countryside of Pennsylvania, in total nearly 3,000 people were killed in these attacks.

The US response was to invade Afghanistan where Al-Qaeda was supporting the Islamic Taliban government, a war that seems destined to be long term has commenced and is being seen as a conflict between Islam and Christianity. However, many Muslims have moved to distance themselves from Al-Qaeda and other similar groups.

Tensions remain between Islam and Judaism, especially in the Holy Land. Previous conflicts have seen definition of territories for Jewish Israeli and Muslim Palestinian areas. There are two Palestinian areas: a small coastal area near the city of Gaza in the southwest, bordering the Mediterranean and Egypt, known as the Gaza strip, and the main 'West Bank' zone. This area borders the River Jordan, extends nearly to Nazareth in the north and almost to Beersheba in the south; it includes places such as Nablus, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem and Hebron, whilst Jerusalem remains within the Israeli area. The Palestine areas are still policed by Israelis and there's active encouragement for Israelis to infiltrate these areas as 'Settlers'.

Hebron contains a large building - the 'Cave of the Patriarchs' - in which sit 7 key tombs including those of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Significant to both Jews and Muslims, the building is divided: half Mosque, half Synagogue. In 1994, Jewish Purim overlapped with Islamic Ramadan; during this time, an American-Israeli visiting Hebron opened fire on a large group of Muslims inside the Mosque. The killings sparked mass protests which were subsequently suppressed by Israeli troops. In all, over 60 (including 9 Israelis) were killed, and approximately 250 injured. Despite condemnation by Israeli authorities, the events did nothing to improve Israeli-Palestinian relations in the area and probably also fuelled wider

Muslim animosity, as expressed through Al-Qaeda, towards Americans. There've been attempts to broker lasting peace but the failure of a major Summit at Camp David in 2000 sums up the ongoing state of tension. Last time we reported on the demolition of the Berlin Wall, now Israel has started building an even bigger (9m high) wall to separate the West Bank and protect Jerusalem. So, there's now a very formidable barrier separating Bethlehem from Jerusalem.

Within Christianity there's been a general coming together of Lutheran Protestants, with an International Lutheran Council being formed. There's also a new relationship between Lutheran and Anglican churches called the Porvoo Communion, named after the Finnish city where the Eucharist was celebrated following the signing of an accord. It includes Lutheran churches of North-eastern Europe, the Church of England and those of Ireland and Wales, the Scottish episcopal church and churches from Spain and Portugal.

In 301AD, the Kingdom of Armenia became the first to adopt Christianity as its state religion and so it's now become the first country to celebrate 1700 years of formal Christianity. Elsewhere in the church there is a movement that seeks to reject modernity and restore orthodox ideals to church theology. 'Radical Orthodoxy', as it's termed, is critical of liberalism, is strongly influenced by traditional approaches such as the Oxford Movement and links back to the theology of Augustine of Hippo, Thomas Aquinas, and others. Although the principal founders of the movement are Anglicans, supporting theologians came from a number of the traditions.

The last 10 years have seen a number of challenging moments for different reasons. Over the centuries there's been repeated conflict between Britain and France. Only 20 miles separate France and Britain by sea at the nearest point but that's been reduced even further with the opening of the Channel Tunnel linking the two countries in 1994. In 1996 a sheep named 'Dolly' became the first mammal to be cloned, sparking significant ethical debate about the process and its possible extension to humans. In 1997, the world mourned the death of Mother Teresa of Calcutta: an Albanian Catholic nun, she'd become renowned for her work through the 'Missionaries of Charity' congregation she'd founded. Working particularly with the poor in India,

she supported those with AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis providing “wholehearted free service to the poorest of the poor”.

The countries of Europe have come increasingly together, first a European Union and now, for many, with a single currency known as the Euro. Britain, however, has retained the use of the pound. Ongoing cooperation in space exploration has been marked by establishment of a permanently manned International Space Station. Astronauts from many countries have started to rotate into this ISS which is now the main stay of manned space activity. With a ‘low-earth orbit’, the ISS is often visible in the night sky.

The post WWII period saw books aimed at children by British writers becoming popular among adults as well. JRR Tolkien introduced Hobbits, Middle Earth, and the challenges of Good vs Evil in the ‘Lord of the Rings’ trilogy. CS Lewis also told of Good vs Evil in his Chronicles of Narnia. In fact, Lewis, as noted previously, was a well-respected theologian writing books such as ‘Mere Christianity’. Whilst their fantasy works are still appreciated and widely read, there’s a new kid on the block! JK Rowling has started to introduce us to a young wizard called Harry Potter. The issues of Good vs Evil remain and, like the previous authors, the appeal is to adults as much as to children. Each book follows the exploits of Harry at his special wizarding secondary school, Hogwarts. So far, we’ve had 4 books, but a 5th is expected soon, with others sure to follow. The first 2 books have already been made into films.

THE WORLD MOVES FORWARD

The world moved forward with social change
when slaves were freed from shackles and chains
the world moves forward, it doesn't move back
so, let's get this world back on track.

The world moved forward from fear and war
with Human Rights and compassion for the poor
the world moves forward, it doesn't move back
so, let's get this world back on track.

Let's get this world back on track
let's not repeat the past
let's move forward, not look back
the times are changing fast.

The world moved forward from racial crimes
to peace and love and better times
the world moves forward with love not hate
that's what makes this world so great.

The world moved forward and new hopes grew
from the Holocaust and World War Two
the world moved forward for one and all
when they tore down the Berlin Wall.

Let's get this world back on track
let's stand together as one
let's move forward, not look back
let's rise up like the sun.

The world moved forward for straight and gay
hand in hand to a bright new day
the world moves forward with each new dawn
and each new generation born.

The world moves forward and that's the truth
our children are the living proof
the world moves forward for black and white
the world moves forward and the future looks bright.

All rights reserved – **Steve Howkins** (silver award winning entry at Kettering Festival of Literature 2023)

NINA WRITES ABOUT THE LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS!

On Saturday 16th September we welcomed Kettering Town Silver Band to All Saints for the last night of the Proms. The youngest member being only

12 years old. The church was decorated with Union Jacks and there was a capacity audience and a full raffle table with prizes ready to be claimed.

The first half of the concert consisted of pieces from around the country which were thoroughly enjoyed and superbly played. The second half started with the same themes, then we came to the final set and the Proms really came to life. Everyone had their flags ready, we sang 'I vow to thee my country', 'Rule Britannia', (3 verses and 4 chorus's and most people stood up), Pomp and Circumstance including 'Land of Hope and Glory', a fantasia of sea shanty's (arranged by Sir Henry Wood) which is a regular of the last night of the proms at the Royal Albert Hall, ending with another snippet of 'Rule Britannia' – all with much flag waving and cheering. The audience were in excellent voice and sang with gusto. The concert ended with 'Jerusalem' and the National Anthem. After the conductors speech the encore was 'Delilah'. The concert was a great success enjoyed by all, one certain lady lost her voice, what a good thing she wasn't reading the following day! The band are joining us next year in September and I suggest anyone who missed it should join us in 2024, you will not be disappointed.



SEPTEMBER 2023 PCC MEETING - Items of note discussed:

Parish Priest Items - Following the Harvest celebrations David suggested that the ability to transmit the service from the outside to the inside be investigated so both sections of the congregation are involved.

Purchases in Memory of Jenny Butler, Michael Truman and Fr Brian – It was agreed to link the blessing of these items and the Patronal Festival on November 2023. Family members would be invited to attend and join us afterwards for lunch. From the balance of monies it was agreed to purchase additional banners for red seasons.

Scramblers – Claire Povey reported no developments since the last meeting except to say she had some volunteers to help but now looking for children.

Link with Church in South Korea – Tom (Vicar of St Andrew's) and David are to work together on this project with a meeting that will probably be on Zoom.

Community Garden Project – The project lead has secured a grant to pay for a new shed that will be used for education. Quotes are being sought for the water drainage system. Other proposals include a new Greenhouse, with strengthened glass, on the site of the old one; raised beds for flowers; a soft fruit area; the soft play area will be replaced with a paved and gravelled area to form the Sensory/Reflection Garden.

Church Development 'To Do List' – The replacement of flooring in the kitchen and toilets have moved to the top of the list as they are becoming urgent. The lobby entrance from the South side will be adapted to enable it to be securely isolated from the rest of the Church.

All Saints' Community Events – It was agreed to accept Corby Male Voice Choir's offer to perform a concert - date to be agreed. If everyone reading this could just sell two tickets that would be very helpful. Strawberries and Ice cream Bands in the Park afternoons raised a profit of £650. Thanks to Angela and everyone else who lent a hand.

Finance and Stewardship – Accounts to the end of August were received together with Fundraising report to date.

Safeguarding – Julie discussed the updates being made to the Parish Safeguarding Policy and noticeboards to meet regulations.

Health and Safety – Alan had prepared draft Risk Assessments in respect of home visits. Visits to Care homes are recommencing with Ashley Court, Reservoir Road on the second Thursday of each month at 11 am. Avery Court is being approached.

Hall Matters – Choir has restarted.

Fabric – Further new LED lights are to be provided particularly in the Kitchen. The security light close to the North Door to be replaced. Fire Extinguisher safety check is in hand.

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 9th October 2023 at 8pm in the Jubilee Room.
Jane B.

A message from Lyn Ridley regarding the Patronal service - this year for our Patronal celebration we will be having a hot meal following the 10.30 service on 5th November. Over the next few weeks, there will a list at the back of church for you to make a choice in advance from 4 options. Cost will be a donation placed in a basket. David and The Very Revd Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough and some special guests will be joining us.

THE GARDEN STORY GROWS!



There's never a dill moment at the garden!

I've started to plant my herbs in alphabetical order. People ask me how I find the time. I tell them "it's next to the sage".

Yet again, someone has added more soil to my allotment. The plot thickens... 😊



Kay and I managed to get to all the Kettering churches taking part in the Ride and Stride event. It was a very hot day for strolling about the town, but we managed it and got a good welcome at each place we visited. In total have raised £225 for Historic Churches Trust, of which half will come back to All Saints. Thanks to everyone who sponsored me.

Richard Lewis

Community Highlights for November for Your Diaries!

4 th Preloved and new table-top sale. Contact Richard on 07887617978 you must book a £6 stall in advance! 8.30-11.30am open to public.	10 th - Talk by author Mark West. 7.30pm details TBC
11 th - Tea Dance starts 2-30pm-4.30pm. Raffle available. Entry £3.50 includes tea/coffee and cake.	13 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.
25 th – Winter Fair 9am-1pm	1st Dec Happy Together Ukulele Band

COPY - Please send in your snippets, news, prayers etc to Angela. The deadline for the November edition of Saints Alive! is **25th October**. It will be available from Sunday 29th October.

CHURCHES AROUND OUR AREA THIS MONTH

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

All Saints Church, Brixworth



The largest most complete Saxon church in the country – said to be “the most intact Romanesque Church this side of the Alps.” It was founded around 680 AD by monks from Peterborough.

One of the most intriguing treasures of



Brixworth church is a stone reliquary discovered during repairs in 1809. This so-called Brixworth Reliquary is a 14th-century container intended to store saintly relics.

When the reliquary was opened it was found to contain a human throat bone wrapped in cloth. The cloth was probably inscribed with the name of the saint to whom the bone was attributed, but unfortunately, the medieval cloth disintegrated when exposed to the air, and the name was never discovered.

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

**Pam Chandler and family sponsor
Saints Alive! in memory of
Ruby and Stan Hewitt, cherished parents
and grandparents, always remembered
with great love.**

