



ST PAUL'S CHURCH

WINCHMORE HILL



CONFIRMATION 2021

AND

REFLECTIONS ON THE PANDEMIC BY SOME OF OUR CONGREGATION

Parish Magazine

Price 50p

July 2021

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Dear Friends

I write this the day after our annual baptism and confirmation, when 36 adults and children received the Christian rites of initiation. It's one of the great highlights of the St Paul's year, and one which we have continued to celebrate both last year and this despite the pandemic. I am fairly confident that more people have been confirmed at St Paul's in the last nine months than in some Church of England dioceses!

A few weeks ago, while driving back from our holiday in the Cotswolds, I was reminded of my own confirmation almost three decades ago. We stopped on our way home at the church where I grew up. Wandering around the churchyard where, as a choirboy, I played among the headstones between weddings, I felt myself profoundly grateful for a church community which did so much to form me in my early years. The wisdom of experienced rectors, the energy and patience of a succession of young curates, and the extraordinary commitment of Sunday School teachers, organists, bell-ringers, servers, and countless others. I don't think I had quite realised that this church community had not only invested in me, but, as a young person, had taken me seriously. The fact that I am a Christian, let alone a priest, is largely due to them. Or, I should say, to God working through them.

This has reminded me of the importance of the whole church community in forming and nurturing new Christians, young and old. This is not just the job of the clergy, or the Children and Families Worker. Alison Perera, in her sermon as part of our launch of *Growing Faith in Winchmore Hill*, explained how the saying 'It takes a village to raise a child' is equally applicable to the life of the Church as it too is a village. It may well be, as you reflect on your own journey of faith, you may find the same sense of thankfulness that I do. If so, I encourage you to make sure you are doing the same for our new Christians here at St Paul's, both children and adults. Invest in them as you are able. Pray for them. And, just as importantly, take them seriously.

And maybe, one day, they will look back on the impact you had on their Christian life, and be thankful. They might even write about it from their Vicarage study for the parish magazine.

With my love and prayers

Fr Daniel

FROM THE REGISTERS JUNE 2021

BAPTISMS

5TH JUNE

Ada Moon

Felix Moon

Edward Holme

19TH JUNE

Jude Cochrane

Nayan Vaswani

BAPTISMS AND CONFIRMATION ON 13TH JUNE

Ethan Jones

Angela House

Heather Machray

Karim Alleebox

Maxine Kingsland

Leanne Van Niekerk

CONFIRMATION ON 13TH JUNE

Louise Benham

Dillon Ghale

Henry Moss

Amelie Phillips

Evie Westhead

Candice Albon

Alice Lu

Daniel Norris

Harry Daniels

James Hunter-Jones

Tatiana Moss

Maggie Thompson

Lola Westhead

Clair Alleebox

Adam Machray

Daniel O'Brien

Gemma Small

Poppy Daniels

Xavier Lazarus

Adam Perera

Charlotte Ward

Georgie Gibson

Edward Knight

Nicola Moon

Adam Russell

RECEIVED INTO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND ON 13TH JUNE

Alex Kafizas

Mariana Peddle

Maria Wright

FUNERAL ON 10TH JUNE

Ann Kerridge



Calendar



JULY 2021

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

8am Holy Communion (tickets not required)

9am Family Service (Eucharist on 2nd and 4th Sundays)

10am Family Service (Eucharist on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)

11am Parish Eucharist

Tickets for the Sunday services at 9 am, 10 am and 11 am can be booked via office@spwh.org or 020 8886 4290.

REGULAR WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday: 11am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday: 9am Morning Prayer, 5pm Evening Prayer

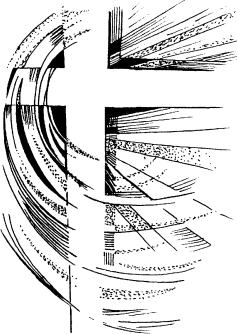
Monday to Thursday the church is open for private prayer from 9 to 5.15

IMPORTANT NOTICE - POSTPONED EVENTS

Because Covid restrictions have not been lifted as we had hoped, two events planned for July (the **Coffee Morning on 3rd July** and **Football Tournament on 18th July**) have had to be postponed.

It is hoped to reschedule them after the school summer holidays.

PRAYER BOARD



Defend, O Lord, your servants
with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more
and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom.
Amen.

Words said by the Bishop at the Confirmation Service on Sunday 13th June 2021.

MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION REFLECT ON HOW THE COVID PANDEMIC AFFECTED THEIR LIVES

Church members across the generations have written about how their lives have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic that has caused lockdowns and disruption during 2020 and 2021. The first, written by Norma Chapman in May 2020, is published posthumously.

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL: The Covid-19 Experience 2020.

Reasons not to be:

- Not being able to see family and friends.
- Not being able to be with my dog when she was put to sleep.
- Not being able to adopt a dog because of prevailing restrictions.
- My husband, Brian, not being able to go out in his wheelchair and enjoy the stimulation of contact outside our home.
- Not being able to worship in the church or even do my Church Watch stint.
- Not being able to visit coffee shops or restaurants.
- Not being able to attend our great WEA courses, not only for the classes, but also to have coffee with friends in the break.
- The glorious weather being the final death knell for my ailing lawn and having me dicing with death as I try not to trip over our spiral hose, especially when negotiating the steps.
- The internet crashing every five minutes.

Reasons to be:

- The recognition of the huge gratitude we owe to the National Health Service. Now more than ever. How fortunate we are in this country.
- The care and kindness of Brian's carers, who have always maintained a cheerful demeanour, despite struggling with the restrictions themselves.
- The enormous support from the Vicar of St. Paul's Church and his team and the church community, particularly the House Group.
- Catching up with friends, with whom we only normally exchange annual Christmas cards.

- Our neighbours coming together as a community, helping each other, chatting together and exchanging news. All via What's App. We have always been friendly but now have regular contact and have come to know other neighbours.
- The kindness of everyone, especially unknown strangers, who call from a safe distance asking whether they can help in any way.
- Being able to attend a WEA course via Zoom – not without difficulty.
- Exchanging waves with and clapping bus drivers.
- The glorious weather, which has made it possible for family to safe distance in the garden occasionally.
- Sainsbury, who put us on their priority list and delivers weekly.
- The discovery of takeaway coffee.
- Virtual tours of practically every venue possible, from museums and gardens to cities all over the world.

Amazing:

My **Reasons to be** outnumber my **Reasons not to be**. Let us hope we all learn lessons from this tragic disaster.

Norma Chapman

This next article was written by one of our Youth Wardens

MY TIME IN LOCKDOWN

Lockdown for me was quite difficult for many different reasons. Such as not being able to go out and see friends, not spending time with family and loved ones and missing out on things that I was really looking forward to. However, I cannot look back at lockdown and just reminisce about the bad things - when so many good things happened.

For example, the birth of my second cousins, spending more time with the people I live with (even though by the end we were at each other's throats), not having to go to school, laying in and so much more. Even if it was hard, I was not going through it alone, I had my mum, dad and sister with me, friends on the other end of the phone and never-ending zoom calls from school to see how I was doing.

As well as this, I got to try so many new things and spend more time doing the things I enjoy, like drawing and trying to finish the novel I was writing.

The days may have merged at some points, and I felt like I was stuck in a continuous loop, but I would tell myself 'Some days are like this, and the only way to get through them is to remember that they are only one day, and that everyday ends' and that 'No matter how good or bad you think your life is, wake up each day, and be thankful for life, because someone somewhere else is fighting to survive.' I read both these quotes and thought of them daily to help me to remember it was not as bad as it seemed and that it will soon come to an end. And believe it or not lockdown did eventually end, and we were allowed to go outside again! But I will never forget the time I spent in lockdown because as it was just as important as everything else I had experienced in my life.

By Holly Lowther, age 14

A reflection from Liz Veitch

How would I describe my faith?
 no words can ever say
 how its flickering flame has lit
 my saddest, darkest days

And led me to a safer shore
 when I've been compass-less,
 brought solace to my aching heart,
 calmed me in times of stress

And everywhere I've lived,
 I've found a church where I can be
 happy, and meet people
 who will always welcome me.

In those first weeks of lockdown
 I was so lonely and forlorn
 until the St Paul's House group
 helped me to smile and carry on

And it's given me such hope again
 my faith has been made strong
 St Pauls has sustained me
 I'm so glad that I belong.

There will be some more reflections from church members next month.

TOM SMITH

Our preacher on Sunday 27th June was Tom Smith, seen here after the Parish Eucharist wearing his Licensed Lay Minister's blue stole for the last time before being ordained Deacon on 3rd July at St Paul's Cathedral. During the service, Tom was presented with a gift from the people of St Paul's - a home communion set for him to use in his new calling, beginning in the parish of St Michael's Church, Wood Green.



Tom served our church for over twenty years in many capacities. In addition to

being a Licensed Lay Minister for 14 years, at various times Tom has been our part-time youth worker, a server, our Fairtrade co-ordinator, a band member, a member of the Mission and Outreach Committee during the time when we were raising funds to build a school in our



link parish of Negage, Angola (which he visited with others from our parish) and, for many years, he helped with the preparation of young people for Confirmation. The list is unending and in all of these roles he always managed to make our faith both interesting and fun.

Our thoughts and prayers go with Tom and his family as he takes this next step in his journey of faith.

JULY 2021 FLOWER ROTA

3 rd July	Adele Houldsworth
10 th July	Adele Houldsworth
17 th July	Sharon Saunders
24 th July	Sally Sherman
31 st July	Elaine Bunce

Our Flower Arranging Organizer, Adele Houldsworth, would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join the team. Both experienced flower arrangers and people who would like to develop their skills would be very welcome. To contact Adele ring 020 8360 3676.

SERVICE OF BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Photos from Sunday 13th June and the thoughts of some of the thirty six candidates when they reflected on their special day.



It felt as if I really got to be officially part of the church. I have gone from a novice to participating in something.



Bishop Rob made us all feel at ease and very welcomed.



Lovely service. It felt very special and fulfilling.



It was very
holy and special

I felt really
welcomed and
strangely relaxed



After the service I felt very
special as if I was part of
something greater. Its made
me want to get involved in
the charities the Bishop
spoke about.

The service felt more
special and emotive
than I had anticipated.



LUMINARIES: TWENTY LIVES THAT ILLUMINATE THE CHRISTIAN WAY

ANSELM OF CANTERBURY : THE JUSTICE OF GOD

Rowan Williams's survey of luminaries that illuminate the Christian Way continues with Anselm of Canterbury (1033 – 1109). A former abbot from the Norman abbey of Le Bec, after the conquest of England (1066) he was invited to become Archbishop of Canterbury (1093). This was not a completely happy period in his life as he disagreed strongly with King William II over land rights and the plight of the poor tenants of the king. A theologian at the dawn of the twelfth century, Anselm made important contributions to theological and philosophical thought in his two great works the *Proslogion* and *Cur deus homo* ('Why God became man').

In the *Proslogion* (c.1079) Anselm sets himself the task of formulating an argument that will lead to the belief in the existence of God and the character of God as of the highest good. His 'ontological argument' leads to the affirmation of God's being as 'that than which nothing greater can be conceived'. This argument has always been contested, but it remains a component of philosophical theology today. The *Proslogion* is an important work as it appeals to reason and logic in matters of theology and Anselm's phrase 'faith seeking understanding' is a useful rule to live by.

Rowan Williams' attention is on Anselm's other famous work 'Why God became man' (1099). Here Anselm seeks a rational interpretation of the Incarnation and Christ's subsequent death on the cross. At this time, theological thinking about the reason for Christ's death centred round the idea of Christ as victor over Satan, triumphing over evil. The understanding was that the devil had rights over fallen humanity which God was obliged to respect. The only means by which humanity could be redeemed was if a sinless person could pay a ransom to the devil.

Christ's sinless humanity allowed him to do just that. Anselm was uncomfortable with this idea, in particular that Satan should have any rights over humanity, and also the notion that God appears to act less than honestly by somehow tricking the devil with Christ's dual nature (human and divine). He argues that the redemption of humanity must be grounded in, and entirely consistent with, God's divine righteousness.

His argument can initially sound jarring to our ears; Anselm insists that God is totally obliged to act according to the principles of justice in

regard to redemption. He states that Christ's atoning work on the cross is an offering to repair the insulted honour of God. 'Doesn't this suggest a God who is obsessed with what is due to him, in a way that we would rightly condemn in a human being? What on earth does it mean to say God cannot simply write off the offence to his honour that sin implies?'

We must place ourselves with Anselm in the position of 'faith seeking understanding', a position of knowing God not as a king demanding to be pacified at any cost, but in our understanding of his nature. God's being is pure, eternal and absolutely coherent. He is free and loving in relation to all he has made. Once we stand in the truth of God's nature we begin to see who God is in relationship with us, and who we are in relationship with him. We are helpless and untruthful and therefore we can begin to grasp what God *must* have done if he is truly God, and our relationship with him is to be restored. Anselm sees humanity trapped in untruthfulness, unable to give to God what we were made for; love for God that mirrors God's own life, and 'it doesn't make a difference if all God does is to say 'Never mind''. It 'is not that God is clinging to his offended dignity' but that we –through sin - are prevented from reflecting his glory as we ought. It takes an act of immeasurable worth in Christ's self-giving in his death on the cross, to be a perfect response to the self-giving of God, and because of Jesus' humanity, humanity has at last done what it was created to do. 'Our nature has been made capable of echoing God's'. This is how Anselm sees justice being served in the perfect being of the Father, not that some 'divine box has been ticked, but justice has been done to God himself by creation and so justice has been done to creation'.

Anselm's theology comes from deep within his faith; he is working out his faith on his knees, seeking understanding of the God he loves. Rowan Williams closes the chapter with Anselm's prayer. 'I pray you, Lord, make me taste by love, what I taste by knowledge; let me know by love what I know by understanding. I owe you more than my whole self, but I have no more, and by myself I cannot render the whole of it to you. Draw me to you, Lord, in the fullness of love. I am wholly yours by creation; make me all yours, too, in love.'

Sarah Elkins

ALEC STEPHENS RIP (1929 - 2021)



Alec joined the Prayer Group about three years ago. He had approached Molly Johnson about coming to a meeting and, although it sometimes proved difficult with Alec being in a wheelchair, we were able to welcome him many times. He became a well loved and respected member of our little group. We looked forward to when it was his turn to lead a meeting as he was always informative and his choice of topic interesting. He was particularly fond of quoting John Betjeman.

Alec was such a lovely man. He had a great sense of fun and I discovered he was a big Spurs fan! He watched sport on a huge TV in his sitting room. He was accompanied to our meetings by his full-time carer, Sheenagh, who also took part in the meetings. When, sadly, Sheenagh died from a very aggressive form of cancer he missed her tremendously.

Fortunately, before that happened, we were all invited in June 2019 to Alec's 90th birthday party, which was held at his son's beautiful home in Harpenden. We had a lovely time and his family gave him a wonderful day and made us very welcome.

I know Alec really enjoyed the Prayer Group meetings and he missed them when we had to stop because of Covid-19. We had hoped to get together soon. He had a wonderful faith that was an inspiration to me and all the Prayer Group. We will miss him.

Grace Ewin

Alec, a teacher by profession, was a Server at St Paul's for many years, assisting the Priests in the Chancel. Peter Rickwood and Thelston Durant, two of his fellow Servers, remembered him as being a quiet and undemanding person who often got overlooked in the company of more outgoing people. Thelston added that Alec's devotion to detail helped to ensure services ran smoothly and made it a pleasure to serve in the chancel with him.

Marcus Walker, our former curate, shared a lovely anecdote about Alec. He wrote, 'He taught me Latin – I had to do my homework before bringing him home Communion! There was a lovely occasion when he had prepared the passage from Bede about the sparrow coming through the window and, during the Communion that preceded the lesson, a sparrow came flying through the open window, and Alec was almost in tears.' As they say, the Lord works in mysterious ways.

It was people like Alec who put the gentle into the word gentlemen.

Ed.

The Enfield Winter Night Shelter (WNS), managed by the charity All People, All Places (APAP), works with local churches to provide shelter and meals for referred homeless guests during the winter months.

Previously, guests were provided with sleeping accommodation in dormitories within local churches and warm meals were prepared for them on the site. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, government regulations required that homeless guests are provided with their own rooms. APAP applied to the Enfield Council for a venue and was allocated a 5-bedroom home off the A10 in Enfield to accommodate the guests from the 7th January to the 1st April 2021.

At the start, there were about 3 - 4 guests and later on, all the rooms were occupied. At one point the lounge had to be converted into a bedroom too. The guests in the home were mostly self-sufficient, taking care of their rooms and bathrooms and following social distancing guidelines in communal areas.

Our WNS coordinator Estelle Müller provided volunteers with the rota and a newly formulated guide for shelter volunteers, which gave us a good understanding of how the shelter was going to be run during the pandemic and what steps needed to be followed if a guest or volunteer became unwell. Volunteers had to complete online safeguarding training, have a DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) check, and were eligible to receive vaccinations.

Volunteers served during morning and evening shifts and the night shift ensured safety for the guests. In the mornings, Estelle ensured that all PPE (personal protective equipment) was available. The morning shift received feedback from the night shift, cleaned and sanitized the public areas. Guests made their breakfasts and were provided with lunch bags on their departure for the day. In the evenings, guests were welcomed back by volunteers, and meals were prepared by the wonderful volunteer cooking team.

Overall, the Enfield WNS was successful in its adaption to the COVID-19 pandemic. From a volunteer perspective, our team was well coordinated, the guests were very well taken care of and they always expressed their appreciation. I felt privileged to be a part of this initiative addressing a real community need.

May God bless all the charities, project leaders, coordinators, volunteers, financial contributors, and sponsors of the Winter Night Shelters.

Elouise Nell

Enfield Winter Night Shelter Volunteer

Please contact Jane Reed if you are interested in getting involved with the Winter Night Shelter and if you see someone sleeping rough, you can refer them online here: <https://www.streetlink.org.uk/> or by calling 0300 500 0914.

MOTHERS' UNION LONDON DIOCESAN FESTIVAL SERVICE

In 'normal' times, I would have joined with other members of St Paul's MU and taken the train up to St Paul's Cathedral for the Annual Service. This year, however, I clicked onto the You Tube link which took me to this year's service held on 17 June at 7.30pm and, hey presto, I was immediately in the virtual company of many other members.

The theme of the service this year was Rebuilding Hope and Confidence and was led by Revd Helen Askwith - she welcomed us to the Mothers Union Act of Worship, as we gathered to remember and reflect, to acknowledge and lament loss of all kinds over the past few months, to bring our thanks for God's steadfast love and to affirm our hope for the future.

This was followed with the opening hymn: **All My Hope on God is founded**. The readings, from Lamentations and Mark's gospel, were followed by the beautiful hymn **In Christ Alone**. The Address by Sheran Harper, MU World Wide President, spoke of our struggle through lockdown and how Jesus gives us hope for the future as we put our faith in Him. The hymn **One day at a time, sweet Jesus** was followed by the Intercessions led by Antonio Joseph, Trustee. Our final hymn was **How Great Thou Art**.

The service finished with a quote from St Augustine on hope:

Hope has two daughters: their names are Anger and Courage. Anger that things are the way they are, and courage to see that they do not remain as they are.

As Christians, we should feel anger that some things are as they are and we must have the courage to instigate change. The inspirational prayers, the glorious hymns and the words of hope were a strong encouragement to us all.

Susan Laurie

MOTHERS' UNION DIARY JULY 2021

FRIDAY 9TH JULY WAVE OF PRAYER SERVICE IN CHURCH AT 10 AM.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ A PRAYER IN THE SERVICE, PLEASE CONTACT SUE CHAMBERS (0208 360 6437). AFTER THE SERVICE COFFEE ON THE GREEN.

THURSDAY 22ND JULY - SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

AT 46 CRANLEIGH GARDENS N21 1DS AT 2 PM.

ALL WELCOME SO PLEASE COME ALONG AND ENJOY AFTERNOON TEA, GOOD COMPANY AND QUIZZES (FOR THOSE WHO LIKE THEM).

BRING & BUY TABLE - PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE MU OVERSEAS.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ALL OUR MOTHERS' UNION MEETINGS AND EVENTS



Molly was born in Southgate and brought up in a Methodist family. She worked as a draughtswoman, drawing the route north from London, literally putting the M1 on the map.

She met her first husband, David, whilst working for Eastern Electricity at Northmet House in Southgate. They married in 1952 and became the proud parents of two sons.

Molly was very involved in church life at the Bourne Methodist Church. Her many activities included being a member of Enfield Fine Arts Society where she was Chairman/President for many years. Love of classical music, gardening, reading and, of course, her deep faith helped her when she was dealt a devastating blow. Sadly David died after just a few weeks of retirement. For the next 14 years life was different for Molly. The Reverend Ian Brown was instrumental in Molly becoming a member of the Anglican church and joining the congregation at St Paul's. She soon became involved in church life, a member of the PCC, the Mothers' Union and the Meditation Group and a Sidesman. She helped to run the prayer group, became a bereavement counsellor, joined the Groveland singers and later Enfield Choral Society.

I first met Molly 56 years ago when she was the Avon representative. We became firm friends. Molly worked with us at the Church Hill Nursery for several years after David's death. 'Auntie Molly' was very popular with both children and staff. Feeling it was time to move on, she then worked at the exclusive ladies dress shop Francesca's on The Green.

Bryan and I were delighted when she and Colin married, how lucky they were to have 20 happy years together. Molly was thrilled when her grandson was born and followed his scholastic achievements with pride.

During her declining health, Molly was supported by Colin's loving care and concern, and that of both families. Our sympathy goes to Colin, her family and Colin's family.

Molly will be greatly missed by us all, but remembered as that beautifully groomed, petite lady. Rest in peace. dear friend.

Mary Howell



JOAN IRELAND – TIME TO CELEBRATE

For those of us who know Joan, we are all looking forward to celebrating her 100th birthday on Friday 30th July.

Joan is a remarkable lady with some extraordinary chapters along the way. In 1942, her 21st birthday was her first day working at Bletchley Park where she remained until she needed to return home to help nurse her father. After the war, she threw herself into teaching, her final role being Deputy Head Teacher at Eversley Primary School.

After retirement, Joan immersed herself in her many interests including flower arranging in our church and helping those around her.

On her birthday, there will be an 'open afternoon' in Joan's garden and she hopes that all her friends from St Paul's will join her in a cuppa, a slice of cake and a chat. More details from Martyn Caswell (martyncaswell@hotmail.com).

PARKINGSON'S COFFEE MORNING

As well as being enjoyed by many as a rare opportunity to meet up in these restricted times, the charity coffee morning on 22nd May, hosted by Alison Stiles, raised £430 for Parkinson's UK. Alison would like to thank everyone who helped to make this such a success.



SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

On 24th June, twenty-five Mothers' Union members met in person for the first time after 16 months of Zoom meetings. We began in church where three speakers, Lynn van Keulen, Sarah Elkins and Chris Holder, talked about women in the Bible (Phoebe, Hagar and Claudia Procula). This proved fascinating as most of us knew very little about these women until



this meeting. We then enjoyed tea and biscuits in the Hayward Garden and a chance to catch up on each other's news.

The Parish of St. Paul's thanks these local advertisers for their continuing help and hopes that whenever possible you will support them.

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