

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter - 31st October 2020

Keeping us connected



SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER

SERVICE ON ZOOM at 10.30 a.m.

Leaders: Mrs. Maureen Thompson and Mrs Angie Cox

Parables of the Kingdom - Kingdom availability - *Matthew 22: 1-14*

Meeting ID: 753 5934 1499

Password: 024518

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75359341499?pwd=U1IYRzk3N1ppeTJDcjVPWG5kNFQwZz09>

You can also join on one of these phone numbers: enter ID and Password when prompted: 0203 481 5240, 0203 051 2874, 0131 460 1196, 0203 481 5237

OTHER SERVICES ON SUNDAY

8.10 a.m. BBC Radio 4
Sunday Worship

1.15 p.m. BBC 1 Songs of Praise

Monday to Friday

9.45 a.m. BBC Radio 4 LW Service

DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services available 24 hours a day.

EBC DEACONS MEETING

11.00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Please pray for Zoltan and the Deacons.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday at 11 a.m. All are welcome.

We are studying the book of Esther.

Meeting ID: 821 2089 8795

Passcode: 994274

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82120898795?pwd=ejN4RU8rSkp-DRFlxYlJQbEhHUytIZz09>

PRAYER

Please pray particularly this week for Zoltan's father who is in hospital in Romania and has been diagnosed with Covid-19. We pray for his full healing and that he may know God's presence with him. We pray for Zoltan's mother and the rest of the family, particularly Zoltan and family: we hold them all in our thoughts and prayers.

We also pray for those members of our church family who are unwell at the moment, or who suffer continuing health problems.

Maureen Roberts

We are very sorry to report the death of Maureen Roberts on 28th October after many years of declining health. We give thanks that she was able to remain at home looked after by her husband George and we send him our love and sympathy, praying that he will know God's comfort at this sad time.

BAPHUMELELE CHILDREN'S HOME

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Gift Day and the 'One World Week Sale', whether helping through cooking and crafts or running stalls; donating money or saleable items; buying from the stalls or helping through prayer.

We have been able to send the wonderful total of £1,875 to Baphumelele which will mean a great deal to them and will go a long way in South Africa in these challenging times.

With grateful thanks,

Kay

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 8th November
Service in EBC at 10.30 a.m.

Anyone one wishing to attend must let Sheila know preferably by Friday 6th by phone on 01993 650263 or mail sheila.wood1952@gmail.com
The service will also be livestreamed.

There is NO village parade or gathering at War Memorial this year.

Wednesday 11th November
'Silence in the Square
at 11.00 a.m.

A short Act of Remembrance led by the Royal British Legion at the War Memorial, with the two-minute silence at 11.00 a.m. and laying of wreaths.

When all the saints...

(Revelation 7:9-17)

There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth. They were all standing before the throne & before the Lamb. They wore white robes and had palm branches in their hands. (v. 9, ICB)

I recently heard a story about a Bible college professor (could be Baptist) who tried to explain the meaning of All Saints Day to a first-year class. One of the students abruptly stood up and replied, "but we don't have saints!" The quick-witted professor grabbed his computer and quickly googled "*protestant churches near me*," and asked the student to read the names of all the churches in the area. The student read, "St. James Baptist Church, St. John's Lutheran Church, John Knox Presbyterian Church," until he gave up and said, "I get it now!"

This story perfectly illustrates that we all have saints -- those who are deceased, and those who are living and walking among us, or if we follow apostle Paul's thinking perhaps even we ourselves are saints. The word *saint* is not limited to the "greats" of history, for writers in the New Testament use the term synonymously with *Christian* and *believer*.

Revelation 7 is a vision (or dream) of a time when *All Saints* will be gathered together in the presence of God. In our reading the writer describes a great multitude that is countless from every tribe and people, and language. There is no limit to the scope of this multitude, be it geographic, ethnic, numeric,

linguistic, economic ... the list goes on and on.

In this vision the multitude is waving palm branches, and it is crying hymns of praise in a loud voice. Which parallels the Triumphal Entry scene at Palm Sunday. But there is a major difference between the group in Jerusalem and this heavenly multitude. Unlike the crowd in the Jerusalem that later turns its back on Jesus, this multitude will remain faithful to the Lamb "forever and ever."

Apart from being loyal to the lamb, they are also involved, they themselves actively washed their robes. They do not wait to be served by God, but they actively seek to serve God, they are keen in living out their worship all the time. The result of which is they are shielded, they are nourished, they are quenched, and they are protected (v. 15-17).

On All Saints Day many Christians around the world celebrate the lives of those saints who have gone on before them and give thanks for those saints living still today. Maybe this time around we should also reflect on how we are called to live lives of sanctity. This passage reminds us that being a faithful witness is the *baptismal* (robes washed) *vocation* of us all. It also reminds us that when we live out our Christian vocation, we find safety in the Lamb of God who sustains all of us. Most importantly, this passage reminds us that the vision for sainthood is all encompassing. Which is a reminder that sanctity is partially a Christian vocation, but it is also the work

of God. Sanctity does not originate from us, it comes from the Lamb who we are made free to approach at any time.

Prayer: *Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! God you gave us the strength to be the saints, therefore we can live the way of God with confidence for God is our shepherd and will guide us to the spring of life. Amen.*

Zoltan

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Orders now being taken for cards printed by the Community of St Clare at Freeland. Email linmiller25@gmail.com to be sent samples by email. If you are not on email ring Lin on 01865 881780. Orders must be returned to Denise Launchbury **BY 15th NOVEMBER AT THE LATEST.** *Payment by cheque with order, payable to Freeland Convent*

GATEHOUSE - Sunday 8th November

New Covid-19 arrangements are now in place and Gatehouse again request help: please supply *un-filled* loaves plus ham, cheese, tuna or hard-boiled eggs, packed separately. Call Raymond and Revel Elliott on **01865 881346** for more details. Gatehouse are also now able to accept donations of clothing in good condition: particularly new underwear, socks and pants (mainly for men), sleeping bags and other warm clothing. <http://oxfordgatehouse.org/>

ASYLUM WELCOME

Donations still needed. Please speak to Marcus Thompson on 01865 881808.

EYNESHAM COMMUNITY LARDER

Anyone who is finding it difficult to buy the food they need can request help, either a regular or a one-off food parcel. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, call Bob Thiele on 07738 063083 or email eynshamhelp@gmail.com and ask for further information. **Donation points** in Co-op, Spar & Market Garden.

EBC HALL BOOKINGS MANAGER VACANCY

The role consists of monitoring the usage of the hall by coordinating all requests for bookings and also collecting the booking fees. Most of the role can be done at home by phone, but some face to face contact with hall users is also part of the task. Additional details are available from Bob Thiele if you would like to explore this further.

Bob

EYNESHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

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Tel: 01865 881670 **Mobile** 07846 653457

CHURCH SECRETARY:
Sheila Wood - 01993 650263

CHURCH TREASURER:
Bob Thiele - 01865 426203

DEACONS: **Angie** Cox - 880563
Barbara Cook - 375730
Denise Launchbury - 881128
Derek Malin - 884107 **June** Poole - 375130
Maureen Thompson - 881808
Sue Law - 07796 955472
Please make Zoltan or Deacons aware of any pastoral needs.

Contributions to linmiller25@gmail.com
(*subject to space and editorial discretion*).

