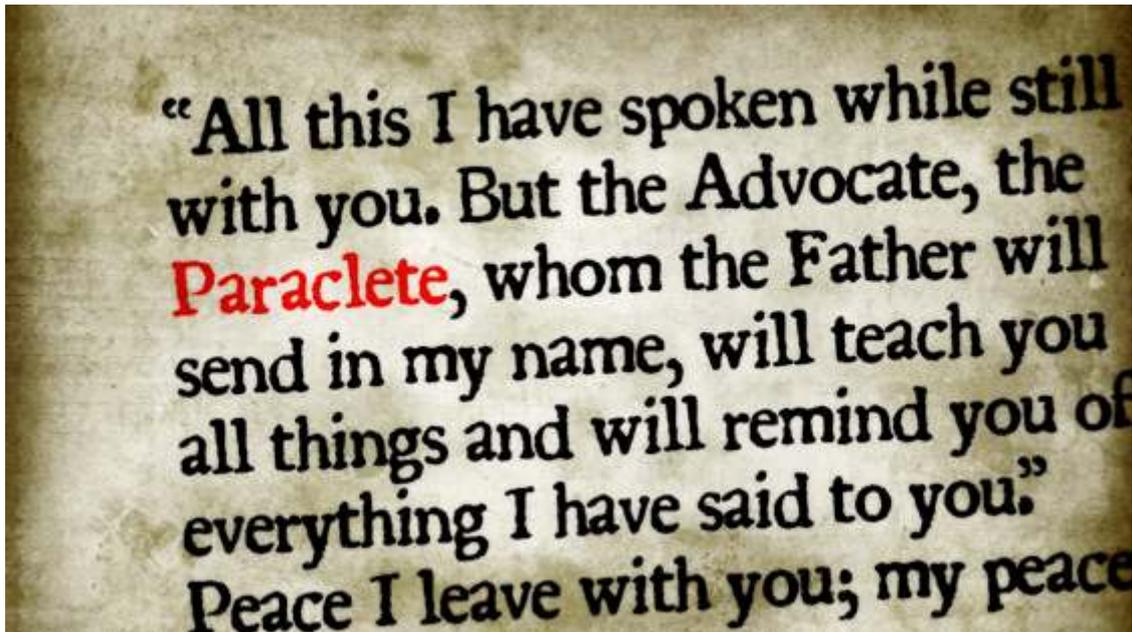


# St Hilda's Church Warley Woods



## JESUS SENDS US HELP

**A service of Holy Communion**

*Continuing our exploration of Vocation*

**Sunday 21st May 2017**

# JESUS SENDS US A FRIEND TO HELP US

Today we continue to explore together how God calls us into action for the Kingdom of God in whatever our circumstances. We call this action for God, 'vocation'.

Two Sundays ago, Ruth Hassall spoke about how she discovered her 'vocation' by simply doing what she loved doing: this began by running a children's holiday club as a 16-year-old. Now she helps to oversee the Diocese of Birmingham's *Growing Younger* mission programme which supports Mandy's work as our Children's and Families' Missioner here at St Hilda's. Something begun as a teenager has grown into bearing fruit in scores of churches across our diocese!

Ruth also shared with us the following quote by the theologian Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." She then said these words: 'We can often fear that if we follow where God is asking us to go, it will lead us to a place that we'd rather not go but Frederick Buechner would say that God is far more likely to call you to those things that bring you joy or that you feel passionately about.'

Last week was Christian Aid Sunday, and we heard about how a Greek woman, Fotini, had expressed her vocation to love and serve others. From out of the gladness of her heart and the hunger of the world around her, she has been helping the poorer families of Samos respond to the refugee crisis ever day as boats bring tired and desperate people to the shores of their island. Circumstances drew out a response from her heart. And her vocation has been shaped to meet the practical and longer-term needs of refugees.

Today it is a pleasure to welcome Fiona Collins, who expresses part of her Christian vocation through working as a wellbeing chaplain and supporting the work of lay and ordained chaplains based in 130 surgeries across the Midlands.

None of us is left alone to find our vocation. In the Gospel of John, we hear today how Jesus sends us 'a friend', the Holy Spirit of God, to guide us into living truthfully. The Holy Spirit shapes us as we follow the command to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. The Holy Spirit carries on the work of Jesus through us when we are passionate and fulfilled. That's good news!

*Paul Hinton*

# The Gathering

*Please stand as the choir process with clergy, visiting preacher and Reader:*

*Rose says*

Come as you are – known and loved.  
Come with joy, come with hope.  
Come with your burdens, come with your doubts  
Come with your dreams, come with your fears.  
For God calls you by name, and rejoices. Amen.

## Hymn: Gather us in

*By Marty Haugen*

**Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our  
dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in – the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**



**We are the young – our lives are a mystery,  
we are the old who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in – the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us for ever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in – all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

## **The Greeting**

*Mark greets the people*

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.  
**Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.**

## **Prayers of Preparation<sup>1</sup>**

*We all prepare to respond to God's word as young people lead us in prayer*

Come among us, Jesus.  
You whom angels worship and children welcome  
**come Jesus, and meet us here.**

Come among us, Jesus  
You whose hands hurled the stars into space and to cruel nails  
surrendered  
**come Jesus, and meet us here.**

Come among us, Jesus  
You who call us to follow you in the dance that lasts forever  
**come Jesus, and meet us here.**

---

1

## **The Confession.**

*Rose leads us in our confession:*

In baptism we died with Christ,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,  
we might walk in newness of life.  
Let us receive new life in him  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith

*Sit or kneel. There follows a period of silent reflection and self-examination*

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

## **Words of forgiveness**

*Mark proclaims the liberty given us through Christ's forgiveness:*

May the God of love and power  
Forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## **The Gloria** (tune: Regent Square)

*Please stand.*

**Sing to God a song of glory,  
peace he brings to all on earth.  
Worship we the King of heaven;  
praise and bless God's holy name.  
Glory, glory, sing God's glory.  
Glory to our God on high.**

**Sing to Christ, the Father's loved one,  
Jesus, Lord and Lamb of God;  
hear our prayer, O Lord, have mercy,  
you who bear the sin of all.  
Glory, glory, sing his glory.  
Glory to our God on high.**

**Sing to Christ, the Lord and Saviour,  
seated there at God's right hand:  
hear our prayer, O Lord, have mercy,  
you alone the Holy One.  
Glory, glory, sing his glory.  
Glory to our God on high.**

**Glory sing to God the Father,  
glory to his only Son,  
glory to the Holy Spirit,  
glory to the Three in One.  
Glory, glory, sing his glory.  
Glory to our God on high.**



## The Collect

*A period of silence is introduced with the words 'Let us pray'.  
The Collect is a special prayer for the day, which 'collects up'  
the thoughts and prayers of all the people.*

Risen Christ,  
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:  
help your Church to obey your command  
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Sit.*

### **First Reading: Acts 17.22-31**

*Life among the believers*

<sup>22</sup> Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup> "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup> And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup> From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup> God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup> 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup> "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup> In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup> For he has set a day when

he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 66.5-end**

*Rose will lead us as we sit. We will join in with the bold type.*

<sup>5</sup> Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

<sup>6</sup> **He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.**

**There we rejoiced in him,**

<sup>7</sup> who rules by his might for ever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—

let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

<sup>8</sup> **Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,**

<sup>9</sup> who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

<sup>10</sup> **For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.**

<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

<sup>12</sup> **you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

<sup>13</sup> I will come into your house with burnt-offerings; I will pay you my vows,

<sup>14</sup> **those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**

<sup>15</sup> I will offer to you burnt-offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; will make an offering of bulls and goats.

<sup>16</sup> **Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.**

<sup>17</sup> I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

<sup>18</sup> **If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**

<sup>19</sup> But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

<sup>20</sup> **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.**

**Glory to God, Source of all being,  
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Anthem: If ye love me**

*Thomas Tallis*

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
and I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another comforter,  
that he may bide with you forever,  
e'en the spirit of truth.

## The Gospel Reading

*Please stand. When the Gospel is announced, the reader says:*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead: **Alleluia!**

He has defeated the powers of death: **Alleluia!**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing: **Alleluia!**

He has the words of eternal life: **Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

## Celtic Alleluia (Te Deum)

*Christopher Walker*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**



## **John 14.15-21 (The Message translation)**

*The Spirit of Truth, our Friend*

<sup>15-17</sup> “If you love me, show it by doing what I’ve told you. I will talk to the Father, and he’ll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth. The godless world can’t take him in because it doesn’t have eyes to see him, doesn’t know what to look for. But you know him already because he has been staying with you, and will even be *in* you!

<sup>18-20</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned. I’m coming back. In just a little while the world will no longer see me, but you’re going to see me because I am alive and you’re about to come alive. At that moment you will know absolutely that I’m in my Father, and you’re in me, and I’m in you.

<sup>21</sup> “The person who knows my commandments and keeps them, that’s who loves me. And the person who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and make myself plain to him.”

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**



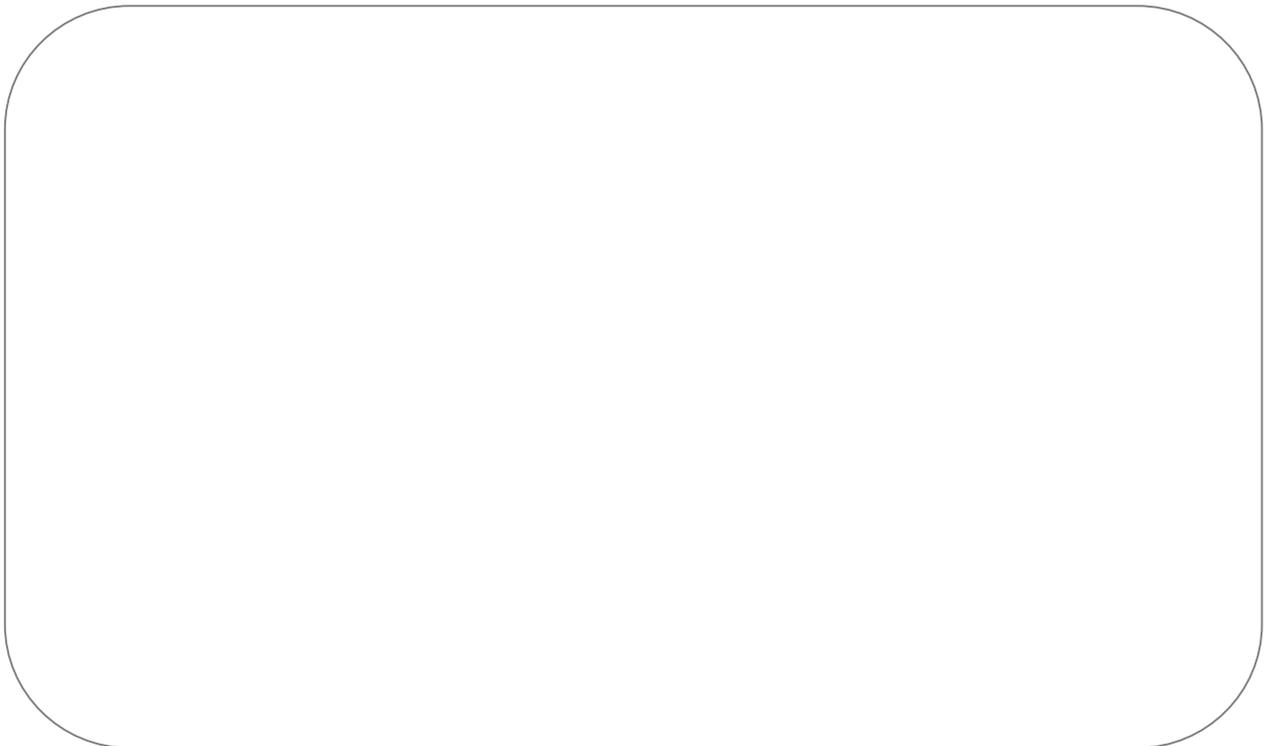
*The children and young people head down to the choir vestry for Sunday School.*

**Talk: Fiona Collins with Paul Hinton**

*A bit about Fiona: In 2005, she was asked to be a Chaplain for a Medical Centre in the Cape Hill area. Prior to becoming a Chaplain, she worked with Campus Crusade for Christ (now Agape) at Birmingham University and latterly as a Lay Pastor in a Church in Harborne. While continuing to worship in the church she was asked by a returned Missionary Doctor to join their team as a Chaplain which was a role which had been already pioneered in Ladywood at the Karis Medical Centre.*

*She found she was working with three Centres of which two were not Christian. By 2009/10 the team were working in six more Medical Centres and then in 2010 Rev Annette Hanny and Fiona joined the Sandwell Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub servicing 130 Medical Centres. She now work as a Chaplain Supervisor, and advise the Management team for Chaplains in the Midlands while Chairing the Association of Chaplaincy in General Practice and sit on the OPC for the College of Healthcare Chaplains.*

*Sit. There is peaceful reflection at the end. Please use this space to jot down thoughts that help you.*



## **Profession of Faith**

Let us affirm,

together our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*After a short silence, Paul will lead the congregation in prayer*

*The response after each prayer is:*

Lord, come to us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

*At the end of the prayers the final response is:*

Merciful Father

**accept our prayers,  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **The Welcome and Peace**

*Please stand. Mark introduces the Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia .

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**Preparation of the Table**

**Taking of the Bread and Wine**



**Offertory Hymn: Come down, O love divine – CP  
175**

*Everyone joins in saying the words of the offertory proclamation*

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour and the majesty.  
For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you, and of your own do we give  
you.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

*Remain standing as Mark presides*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

And now we give you thanks because Christ our paschal sacrifice has made us children of the light, rising to new and everlasting life. He has opened the gates of heaven to receive his faithful people. His death is our ransom from death, his resurrection is our rising to life. The joy of the resurrection renews the whole world, while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy,  
My heart, my heart adores you!  
My heart is glad to say the words:  
You are holy, Lord.<sup>2</sup> (x2)**

We praise and bless you, loving God,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your  
dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper  
with his friends  
taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



and,

---

2

*Argentinean Sanctus*, © Jubilate

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, alleluia.**

**Christ is risen, alleluia.**

**Christ will come again, alleluia, alleluia (x3)**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your  
kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with St Hilda and all the saints to feast at your table  
in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Sit or kneel.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, in our own mother tongue:

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory  
are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the bread**

*Mark breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in the one bread.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Journeying to the Altar**

*If you are a communicant member of any Christian denomination, you are welcome to receive the sacrament. Should you require gluten-free wafers or non-alcoholic wine, please ask for this at the altar rail and our communion servers will be happy to bring these for you. If you are not, or do not wish to receive Communion, please come forward for a blessing. Wardens will guide you up at the appropriate time.*

*At St Hilda's we believe in the power of prayer and our on-going need to receive God's healing and sustaining presence. Members of our prayer ministry team will be on hand in the St Katherine's chapel (to the left-hand side) for quiet and confidential prayer. You don't need to say anything to them – just let them pray for you as God leads them. Perhaps you would like to use this prayer in the stillness of this part of the service.*



## **A Prayer for Discernment**

*Saviour,  
help me to recognise you this week,  
to listen to you and to learn from you,  
to respond to your promptings  
in my own life,  
by the power of your Spirit. Amen.*

## **Song during Holy Communion: Spirit Divine**

*The choir will sing this prayer chant by Keith Duke.*

**Spirit of love, enfold and teach us;  
Spirit of peace, rest deep within;  
Spirit of change, transform and heal us;  
Spirit Divine, Spirit Divine.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

*At the end of communion, when all have received bread and wine or a blessing, this special prayer is said by Rose. Please stand:*

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

**Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **Notices & Banns of Marriage**

### **Final Hymn: There is a Redeemer – MP 673**

#### **The Dismissal**

*Mark says these words of blessing:*

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ  
has given us the victory,  
give you joy and peace in your faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Rose says:

Christ is not here. He is risen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Please stay after the service has ended.  
Refreshments are served in the foyer at the  
back of church.*

Acknowledgements

Copyright material is included from, Common Worship: Services and Prayers  
for the Church of England; © The Archbishops' Council 2000.

-----  
**NEWS AND NOTICES**

The Sanctuary flowers are the gift of St Hilda's Baby Group.

-----  
**COMING UP THIS WEEK**

Mon	10.45 am	CAMEO – “Life At The Front” - Vanessa Morgan
	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting (Church Hall)
Wed	9.30 am	Mother & Toddler Group (Church Hall)
	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Thurs	2.00 pm	St Hilda's Baby Group (Church Hall)
Sat	10.30 am	Table Tennis Club (Church Hall)

**Services for next Sunday: 28th May**

10.30 am	All Age Worship with Holy Communion
12.15 pm	Holy Baptism
6.30 pm	Evening Prayer

### **LENT LENDING LIBRARY**

There are still 1 or 2 books that have not yet been returned from our Lent lending library. Please can you return any books you borrowed to the table in the main church porch. Thank you, Fran Ellis.

### **THE SUNFLOWER FUND**

This year's charity for St Hilda's is to raise money for our work with children and families. Mandy has already made many new links both with local families coming to our 'Messy Meetups' and with local schools who are seeing us as an excellent resource to teach children something about Christianity, a process of planting seeds of faith. If this work is to continue we need to raise funds, this charity is to be called 'The Sunflower Fund' and we would like you all to try to think of some fundraising ideas. Thank you, Marian (Sunflower Fund Co-ordinator).

### **FOODBANK**

Your generous support of the Foodbank continues to be much appreciated. In the 2 weeks of 18 April - 02 May, food donated from St Hilda's totalled 24.9 kg. Currently, the Foodbank is particularly short of **cereals, biscuits, packets of pasta or rice, tea bags, coffee, long life fruit juice, jam, toiletries and tins of everything except baked beans and chickpeas.** Thank you.

### **HANGING BASKETS**

These will be on sale from May 20th. All proceeds will be for the re-slabbing of the area at the rear of the church to make it safe. Baskets will be 16" and cost £15. each. Contact: David Dyke 0121 552 1003 [davedyke510@btinternet.com](mailto:davedyke510@btinternet.com) to reserve yours.

## **LISTENING TO GOD'S CALL**



What are your hopes and dreams? What brings you joy? How does God get through to you? In the month of May at our four Sunday

morning services we will be pursuing a stream of sermons and talks that explore the subject of vocation. The word vocation comes from the Latin word 'vocare', which simply means 'to call'. In the biblical tradition, God is constantly calling his people to be 'image bearers' reflecting the character and nature of God. The diversity of people responding to God through history reflects the true and wondrous beauty of God. And you and I are part of that story.

In the bible, there are many stories of people young and old who respond to God's call to live a life created just for them. There is Samuel, a young boy from a devoted mother, who hears God calling him very clearly – and he is helped to listen to God by an old priest. He becomes a faithful and courageous prophet. There is wealthy 70-year-old Abram who responds to a call to get up and go to a far away land in pursuit of a deep promise of a future from God. His steps of trust led to the family and nation of Israel. There is a young widow Ruth, who has suffered huge personal losses, yet finds her vocation by remaining loyal to her mother-in-law. Her faithfulness led her to become the grandmother of a great king, David. The list goes on and on... there are people who run away from God's call (like Jonah) yet discover God's persistent grace; there are people who embrace God's call while going about their ordinary work (like brothers and fishermen Peter and Andrew); and there are others who respond out of sheer gratitude for forgiveness (Mary Magdalene).

During the coming month, we will hear from different people about their sense of vocation. We will encourage each other by listening to one another's stories. We will perhaps discover how we all play our part in growing the hopes and dreams of one another. As a church community, we may also find our eyes opened more to the treasures within and what God is calling us to become as companions of Jesus.

**So, here's the first question: how does God get through to you?**

- 'I became aware of a need...'
- 'Through something someone says...'
- 'An intense feeling within me...'
- 'A thought that won't go away...'
- 'Through reading a bible passage...'
- 'A sense of wonder at creation...'
- 'A coincidence...'

## **SMETHWICK CAN GROW**

This a new project which has been set up by Smethwick CAN. They have acquired an allotment at Bearwood allotments Dale St. If any gardeners have any unwanted tools, seeds, pots, compost they would be very grateful for them. Any items can be left at church and they will be taken to food bank with food.

Food grown will go to volunteers, food bank, and a community pay as you feel café.

If anyone wants to get involved contact; Christina, food action worker on 0121 517 0141. Speak to Anne Duggan if want more info. Thank you Anne.

## **MARK'S LAST SERVICE AS CURATE OF ST HILDA'S**

Mark's last service as curate at St Hilda's will be on Pentecost Sunday – June 4<sup>th</sup>. Mark will be preaching and presiding at Holy Communion then. It is of course a great festival Sunday, when we remember God's generous gift of the Holy Spirit to the whole church. Mark has also been a gift from our generous and loving God over the last four years. He is now being sent out from us just as the Holy Spirit was given to help the Church send out its apostles and evangelists and sharers of the good news of Jesus. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, we will also have a time of celebration to mark Mark's ministry among us. At the end of the service, at about 12noon, we will share cake and wine and Mark will have a chance to say some words of thanks and receive our love. And then, for those who can stay after that, at 12.30pm Mark would like to have a 'bring and share' lunch in church. So please make a note in your diary. And be sure to be there. *Paul*

### **SOCIABLE SOCIAL EVENING**

The next Sociable Social Evening will be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 p.m. The venue will be 'The Fairfield' where we have enjoyed several good meals, including last year's Christmas Social. If you would like to join us for the occasion, please sign your name on the list which is on the notice board in the outer porch NO LATER than Sunday morning, 11<sup>th</sup> June. We look forward to seeing you there! Julie, Rose and Derek.

### **ACTIVE KIDS 2017**

The Guides are collecting these Sainsbury's vouchers to help kids lead healthier lives. If you would like to donate your vouchers, there is a box in the porch in church to put them in. Thank you.

### **TRAI DCRAFT**

Traidcraft goods have been moved to the outer porch, to reduce the congestion in the inner porch where coffee is served following the morning service. Renata, Anne or me will be available each week to serve you. Wendy

### **CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR ON A WEDNESDAY?**

As you will know, our church is now open on Wednesdays from 11am - 5pm. We need people to be in church to welcome visitors, so if you are able to help, please add your name to the rota in the outer porch.

**Please leave a space next to the porch entrance free at all times for those who have mobility challenges. In addition, a space is now available to the side of the Vicarage garage so as to prevent older members having to walk up from the car park. By request of the PCC.**





## **MONDAY MEALS FOR PILGRIMS**

From Monday May 8th, a series of 75-minute sessions over a simple evening meal will be running at the Vicarage for those who would like to deepen their faith and take a step of having their faith confirmed. We will be using the Pilgrim Course, which the Church of England has developed, to help people of all ages explore their faith. **Each session will begin at 6pm and include a meal and conversation.** Here is an outline of the first six sessions:

### **Mon May 8th - Session 1: Do you turn to Christ?**

Explores the attraction of Jesus Christ. What happened when people met him? What would happen if you did?

### **Mon May 15th - Session 2: Do you believe and trust in God the Father?**

What do Christians believe about God? This session uses the Old Testament to look at how God is like a Father.

### **Mon May 22nd - Session 3: Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ?**

Looking in more detail at who Christians believe Jesus is, this session looks at what Jesus' baptism reveals about his identity.

### **Tues May 30th - Session 4: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?**

Uses the story of Pentecost to show how Christians believe the Holy Spirit makes Jesus present today. We will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday on June 4th!

### **Mon June 5th - Session 5: Do you repent of your sins?**

Looks at what Christians call sin: that inbuilt tendency to get things wrong and God's great desire to put things right.

### **Mon June 12th - Session 6: Do you renounce evil?**

Explores the reality of evil, and how the Christian faith invites us to set the moral compass of our lives.

After that, the sessions on **June 19th, 26th and July 3** will be directed more specifically towards preparation for confirmation. We are really blessed this year, because St Hilda's will be hosting the annual Warley Deanery Confirmation Service at 6.30pm on Sunday July 9th. Bishop Anne of Aston will be taking that service and confirming candidates from all the churches of the deanery.

Please talk to Paul or Mark if you are interested in joining our Pilgrim Group. This is open to all, even those who have been confirmed but want to renew their faith.

# St Hilda's Calendar for 2017

May	Monday 22nd Tuesday 30th	Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 3 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 4 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage)
June	Sunday 4th Monday 5th Saturday 10th Saturday 10th Monday 12th Monday 19th Monday 26th	Messy Meet Up – 3.00 pm (Church Hall) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 5 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage) Parish Ramble- 11.00 am- East Bredon Hill (all day walk) Jail Break Musical - 7.00 pm (Church) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 6 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 7 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 8 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage)
July	Saturday 1st Sunday 2nd Monday 3rd Sunday 9th Sunday 9th Saturday 15th	Summer Fayre – 2.00 pm Messy Meet Up – 3.00 pm (Church Hall) Monday Meals for Pilgrims - Session 9 - 6.00 pm (Vicarage) Sea Sunday 10.30 am (Church) Baptism/Confirmations - 6.30 pm - St Hilda's Church Parish Ramble - 10.00 am - Sponsored Ramble

CCL Licence No. 134913

## Useful contacts:

Rev. Paul Hinton	Vicar	0121 429 1384
Rev. Mark Hopkins	Assistant Curate	0121 420 3185
Mrs Sue Round	Churchwarden	0121 572 9752
Mr Gerald Poole	Churchwarden	0121 429 9225
Mrs Mandy Saunders	Children and Families Missioner for St Hilda's (Tues/Wed/Thur 9am - 5pm)	07519 163974 mrej81@tiscali.co.uk
Mrs Fran Ellis	Reader	0121 429 6267
Mrs Rose Akeroyd	Reader	0121 422 2786
Mr Richard Haynes	Reader	07972 530161
Mrs Freddie Brogan	Parish Administrator (Mon & Thur 9am - 1pm)	07582 957364 administrator@sainthildawarleywoods.co.uk

**PLEASE TAKE BOOKLET AWAY WITH YOU**