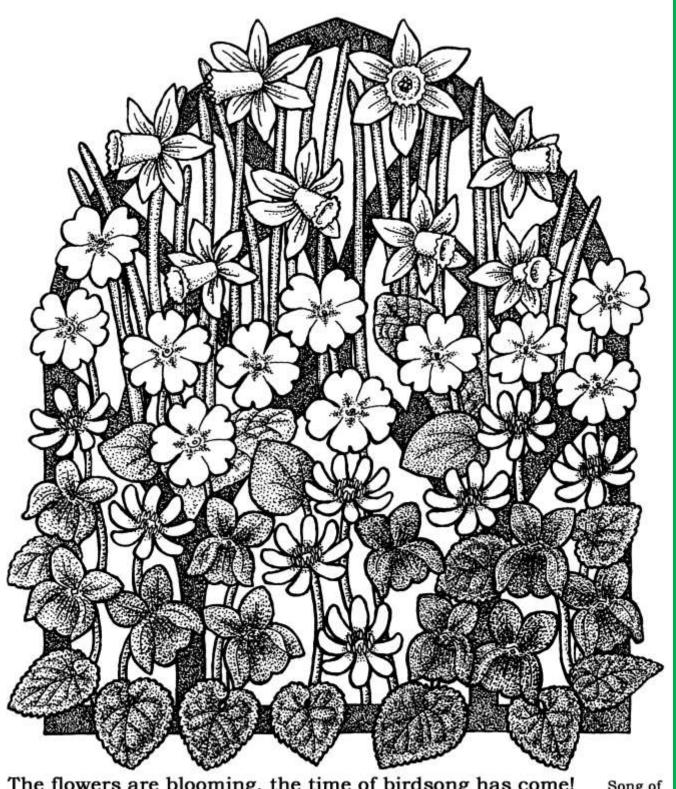
All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine March 2025



The flowers are blooming, the time of birdsong has come! Song of Songs 2:12



All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday Worship in Church

8am Holy Communion BCP

(Second Sunday of the Month)

9.45am Parish Communion

11.30am First Sunday

(formerly Family Service (First Sunday of the Month)

Weekdays

Morning Prayers 8am in Church Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion

The Church is Open Daily for private prayer and meditation.

The Parish Office is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109

Parish Administrator: Judith Man

Website: www.croxleygreenallsaints.org Email: office@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Magazine

magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Vicar:

Revd. Canon Miriam Mugan

The Vicarage WD3 3HJ Tel: 772109

Associate Priest:

Revd. Paul Palmer Tel: 07740871289

Assistant Curate

Revd. Tolu George Tel: 07368890843

Churchwardens

Lyndon Palmer Tel: 720856

Anne Oke Tel: 220782

Assistant Churchwardens:

Ann Palmer

Gill Main

Sacristan:

Chris Oke Tel: 220782 Assistant: Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

Parochial Church Council:

Secretary: Chris Fagan

Tel: 720319

Tel: 720856

Treasurer: Andrew Nobbs

Tel: 770039

Hall hire email;

hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org



Revd. Canon Miriam writes:

Dear Friends,

Here we are in March already! In March the season of spring officially starts and the clocks go forward an hour so that the evenings are lighter for longer. It is a season of colour as spring flowers bloom in gardens and in the wild and vibrant green leaves break forth on the trees and hedgerows. The wonderful smell of freshly mown grass and the spring sunshine, increasing in warmth as the weeks go on, bring us new hope and move us to a joyful expectation of summer days to come. I am reminded of the beautiful words in the Bible from the Song of Solomon:

"My beloved speaks and says to me:
Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away,
For behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtle dove
is heard in our land."

chapter 2 verses 11-12

March also heralds the start of Lent. A sombre season in the church calendar which carries the shadow of the cross as we journey towards Holy Week. Whilst spring is bursting with new life, joy and hope, our spiritual journey as we walk with Jesus takes us down a different path. Of course there is cause for much joy and celebration, light and hope, when we celebrate Jesus risen from the dead on Easter Sunday, but this can only be fully realised when we have walked with each other and followed Jesus' journey to the cross.

Lent is the period of forty days before Easter which starts on Ash Wednesday (5th March). We have a service in the evening, at 7.30pm, which helps us to reflect on the meaning of Lent. At the service, we are marked on our foreheads with the ash of burnt palm crosses to recognise that we came from dust and to dust we shall return. In observing forty days of Lent, we copy Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for forty days. Often Christians choose to mark Lent by giving up treats or not eating meat or not drinking wine etc. to follow the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

Some may choose to commit to Bible study or attending a Lent Course (see further in the magazine for details of the Ecumenical Lent course we are running in Croxley). For some it might be a commitment to create a time and space for God each day to enable them to draw closer to him and experience his presence with them. It may be in this time and space that they read slowly through one of the gospels, or perhaps listen to Christian music and allow the words of the songs to speak to them, or maybe it is just sitting in silence and being still.

The Church of England has published a book of daily reflections for Lent called 'Living Hope'. These short reflections have a different theme each week which lead us through Lent. There is a different theme each week as follows: Imperfect, Trusting, Together, Noticing, Courage and Transformed. These are available from Eden Bookshop or as an app on your phone/I pad called 'Everyday Faith'. If you need further information about this resource do please speak to me.

Whatever you decide to do this Lent, I pray that you will find immense blessings and a deeper connection with God.

Looking ahead, we will be having our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 27th April at 11.15am. Please put this date in your diary and come along to hear about how God has blessed us in our mission and ministry as a Church over the last year.

With my love and prayers

Miriam

Parish Register and Records

WEDDING

11th February 2025 Stephanie MONTGOMERY and Daniel SHAW

FUNERALS

4th December 2024 Mark Russell HORSFIELD aged 59 years

15th January 2025 Derek George Charles WAKEFIELD aged

85 years

20th January 2025 Iris Doreen MARTIN aged 93 years

25th February 2025 Tyler Cruz HAMMOND aged 15 years

Gospel Readings for March 2025

Sunday 2nd March Luke 9 v 28-36

Sunday before Lent

Sunday 9th March Luke 4 v 1-13

Lent 1

Sunday 16th March Luke 13 v 31-end

Lent 2

Sunday 23rd March Luke 13 v 1-9

Lent 3

Sunday 30th March Luke 2 v 33-35

Lent 4 Mothering Sunday



Mothering Sunday 4th Sunday in Lent

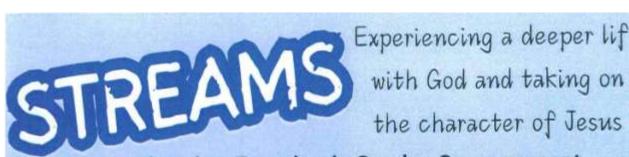
There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places, the day was called Simnel Day because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother's Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



Experiencing a deeper life

Churches Together in Croxley Green present

Streams

our 2025 Lent course

based on Richard Foster's 'Streams of Spirituality'

6th March

A Prayer Filled Life

2pm & 7.30pm @ All Saints Church

13th March

A Virtuous Life

2pm & 7.30pm @ Croxley Green

Methodist Church

20th March

A Spirit Empowered Life 2pm & 7.30pm @ Croxley Green **Baptist Church**

27th March

A Compassionate Life

2pm & 7.30pm @ Croxley Green

Baptist Church

3rd April

A Word - Centred Life

2pm @ St Oswald's Church

7.30pm @ Croxley Green Baptist

Church

10th April

A Sacramental Life



Interfaith

As part of my training, I am required to visit and learn about other faiths to enable me in future ministry to engage appropriately and respectfully with those from other faiths. Nerys and I went on the Watford Interfaith Pilgrimage at the end of November and it was so interesting to engage with Muslims at the Mosque and



Jews in the Synagogue. We also had a brief trip to a Quaker house which was Nerys' least favourite as she didn't like to sit in quiet for 5 minutes (to her credit she did it well).



This week we were also welcomed to the Hari Krishna Temple. It is in such a beautiful, peaceful setting with a lake and quiet peaceful gardens to sit in. The best bit for the children was that they got to feed the cows!

Please do ask me or the girls about our trip. I know they would love to share their thoughts with you.

Sam



The Interfaith Pilgrimage was first organised 16 years ago in Watford. In 2009, the Interfaith Network for the UK initiated National Interfaith Week and, although this network has closed, Watford has decided to maintain this annual event in November.

Nature Watch for March Looking after the environment

As we look forward to some brighter warmer days and getting out and about more, here are some tips for us being environmentally friendly:

Look after the insects – ladybirds

Shop green by buying Fairtrade to help struggling farmers

Shop at the Green Shop in New Road opposite the Co-op; it really is a treasure trove of exciting things. Not hidden in plastic or cardboard packaging, you can really see what you are buying. Each time I go in there, there is something new and enticing for me to fill up my cupboard with or try something new.

Take along your empty containers and have them refilled with all delights: shampoo, conditioner, washing up liquid, environmentally friendly cleaning fluids and so many more. I was thinking about how many plastic bottles and containers I throw away in a month and what a saving for the planet refilling them would be.

Fran Bennett

Omnia Concert for Christian Aid

Many thanks to all who supported the Omnia Concert on 8th February at All Saints'. It was a highly enjoyable evening. Omnia filled the Church and the Hall with people and music.

We raised over £840 for the work of Christian Aid who fight poverty across our world.

Dorothy Sims

Sadly, we share the news with you that Dorothy Sims died, very peacefully, on 16th February. She has been a member of All Saints' for many years and compiled the Prayer Diary (when we listed local groups and the wider world as well as members of our Church family) for this magazine for a long time. Please hold her nephew, Lawrence, and her wider family in your prayers.

March Prayer Diary

Gill and Brian Main Jude, Yin and Alex Man
Jude, Yin and Alex Man
Jane, Ed, Joseph and Ben Manning
Janet, Graham, Zoe and Samantha Martin
Sue Middleton
Jan Mills
Miriam and Rao Mugan
Judith and David Muir
Faith Nazir
Sheila Newman
Andrew Nobbs
Anne and Chris Oke
Margaret and Dick Paddick
Paul, Siu and Kelly Palmer
Lyndon and Ann Palmer

16th	Wendy and Peter Rennoldson
17th	Francesca Sams
18th	Cathy Scarborough
19th	Sarah and Cameron Selleck
20th	Wendy Shafe
21st	Revd. Anne and Don Shaw
22nd	Robert Sheminant
23rd	Anthony and Mary Smith
24th	Marjorie and Tommy Stevenson
25th	Alice Tims
26th	Lilian and Jenson Tsang
27th	Vicky, Katherine, William and James
28th	Katie and Scott Wakefield
29th	Lin Welch
30th	Mary Wong
31st	Chima, Winston, Huldah and Chiamaka Agha



THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

KEEPING CROXLEY SPECIAL



TOGETHER WE WILL UNITE WITH THOUSANDS OF #LITTERHEROES NATIONWIDE AS WE PARTICIPATE IN THE NATION'S LARGEST MASS-ACTION ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN.



WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH 12PM - 5PM

Meeting at the Parish Council Offices for an adventure around our public footpaths and boundry.

SUNDAY 30TH MARCH 12PM - 3PM

Meet at the Mill Lane side of Weston Wood, WD3 3AT, to embark on a litter picking journey around the woods, canal and Croxley Common Moor.

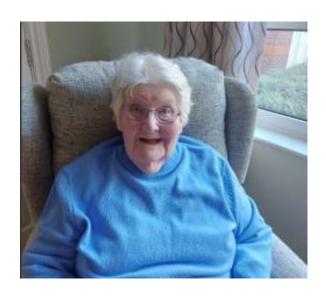
PARISH · COUNCIL

01923 710250 WWW.CROXLEYGREEN-PC.GOV.UK

@CROXLEYGREENPC

Mary Bittles

Many of you will know Mary Bittles, our retired Church Army Sister, who has been a member of All Saints' Church since her retirement. She loved to sit at the back of Church every Sunday morning ready to greet those coming for the 9.45am service. You might have noticed that you haven't seen her for a while.



After many happy years living in Chalmers Court, Mary decided that the time had come for her to be somewhere where she would have someone on hand to support her night and day. It so happened that she was given the opportunity for some respite care at Greenbanks Care Home in Watford over the Christmas period. This went so well that, when she was offered a full residency there, she was very pleased to accept and she has really settled in.

A team of Church friends has helped move Mary's belongings to Greenbanks, including her favourite chair. Mary has enjoyed seeing friends from All Saints' when they have gone to visit her. If you would like to visit her yourself, or go with someone, please get in touch with Jane Bates 07763 226092 or Anne Oke 07855 454564 for further details.

Smile Lines from Parish Pump

I'm giving up eating chocolate for a month. Oh, wait, sorry, bad punctuation. I meant, I'm giving up. Eating chocolate for a month.

Miscellaneous observations on daily life

A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it.

A word of encouragement can sometimes make the difference between giving up and going on. -Anon

Join us for a Bingo afternoon

Sunday 23rd March All Saints' Church Hall 2.30pm for 3pm start



Only £1 a game Fun for all the family Prizes Refreshments on sale We read the Gospel of St John, and the Epistle of St James, both of which contain intensely beautiful and meaningful passages of scripture. But I wonder how it came about that these two brothers, both so godly, came to be referred to by Jesus as the 'Sons of Thunder?'

Sons of Thunder

Have you ever come to wonder
Why James and John were 'Sons of Thunder'?
It seems quite strange, because you see
The two were sons of Zebedee!
In truth, it seems that, very sadly
They didn't suffer fools that gladly.

And if somebody caused them grief
Their temper blew beyond belief!
So when a village caused them gloom
Refusing flat to give them room,
So terrible was these men's ire
They wanted God to send down fire!

But Jesus told them, "Don't be mean!"
And for their plan He was not keen.
Along the road they went ahead
And found another place instead,
These Sons of Thunder learned that day
Revenge is simply not the way.

Jesus showed them how to live
To show great mercy, and forgive.
So if through anger you may blunder
Think about the Sons of Thunder
And up to Jesus lift your face
And know, like them, His gift of grace.

By Nigel Beeton



THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

After Jesus was baptised who led him into the wilderness?



Luke 4:1

Mouse Makes

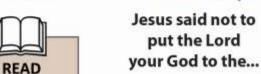
For how many days was Jesus tempted by the devil?

Who did Jesus say you should ONLY worship and serve?

Luke 4:8

the story in

Luke 4:1-13



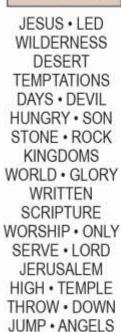
Luke 4:12

Luke 4:2

What did the devil tempt Jesus to turn a stone into?

Luke 4:3

What happened after the temptation of Jesus? see Luke 4:14-15



HANDS • HOLD LIFT • FOOT



Find the words from the questions too!

All in the month of March from Parish Pump

It was:

175 years ago, on 5th March 1850, that the Britannia Bridge linking Anglesey and mainland Wales across the Menai Strait was officially opened. Designed and built by railway engineer Robert Stephenson, it had to be replaced after a disastrous fire in 1970.

150 years ago, on 7th March 1875, that the French composer Maurice Ravel was born. Best known for *Bolero*.

125 years ago, on 28th March 1900, that the British archaeologist Arthur Evans began excavating the ancient city of Knossos, capital of the Minoan civilisation, in Heraklion, Crete. Knossos is regarded as the oldest city in Europe. It was abandoned (unknown reasons) more than 3,000 years ago.

100 years ago, on 21st March 1925, that Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh was officially opened.

90 years ago, on 16th March 1935, that driving tests were first introduced in Britain. Three days later, on 19th March, a speed limit of 30 mph in built-up areas was also introduced, under the Road Traffic Act of 1934.

70 years ago, on 11th March 1955, that Sir Alexander Fleming, Scottish bacteriologist died. Joint winner of the 1945 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering penicillin

60 years ago, on 8th March 1965, that the first US troops arrived in Vietnam. This marked the beginning of the USA's main involvement in the war.

Also 60 years ago, on 18th March 1965, that Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov became the first person ever to make a spacewalk.

40 years ago, on 3rd March 1985, that British miners voted to return to work after a year-long strike over pit closures and job losses.

10 years ago, on 12th March 2015, that Terry Pratchett, British fantasy novelist best known for his Discworld series, died of Alzheimer's, aged 66.

STRENGTH & BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS



£10

per

class



Are you 65 over years of age?
Are you worried about falling?
Have you had a fall in the last year?

Do you feel unsteady?

Do you have brittle bones (osteoporosis)?

Do you feel weakness in your legs?

Would you like to improve your strength, mobility, balance and confidence?

Join a physiotherapist led 60 minute exercise class to

help improve your strength, balance and confidence and reduce your risk of falls.

Call to join the waiting list

07961249343





All Saints' Church Hall for Hire

An ideal venue for: parties, sales, quiz nights, dinners, dance and drama.

Details are on our website www.croxleygreenallsaints.org

Hourly rates for single bookings:
Hall only £32
Hall with kitchen for light refreshments £37
Hall including full use of kitchen £45
Committee Room £10
Kitchen alone £17.50
Generous discounts for All Saints' congregation and weekly hirers

Enquiries to:

Email: hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org



Graham Spendlove MCFHP, MAHFP qualified foot health professional TOE-TAL FOOTCARE for all the family.

For the treatment of corns, callus, ingrown or thickened nails, nail trimming and other complaints.

For an appointment in your own home at a time to suit you.

Book now on 07799 033974



- Superior quality
- Not-for-profit values
- Home for Life never be asked to leave if your funds run out

01923 961 477

Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3JB greensleeves.org.uk









Royal British Legion Women's Section

(Charity Number 219279) Tel: 01923 720509

https://www.facebook.com/rblwscg

100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

At All Saints Church hall, Croxley Green

~



Saturday 29th March 15.30 till late

To recognise the formation of the Croxley Green Women's section of the British Legion



To celebrate this event, we will have a 2-course carvery meal.

Entertainment with a singalong and dancing

Croxley Green Veterans most welcome

Tickets will be £20 per person with a cut off date 21st of march. There will be a licenced bar where you can purchase alcoholic and soft drinks

~

Tickets from Barbara on 01923 720509 limited number available

JAMES PEDDLE LTD

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

James Peddle is still independently owned and managed. They pride themselves on giving a caring and understanding 24 hour personal service.

> Home arrangements by appointment Golden Charter Pre-payment Plans Probate Advisory Service

10 Moneyhill Parade Uxbridge Road Rickmansworth HERTS WD3 2BE (01923) 772013 172 New Road Croxley Green Rickmansworth HERTS WD3 3HD (01923) 775013 51 Lower Road Chorleywood HERTS WD3 5LQ (01923) 286102

(24 hour service)

Rainbow Cottage Catering

Do you need catering for a party?

Hot or cold meals prepared for you for any occasion including birthdays, Christenings, weddings, funerals, afternoon tea or just a 'get together'

Great food, good prices, friendly service!

...and Cakes too!

Large and small cakes for all occasions, including gluten-free or dairy-free.

Also a wide range of homemade jams, chutneys and other preserves.

Call Janet Martin on 01923 774514

for more details

Could a Personal Assistant make life a little easier?



The affordable alternative to home care, where you choose who supports you

At Hub Care support, we offer a personal service.

We take the time to get to know you so you can find the care and support that is right for you.

Call us today for a friendly no obligation chat.

Hub Personal Assistant can help with:

- Domestic tasks
- Meal preparation
- Personal care
- Social support
- Companionship
- Shopping
- Respite
- · Live-in care
- Assistance to appointments

Your Care | Your Choice | Your Hub

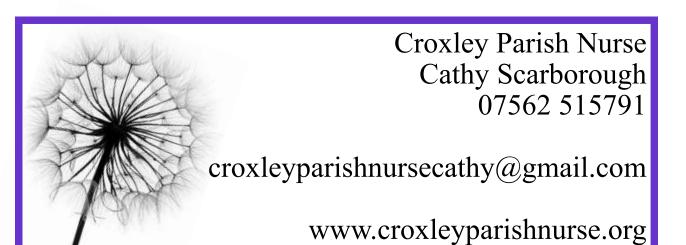


Tell us what you want & Review the PA profiles we send Meet with any PA's you choose

Agree which PA will support you

01923 624 604 www.hubcaresupport.co.uk





Croxley Parish Nurse and Macmillan Cancer Support Churches Together in Croxley Green

Nurse-led Cancer Support Group Croxley

First Thursday of the month All Saints' Church Hall 2.30-4pm

We will be meeting on Thursday March 6th, Thursday 3rd April and Thursday 1st May

We welcome anyone who has been affected by cancer. Join us to meet others, share your experiences and learn coping techniques in a warm and friendly group.

For more information please call 01923 436326 or croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com

Wordsearch for March from Parish Pump

March brings us Lent and Mothering Sunday. Lent is a time of spiritual self-assessment as we prepare for Easter. It is a time to turn to God, and to grow closer to Him. Mothering Sunday reminds us of not only the mothers that have loved and raised us, but of Mother Church, who has spiritually loved and nurtured us throughout our Christian pilgrimage. How many words can you find on these themes in this month's Word Search?

е	е	f	е	p	d	n	t	1	У	r	ı	g	p	
									177		1	-		
a	a	n	е	e	i	a	g	i	e	t	e	n	u	h
C	g	u	a	d	S	h	y	n	n	e	i	i	r	е
u	S	n	t	t	i	0	r	e	i	d	W	r	S	i
0	t	n	i	i	n	W	1	d	r	n	i	t	i	t
У	r	n	r	h	r	e	d	f	W	n	r	n	n	t
k	g	d	İ	S	C	i	p	1	e	S	g	а	g	u
n	0	i	t	a	r	a	p	e	r	p	r	k	e	f
a	g	g	n	i	k	e	e	S	r	0	0	r	r	1
h	1	n	t	k	t	a	h	t	i	е	W	t	u	0
t	a	h	r	i	У	S	e	t	h	I	i	n	t	W
a	0	e		e	I	t	i	a	0	C	n	a	r	e
t	i	i	p	t	r	e	е	٧	1	m	g	d	u	r
p	İ	1	d	e	t	r	е	S	е	d	m	f	n	S

Lent
spiritual
easter
preparation
fasting
prayer
desert
selfdenial

repentance
seeking
finding
growing
mothers
love
care
nurture

learning teaching disciples worldwide flowers thankyou nursing family



5th March Eusebius, friend of St Jerome

Eusebius is the saint for you if you believe in the Bible, and also in providing hospitality. He was born of a good family in Cremona, Italy, in the fourth century, and felt called to become a monk. As Eusebius was ascetic by

nature, he sought out St Jerome in Rome, who advocated an austere lifestyle for monks. They became life-long friends. At that time, Jerome was secretary to Pope Damasus, who commissioned him to produce for the Western church a translation of the Bible in Latin.

It was a time when Christian theologians were defending the faith from various heresies which had arisen concerning the nature of God. Eusebius was a loyal friend of Jerome, and so became involved in Jerome's theological disputes against various heresies.

When the Pope died in 384, Jerome decided to leave for the Holy Land. Eusebius begged to accompany him. At Antioch, they were joined by two female friends of Jerome's and together they made a pilgrimage to all the places connected with the earthly life of Jesus. Later, they decided to make their home in Bethlehem, where Jerome continued with writing, studying, and overseeing a monastery.

Jerome noticed that the vast number of pilgrims to Bethlehem were extremely poor, so he decided to build a hostel for them. Eusebius was sent to Croatia and Italy to raise money for the building project. He even sold his own property at Cremona to help with finances.

Meanwhile, the theological disputes continued, and it seems that Jerome next sent Eusebius to Rome, to support Pope Anastasius I.

In 400AD, Eusebius may have returned to his native Cremona, or else to Bethlehem to become the abbot of the church there. One (unproven) tradition credits him with founding the abbey of Guadalupe in Spain. Another late tradition credits him with raising three men from the dead - an event painted twice by Italian Renaissance painter Raphael Sanzio.

Wherever Eusebius spent his last years, he continued to support Jerome's interests, and they regularly corresponded on theology. Eusebius died in 423 and it is thought he is buried alongside Jerome in Bethlehem.

Parish Pump

MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

Wendy Shafe 441638 Shelagh Booth 779932

Please e-mail contributions to magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org by the copy dates below. If you have any queries, please contact one of the team above. Thank you.

Final copy date:

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR: Fran Bennett

This month's cover is a design from Parish Pump

Acknowledgement

Unless otherwise stated, pictures are taken from Parish Pump or else they are produced by members of the magazine team.

We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.

Choir: Anne Oke and Sam Beard

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Anne Oke Tel: 220782

safeguarding@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Hall Bookings: hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org

Tel: 772109

Electoral Roll Officer:

Chris Fagan Tel: 720319

Planned Giving Officer:

Janet Martin Tel: 774514

Youth Group:

Sam Beard and Kelly Buckle Tel: 772109

Parent and Toddler Club Contacts:

Monday:

Jane Bates Tel: 492890

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows:

Contact girlguiding.croxley@gmail.com

Badminton/Games Group

Chris Oke Tel:220782

Email:office@croxleygreenallsaints.org







Blood Donation at All Saints' The next session at All Saints' has been booked for Friday 21st March

