

Dear Friends

This week we celebrate the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on 8 September, 9 months after we celebrated the immaculate conception on 8 December. Christianity celebrates few births, but those that are celebrated – notably Our Lord, John the Baptist and Mary, Mother of Our Lord – have divine presence during conception or before birth.

According to St Andrew of Crete, the whole of creation is jubilant on this special day because the birth of Mary is a joyful prelude to the gift of humanity's salvation through Our Lord Jesus.

We will have a Morning Prayer Service on Sunday at 10.30, led by Ewan, as we await our new locum priest. Our usual weekly activities have restarted. Details are below.



The nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with her parents St Joachim and St Anne

Rupert Dodds

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Pastoral care

For pastoral care during the coming week, Robert can be contacted by telephone on (0039) 026552258 (Church apartment) or by email at allsaintsmilanpriest@gmail.com

Diocese lay learning course

The Diocese in Europe's lay learning course 'Walking Together in Faith' is back for a second year, starting in September.

The course consists of four modules, each with five sessions.

Module One, 'Knowing God', explores prayer, taking the Lord's Prayer as our starting point, and asks what it meant to pray this fundamental Christian prayer in the time of Jesus and what it means today.



**DIOCESE
IN EUROPE**

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH MILAN

Via Solferino 17, 20121, Milano

www.allsaints.it

10 SEPTEMBER 2023

The course comprises fortnightly online sessions lasting 90 minutes, led by Diocesan Director of Lay Discipleship Dr Claire Amos. All participants can choose the level of engagement that suits them.

Those who complete the whole course and wish to submit work for assessment will be awarded a Bishop's Certificate. The course is free for all participants, but there will be a small cost for anyone working towards the Certificate.

The online sessions start on the evening of **26 September** (Final time to be announced when we know the range of time zones represented in the group).

For those wishing to register an interest in the Lay Learning course, please fill out the registration form, or for more information, refer to the Diocese website:

<https://www.europe.anglican.org/news/latest-news/sign-years-lay-learning-course>

Retirement of Bishop David Hamid

Bishop David Hamid, suffragan bishop of the Diocese in Europe and one of the longest serving bishops in the Church of England, has announced his plans to retire in February 2024. Bishop David was consecrated as a bishop in October 2002, and installed as suffragan (or assistant) bishop of the Diocese in Europe, where he has served for almost 21 years. We thank him for his service and wish him well in retirement.

Links to our regular activities:

Sunday evening prayer on Zoom is [here](#).

Morning prayer is from Monday to Saturday 9 am and the link is [here](#).

Bible Study on Zoom is at 6pm Tuesday. Newcomers are very welcome – simply join the meeting and listen. The link can be found [here](#). Bible study in person takes place on Thursdays at 13.00 in the Church rooms.

The **Jolly Club** is held on Tuesday beginning at 12.30 in the church's upstairs parish room. The Club is an informal meeting to chat and spend time together. Everyone welcome!