

7 JANUARY 2024

Dear Friends

Epiphany Sunday will see the Revd Canon Michael Bullock's farewell Eucharist at 10:30 as usual. Come and thank him for being our shepherd over Christmas.

Epiphany – which means “manifestation” or “revealing” – marks the end of Christmas, and celebrates Christ being revealed to the Gentiles in the form of the Magi, and the revealing of Christ's divinity, when Jesus was baptised by John in the Jordan.



The Baptism of Christ – Verrocchio and Leonardo

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2024. Next week we welcome back the Revd Dr Nick Fisher.

Rupert Dodds

Lay Vice Chair and Treasurer
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Lee Kirkpatrick-Smith

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Council meeting 14 January 2024

The Parish Council will meet on 14 January after the church service at 12:00. The main items on the agenda are as follows:

1. Update on church activities including feedback on fair and raffle, DLP and priest recruitment
2. Dates for 2024 major events
3. To consider the draft unaudited financial statements for 2023
4. To consider the revised draft budget for 2024
5. To carry out a preliminary review of the electoral roll
6. To receive and accept the Synod report
7. To establish the date of AGM – 1st call 16 March 2nd call 17 March 2024 and actions required

If you have any views on these items, or any items in general, please speak to a Council member beforehand.

Progress with appointment of new chaplain

Our timeline for appointing a new chaplain needs to follow the availability of the Diocesan Bishop and Archdeacon, which means progress is not as fast as we would like.

The timetable we have been provided with sees the vacancy advertisement being published this month, followed by a time for applicants to respond, a list of candidates for interview being compiled and ultimate selection around the end of April.

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What then follows depends on the circumstances of the chosen candidate. Obtaining the necessary visas and work permits could take some months.

All this requires extra prolonged commitment from our volunteers who run the church, especially, but not only, our churchwardens. Please continue to support and encourage them. Interregnums are hard work, especially when matters do not always go as planned.

Electoral roll

With the new year comes the AGM and our parish returns. Both require an accurate electoral roll – the former allows members to attend, vote and hold office. The latter affects our level of payment to the Diocese, and our synod representation.

If you are not on our Electoral Roll and wish to be, please contact [Rupert](#), our [churchwardens](#), or [Laura Pakes](#), our Electoral Roll officer. And if you have moved away from Milan and wish to be removed, contact one of us.

The roll will close for review mid-February until the AGM, so act now. More will follow on these dates in future newsletters.

Pranzo di Natale

The Pranzo di Natale, held on Christmas Day at the Church in conjunction with La Comunità di Sant'Egidio, provided Christmas company for 70 guests - the homeless and those who would otherwise be alone.

Our thanks to Ester, Ewan and all those who helped.



Pastoral care

For pastoral care during the coming week, please telephone (0039) 345 5835978 (Church mobile), (0039) 026 552258 (Priest's apartment) or email allsaintsmilanpriest@gmail.com

Disabled lavatory project

The project fund stands at €23,668 going into 2024. This is a great start. We have had a number of professional contacts tell us costs in the order of €46.000 for the project are reasonable, so we have around another €20.000 to go.

Gillian and her team are looking at the possibility of obtaining grants and charity contributions and are planning further fundraising events for the new year.



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ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH MILAN

Via Solferino 17, 20121, Milano

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These costs and the objective of the project are directed toward building a disabled access lavatory, with storage for church equipment presently in the location of the intended lavatory. The lavatory will allow more of our congregation to attend church, as well as improving our facilities that are also used by guests who use the church. The project does not include anything more, so for the moment any dreams of a kitchenette or galley must be put on hold.

Hazel Thomas

Many of you have read the announcement that Hazel Thomas, long-time member of All Saints' and former treasurer, died peacefully last week at her home. Hazel's dedication to All Saints' and her commitment to the church's well-being were fundamental to All Saints' return to financial health after a difficult period in past years. Vickie received this letter from Bishop Robert, which she wishes to share with you.

"I was very sorry to hear from Andrew Caspari the sad news that Hazel Thomas has died. I had not realised she was unwell, quite understanding her desire for privacy in that respect. I have some sense of how important Hazel's financial acumen and personal commitment and friendship were to you and to All Saints. Her passing is a big loss to All Saints as well as the wider archdeaconry and diocese. My sincere condolences to you and to all who loved Hazel.

This comes with my prayers and best wishes to you as 2023 draws to a close. Wishing you health and happiness in the coming year. +Robert"

Links to our regular activities

Join the first Sunday of the month **pizza lunch** after church on Sunday. Sign up at the back of the church. There are alternatives to pizza. Come and enjoy good food and companionship.

Sunday evening prayer on Zoom is [here](#). **Morning prayer**, at 9.00 Monday to Friday, is [here](#).

Fancy a new activity in 2024? Why not join our friendly and informative Bible studies, where we exchange ideas and views on the following week's readings. Our church is a cultural hotchpotch, which gives our studies interesting angles and perspectives. Drop in to the Church rooms for Bible study in person on Thursdays led by Massimo. Bring a sandwich, arrive at 12:30 for a chat and start the study at 13.00. Or stay warm and cosy and join Bible study by Zoom on Tuesday at 6pm, hosted by Robert, using the link found [here](#).

The **Jolly Club** is even more relaxed. Call in to the upstairs parish room on Tuesday from 12.30 onward for socialising. Bring your lunch along and any hobbies you may have.

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of anyone within the All Saints' community, then please contact Catherine Bell, our Safeguarding Officer, using our Safeguarding Policy found [here](#).