

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Drymen Road, Bearsden
Rector: Rev. Kirstin Freeman

Sunday 27th January 2019

Epiphany 3

9.00 am **Said Eucharist** (Rev. Kirstin Freeman)
10.30 am **Sung Eucharist** (Rev. Kirstin Freeman)

Readings: Nehemiah 8: 1-3,5-6,8-10
1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a
Luke 4: 14-21

(Sunday School and Creche in the Church Hall)

Please join us for tea and coffee in the Church Hall after the service

Wednesday 30th January

11.30 am **Said Eucharist**

Sunday 3rd February 2019

Epiphany 4

9.00 am **Said Eucharist** (Rev. Kirstin Freeman)
10.30 am **Sung Eucharist** (Rev. Kirstin Freeman)

February 2019 Church Magazine is now available at the back of the Church.

Some weeks we will be using **both new hymn books**. **CP** (Common Praise) or **SP** (Sing Praise) will indicate the correct book for each hymn by showing before each hymn number.

Hymns

Opening – 619 When Morning Gilds the Skies

Gradual – 71 The Maker of the Sun and Moon

Offertory – 90 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise – 2nd tune

Communion – 285 Bread of the World

Final – 81 Lord for the Years

Resignation of Mike Graham from Lay Reader ministry at All Saints

On Sunday 6 January, I presented the Rector with a letter in which I gave notice of my resignation from Lay Reader ministry at All Saints. The following Sunday, (13th) I delivered a statement to the congregation at the start of the service which contained the reasons behind this decision as intimated to the Rector. For the benefit of those who were absent from the service on the 13th, a condensed version of my statement appears below, focusing principally on the reasons for my decision to resign:

- 1) The increasing difficulty of travel. Every Sunday, and often at other points during the week, I have to make a 12-mile journey across the city centre to get to All Saints and, particularly in recent years, this has become an increasingly trying and stressful experience. Ever-rising traffic levels, the emergence, almost daily, of new and unexpected road-works, the added hold-ups caused by the proliferation of cycle lanes, etc., mean that getting to any church event on time presents a growing challenge.
- 2) The erosion (in my view) in the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) of biblical principles in favour of politically correct expediency. Thus far, I have tried to be tolerant of some of the changes taking place within our church, but developments in my spiritual life (as outlined in Reason 3) have awakened deep concerns in me over what I perceive to be an increasingly liberal theological stance on the part of the SEC.
- 3) For 2 years now, I have been attending a Christian fellowship which meets in the south-side of Glasgow on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings. Their model of discipleship and spiritual/moral guidance in my opinion adheres more closely to that set out in the Gospel; and although I certainly couldn't match their level of commitment at present, the contrast between their level of Christian witness and that of the SEC has been a wake-up call for me to reconsider my present spiritual state of health. That's not to say, however, that I don't see people in our church

who could give me a good showing-up in terms of faithful Christian living – there are many within the Episcopal Church who could do that very easily. I suspect though, that the simpler, less-ritualistic style of worship of the fellowship holds a strong appeal for me.

Although the aforementioned factors affecting my decision have been on my mind for some time now, it wasn't until a couple of deeply troubling, sleepless nights over the New Year period that I felt that God was calling me to come to some kind of decision in the matter. Even so, it has been an extremely difficult decision to take – not least because of the close friendship I have enjoyed with you over many years – so there is very definitely an element of 'stepping out in faith' here. In such matters, our overarching concern must be our personal relationship with God, seeking, to the best of our ability, to follow where he leads.

Having said all that though, it's not as if I'm disappearing over the horizon, never to be seen again – at least, I hope not! I'm sure there will be plenty of occasions for us to maintain our friendship in shared activities. In the meantime though, Kirstin has invited me to choose a date when my resignation will become effective, and since I don't believe in prolonging these things unnecessarily, the date I've chosen is Sunday 27th January.

Finally, I would just like to say thank you to all of you for your kindness and loving support, not just in this matter, but over the many years I've been at All Saints – it's been a tremendous privilege. Thank you.

Mike

Presentation to Michael Graham, today 27th January

Mike will be much missed by our congregation after many years of invaluable service to All Saints.

Envelopes for a collection for a leaving present for Mike Graham have been available at the back of the Church, but if you've missed them so far you can still take one and return it to Andrew Long.

Wednesday Lunch Group 30th January

Do come along at the usual time and place and enjoy the company of friends and neighbours with a bowl of warming soup and rolls, 12 noon in the Glenburn Hall. All most welcome.

Association of Bearsden Churches Unity Supper

The ABC Unity Supper will be held in New Kilpatrick Church New Halls on **Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 7pm. Tickets cost £12** and include a buffet supper. Pupils from Bearsden Academy have been invited and will make a presentation on the Book of Job.

Tickets are available from Celia Fisher (570 0903) and Penny Inglis (942 5649) and in church on 20th and 27th January.

Monday Night House Group (NB change of venue)

The next house group will be on **Monday 4th February at 8pm** at **12B Upper Glenburn Road, Bearsden**. We will be using the book "The Drama of Scripture" by Craig Bartholomew and Michael Goheen, led by David Wheatley. All very welcome as always.

For more information please contact Janet Stack janet.stack@btinternet.com

Notices for Sunday the 3rd February to Andrew Long
(andrew.long200@ntlworld.com) by 6.00 pm Thursday.

Notices for Sunday 10th February to Ann Wheatley
(ann.m.wheatley@ntlworld.com) by 6.00 pm Thursday

ALL SAINTS' WELCOMES YOU If you are new to this church or know anyone who would like a pastoral visit, please give details below and hand to one of the sides-people, Mike or Kirstin.

Charity: SC005552 Copy Right: CCL128428