



Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Abington
- the Church in the Park -
Welcome to our June Newsletter 2023

Thy Kingdom Come!

I am writing this as May draws to a close, Revd. Jun is busy in South Korea with Bishop John, and we are in the midst of the season of Thy Kingdom Come. Back in May 2016 the initiative began to mark the period from Ascension to Pentecost with a time of fervent prayer; praying for the Holy Spirit to come and strengthen all Christians to share the Good News of Jesus with those who might not yet know him. Since then, the movement has grown and become globally recognized, and Christians around the world pray that God's Kingdom might come to be known by all.

This year saw our Diocesan Canon Missioner, Revd. Canon Steve Benoy, set off on a prayer walk across the diocese calling at every deanery on the way. His mission was to listen to what local churches were doing to share the Good News and invite people to come to know Jesus.

After a sun-filled day of walking, Steve arrived at our church on the evening of Sunday 21st May, and we offered him a very warm welcome. Our Rural Dean, Fr. Oliver Coss came along to represent the Deanery and we were accompanied by the musical talents of Revd. Roger Woods from the Church on the Heath. A service of reflection followed focusing on the theme for the day; Creation, and we were pleased to share the talents of our Junior Church in their artistic representation of God's creatures.

We reflected on the wonderful location that we enjoy right at the heart of Abington Park and on the growing number of prayer ribbons and hearts adorning the church railings. To see so many prayers being offered by people who often do not come to church



is encouraging, as each one signifies a longing that there is something, *someone* who can be called out to; in sorrow, in hope, and in joy, and we know who this *someone* is. And it is the naming of God, through Christ, that we are called to reveal to those we meet. During our prayers we took time to pray especially for five people we long to see come into the faith, and these prayers do not need to stop just because the season of Thy Kingdom Come has ended. I wonder who you pray for?

We know that we can glimpse God's Kingdom, and that in Christ we experience a foretaste of all that God has promised, but it is the vision of God's Kingdom that we are called to pursue; a vision of justice, abundance of life, protection for the weak and the recognition that Christ is our salvation. And for us to answer God's call on our lives, to be a part of his Kingdom, we are to use all that God has given to us to share the message and make good where we can.

As the season of Thy Kingdom Come finishes for another year, what will we carry forward with us? In what ways can we make visible the Kingdom of God? Our Community and Outreach projects are obvious ones, and there are many ways to be involved. You could donate to Baby Basics, help out at the Parish Fete, or perhaps even join the many teams that together make God's vision visible. Perhaps you might help with serving refreshments (a ministry of hospitality) or join our AV Team whose livestreaming makes it possible for people to join us in worship, both across our community, and even the world! What might God be calling you to do to build his Kingdom?

Revd. Tracy Pegram

To get involved in the life and mission of the church, please ask a member of the team you would like to join, or chat to Revd. Jun, myself, or a Churchwarden, and we shall be happy to help you.

This month's preachers

4th June, Trinity: Prester Coleman, Reader

11th June, Barnabas: Liz Kelly, Anna Chaplain & LPM

18th June, Trinity 2: Revd. Jun Kim

25th June, Trinity 3: Revd. Sarah Lee

Readers and Intercessors for this month

4th June, Trinity: Readers: Olivia May & Donald Loe

Intercessor: Hilary Hodge

11th June, Barnabas: Readers: Susie & Simon McKay

Intercessor: Liz Kelly

18th June, Trinity 2: Readers: Jenny Mercer & Alicia Menzies

Intercessor: Donald Loe

25th June, Trinity 3: Readers: Pam Norman & Andrew Munns

Intercessor: Pam Norman

Children and Youth Missioner's Update

I am sure many of us enjoyed the Coronation weekend? Thank you to Alison Canfield, whose idea it was to ask the local primary schools and the Little Fishes toddler group to make some colourful bunting to decorate our churchyard. This made a lovely display for everyone to enjoy! Thank you also to Julian, Liam and Alicia Menzies, who were responsible for putting up the church flag for the Coronation.

Those of us in church on the Coronation Sunday also thoroughly enjoyed the service and the time of fellowship afterwards, with a group photo (thank you Sarah and Olivia May) and lovely refreshments. The children made Coronation prayer stones, both to keep as a reminder of the Coronation, and also to give away for other people to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who made this day so special.

On Sunday 14th May Esme and Janet led Junior Church and the children enjoyed the Creation story and then made craft animals. These were then used in the Evensong service held on Sunday 21st May, when Steve Benoy came as part of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' celebrations.

Some of the Little Fishes families met at the church on Monday 15th May. We spent some time in the children's play area and then enjoyed our snack and sharing time outside in the churchyard. Thank you to Sandy and Lizzy for helping with the refreshments. It was a lovely time all together.



A date for your diary! On Sunday 18th June there is a 'Sharing of Talents' afternoon in the church at 3 pm. Families and individuals from our church family have offered to share their musical, dramatic and baking skills with us so please do come along and enjoy an hour or so of entertainment and fellowship. All are very welcome!

Cathy Tinsley Tel. 07516 979223 or children@abingtonchurch.org.uk

News from the Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team continues to support parishioners through regular telephone calls, prayer, and pastoral visits. Home Communion is available too. If you, or anyone you know, would like someone from the pastoral team to get in touch, please contact Liz Kelly, Lay Pastoral Minister and Anna Chaplain. Her contact details are lizmk@outlook.com and telephone 01604 636947 or 07745 604591. We offer a listening ear, someone to pray with, bereavement support, or a friendly visit. Thank you all for your prayers for the Pastoral Team, and for the staff and residents of Abington Park View and St Christopher's Care Homes.

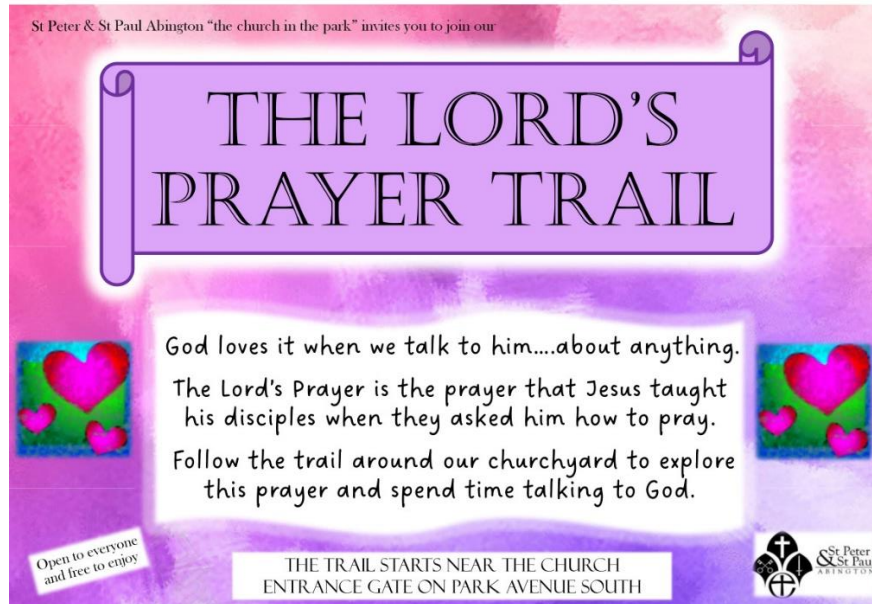
News from Abington Park View Care Home

Revd Jun, Revd Tracy, and Liz visited on Wednesday 17th May and celebrated a service of Holy Communion for the residents, a family member, and some of the staff. The theme was the Ascension and Jun reminded us that Jesus now entrusts his work on earth to us, but we are always supported by the Holy Spirit. After the service in the Garden Room, Jun and Tracy visited the rest of the house and blessed those residents in the Lounge and in their rooms. They also blessed all parts of the Care Home in what has now become an annual event. Refreshments were served afterwards, and we all enjoyed an informal chat before leaving.

[Draft Minutes from the last PCC Meeting](#)

Please click the title above to access the link to the latest minutes of the PCC meeting.

Lord's Prayer Trail



Message from the Editor

Firstly, my continued thanks to all who provide items for the newsletter with each passing month. I feel a certain amount of privilege and pride comes with position of editor of this Church monthly communication.

Now, as I am sure most of you are aware, I also coordinate the live streaming of our services; whether that be simply the streaming of the weekly Eucharist on a Sunday morning, or the occasional midweek Service of Remembrance. And I am deeply honoured to be able to serve our God in this way similarly. However, as you may also be aware, I was unable to fulfil my role in helping broadcast our service on Sunday 21st May to many far-flung corners of the world due to illness. My thanks go to those who sent me messages of recovery and prayers. But this brings into question the fact that there is currently only myself and Liam Menzies that are part of the AV Operating team and should an occasion similar to the 21st happen again we may well find ourselves with no one to once again oversee the streaming aspect of our worship.

We have asked on many occasions within this monthly newsletter, in the news slides that roll round prior to our services, in notices and sermons and even at the APCM. I would implore you to see if you would be interested in being part of the team. I can honestly say that, through the work of running this

operation over the last couple of years has brought me far closer to God than I had ever been before. It is very easy to do, would require very minimal training (which would be provided by myself, Liam and Revd. Jun) and can be a very fulfilling and different approach to your usual worship.

So please take some time to think about it and if you are at all interested in simply finding out more, **please get in touch** with either myself, Matthew George after a service or via email (mattyg2010@live.co.uk) or to Revd. Jun.

Many thanks and God bless.

Matthew

Zoom Compline

This is a weekly service at 7.00pm on Tuesdays. In case you don't know, Compline is a quiet, reflective service at the end of the day and includes an open prayer time, so we are able to continue to support one another. Please talk to Liz Kelly if you want to know more about this and to receive a weekly invitation by email, which enables one-click joining. Her contact details are: lizmk@outlook.com or telephone on 07745 604591.

Church Fete: Saturday 1st July, 2-4pm

It's that time of year again. You are all warmly invited to come along to St Peter and Paul, Abington Summer Fete on Saturday 1st July in the Church Yard between 2-4pm. As ever there will be many stalls ranging from plants to books, and from the raffle to a tombola. Please come along and support the event. Also, assistance will be required in the morning to set up the various stalls and gazebos, so please sign up on the sheet in church or speak to Melissa or Damian if you can help.

Visit to Charterhouse: Saturday 22nd July, 12pm departure.

Our friends Peter Aiers and his family, the Master of the Charterhouse London, have invited us to come and see them. We will visit the Charterhouse London on Saturday 22nd July. We will aim to arrive by 2pm and then will be given a guided tour of the place followed by afternoon tea. There will then be Evensong at 5.30pm in the chapel. We will travel by coach together so please write down your name on the sign-up sheet or contact Revd Tracy (curate@abingtonchurch.org.uk, 07568 923322) if you would like to come along.

Shoebox Appeal

Hello all. It is so lovely to be writing a piece for the newsletter on two subjects that really excite me: Christmas, and the 2023 Samaritan's Purse' Shoe Box Appeal.

As many of you will know our congregation at Abington have worked together over many years to produce many shoe boxes filled with lovely gifts and essentials, for children in war-torn or third world counties to be opened and enjoyed during the season of good will.

I am asking for your support with this project again this year and there are many ways you can help:

1. You can complete your own shoe box suitable for a child in one of the following ages categories 2-4 years, 5-9 ears, 10-14 years, young adult up to 19 years.
2. You can supply one or more items from the suggested list below.
3. Donate shoe boxes with lids or Christmas wrapping paper.
4. You can donate money to buy items to fill shoe boxes.
5. You can donate money toward postage of a shoe box (recommended donation is £5).
6. You can offer time to help put together shoe boxes which are not complete.

Shoe boxes need to be ready for collection by the beginning of November so, it would be great if we can start collecting shoe box items after our church summer fete. I am away in Australia for the whole summer which has prompted my thinking to have plenty of notice to gather in the goods ready for shoe box assembly session towards the end of October 23'.

I will leave a box in the porch for donated items and if you would like to make donation of money, please pop this in an envelope and pass to myself, a Church Warden, Cathy Tinsley, or Revd. Jun.

If you have empty shoes boxes these could also be left safely in the porch on the benches or let me know directly and I can arrange where to put them.

Ideal things for shoe boxes include:

- writing/drawing materials including notebooks/paper
- small soft toy, tennis ball, toy car, games like snap or dominoes or a musical instrument
- toothbrush, soap, comb/hairbrush, flannel, hair clips/bands
- hats, gloves or socks

(Consider these ages categories: 2-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years, young adult up to 19 years, and **please do not** include sweets, toothpaste, war toys, reading material, liquids, sharp items, or aerosols.)

Please keep an eye out for more information in the front porch, talk to me or look on the website: Operation Christmas Child (samaritans-purse.org.uk)

I look forward to working with you to make this a real project of giving and sharing God's love by bringing a smile to the faces of children who have so little.

Much love Alison Canfield

How to get your contribution or event into the next Abington Newsletter

Please send content to Matthew George on abingtonbulletin@outlook.com by the 21st of the month for guaranteed inclusion in the next edition. If you send it after the 21st, it may not be included. If you wish to have a printed version delivered to you, please contact Bob Purser 785836. There will also be a small number of copies in church for visitors.

Ministry Team:

Rector: The Revd. Byung-Jun Kim, rector@abingtonchurch.org.uk

Curate: The Revd. Tracy Pegram curate@abingtonchurch.org.uk

Readers: Alison Barnes, Prester Coleman

Lay Pastoral Minister & Anna Chaplain: Liz Kelly

Children and Youth Missioner: Cathy Tinsley

Director of Music: Tim Dolan

Churchwardens: Donald Loe and Jim Mercer

Lay Chair of the PCC: Bob Purser

www.abingtonchurch.org.uk

If you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter from Abington Church, please email bob.purser@abingtonchurch.org.uk