

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HANDLEY

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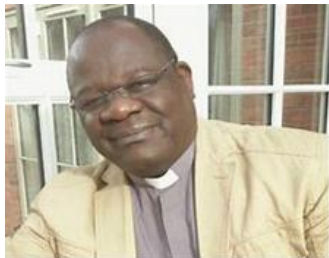
## Parish Newsletter Spring 2026

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

*Sunday 4 October 9.15am*  
*Harvest Festival*  
Family Service

*Sunday 4 October 12noon*  
*Ploughman's Lunch* to celebrate the launch  
of 'The Friends of All Saints Handley' 20  
years ago - *further details below*

**Father Lameck has written a message  
especially to the 'Friends of All Saints'**



### **Dear Friends of All Saints Church Handley,**

As we come to the end of another financial year, I write to express my sincere gratitude for your faithful and generous support of All Saints Church. Your contributions have made a real and lasting difference. Because of you, All Saints continues to be a place of worship, welcome, and service at the heart of the community. Your support helps sustain the care of our church building, inside and out. This past year has brought its share of opportunities and challenges, and it has been a great comfort to know that the Friends of All Saints stand alongside us with such commitment and goodwill. Your connection to this church, whether near or far, is deeply valued. As we look ahead to the coming year, we do so with hope and confidence, strengthened by your continued support. Please accept my warmest thanks for all that you do for All Saints.

**Rector**



### **ALL SAINTS NEEDS MORE 'FRIENDS'! PLEASE JOIN US**

As Lameck has written, we are indebted to 'Friends' for numerous projects we have been able to undertake over the past 20 years since 'The Friends of All Saints Handley' was launched. These include floodlighting of the church tower, the restoration of the rear perimeter wall in the churchyard, renovation of the external sunken chambers along the north and south sides of the church, refurbishment of the church porch, new bell ropes, a sound system, and 500 daffodil bulbs which have been planted in the churchyard. Most recently, the 'Friends' have funded an enhanced amplifier to support the electronic keyboard that Fanny Cooke has generously donated to All Saints - thank you Fanny.

The pressure on church funds has become ever greater this year with the ending of the *Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme* that allowed churches to recover VAT on repairs. This means that for most repair, maintenance, and alteration projects on church buildings, churches now have to pay the standard **20% VAT** rate without the previous ability to reclaim it.

We are therefore making this plea to you as someone we hope has an interest in the preservation of our church, to become a 'Friend' (if you are not already one).

We are keeping the annual subscription at £20.00 per individual per annum, £30.00 per couple.

Application forms are available online, in church, or by post (please contact one of the 'Friends' committee members to request).

## A CELEBRATION!



October 2026 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of The Friends of All Saints and we plan to celebrate and say 'thank you' with a Ploughman's Lunch and fizz at the home of Judy Meredith and Mike Weightman, Millbank, Burwardsley Road, Tattenhall. This will take place on Sunday 4 October at 12noon, following our harvest festival earlier in the day. All our 'Friends' and benefactors, those we know and those we have yet to meet, are welcome, and will receive a personal invitation nearer the time.

## EASTER AT ALL SAINTS

On Easter Saturday, we were delighted to welcome a team of visiting bellringers from the Isle of Man. Thank you to Chris for providing them with refreshments.

The bells rang out again on Easter Sunday for our Holy Communion service which was well attended. Thank you to Carolyn and her team of bellringers from Tattenhall, to the band of loyal cleaners who made the church look so attractive, and to Catherine who played the keyboard.



## THE ANNUAL VESTRY & AGM

took place on Tuesday 14 April. Chris Walley and Alison Carter were re-elected as Churchwardens for the forthcoming year.

Two new members were welcomed onto the Parochial Church Council, Maggie Powell and Carolyn O' Connor. Robert Evans and Sue Pike were re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. We were also able to celebrate the Rector's birthday with a cake and a bottle of fizz.

**ALL GOOD WISHES** to PCC members Sue Moseley and Alex Park who have both recently undergone hip surgery. Alex remains unwell and we hope his recovery picks up soon.

## A SAD FAREWELL TO Eric Carr



Eric was well-known in the area, having established the garage Carr and Griffiths at Milton Green with Philip Griffiths many years ago. He sold the business some 2½ years back but remained living in the area. Husband to Ann, father to 2 children, and a grandfather, he died on 30 December aged 84 years. His funeral took place at All Saints in January, his coffin arriving in unique style, and the large gathering a testament to the many whose lives he touched. He is buried in the churchyard.

## THE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is produced twice yearly by the PCC. It is available on the church website and paper copies are sent to **Friends**. If anyone has items they would like to put forward, please contact a member of the PCC.

## CONTACTS

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### Churchwardens:

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