



ALL HALLOWS

A Church of the Rainbow People of God

25th December 2013

Christmas

President and Preacher: Rev Steve Smith

Readings for Christmas

Isaiah 52.7-10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1.1-4[5-12]

John 1.1-14

Prayer for the day

God our beloved,
Born of a woman's body,
You came that we might look upon you,
And handle you with our own hands.
May we so cherish one another in our bodies
That we may also be touched by you;
Through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, Amen

Janet Morley

God said: 'I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the bond between me and the earth.' And Desmond Tutu said, 'We are the Rainbow People of God.'

Please pray for.....

- all who are facing a bleak Christmas; those who have no family or loved ones to be with, all for whom Christmas will bring pain or disappointment of one kind or another
- Thanks that Florence wasn't deported on Thursday – pray that those with influence help her find long-term security and peace in the UK.
- Sameer facing another appeal for asylum having been refused
- For Betsy following surgery last week, for healing and for David R-H for ongoing healing following his surgery
- Michelle Gosney hopefully starting a new job
- Catherine Hicks who is unwell and burnt out at the moment
- Florence Marawa, detained when reporting to Hillside and now in Yarls Wood. Pray for her and for Lois, Kirsty and Esme with whom she was living
- For Rev Steve Smith as he prepares to leave All Hallows in February to move near Falmouth to be Vicar of Mabe and Ponsanooth
- Janet from Doncaster, ill in hospital. She befriended Sameer when he was housed there
- Thanks that Helen is home and back at work
- A Pakistani man who has converted to Christianity
- Kay, out of hospital, pray for healing and also for Mick
- Jan's friend Heather with cancer and for her husband Harro
- Gabrielle Syme with inoperable cancer and husband Robert
- Lisa, learning to speak and walk after experiencing an aneurism
- Linda's father Ron, taken into hospital with a fever, and mother Vida.

The community of Hyde Park....

- The Hartisca House staff and residents following news that the home is due to be closed.
- All who use our building during the week
- for all at Hyde Park Methodist Church; pray for our ministry together and for all who live in the area of Hyde Park

For justice in the world....

- For the people of South Africa as they move into an era without the presence of Nelson Mandela, giving thanks for his example
- The Nicaraguan Community Movement in La Concha and for the Leeds Latin American Solidarity group as they appeal for regular donations to support of the work of the NCM. (See Sarah for more info)
- Palestinians living on the West Bank, Gaza and in Israel

- LGCM and Sharon, national worker, as she challenges churches to have an open welcome for Gay, Lesbian and transgender members
- AJAR, Solace, PAFRAS, LASSAN and RETAS and other organisations that work to bring hope and justice for asylum seekers and refugees in Leeds, giving thanks for all who volunteer with them

PRAYERS: If you have a request you want included in this bulletin email bulletin@allhallowsleeds.org.uk or let Steve know.

Regular events: Sunday 10.30 Morning Service “Sharing the Feast of Life”. Monday 6.30 Yoga, Tuesday 1-3 Delicious Bites Cookery Group £2 all welcome,: Tues and Thurs 7-8pm Cappeliera dancing group; OWLS lunches Thurs 12 (Bookable for older people) Friday (and/or Sat.) – Break dancing.

Reflection

Every year of life waxes and wanes. Every stage of life comes and goes. Every facet of life is born and then dies. Every good moment is doomed to become only a memory. Every perfect period of living slips through our fingers and disappears. Every hope dims and every possibility turns eventually to dry clay. Until Christmas comes again. Then we are called at the deepest, most subconscious, least cognizant level to begin once more to live newly again.

Christmas brings us all back to the crib of life to start over: aware of what has gone before, conscious that nothing can last, but full of hope that this time, finally, we can learn what it takes to live well, grow to full stature of soul and spirit, get it right.

There is a child in each of us waiting to be born again.
Joan Chittister

Ways to donate to All Hallows:

Give your time to help out on with activities – café, gardening, events, gigs, working parties to clear and clean and to help with the Sunday Service (see Andrea who does this rota)

To give money to support us: please place money on the plate on the small table. You can also make a direct payment from your bank and you can gift aid. This is a way we get money off the government when we reclaim tax you have paid – ask James, Paul or Jan for details.

NB we are also fundraising for our roof that leaks!

To support local people who are in need of a meal contribute food to the **PARISH PANTRY**: If you can remember to bring dried food or tins or toiletries to church so Steve can donate them to people who need extra help just put them in the red box at back of church There is loads of need in our local area.

Rota for tea and coffee

TEA AND COFFEE!! Now Sonja and Iris have retired we need to be a bit more on the ball with supplies. As usual if you are on tea and coffee please bring biscuits/cake and milk. There should be tea, coffee, sugar and juice in the kitchen. If not there should be a stock pile in the big walk-in cupboard. If it looks like stocks are low, including of washing up liquid, cloths, clean tea towels etc please take responsibility for this and let someone know - Rachel/Jan/Ali Terrell are all willing to do a costco run every so often for supplies, and if anyone can take tea towels home to wash and dry and bring back the following week that would be appreciated. And as usual please wash and put away at the end, and do not fill the urn right to the top - think energy efficiency :) Thank you!

CONTACT DETAILS If you want to contact the Vicar, Rev Steve Smith by telephone, ring 0113 242 2205

On line? See www.allhallowsleeds.org.uk