



ALL HALLOWS

A Church of the Rainbow People of God

4th January 2015
Second Sunday of Christmas

President and Preacher
Rev Bob Brooke

Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:[1-9] 10-15

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

Prayer for the day

God of community,
whose call is more insistent
than ties of family or blood:
may we so respect and love
those whose lives are linked with ours
that we fail not in loyalty to you,
but make choices according to your will,
Through Jesus Christ,
Amen.

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....

- Sameer for health and healing
- Roul and Kay who miss church but cannot get here without support
- Ram's friend Ismail and his dad who has been diagnosed with lung cancer and for his family
- David for health and healing, and for Betsy and her sister
- Heston and Lydia as they prepare to move to Leeds
- Linda's parents Ron and Vida in America struggling with health problems
- Linda's sister Margaret and her son and Linda's nephew Ryan hoping to find the right mental health support
- All Hallows' Community Project "Pay As You Feel" / "Real Junk Food Project" Café – now opening on Tuesdays and Fridays
- The "Real Junk Food Project" Café in Armley as it faces losing its home
- Raja and Mahmoud now living in Sheffield
- Daniel trying to sort out his life
- The mother of Amalia, a friend of Emma, for health and healing and all her family
- Alan Griggs's son in law Glen who has Motor Neurone Disease and for all his family
- Catherine, still struggling with burnout and feelings of depression

The wider community....

- All who use our building during the week – break dancers, the yoga groups, meditation group, OWLS, Community Project
- Members of Hyde Park Methodist and for their community shop and youth work

For justice, peace and healing in the world....

- For the victims of the Ebola virus and their families, and for those caring for them
- For peaceful resolutions in Iraq, Syria, South Sudan, Libya, Ukraine, Nigeria and Central African Republic
- For the people of La Concha in Nicaragua
- For all those held in Immigration Removal Centres, especially women and children in Yarl's Wood

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

Regular events:

Sunday 10.30am Morning Service “Sharing the Feast of Life”

Sunday 6pm Alcoholics Anonymous group

Monday 6.30pm Yoga

Tuesday 10am-4pm TRJFP@AH Café

Tuesday 7pm Yoga

Wednesday 12-2pm OWLS lunches (Bookable for older people)

Wednesday 7pm Capoeira

Wednesday 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous group

Friday 10am-4pm TRJFP@AH Café

Saturday Breakdancing 4-5pm open class, **5-8pm** open session

Today: After Church is our monthly shared lunch. Do join us whether you have brought some food or not! All are welcome

Saturday 10th January 9am Work morning to clean and prepare the church porch for painting, deep clean part of the kitchen and various other jobs. Followed by lunch together. See Paul for details

Friday 20th February 7.45pm: Jim Boyes with Belinda O'Hooley: Sensations of a Wound, Live at All Hallows. For further information and to book tickets, please see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jim-boyes-with-belinda-ohooley-sensations-of-a-wound-live-at-all-hallows-tickets-14529039749?aff=eorg>

Saturday 14th March 2:30pm will be the licensing service for Rev Heston Groenewald at All Hallows'. Make sure you book the whole weekend in your diary – this is a great excuse for a party!

Reflection

My Deepest Me Is God

In the centre of us all, guiding and calling, prodding and poking at the lassitude in our souls, the fear in our hearts, the fretting at the bottom of our minds, lies the spark of life that we recognize most clearly as "my-self." This is the "me" that is always there in its rawest form. The "me" of all my distant hopes and all my controlling feelings. This is the "person" that I know myself to be—whether anyone else knows that part of me or not.

The recognition of this self in me is the beginning of the spiritual life. With it comes the awareness of what we call the "true" self. This is the me, the one who is the vessel of both my inmost feelings, positive and negative, and my most illuminating, most uncensored, insights into my reason for being, my place in the universe, my relationship with God.

This innermost self is the raw material of our spirituality. It signals the demons with which we struggle our way through life and it identifies the angels of our better nature who carry us from one level of the self to the next. In our "deepest" we know the best and the weakest of our spiritual selves. In this place we can see where our heart really lies in life and we can name the demons with which we wage our daily wars to be better, to do good, to live with clay feet on a divine path.

Our "deepest" is clearly where the real me drives me on from desire to desire. Our inner talk there is about ourselves. Our concerns, down deep, are too commonly only for ourselves. Our struggles emerge there out of the dreams and disappointments, the demands and the denials we breed with ourselves in mind. But not Catherine of Genoa's. Her "deepest" is God. Her center of life is God. Her awareness of her basic self is her understanding of *Emmanuel, God with us, always*, in her.

The thought stuns us into a new awareness of the nature of our own lives. Here is a woman who knew without doubt that the God she sought was the God who was her very breath itself. When she turned to the "self" within she discovered the God who had created her, sustained her and drew her on through life.

Unusual? Not really.

The fact is that our "deepest" is God, too. Only it takes most of us years to discover that. The process is a profound one.

—from the January 2015 issue of [*The Monastic Way*](#) by Joan Chittister

Ways to donate to All Hallows:

- PARISH PANTRY: Don't forget your donation of food
- Please put donations of money on the collection plate on the small table by the back row of seats in church – regular donations are welcome including gift aid and direct debits to our bank account – see Richard for details
- 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 Rob who does this rota)

CONTACT DETAILS: See our Church Wardens Jan or Paul

On line? See www.allhallowsleeds.org.uk