

All Saints' Laleham

Connect, Grow, Serve, Share, Worship

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Having fun at the summer holiday club



Thanks to our amazing leaders and helpers

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Parish Newsletter

OCT - NOV 2017 // FREE



A generation ago Halloween was hardly celebrated at all. Now it has overtaken Valentine's Day as the third biggest 'event' for retailers behind Christmas and Easter. So where has it come from?

It's tempting to answer, "From the minds of marketing departments." Since 2001 our spending on Halloween has increased 30 fold, and you can't miss it in the shops. It's become a further chance to make money. Another answer is "From America." Trick or treating as we know it, is largely an import from across the Atlantic. The distant roots of the festival seem to be Celtic and pagan. But for over a thousand years it has been an explicitly Christian festival — this is the largely

forgotten secret of Halloween. The name Halloween is a shortening of 'All Hallows Eve', and means the evening before All Hallows day. 'Hallows' is in the title of the final Harry Potter book, and simply means 'holy' people or saints. The Bible refers to all Christians as holy/saints, not because they are especially good, but because they've had their many sins forgiven. One of the wonderful promises of the Bible is that there's hope after death, and that when Christians die their souls go to be with God in heaven. All Hallows day was a time to remember this great number of Christians who had died on earth, but are alive in heaven. For some people Halloween is a bit of fun, for others something to dread

with trick or treaters at the door. You'd be most welcome to All Saints' to discover more about the secret of Halloween — and its message of life after death in heaven. Primary aged children are also invited to a fun 'Light Party'...



Made at last year's Light Party



LIGHT PARTY

Sunday 29 October
IN LALEHAM SCHOOL HALL

Please book your space in advance.
Tickets £3 from Alexandra 07921 038682

KS1 4-5.15pm • **KS2** 5.45-7pm

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A 500th Anniversary



The start of the Reformation is traditionally dated from 31st October 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenburg, Germany.

It triggered perhaps the greatest movement for change in world history, second only to the founding of Christianity itself by Jesus Christ. The Reformation was a period when the truths of the Bible were rediscovered with fresh clarity and power.

Is the Reformation of interest today?

The makers of Playmobil, the plastic figures, have discovered it is. They produced a 7.5 cm Martin Luther to celebrate the anniversary, and in June

they had shipped the millionth little Luther, making it the highest-grossing individual figurine in the Bavarian firm's history.

A fascinating 5 minute retelling of Luther's life using Playmobil figures can be seen at www.gochatter.com.

Is the Reformation of relevance today?

The Reformation is central to our own nation's history and identity. At her Coronation the Queen was asked:

'Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law?'

The Queen vowed: 'All this I promise to do.'

The Reformation was a wide-ranging movement, and Luther did not

get everything right. But his central rediscovery of the Bible's message of salvation remains a vital and glorious message for all time: we are justified by faith alone. In other words, God accepts us not because of any achievements on our part, but as we receive what he has done on our behalf through Jesus Christ. Exploring the meaning and implications of this for us today, is a central part of our Christianity Explored course which we run each term. Look out for the next one in the New Year.

The Reformation: So what?

We have invited our Bishop, Graham Tomlin, to give a talk entitled 'The Reformation: So what?' Bishop Graham has taught for many years on Luther and Reformation. He is speaking in All Saints' Church at 6.30pm on Sunday 15th October. All are welcome.



Remembrance Sunday

We will remember them.

Our service times on Remembrance Sunday, 12th November, change from normal. We have an All Age service at 10am in Church, at which we welcome local uniformed organisations.

At 10.50am there is an open-air Act of Remembrance around the War Memorial in Laleham Village. Then at 11.15am there is a Holy Communion service in Church.



Confirmation with Bishop Pete

Our confirmation this year was conducted by Bishop Pete Broadbent, Bishop of Willesden and Acting Bishop of London.

We are very grateful to Bishop Pete who stepped in at the last moment. Our candidates were a mix of teenagers and adults. As they confirmed the promises made on their behalf at baptism, so the Bishop prayed:

'God has called you by name and made you his own. Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.'

Confirmation usually marks the point at which someone begins to receive Holy Communion.



Giving the gift of joy this Christmas

All Saints' has been taking part in Operation Christmas Child for several years, the largest children's Christmas project in the world. Last year, children and adults from across the UK and Ireland packed over 1 million shoeboxes full of gifts and goodies, which were then sent to disadvantaged children around the world. Leaflets with all the details are available at any of our services.



Lighting up Laleham

Now a regular feature of our lead into Christmas is Lighting up Laleham, a fun celebration to mark the start of the Christmas season, hosted by All Saints' and the Laleham Residents Association. On Sunday 3rd December, please gather at the Church from 6.15pm to enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. Carols and candles at 6.40pm and fireworks at 7pm.



Some dates for your Autumn Diary

Memorial Service for the Bereaved

SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER • 3PM

Remembrance Sunday

SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER

10AM • All Age Service of Remembrance

10.50AM • Act of Remembrance at Laleham War Memorial

Lighting up Laleham

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER • FROM 6.15PM

Wonderfully Made

enjoying life with God's special gift

A practical parenting course for mums with toddlers

Thursday afternoons

FROM 1.30 UNTIL 3.00PM

in the youth centre starting on the 5th October

To register, or for further info contact Jo 07976 967281

a creche will be provided