

St Agnes

Everybody's Welcome

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“I JUST FELT I COULD NOT IGNORE GOD ANY LONGER”

It was about June 2005, Adrian and Alys were enjoying a karaoke evening at the Billesley pub and met some people from St Agnes church and just got talking. After several visits to the Billesley Adrian and Alys eventually went along to St Agnes.

“I remember feeling how welcoming it all was, the genuine care and interest was really lovely, really encouraging; its very warm and that’s something that is important, especially when going for the first time.”

“The genuine care and interest”

Adrian and Alys were both brought up as Christians but had drifted away from it, as they got older.

“I got to an age when it was easier to go the way all my friends went, and I ignored God for about 6 years.” Alys recalls, “Then over time a number of different things happened: I just felt I couldn’t ignore God any longer and gradually I felt called back. I couldn’t pull in the other direction.”

Adrian was at University when he found himself straying from God.



“...their faith helps them in their everyday life”



Adrian and Alys were married at St Agnes Church last year

“I was enjoying the freedom of University, I decided I knew best, I drifted away but looking back there were a lot of people praying for me. I felt God was personally, powerfully, presenting me with a choice and I got on my knees and wept and prayed, and recommitted myself to God’s way. I have been pursuing that since then. It’s been a bumpy road, it’s not been easy, it’s had its ups and downs; but there is a peace that He gives and my relationship with God is more important than anything”.

Since their first visit to St Agnes, Adrian and Alys have become much loved members of the congregation and they are both involved with the music at St Agnes: Adrian plays guitar and bass and Alys sings.

“The music is excellent... ...it’s heartfelt”

“It’s so exciting to be part of a team that are seeking after God, that are focused on pleasing Him. The music is

excellent but what’s more important is that its heartfelt – we want it to be real and pleasing to God.

“And we really value the bible teaching: its so helpful to be able to unpack the bible, to apply it in practical ways, it’s a living word that’s meant to be lived out.”

“It’s exciting to see friendships developing”

“And then there’s the fellowship. As well as the Sunday services, we meet weekly in a small group with some others from St Agnes in someone’s home. It’s exciting to see friendships developing and there’s a real openness and honesty, and we get real spiritual support and encouragement.

Adrian and Alys have found that their faith helps them in their everyday life whether it is dealing with the stresses and strains of home life or simply coping at work.

Adrian works as a Primary School teacher, teaching Year 3. continued .../

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continued from overleaf.../

'I love it although sometimes the behaviour is quite challenging. But I can pray for the children on difficult days - it's a bit of a secret weapon - and I feel I'm where God wants me - there's a great comfort in that'.

Alys works providing support for people with brain injuries and their families. It can be an emotional roller coaster, there are heartbreaking situations and people begin to ask really big questions.

"It helps to trust God in those difficult situations, and to be loving and compassionate is a really important part of my faith; and for me it's knowing that whatever happens, there will never be a second of my life when God isn't there with me, giving me that peace and that different perspective."

Are you looking for God? There's a warm welcome for you at St Agnes.

WHY IS EASTER SO IMPORTANT?

At Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus - that having died Jesus came back to life again.

Now there were many times when Jesus said that he would be killed and then rise again on the third day. Of course, anyone can say that. But if it actually happened it means that Christianity is true and trustworthy and worth basing your life on.

If it didn't happen, then Jesus was wrong and Christianity is best forgotten.

It all turns on the resurrection.

Now what can we be sure of?

- Jesus definitely died. The spear thrust to his side, the blood and water that flowed out, are clear signs that he was really dead. And Roman execution squads were experts at making sure that people died.
- The tomb, that his body was placed in, was definitely empty. The disciples found it to be so, and if it weren't the authorities would have quickly pointed it out.
- The disciples didn't have the body.

They wouldn't have lived and died for a belief they knew to be false.

· The authorities didn't have the body or they would have produced it and silenced all this talk of resurrection once and for all.

· The body wasn't stolen because the grave clothes (the most valuable item) were left behind. People might steal valuables and leave behind a body, but not the other way around.

So what happened to the body? The disciples knew that Jesus was alive because He met with them, taught them, even cooked them breakfast. He appeared to more than 500 people. He even invited 'doubting' Thomas to touch Him, so that he would know that Jesus really was alive.

This Jesus who rose from the dead, just as He said He would, offers eternal life to everyone who puts their trust in Him. That promise is for you, if you will receive it. If you do, or you just want to find out more, come along to St Agnes and celebrate Easter with us.

Is there life after death?

If you answered 'no' to this question, please join us to hear something encouraging!

2.00pm Sunday 20th May
at St Agnes Church Hall
Plus tea & homemade cakes!

St Agnes Sunday Services

8.00am A quiet, peaceful communion service.

9.15am A communion service with traditional hymns played on the organ.

11.00am A fun, informal and family friendly service with communion.

Christ is risen! Help us celebrate...

Easter Sunday from 6.30pm
at St Agnes Church, Moseley
A lively service for men,
women & children of all ages

Ever increasingly chocolate is becoming the main focus in many people's Easter. At St Agnes, however, we feel you can enjoy both chocolate and church, so the ladies of St Agnes' women.net will be providing a chocolate buffet after the service. Please join us and feel free to bring along any of those unwanted easter eggs for the fondue pot!

Additional Easter Services

Maundy Thursday - 5th April - 8.00am

A quiet, traditional and peaceful communion service.

Good Friday - 6th April - 10.00am

A family friendly service to remember Jesus' death on the cross. This service is followed by the serving of hot cross buns.

Easter Eve - 7th April - 7.30pm

A short service with a bonfire to mark the end of Lent.

Easter Sunday - 8th April

Services at 8.00am, 9.15am and 11.00am