



SEAN AND REBECCA'S BIG DAY

It was a joy to be part of Sean and Rebecca's big wedding day at St Andrew's yesterday. Thankfully the promised rainy day didn't materialise and once the early morning snow had disappeared it became a lovely day. Sean is a Full-time dad and Beckie a Paediatric Nurse. They are off on honeymoon to Scotland for a few days on Monday. Their reception was held at Jubilee House in Willenhall where Emily danced her legs off all night. Above, it looks like Sean is shooting the preacher (Revd Mark) but he was actually shooting at the Zombie. Mark explained in his sermon that Sean and Beckie have a passion for Zombie movies - perhaps their favourite one should be 'Sean of the Dead?' Here's an extract of Mark's sermon based on Ephesians 2:1-10:

It's so easy to talk about LOVE at a wedding; a love that warms our hearts; a love that brings two people to together. But this afternoon I want to talk about a different kind, a love far from the norm, but a love that I'm told both Sean and Becky share – the Love of ZOMBIES. Yes you heard right – Zombies – shambling ghouls, ravenous monsters of horror – all of them suffer with the same disease – disconnection – from the world around them and from each other. But aren't we all there sometimes? Shuffling into work on a Monday morning, until we get our caffeine, and then go through the motions of work and house as if completely unaware of other people? Don't we set our sights on one desire after another, rushing from experience to experience without actually stopping to enjoy any of it? Haven't you found yourself staring into space, wishing for just a little more brains? I know I have!

But by coming together today as one, as a Married couple they have promised to give each other attention, consideration, and kindness – emotions zombies most certainly do not share. Together they are an example of what is possible when two people set their sights on the same star. They cut through our 21st century doubt and prove that, in fact, zombie-fication is not inevitable – that friendship, love, and desire, when held with both hands, are the only weapons any of us need to stay human.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that we were all spiritual zombies but thanks to God are zombies no more! So with the zombies held at bay by their mutual promises, Becky and Sean are ready to face the other monsters of life.

God didn't create marriage to bring us down. He told us that two are better than one in Genesis; therefore, marriage is supposed to make us better. Marriage is a gift...a gift that should enhance our lives, not suck the very life right out of us. The adventure you are about to embark on has all the magic of any Hollywood movie but be sure your spirit has been nourished by God before you give your "zombie nature" any opportunity to satisfy its cravings for the things of the world.

"Zombies" are powerless to help themselves. God wants to use you to impart His grace and the life of Christ to those around you today witnessing this marriage. So take your God given opportunities to share the life of Christ in you with them believing that God will use you to bring them out of their spiritual death.

Sean - Becky - Don't settle for a zombie marriage. Shoot that thing in the head for good!

Amen

(By the way - well done choir, you were magnificent, as always.)

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

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CHURCH WARDENS

The Revd Colin Hunter and Mrs Deanne Yarnall
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FAMILY PRAISE LEADER

Mr Nigel Dutton

SUNDAY SERVICES

10am ~ Morning Service

11:30am ~ Family Praise

6pm ~ Evening Prayer

Holy Communion 1st am and 3rd pm Services

Mid-week activities:

MONDAYS	10am to 1pm	Coffee and Chat
	1pm to 2:30pm	Parent and Toddler Group
	7:30pm	Willenhall Operatic
TUESDAYS	9:30am	Bentley West Ladies Group
	10am to 1pm	Bishop in Denom. Office
	3pm, 5pm, 7pm	Slimming World
WEDNESDAYS	7pm	Bible Study - Church House
	7:30am	Prayer Group
	12:30pm	Luncheon Club
THURSDAYS	2pm	Friendship Club
	7pm	Youth Club (5 to 11yrs)
	11am	Holy Communion
FRIDAYS	10am to 1pm	Bishop in Denom. Office
	6pm to 8:30pm	Karate Classes
	7:30pm	Willenhall Operatic
SATURDAYS	10am to 1pm	Saturday Workshop

SUNDAY LESSONS LOG

17th April - Psalm 23; Acts 9:36-43
 Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
 am L-Colin, P-Paul; pm L-Bishop, P-Colin

24th April - Psalm 148; Acts 11:1-18
 Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35
 am L-Bishop, P-Colin; pm L-Mark, P-Bishop

1st May - Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15
 Revelation 21:10,22-22:5; John 14:23-29 or 5:1-9
 Preachers to be confirmed (Bishop Paul in Broadstairs)

WEEKLY PRAYER UPDATE

- Lord, we pray for **Pamela** in the continual battle to save her eyesight, her daughter, **Chrissie**, and great grandson **Finley**, and members **Judy, Audrey, Pam, Hilary** and **Elizabeth**.
- Remember **Winnie** and **Ray** in your prayers.
- Lord, we pray for both **Arline** and **Ernie** as they battle on.
- Lord, we pray for Dan's granddad, **Ken** who is back in hospital at the moment.
- *Thank you, Lord, for the worship team **Nigel, and the Revds Paul, Mark and Colin** who assist Bishop Paul in the services.*
- *Continue to pray for **Lewis Robinson, Frank and Janet**.*
- *Pray for **Dean's** sister, **Molly**, who is still very poorly. Give thanks **Martha Rose** is a little better and putting on weight.*
- Please pray for **Lil Harrison** in Manor House, Willenhall. Daughter, Jenifer says she has been quite poorly recently.
- Pray for our twinned church - **St Francis, Shoreham-by-Sea**.
- Give thanks that **Colin Davis** is generally much better.
- Pray for the **Revd Robert Leone** and **Sarah**, his wife at **St Martin's Church** in France. Bishop Paul is looking forward to consecrating the church to the Glory of God in August this year.
- Pray for **Harvey**, the grandson of the **Revd John and Joy Eustice** from Exeter. Harvey has had more scans and awaits a further consultation at the National Orthopaedic Hospital. John thanks everyone for their continued prayers.
- Give thanks **Colin Hunt** has made a very good recovery after a triple heart by-pass operation. Pray for him know he has joined a ju]]as he has aigned (and Chris) that they will enjoy their retirement from Longwear Products Ltd.
- Please Pray for **Jennie Parsons** of our Family Praise who has MS. Pray that they will keep her MS under control.
- Continue to pray for **Bishop Kenneth Powell** and **Edna**.
- Pray for **Irene**, Dan's great grand nan as she was rushed into the Manor on Thursday. She is very poorly.
- Please pray also for **Ken** (Morning Service). Pray also for **Jane**.
- Pray for **Flo (Paul's Nan)**. Give thanks she is much better.
- Give thanks that **Nigel's** operation on his shoulder recently was a great success. Pray he will cope with the exercises.
- Please pray for all the churches around the Diocese. **St Jude's** Walsall; **Emmanuel**, Brum; **Christ Church**, Harlesden; **Christ Church**, Exeter; **Christ Church**, Exmouth; **Christ Church**, Willesborough; **St Jude's**, Balham; **Christ Church**, Broadstairs; **St Francis**, Shoreham; **Christ Church**, Leigh and **St Andrew's**.
- Pray for the family of **Jeanne Delphia Glover** who was 91 years old. Her funeral takes place on Monday 25th April at Sandwell.
- Please pray for **Tom and Sarah** who are working for YWAM in Malawi. They are members of Christ Church, Exmouth.
- Pray for the family of **Joyce Evelyn Street** who was 90 years old. Her funeral takes place at Busbury on Thursday 21st April.
- Remember **Gladys** from our Luncheon Club who continues to be very poorly. Pray for the family too.
- Pray for **Rebecca & Sean** who were married yesterday at 3pm.
- Pray for the family of **Ronald Constable** who was 87 years old. The funeral will be held at Bushbury Crem (West) at 9:45am.
- Pray for Bishop Paul as he travels to **St Stephen's Church** in Middlesbrough on Monday to have a look at the facility.

BE A PRAYER WARRIOR!

Would you like to be a Prayer Warrior? Then please tell Bishop Paul. A big 'thank you', to all who continually pray faithfully each day for everyone on our Prayer Sheet. Your prayers are vital for the spiritual health of our church. O Lord, have mercy upon us and receive our humble petitions in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



TOM & SARAH IN MALAWI

The Church Council which met recently and agreed to provide a gift of £200 to send Tom and Sarah who are working for YWAM (Youth With A Mission) in Malawi. Since then Bishop Paul has received an anonymous gift that doubles the church gift making it £400, so far. If you would like to add to that gift then please speak to Bishop Paul as soon and possible. It would be good if we could send our gift to them within the next couple of weeks. Remember the sacrifices Tom and Sarah have made.



GONE FISHING!

Last Sunday we had the story of the miraculous catch of fish from John 21. We all made a fish each and Nigel came prepared with fishing rods equipped with magnets and paper clips so we could all take turns at fishing. Not sure we caught the equivalent of 153 large fish, though! Why don't you join us in Family Praise? After all,



we are all challenged to become 'Fishers of Men', just like Peter became. Remember, unless you cast your net amongst friends and family, you'll never catch even a tiddler!

A THANK YOU

A huge thanks to all St Andrew's Church for the prayers and support given in our time of need. Today my mom and dad had a Wedding Blessing that we will never forget. A huge thank you from us all to Bishop Paul for a beautiful service. Also a big thank you to all who helped with preparing food, flowers and cleaning up at the end. Today was truly an emotional day but well worth all the tears and laughter, thanks to Bishop Paul. Please continue to pray for my dad. (Ken is now sadly back in hospital) Also thank you for supporting and comforting my son, Daniel during these sad tough times. St Andrew's and all who attend are amazing. Today's donations totalled over £100 for Cancer Research. From David and Family

st andrews
church bentley

THE
WEEKLY NEWS

&

Prayer
SHEET



Third Sunday
after Easter

17 APRIL 2016
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Visit: www.standrewsbentley.org.uk



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