



*St John-in-Bedwardine
Parish Magazine*

November 2015

40p

Remember.....



.....remember.

Welcome to
St JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE
The Parish Church of St John's

St John's is far more than the most historic building on the Westside of Worcester; it is the centre of a worshipping and sociable community of people, and a resource for everyone in St John's.

WEST WORCESTER CLERGY

	Day off
The Reverend Dr. CHRISTOPHER STUART (Vicar of St John's)	Saturday
The Reverend PHIL BRADFORD	Friday
The Reverend SARAH COTTRILL (Assistant Curate)	Monday

CHURCHWARDENS

Gordon Templeton, Joy Job.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

This is the usual pattern. Please see the other notices or the back cover of the Parish Magazine for the actual services in a month.

8.00 a.m.	Every week	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 a.m.	Every week	Parish Eucharist with Children's Church
5.00 p.m.	1st Sunday in month	Evensong (BCP)
	2nd Sunday in month	Café Church
	3rd Sunday in month	Evensong (BCP)
	Last Sunday in month	Service of Wholeness and Healing
	Other Sundays	Evening Prayer (said)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

5.00 p.m.	Monday to Saturday	Evening Prayer
9.45 a.m.	Thursday (at St Clement's)	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.45 a.m.	Thursday (at St Michael's)	Holy Communion (Modern language)

The church is open most weekdays for people to drop in to visit or for quiet; to sit, pray or light a candle.

The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact Sylvia Render (tel 422654/email sylviarender@talktalk.net).

Letter From The Vicar

Dear Friends

November is a month full of memories – but memories tinged with defiance. Take All Souls’: an opportunity to stand up and say that though we no longer see our loved ones, yet they still matter. Yes, memories can dim, and faces can fade from view; life crowds in, time moves on – but All Souls’ is an act of love, a chance to say that the love and respect we feel for those we care about is stronger than the passage of time. Some things we will not allow to fade.

This month of defiant memories begins with All Saints’. Most of the saints at some stage in their lives faced ridicule and even death for what they believed. But they weren’t prepared to conform to the world’s expectations, even if it ultimately cost them their lives. There’s an edge to All Saints’ – a challenge to us to ask ourselves how often and how easily we compromise with the world.

Later in the month we’ll be having our next Group service, at St Clement’s, for the Feast of Christ the King – a reminder that as Christians our ultimate ruler is not Queen Elizabeth II, or the British Parliament, but Christ himself. Another defiant, subversive thought.

In the middle of all this, we’ll keep Remembrance Sunday – a moment to call to mind the sacrifices of war, and to pray for peace. Remembrance Sunday is likewise an act of defiance: however inhuman and impersonal war may seem, the men and women who gave their lives were unique, loved human beings: we treasure their memory and, as with All Souls’, we defy the passage of time and pledge ourselves to keep the memory of their service alive.

There are all kinds of reasons why this country has gone to war in the past – some of which now seem shameful in hindsight. But at its best, Britain has

(continued overleaf)

Cover

Image by Michel Royon from Wikimedia Commons modified by Graham Evans.

The Magazine

Copy for the December 2015 edition should reach us by Sunday 15th November. If you can, please use e-mail: magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are personal opinions of the authors concerned and may not represent the views of the editors, our PCC or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

Unless otherwise directed, please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office. *To subscribe or advertise in the magazine, please see page 29.*

(continued from the previous page) proved itself willing to act to defend the underdog, to take up arms to defend the oppressed and downtrodden.

Remembrance Sunday is a defiant challenge to us, today, to think about what sacrifices we are prepared to make for the downtrodden and oppressed. History will, I think, judge us badly for our response to the plight of Syrian refugees in the last twelve months. We are in danger of failing to live up to the example of the men and women we commemorate on Remembrance Sunday.

November is a month of remembrance; but remembrance isn't supposed to make us feel better - it's supposed to make us live better. There's no point remembering any of the events we mark in November unless we are prepared to draw on the example of the events, people, and beliefs we celebrate, and use them to live our lives differently.

And yet, speaking out against evil can feel like a futile gesture, can't it? What good do I do by speaking out? Perhaps it's right to end with a word of warning, wrapped up in a parable adapted from a story by Elie Weisel:

A righteous man once visited the city of Sodom. He knew what kind of place Sodom was, and he wanted to save Sodom from its sin – to change it, and make it a better place. And so, day after day, he went out into the streets to preach: “please,” he said, “don't murder, don't steal. Help one another in need – don't be silent, don't be indifferent! Remember God and his love.” No one listened. He went on speaking, day after day, but to no avail. Months, years passed. Finally, someone said to him, “Friend, why do you do this? Can't you see it's no use? It makes no difference.”

The righteous man replied, “I know it's no use. When I first came to this city, and when I began to speak to the people, I thought I had to speak out in order to change them. I realise that was useless. So now, I speak out so that they do not change me.”

Remembering is one of the ways in which we focus our hearts afresh on the things that matter. We may not be able to change the world by our act of remembering, but we can, by that same act, make sure that the world does not change us.

Christopher

A Word From The Editors

Welcome to our November 2015 edition. Our theme this month is remembrance – and how we might respond to remembering: Will you reflect quietly (p9), remember the fallen (pp17, 20), reach out to refugees (p16), support local charities (pp19, 22), pray for our friends in Peru (pp23-26) or support the activities of our own church and thus the church's outreach? We have a packed edition this month (8 extra pages!).

We pray you will find something here for your interest and action.

Graham and Sue Evans

Dates For November 2015

Unless otherwise stated, the venue for all the events below is
St John's Church, or one of the church rooms.

See
page

Sunday 1st November: All Saints' Day

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Monday 2nd November: All Souls

7.30 p.m. Service of remembrance for All Souls

Sunday 8th November: Remembrance Sunday

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Saturday 14th November

10.30 a.m. Bridge day (play starts at 11 a.m.) 10

3.00 p.m. Children's Activities (3.00pm–5.30pm) 13

Sunday 15th November: 2nd Sunday before Advent

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Wednesday 18th November

7.00 p.m. Craft Group 10

Saturday 21st November

10.00 a.m. Craft Fair in conjunction with Daisychain charity 10,22

4.00 p.m. Tea and Talk 10,27

Sunday 22nd November: Christ the King

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Saturday 28th November

10.00 a.m. Advent quiet day 9

Sunday 29th November: Advent Sunday

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Thursday Morning Services: There is a 9.45am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) each Thursday at St Clement's. See below for services at St Michael's.

Stop Press – Flood at St Michael's Church

St Michael's Church has suffered a flood of sewage from the drains and is temporarily closed. We hope that the closure will be short, but please check about any services or events that you plan to attend at St Michael's.

The Editors

Church Directory

CLERGY

Vicar of St John's and St Clement's with St David's	Rev'd Dr Christopher Stuart chris.stuart@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 429773
Vicar of St Michael's, Dines Green	Rev'd Phil Bradford phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 423794
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Sarah Cottrill sarah.cottrill@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 426257
Rural Dean	Rev'd David Sherwin davidwin56@aol.com	01886 888664

ST JOHN'S PCC OFFICERS

Churchwardens	churchwardens@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
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PCC Secretary	Graham Evans pcc@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
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Chris Rees		
John English		427822

THE MAGAZINE

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August. The magazine costs 40p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £4 per year. Contact the Parish Office or see the magazine for how to subscribe.

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes and anecdotes are welcome - do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact. Please include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered.

Magazine Editors	Sue & Graham Evans magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
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Any written correspondence for the magazine which cannot be emailed, please send to the Parish Office.

Church Directory

ST JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICERS

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	Peter Yates	422565
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	John Bower	07792
Ringing Master	jandjbower@btinternet.com	
	Eileen Cantrill	422579
Church Flowers	Di White	
	Philip Evans	
Webmaster	webmaster@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	

OUR CHURCH

St John-in-Bedwardine Church is an active Anglican church which has its roots in the Norman period. The church is open daily, as a haven of peace at a busy road junction in the St. Johns area of Worcester.

The church was originally built in 1165 as 'The Chapel of St John' – the parish church then being St. Cuthbert's in Lower Wick. When the church of St Cuthbert's was demolished in 1370, St John's became the parish church.



OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2015

Outreach and serving the community This includes understanding the community, social concern, value to the community, creating a buildings vision (to make our buildings fit for purpose to serve our objectives) and embodiment of West Side Collaboration as collaborating on projects.

and

Children and Schools and Christian Nurture

In Memoriam

Robert Telfer Dedicott	2 November 1984
Rowland Taylor	4 November 1996
Andrew FI Jenkinson	4 November 2007
Rose Hodgetts	5 November 1985
Reginald James Rogers	6 November 1995
Derek James Keating	7 November 1981
Marion Edna Thomas	7 November 1982
William Henry Thomas	12 November 1953
Margaret Dance	14 November 1996
Herbert Willian (Bill) Bosley	17 November 1998
Harold Ricketts	19 November 1996

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic but must be specifically requested via the clergy.

From The Registers

Baptisms, weddings and funerals which took place in September 2015

BAPTISMS: *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

Maggie Rose Mckinnon-Smith

Beau Emily Violet Watkins

Isaac Alexander Owen

WEDDINGS: *Those whom God has joined together*

Frank and Dinece Phillips (Renewal Of Vows)

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 14th August 2015 Richard Seagrove

d. 3rd September 2015 Molly Jeffreys

d. 20th August 2015 William Macrae

From the register of services for September 2015 (4 Sundays):

Communicants 229. Total attendance at all services 504.

The total attendance includes 299 at funerals, weddings and baptisms.

Pilgrim Course

This is a course designed to nurture those wanting to enquire about the Christian faith and those who have a faith which they want to refresh and develop. Over the course of six weeks we will explore aspects of the Christian faith, through group discussion, Bible Study and key texts, beginning with the Baptismal Creed (the questions asked of parents and Godparents at a baptism).

The first session takes place on 3rd November, in St Johns Library, starting at 7.30pm. Please speak to any member of the clergy if you want to know more about this.

Sarah Cottrill

Advent Quiet Day

On Saturday, November 28th there will be a group Quiet Day in St Johns Church from 10.00 – 5.00.

The aim of the day is to give us space, at the beginning of an extremely busy and often stressful, period, to reflect on the true meaning of Advent and Christmas and to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ.

Throughout the day there will be times of led reflection and worship but also time for quiet, personal reflection. Various quiet activities will be provided but participants are also welcome to bring their own things to do provided they respect the quiet of others.

A provisional draft of the day is as follows:

- 10.00 – 10.30 Arrival. Tea/Coffee.
- 10.30 – 11.15 Introduction to the day. Act of Worship.
- 11.15 – 11.45 Reflection1: Zechariah and Joseph.
- 11.45 – 12.30 Free time/Activities.
- 12.30 – 1.15 Lunch.
- 1.15 – 1.45 Reflection 2: Elizabeth and Mary.
- 1.45 – 2.30 Free time/Activity.
- 2.30 – 3.00 Reflection 3: Shepherd and Wise Man.
- 3.00 – 3.45 Free time/Activity.
- 3.45 – 4.15 Tea.
- 4.15 – 5.00 Eucharist.

A charge of £5 will cover morning coffee, afternoon tea, a light lunch and all materials for the activities offered.

Everybody is most welcome. Please speak to me if you would like to know more.

Sarah Cottrill

Cryptic messages

The Vicar was visiting a home in his parish. It seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Finally he took out a card, wrote “Revelation 3:20” on the back and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this, “Genesis 3:10”.

He fell about laughing – see the foot of pages 13 and 20 to find out why!



**Fellowship and Fund Raising
Events**

at St John in Bedwardine Church
(unless stated otherwise)



Saturday 14 th November	Bridge Day 10.30am - 3.00pm. Play starts 11am. £10.00 to include lunch. Tel 749025 to book.
Saturday 14 th November	Children's Activities 3.00pm - 5.30pm. Light tea included. Tel 424811 for details.
Wednesday 21 st October	Craft Group 7.00pm - Try something new. All materials included, Refreshments, £5.00.
Saturday 21 st November	Craft Fair 10.00am - 3.00pm, in conjunction with Daisychain charity (see below and page 22).
Saturday 21 st November	Tea and Talk 4.00pm. Talk on "Christmas through the ages" followed by a Christmas tea. £7 (see page 27).
Saturday 28 th November	Advent Quiet Day to mark the beginning of Advent (see page 9).

FUTURE DATES TO KEEP FREE

Friday 4 th to Sunday 6 th December	Christmas Tree Festival (see page 21).
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Craft Fair Saturday 21st November

This year we are joining with the Daisychain Charity to hold this event. Crafters come along and show off their amazing talents. In November it is helpful to find that special unique gift for a loved one. It maybe that you see a craft that you may be interested in pursuing, the stall holders are always willing to talk about their crafts.

Tables are still available telephone Worcester 424811. We do hope to see you there as we raise money for this very worthwhile charity.

Live at Home

West Worcester Live at Home are having a coffee morning on Friday 6th November 10.00am-12.00pm at The Guildhall. This is always a very enjoyable morning and, if well supported, very successful! They look forward to seeing you there.

PCC Meeting 15th & 26th September 2015

The Vicar opened the meeting on 15th September with 8 members present.

Outreach and serving the community: The PCC received written reports on Mission and Outreach, and from the Accommodation committee. Headline items from the reports and PCC discussions included:

- The PCC agreed to pay towards the hire of the Green Centre for the lunch on 27th September, the cost of the YMCA on 26th September, and £100 to a designated group social fund to facilitate the organising of events.
- Youth and Family Worker: Sarah Cottrill reported on her progress on this project. The next step is to apply for funding (full cost funded,) for a feasibility study. The PCC supported the direction of travel.
- The Charity Committee reported that it is in the process of sifting possible charities for future support.
- The Accommodation Committee was authorised to go ahead with secondary glazing for the whole of the ground floor of the cottage. The office was often a cold and draughty place to work and we had a responsibility to provide a reasonable place of employment. It was reported that the Diocesan ‘wood advisor’ has advised against doing any repair work on the high altar screen.
- Following his visit to advise us on the altar screen, David Hawkins from the DAC has written a paper about the wider possibilities for the interior of St John’s Church. He is willing to come and talk to us and the Secretary was asked to arrange this as an additional PCC meeting.
- The Church Architect had visited to comment on suggested possibilities for interior alterations to the church. The removal of rear pews in the South Aisle would cost around £3-4000. The more sweeping alterations - gallery restructuring and / or total removal of pews - need a clearer specification of purpose before they can be taken further, as in any guise they would cost well into five figures or more to implement, and any associated Faculty request would need to be backed up by a well worked explanation of their rationale. Any decision was deferred until after the meeting with David Hawkins (see previous item).
- Jenny English has kindly agreed to join the Group Council sub-committee, as a representative of St John’s and this was ratified by the PCC. Philip Evans will also join the committee, as someone who works across all three parishes.

Children and Schools and Christian Nurture:

- It was reported that the monthly Saturday children’s sessions are going well and reaching out to children and parents.
- The PCC agreed to contribute £100 towards the costs of the ‘Pilgrim’ course.

(Continued overleaf)

- The Vicar gave a preview of what he wanted to discuss at the joint PCCs' meeting on 26th September. The PCC were entirely comfortable with having one non-Eucharistic principal service per month. The Vicar said that he thought this should be markedly different from the present service minus communion. Others said they would be quite happy for it to be similar to the present service minus communion. The PCC would like to see all group clergy equally at St John's services.

Finance and Operations: The PCC received a written report from the Standing Committee and a 2015 financial update. Headline items from the reports and PCC discussions included:

- A proposal to apply for a faculty to dispose of specified books (with no specific links to St Johns) from the church archive was approved unanimously.
- As the 2015 Fun Day had been a great success, it was agreed to repeat this on the same basis (separate organising team) on Saturday 9th July 2016.
- Fairer Share: We have not yet received the results of our survey or the returns (from another Parish) that we are due to analyse.
- The 2015 finance figures show a predicted outcome near to balance between income and expenditure. The Vicar thanked those who had carried out this role while John English was off sick.
- It was proposed and agreed unanimously that Chris Rees be appointed Joint Treasurer with John English.

The meeting then reviewed the progress on priorities for 2015 and set priorities for 2016. Some of the points made in reviewing progress on the 2015 priorities:

Outreach and serving the community (including understanding the community, social concern, value to the community, creating a buildings vision (to make our buildings fit for purpose to serve our objectives) and embodiment of West Side Collaboration as collaborating on projects):

- There have been a number of successful projects begun or continued in this area: The Mission Breakfasts, the Outreach Committee and its audit of community need, the Summer Fun Day, the Film Club and the Toddler Group.
- West Side collaboration is slowly developing in all areas.
- Ideas are starting to flow from the work on the Buildings Vision.

Children and Schools and Christian Nurture:

- The relationship with Christopher Whitehead Language College (CWLC) is working well. The clergy take part in debates and discussions rather than preaching. A lot of involvement with St Clement's School and the PRU and varying levels with the other schools.
- The Children's Saturday Activities and the development of the second Sundays are continuing and seem to be nurturing both the children and their parents.

- We ran an Advent Course in 2014 and are planning the Pilgrim Course this year.

Some of the points made in considering our priorities for 2016:

- Carry on with the same priorities, continuing and consolidating.
- Make more of the outreach opportunities through baptisms, weddings and funerals and the resulting pastoral links.
- Make more of the magazine as a way to spread our message.
- Enlist more people to help.
- Think about children and families

The Vicar concluded that we should carry on with the same headline priorities but refine what they include.

The meeting on 15th September adjourned with all saying 'The Grace'.

The meeting resumed on 26th September and a report on that part of the meeting will be in the next magazine.

Graham Evans, PCC Secretary

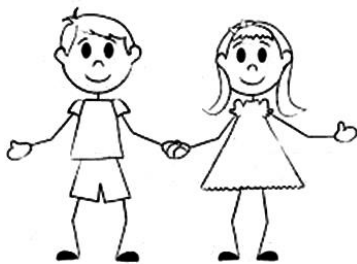
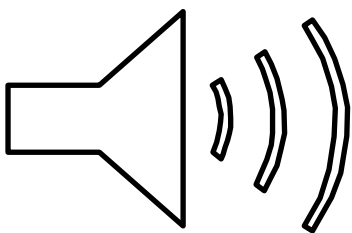
Son et Lumière

Come along to an exciting evening of Sound and Light at St Clement's Church on Saturday 21st November at 7.30pm., to celebrate St Clement's Day.

Tickets £5 in advance or pay on the door.

For details ring 01905 423779.

John Chidlow



Children's Church News

As we have had to move dates because of special services within the church, we haven't had the October Activity to report on. However we can tell you we had a wonderful family service on the 11th October.

The children confidently read the readings and prayers. Although a small band they managed to sing a song to the congregation.

Our next activity date is the 14th November, same time, 3.00-5.30. We hope to see you there.

Children's Church

Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

Notes From The Choir



I am in the unique and privileged position of being able to sing in both a church and a synagogue choir. As the autumn/winter season is a very busy time in both communities, I felt I would share some of my reflections on what it means to contribute to both communities.

Obviously, the synagogue is my main worshipping community, and I have spent much of the last month or so celebrating what are collectively known as the Yom Tovim, or High Holydays. The ten day period between Rosh Hashanah (New Year) and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) is the holiest time of the Jewish year. Our choir, like our congregation, is drawn from a wide area surrounding Birmingham, so we don't tend to have weekly practices. Instead, we meet once a month from May onwards to prepare the High Holyday music. This includes some of the most beautiful music written for the synagogue, perhaps the most well-known being the Kol Nidre melody, made particularly famous by Max Bruch in his setting for cello. Services are held on Kol Nidre (the eve of Yom Kippur) and then for the entire day of Yom Kippur itself, beginning at 10.30am and finishing at 7.30pm. The choir sings for all services and the music forms an integral part of the prayers. Many of the melodies are repeated throughout the day as the prayers themselves are repeated. It is a very tiring day, not least because it involves fasting (from both food and drink) for 25 hours. Maintaining concentration can be difficult, but I think all choir members would say that they engage more fully with the service because they are required to concentrate more throughout. For me it is a privilege to be able to contribute to the sense of holiness and reverence which the High Holydays require. Most of the melodies we sing on those days are only sung once a year, and despite the exhaustion at the end, there is also a real awareness that it will be another year before we sing them again.

In some cases, most notably in the chants used for singing from the Torah, our synagogue music is very ancient indeed. There is a saying that reading from the Torah without music is like eating a tasteless meal, and the Hebrew word for the musical notes used in chants is taamim, from the same root as the verb 'to taste'. In singing, we give our words a heightened spiritual meaning or significance. It is this understanding which enables me also to sing with the choir at St John's. Just as in the synagogue, some of the music we sing is very old, and it has been sung by generations of musicians down the ages. For me, this sense of history and permanence is very important. It is an immense privilege to be able to breathe life into an anthem such as Byrd's Ave Verum, written in the 16th century, and yet still as fresh today as it was when it was first written. It is the continuing tradition of church music which has kept anthems like this alive from generation to generation or, l'dor va dor, in the Hebrew. I find it extremely reassuring and grounding to be able to come week after week,

whether it is to church or synagogue and sing the music of our ancestors. It reminds me of my place in that tradition and also reassures me that whatever stresses or troubles we experience, there is something much greater than ourselves, of which we are all a part.

Sarah Stuart

MA in Spirituality

As a curate, I am supposed to engage in some programme of on-going study and so I have enrolled in an MA in Christian Spirituality. For this I will need to spend a week, every couple of months, at Sarum College in Salisbury at “an intensive” followed by private study and the submission of an essay.

As I write this, I have just returned from my first “Intensive” and believe me, it is not given that name for nothing! Intense it certainly was – but it was also extremely interesting – and I even understood some of it!!

After a rapid over-view of the history of Christian Spirituality we looked in greater detail at the Rule of St Benedict, the influence of Luther, the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius, the writings of Thomas Treharne and Methodist Spirituality.

The lectures were interspersed with some excellent meals and informal, lively conversations with a lovely group of people from a wide variety of backgrounds and from whom I imagine, I will learn at least as much as I do from the lectures over the next two or three years.

Sarah Cottrill

Religious Christmas Cards

Do you find it difficult to buy a ‘religious’ Christmas card? We have ordered a large selection of the same, very popular, cards we sold last year. We are selling packs (of 5 cards) for £1.99 (RRP £2.60) after services whenever we can. All profits will go to church funds.

The Evans Family (Sue, Graham and Philip)

News from St Clement’s School

Thinking about a career in Primary teaching? St Clement’s School, as the lead school in the The Rivers C of E Academy Trust, is offering a Train to Teach programme to graduates who are considering a career in Primary Teaching.

They currently have places available for September 2016 entry and would be looking for applicants to hold a 2.2 degree or above. Applications are open now in UCAS. For more information about this school-led, training programme contact: teachingschool@riverscofe.co.uk or ring 01905 423861.

Archbishop of Canterbury on the refugee crisis

This is a hugely complex and wicked crisis that underlines our human frailty and the fragility of our political systems. My heart is broken by the images and stories of men, women and children who have risked their lives to escape conflict, violence and persecution.

There are no easy answers and my prayers are with those who find themselves fleeing persecution, as well as those who are struggling under immense pressure to develop an effective and equitable response. Now, perhaps more than ever in post-war Europe, we need to commit to joint action across Europe, acknowledging our common responsibility and our common humanity.

As Christians we believe we are called to break down barriers, to welcome the stranger and love them as ourselves (Leviticus 19:34), and to seek the peace and justice of our God, in our world, today.

With winter fast approaching and with the tragic civil war in Syria spiralling further out of control, we must all be aware that the situation could yet worsen significantly. I am encouraged by the positive role that churches, charities and international agencies are already playing, across Europe and in Syria and the surrounding areas, to meet basic humanitarian needs. These efforts may feel trivial in the face of the challenge, but if we all play our part this is a crisis that we can resolve.

We need a holistic response to this crisis that meets immediate humanitarian need while tackling its underlying drivers. I commend the UK Government for its strong commitment to the world's poorest people through the delivery of the aid budget. It has shown global leadership by providing £900 million since 2012 to the crisis in Syria. It has also shown moral leadership in using Royal Navy ships to save the lives of hundreds who have tried to make the dangerous crossing across the Mediterranean.

I hold in my heart particularly those who are most vulnerable in conflict, and those who we have a special duty to protect. The Government has rightly sought to provide sanctuary to unaccompanied children, women and those who have been victims of, or are at risk of, sexual violence. I welcome this, while urging a renewed commitment to taking in the most vulnerable.

The Church has always been a place of sanctuary for those in need, and Churches in the UK and across Europe have been meeting the need they are presented with. I reaffirm our commitment to the principle of sanctuary for those who require our help and love. The people of these islands have a long and wonderful history of offering shelter and refuge, going back centuries—whether it be Huguenot Christians, Jewish refugees, Ugandan Asians, Vietnamese boat people or many, many more.

It has always been controversial at the time it happened, always been seen as too difficult. Yet each time we have risen to the challenge and our country has been blessed by the result.

We cannot turn our backs on this crisis. We must respond with compassion. But we must also not be naïve in claiming to have the answers to end it. It requires a pan-European response—which means a commitment to serious-minded diplomatic and political debate, but not at the expense of practical action that meets the immediate needs of those most in need of our help.”

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury



British Legion Poppy Appeal

We are knitting poppies again this year and would very much like your help – either to knit or to sell or to buy; or all three!

The poppies will be available in church between 10am and noon on Fridays between now and November 11th and also in church on Sundays.

Knitting patterns will be in the pack and I do have wool available.

Last year we raised £1,300, so we have a target. This is a very good cause. Please help if you can.

Pat Richardson, 0790 344 1603

Friends of St John's Church

If you would like to become a Friend of St John's Church, the cost is £20.00 a year. Funds raised are only used for the upkeep of the building. If you would like further details do call in at the Parish Office to pick up a leaflet or phone 424811 or 423257.

If you join now, you can come to our next 'Tea & Talk' event, on Saturday 21st November at 4.00pm. We will be welcoming Paul Harding from 'Discover History' again and he will be talking about Christmas, through the ages. The Christmas theme will be continued with a Christmas tea. Paul is a very entertaining speaker and last year's event was very enjoyable.

Tickets for this event are £7.00 but if you are a Friend of St John's Church the event is free as a thank you for your support.

Jane Askew/Sue Bale

Ride and Stride

Our thanks to everyone who sponsored us. Together we raised £507.

Philip Evans and Yvonne Hardwick

Welcome To A New Advertiser

See also page 30

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Birthday celebrations for Maggs Day Centre

Time flies fast, when you're enjoying yourself. How nice it would be if homeless people could say the same. *'Lord in all our doings guide us'*.

MAGGS, on the 21/12/15 will celebrate its 30th birthday, serving the needs of the local homeless and vulnerable people of Worcester. *'Pride and hate shall not divide us'*.

So, "Has it changed?", "What has it achieved?" in the last 30 years. Apart from being open Sunday to Thursday the Centre hosts a Health Hub where Services Users can access a variety of health professionals including the dentist, prescribing nurse, substance abuse workers and a podiatrist.

MAGGS provides showers, laundry facilities and meals. Work on a new kitchen begins on 12/10 which is much needed and very overdue. A Credit Union is available to access a bank account and we also act as a care of address, so service users can receive their post.

We still have the Clothing Project on Sansome Walk open Mondays and Thursdays 9-12. Sleeping bags, clothes and starter packs are made up and given out from here, all free of charge. Thank you to every church community for assisting us to provide this vastly important work.

Our activity centre is really flourishing on Copenhagen Street. Here education and skills development enable service users to begin the journey towards greater independence. We offer courses in IT, money management, music, art, cooking, social skills, literacy and numeracy. Between January and March 52 different individuals accessed various training sessions.

41% of our total funding comes from the Worcester public. This shows that everyone is a volunteer for MAGGS. The rest of our funds are through Trust Funds. This truly needs celebrating.

'We'll go on with you beside us, And with joy we'll persevere'.

We will be holding a celebratory meal at the Guildhall on 12th December. Tickets are £50. Contact cbarentsen@maggsdaycentre.co.uk for more details.

Mel Kirk - Manager

Joan Hazzard speaker volunteer



Maggs Day Centre

30th Anniversary Dinner

'From Rags to Riches'

Welcome drink and canapes
Three course meal
Free soft drinks
Entertainment
Tombola
Bar*

Guildhall, High Street, Worcester
Saturday 12 DECEMBER 2015
6.30 PM FOR 7 PM
Carriages at midnight

DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE OR FANCY DRESS
TICKETS: £50

For tickets and info:
email cbarentsen@maggsdaycentre.co.uk
For group bookings and sponsorship packages:
email michael@addpartners.net

30TH ANNIVERSARY maggs
www.maggsdaycentre.co.uk

Virgin moneygiving

*alcoholic drinks at extra charge
(Cash and cheques only on the night)

Remember the fallen

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month we remember those who died fighting for their country with services held at war memorials across the United Kingdom and beyond. In Worcester city alone there are at least 61 war memorials commemorating men and women who have died in service in conflicts ranging from the Boer War through to the present day. Throughout Worcestershire there are many more war memorials and rolls of honour commemorating local people who left their homes never to return.

My name is Sandra Taylor and I live in Worcester. Over the past 16 years I have been researching the city and county memorials and the names listed on them and in 2010 courtesy of Heritage Lottery Funding, my website www.rememberthefallen.co.uk was launched. Over the past 5 years it has developed into a major research facility for personal researchers, archive departments, schools, churches and military historians. Currently there are 555 memorials and rolls of honour listed, (mostly Worcestershire but some in neighbouring counties) covering many conflicts ranging from those with several hundred names down to those dedicated to an individual. You will find over 21,000 names listed, over two thirds of which are researched with the information freely available online. This includes war memorials within your parish. The website is an evolving project and new war memorials, lists of names and research are added on a regular basis.

At the present time searches can be made by memorial or by individual surname. However funding has been secured to develop and expand the ways in which one can search the website including the facility to search by regiment or service number. If any of the readers of this magazine have any information on or photographs of any of the individuals listed on a local war memorial, I would be delighted to hear from you and I will happily add any information with a credit to the researcher, please email me: tommy@rememberthefallen.co.uk

If you would like to come along and have a chat about a particular war memorial, a casualty or just to learn more about the website, I am holding a table top sale to raise funds in support of the website on Saturday 28th November 2015 at Broadheath Village Hall between 10am and 12 noon. There will be a tombola table with as well as craft, bric-a-brac and tables of new and used items. Refreshments will also be available.

Sandra Taylor
Researcher and Administrator
www.rememberthefallen.co.uk

Genesis 3:10: "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."



The latest news from the Christmas Festival Team.

We now have our own Facebook page and are looking for volunteers to join us. If you would like to be involved in the Christmas or Summer events or simply want to be kept informed look for us on Facebook at St John's Fund Raising Team and request to be added to the group.

We are now looking at collecting items for our adult and children's tombola stalls. If you would like to make a donation of Christmas chocolates for either adults or children they would be very welcome. There will be a box at the back of Church on Sundays for you to leave your contributions in.

Many thanks



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 21ST

NOVEMBER

10.00AM – 3.00PM

St John's Church Worcester will be holding their popular Craft Fair.

If you have a craft that you would like to promote, why not book a table and demonstrate your skills.

Not got a craft, then come along to find something new for you, or get that special Christmas gift.

Unusual and wonderful crafts on show.

Refreshments available

Telephone 424811 to book a table.

Fund raising event in conjunction with Daisychain charity

Marcés Mailing

October 2015



Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with you
wherever you go. *(Joshua 1:9)*

Juan Carlos, Penny, Rebeca, Elizabeth and Jonatan Marcés
Reynaldo Morón 215, Urb. Vista Alegre, Surco, LIMA 33, PERU
Tel.+51-1- 448 - 8264 Email: marceslima@ amauta.rcp.net.pe

Letter sent by: Mr B Everness (Penny's Dad), 339 Green Lane,
New Eltham, LONDON SE9 3TD (0208-857-5031)

Major themes in Lima:

October: Lord of the Miracles; Halloween

November:

December: End of academic year; Christmas

Dear Friends,

Travel is certainly a key word when thinking of life here. Closest to home, Lizi is currently at Prague Economic University for a semester on a University exchange (studies in English, not Czech!)



At **Diocesan** level, distances travelled for Diocesan meetings are considerable for those who live outside Lima. This was one of the main reasons for deciding to divide the single Diocese of Peru into 5 Dioceses. Following the consecration in July of 3 Bishops for 3 of the areas, on 6th Jan 2016 4 areas with some (even if seemingly small) Anglican ministry become Diocese.

On this day the current Bishop of Peru (Bp Godfrey) will cease to have a Diocese and will be returning to UK around then. These are huge changes (and challenges) for the Anglican Church here, but we trust in God's guidance to help us as we all get used to new structures and new leadership.

As some of you may remember, several years ago groups came from Holy Trinity Brompton on 2 occasions to lead **Alpha** Conferences. For various reasons, and despite Juan Carlos' attempts to encourage people in its use, the course didn't quite flourish here. However, having basically given up advertising it so actively, over the last few months people from different denominations have contacted Juan Carlos to find out about the course. As a result of this, Pastor Wilfredo Luna, Alpha Latin America coordinator, will be coming from El Salvador for a week, principally to lead some training sessions. We are both currently involved in all the logistics involved, and whilst contacting different people have discovered that as well as being a training session it will provide an opportunity to meet and compare notes for those who ARE doing the courses. During the training there will be workshops for Alpha, Youth Alpha, Alpha in prisons, Marriage Course and Parenting courses.



Juan Carlos and Penny, independently, travelled to the north of Peru (Chiclayo) in Sept for the **Peru Tres Días** retreats – a 12+ hour journey on the bus each way. Each of these weekends brings its own joys and challenges; this time on the women's weekend there were 13 of us in a 2 bedroom bungalow with a one bathroom, and a total of 1 single and 1 double bed. A stock of new

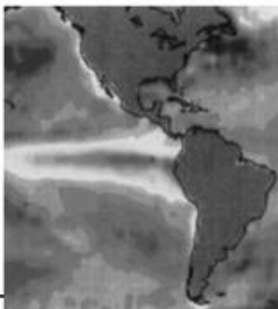
mattresses solved the problem. God in His mercy even sent a wind so that the infamous mosquitos in the area were pretty well absent – for which Penny (whose skin appears to be the ultimate treat for these insects!) was most grateful. The next weekends will be in Lima in Feb, and the teams are already beginning to work together to prepare, so please pray for that.

Our normal weekly ministry is in the **Good Shepherd**, Juan Carlos in Spanish-speaking and Penny in English-speaking congregations respectively. Having a foot in both camps gives us a unique opportunity to try to help the 2 congregations understand each other. It was good to find full support from both congregations in sending warm clothing/money to the areas affected by the very cold weather in the mountains in July. Whilst travel to the Cathedral is certainly less far, like millions in Lima, sometimes we are forced to endure rush hour traffic which makes travel less-than-easy. A situation further complicated by roadworks – which began 5 months ago and stopped after about 2 months, leaving chaos....The congregations are not local either, so visiting homes also entails bus or car journeys.

Often those in Lima have never travelled to other parts of the city. Gaby, from the Reel Club that we attend on Tuesdays (for exercise and to meet others from the British community), recently changed her handcraft cottage industry, and asked if Penny knew of anyone in the “poorer areas” to whom she could donate her things. Thus began a happy relationship – we suggested **Shalom**, the



Anglican rehab centre, where one of those who attend the painting workshop is Carmen aged 51 – almost the same age as Gaby’s own sister who has Downs’ syndrome. Gaby has thus not only donated her things but also helps, making the journey to this part of Lima for the first time in her life, but she is delighted to support Shalom, having always wanted to be involved in this sort of project. We thank God for a situation where everyone has gained!



Warm current

Not only people travel – so do water currents. Pray for the country of Peru as we prepare from November for the effects of a major **El Niño** current in the Pacific Ocean. This warm current causes increased rainfall (and flooding, in areas unaccustomed to rain), and the warm water depleted of nutrients results in a reduction in fish (affecting the fishing industries).

Praise!

- Wonderful celebration of our Silver Wedding
- Perú Tres Días (Chiclayo)
- Interest in Alpha materials



Please Pray...

Ongoing prayer please...

- **Anglican Church in Peru** –for the Bishops - Godfrey as he prepares to leave; Jorge, Alejandro & Juan Carlos as they learn their new roles
- **Adult Forum**
- **Pastoral care: (both congregations)** Homegroup & shepherd group, visiting
- **Reel Club;** relationships with people outside the Church
- **Juan Carlos** encouraging clergy and other leaders in the **use of materials**
- **AMA** (women) – Cathedral and Diocese
- **Peru** facing the El Niño current
- **Social Work** in the Cathedral: involving more people; the **Christmas Project**
- **Rebeca** (working in Lima); **Lizi** (studying in Prague) and **Jonny** (studying in Lima).

Weekly activities

Sunday: Adult Forum: 9am
Cathedral Eucharist: 10am (Eng); 11.30am (Sp)

Tuesday

Reel Club

Thursday: P (am): every 2 weeks – AMA (English)
eve: homegroup (Spanish)

Specific dates

23/24 Oct: Alpha training event
28 Nov: Christmas Bazaar
Nov: Christmas Box project
8/12: Carol Service

Thank you for your prayers and other forms of support, which we value very much.

With our love and thanks,

Juan Carlos, Penny, Rebeca, Elizabeth & Jonatan



St John in Bedwardine Church

Invite you to a

Christmas Through the Ages Talk

Given by one of

Discover History Speakers



Saturday 21st November

4.00pm

Tickets only £7.00 to include

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Phone 423257, 424811 to book.

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From The Magazine Archive, November 1950

THE VICARAGE,
November, 1950.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

I have just returned to my study after the Anniversary Service. I feel inspired. I am so happy. I give thanks for the truly loyal response to my invitation to join in His Service of Praise and Thanksgiving and Dedication. Now that the Service is over, it is my first duty and pleasure to write a further personal message to you.

I felt a positive thrill as I stood at the West End, and watched my many friends pouring into the Church. Everyone was smiling and happy. I saw many hundreds of men, women and children. The first arrivals made their entry very soon after 5 p.m., and by 6.15 p.m. our friends were finding considerable difficulty in finding a seat *anywhere* in the Church.

There was a distinct air of expectancy as the Cross-Bearer emerged from the Vestry followed by a full choir of Boys, Men and Servers. Yes, we were all there. The opening chords of the organ summoned us to stand up and raise our voices to the utmost in that great hymn—"Onward, Christian Soldiers," the hymn that so clearly 'rang in' the opening of a new year in my work as your Vicar and your friend. The hymn ended—Sister (much to my surprise) stepped forward and gave the warm-hearted message of the Parish—the message which surely lay in the hearts of all present. This touched me so much and I am grateful for all that was said in words of such simplicity and sincerity. We then proceeded with the Service.

The Future rests with us under the guidance of God's Holy Spirit.

Nothing is impossible with God, and, relying upon Him we shall transcend all that has been done already and *March Forward*—advancing continually in His service and ever seeking to share with others the joy of Fellowship with God and with each other through Him.

*Yours sincerely,
John Hunt.*

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(Editor – I've got one and it was very easy to sign up and use the card)



Sudoku Puzzle

6						2		4
			3				6	
	1			4				
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	8	4				1		
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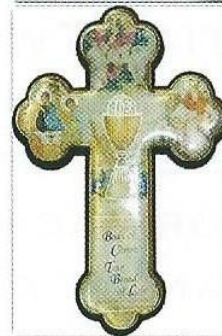
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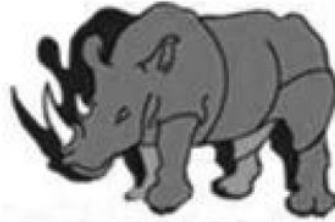


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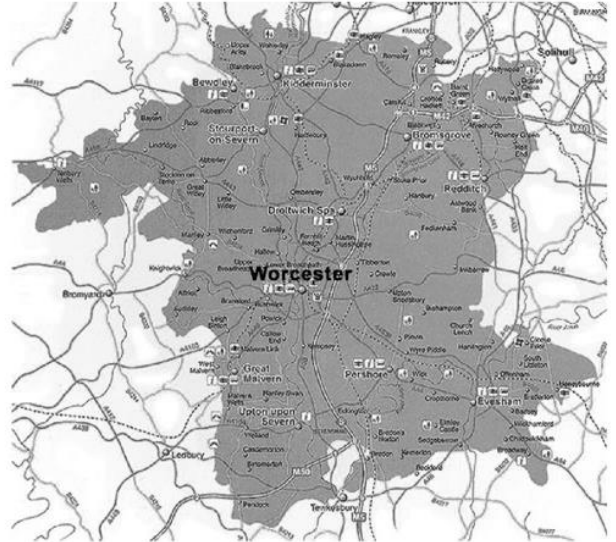
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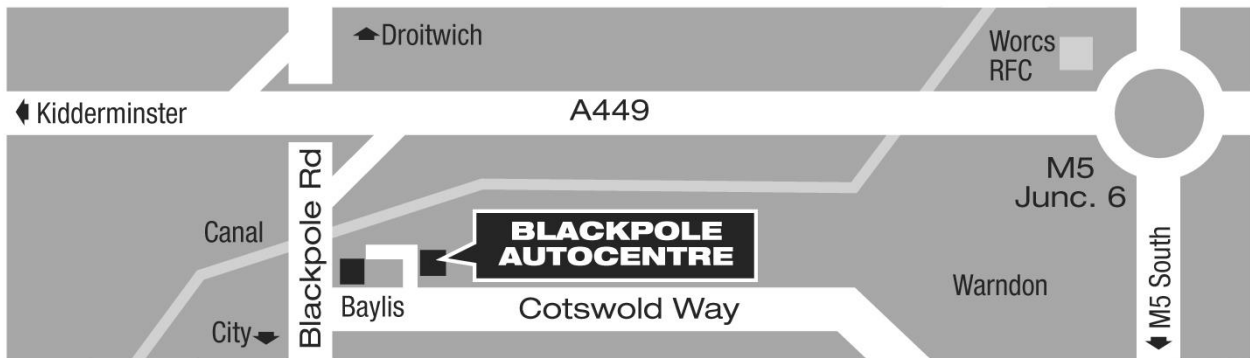
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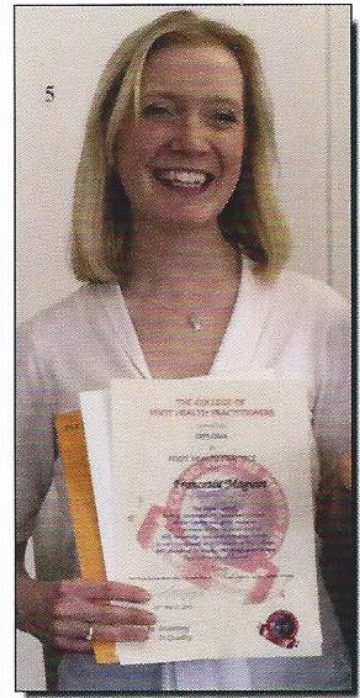
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- ◇ Preparing food
- ◇ Taking medication
- ◇ Having time to yourself when someone depends on you

If so we can help!

We can support you in your own home, at reasonable cost, to help you with those things you are struggling with. All our staff have references, full training and a current DBS (CRB). We provide a bespoke service to help you remain independent in your own home. Call Karen for a no obligation chat on **01905 769929**

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Contact

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01905 769929

Website:

www.trucareworchester.co.uk

Email:

karenspeak@btinternet.com

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SOME OF OUR CHURCH GROUPS

To avoid disappointment, in case the arrangements are different in any particular week, please contact the person shown before turning up at one of the groups.

BELLRINGING

St John's has a fine peal of eight bells. If you are interested in ringing, or learning to ring, please contact the Ringing Master, John Bower 07792 574554.

CHOIR

The choir practises on Thursday evenings and sings at most Sunday services. If you can sing (or are prepared to learn) do speak to the Choir Master, John Brierley, 358474.

MUSIC GROUP

This meets on Fridays in church at 7.30 pm to play contemporary Christian music, and provides music for worship on a regular basis. Contact Peter Yates, on 422565.

LITTLE LAMBS (TODDLER GROUP)

Birth to 4 years old and carers. Here at the church; Mondays 10.00 am to noon in term time. Free! Come and join the fun, or contact Amy Rees via the Parish Office.

BIBLES, BUMPS and BABIES

An informal bible study group. Contact Sarah Cottrill on 426257 for more details.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

Meets in the Burroughs room at 10 am every Wednesday for prayer and study. Contact Sylvia Render on 422654 for further details.

PARISH OFFICE

1a Bromyard Road
St John's, WR2 5BS
Tel: (01905) 420490

From the church car park, walk up the Bromyard Road side of the church to the green door.
Answerphone outside office hours.

e-mail: office@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk

Normally open for general enquiries and messages (please ring to check)

Monday: 10.30am to noon. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am to noon.

For booking baptisms and weddings: Please visit or telephone the office during the normal opening hours on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Also open specifically for these bookings on the first Thursday of each month from 6.30pm until 7.30pm



Parish Website: www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk

Group Website: www.westworcesterchurches.org.uk

The church of St John-in-Bedwardine is a registered charity, number 1152583.





Sunday services in the West Worcester Group, November 2015

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
1st November	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Participation 5pm Evensong (BCP)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	 6.30pm Memorial Service for All Souls	STOP PRESS St Michael's Church has suffered a flood of sewage from the drains and is temporarily closed. We hope that the closure will be short, but please check with the Vicar, Phil Bradford, about any services or events that you plan to attend at St Michael's.
8th November	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am Remembrance Service 10.50am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial 5pm Café Church	 10.45am Remembrance Service	 11.15am Holy Communion for Remembrance	
15th November	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Evensong (BCP)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	 11.15am Morning Prayer	
22nd November	No morning services at St John's Group service at St Clement's 10.30am 5pm Service of Wholeness and Healing	 10.30am Group Eucharist (Christ the King)	No service at St David's. Group service at St Clement's 10.30am	No service at St Michael's Group service at St Clement's 10.30am
29th November	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Advent Carol Service	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	 6.30pm Holy Communion for Advent Sunday	See STOP PRESS above

The information above is correct at the time of going to press, but please watch the weekly church newsletters and website for the latest information.