

The Parish Church of St John-in-Bedwardine

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October 2020

All Souls' Memorial Service at St John-in-Bedwardine

Dear Friend,

This has been a very difficult year. Many of us have endured the pain of not being able to attend the funerals of family members and friends or been at funerals which have been very hard amidst all the restrictions. We have not been able to say goodbye to loved ones as we would have liked to do so. As a result, All Souls is especially important this year in allowing us to remember them.

Current guidelines and continuing restrictions mean we cannot hold our memorial service in the normal way, but we feel it is essential that we do have a service to remember the loved ones we have lost and hold them before God. This service will be on **Sunday, 1 November at 7.45pm**. It will be different to normal, as the rules mean we cannot sing hymns nor allow people to light candles individually. However, the service will still include reflective music and prayer, and the clergy will read the names of those to be remembered and light a candle for each of them on behalf of the families. Unfortunately, we will not be permitted to have refreshments afterwards and government regulations apply, most notably the requirement to wear a face covering (unless exempt). A full risk assessment has been undertaken, hand sanitiser is available and seating is arranged to allow social distancing.

In these uncertain times, some people will want to be present in person, while others may not be comfortable with being in group settings again just yet. The church has a limited capacity due to social distancing regulations, so we would ask all those who would like to attend in person to let us know by Thursday, 29 October, either by e-mailing Liz in the parish office office@wcv.church, or by returning the form below to the office. In the very unlikely event more people wish to attend than we can safely accommodate, we will hold two services. Whether or not you attend in person, we will read out the names of all those whose funerals we have taken in the last two years, as well as any others people would like remembered. Once again, please let us know in advance by returning the slip below or e-mailing Liz.

Although this will be different to normal and none of us will like the restrictions we face, we hope that this provides an opportunity to remember loved ones in these troubled times. If you have any questions or concerns, please do contact one of us.

With Best Wishes



Revd Phil Bradford



Revd Sarah Cottrill

St John-in-Bedwardine All Souls' Memorial Service
Please return this slip by Thursday 29th October at the latest

Your Name:

Your Telephone Number:

Do you wish to attend in person? Y/N

If yes, how many will be in your party?

Names of people to be remembered (*please use block capitals*):