

25th October 2020 Last Sunday after Trinity

[also kept as Bible Sunday]

Remember: Clocks go back on Saturday night.

Welcome to our newsletter. So much is changing in the UK at this present time. In Wales worship is no longer going to be possible in churches for a while since that part of the UK is going into lockdown. Currently we are still able to worship in church; long may this continue. We keep in prayer those who, because of their personal circumstances can no longer do so. In particular we pray for Rev. Ian Ainsworth-Smith who last week was in intensive care in Musgrove with Covid, but who has now moved to a respiratory ward; we also pray for his wife Jean who is isolating but as yet Covid-free. Jean thanks us all for our prayers.

As a clergy team we plan with hope for the future, while being aware that everything we put in place is fragile and depends, not only on God's hopes for us all, but also the decisions of government and the continued good health of those of us, lay and ordained, who lead worship. Please keep us in your prayers too as we continue to serve the people of God with joy.

We plan for the future – Remembrance Sunday will not be the same this year as previous years. Full details of all the services we are able to hold will be in next week's newsletter. On Remembrance Day itself, November 11th there will be no great gatherings for silence in our villages and town. However, we hope that all churches in the Team will be able to toll a single church bell for a couple of minutes leading up to 11 a.m. when the bell will fall silent. That way the churches will be able to speak into the remembrance of the nation.

We plan for the future – Christmas will be very different this year. Selina and Richard will be working with clergy, schools and nursing homes to produce 'videos' of appropriate services, tailor made for each group. They will also be working on a Team wide on-line carol service. So, for Linden House I shall be filmed giving a blessing at the end of an otherwise generic video. Alan will give a blessing for Chelston House, Martin will be filmed reading a lesson for the carol service etc. Selina and Richard will be working with St John's school and with West Buckland school to produce 'videos' which include children singing carols; these will be available for school and community. There will be one on-line live carol service from Thorne on Sunday 20th December – more details later. A live communion service will be streamed from St John's too.

Talking of schools – not all schools are allowing visitors in. However, Selina is taking regular assemblies with children at St John's and at Langford Budville. She was able to take an outdoor Harvest Festival Service in the playground at Langford Budville – the only one in a school in the Team. The generosity of the gifts afterwards, much greater than in normal years, will go to the Foodbank this week.

Worship this Sunday

- ❖ 9.30 a.m. Bathealton Parish Communion
- ❖ 9.45 a.m. St John's Parish Communion
- ❖ 10.00 a.m. West Buckland Parish Communion followed by APCM
- ❖ 10.00 a.m. Bradford on Tone Morning Worship
- ❖ 10.45 a.m. Nynehead Morning Prayer
- ❖ 6.00 p.m. Thorne St Margaret Evensong on line. See below for details of how to attend. Please contact Maria if you would like words of psalm and hymns emailed to you.

John Young's Sunday evening hymns, with reflections 7.00 p.m. Click on the Team Facebook page and from there on John Young's page.

10 a.m. 'The Home Service' bringing church worship to your front room. On 10Radio 105.3 FM

Weekday worship: Morning Prayer Monday to Friday is emailed to everyone on our database and accessible from our Team website. Hymn requests accepted.

Compline: Every Wednesday, led by Selina and Richard is on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81555085560> People joining need to have either the red book from Common Worship or the Daily Prayer app.

Daily Hope No internet? Justin Welby has launched a 24-hour free phone line for worship and prayer, aimed at those who have no or limited access to the internet. Dial 0800 804 8044 to hear a greeting from the Archbishop and then a range of options including hymns, prayers & reflections.

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18 'Be holy, because I, the Lord your God, am holy' – instructions on how to be holy.
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8. We had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.... So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. Matthew 22: 34 – end 'Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?'

Collect

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Worship next Sunday 1st November All Saints

- ❖ 9.30 a.m. Stawley Parish Communion
- ❖ 9.45 a.m. St John's Parish Communion
- ❖ 9.45 a.m. Rockwell Green Parish Communion (Patronal Festival)
- ❖ 10 a.m. Bradford on Tone Morning Worship
- ❖ 10 a.m. West Buckland Morning Worship
- ❖ 10.45 a.m. Runnington Parish Communion
- ❖ 4 p.m. Sampford Arundel Evensong

Thorne St Margaret Evensong To join by computer: <https://stmargaret.my.webex.com>

Once you have logged on to the website you will be asked to enter the meeting number which is:

163 240 7891 Please ensure you enter spaces between the three groups of numbers If you are joining by landline telephone the details are: **Dial 0207 660 8149** You will be asked to enter the following Access Code: **163 240 7891 # Should you be asked to enter a PIN it is 1158** If you are having trouble please call Christopher on 01823 673057

St John's has made it to The Times. Those who get the Times may have seen St John's Church featured on the edition dated Monday 12th October. The article was about the theft of lead from the roof of the choir vestry and the resulting damage from penetrating rain. Apart from a picture there was a quote from Selina (whose social media post they had picked up) 'We've got to refurbish the whole space. Once we've fixed the roof then we've got to make good all the damage; there are mushrooms growing out of the wall. It means there is a group of relatively elderly volunteers who now have to raise vast sums and deal with all sorts of stakeholders to restore a damaged heritage building, which takes time and energy and all of our resources when we're wanting to support local schools and nursing homes and the elderly and isolated and food banks, and it drains us away from really what the church is there for.'

Rev Tim was delighted to have a call from a reader in Inverness asking to make a donation!

If you can help raise the outstanding money and help us to transform this disaster into a wonderful new community space please contact Christine Winhall or go to the <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/christine-winhall...> and make a donation!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Fox of Nynehead whose funeral is on Thursday 5th November.

Bishop Ruth's address to the Diocesan Synod is included with this week's newsletter. She ends up with the greeting: 'May we serve God with joy as we know His presence and peace'.

Archdeacon's Visitation will be on Monday 16th November at 7 p.m. It will be a 'virtual visitation' on Zoom. Licensed clergy and churchwardens **must** attend. Others are invited to do so. For joining details, please contact Sharon on the parish office number, or by email (see below). All churchwardens must sign the Churchwardens' Declaration Form. Please contact Sharon if you have not received a copy. This year there are no 'Articles of Enquiry' but if there is 'anything you would like to draw to the Archdeacon's attention in the life of your church (be it a cause of rejoicing or worry)' please contact the Archdeacon by phone, email or letter and head your communication 'Visitation Comment'. Tel: **01823 413315** Email: adtaunton@bathwells.anglican.org **Post:** 2 Monkton Heights, West Monkton, TA2 8LU

Christian Books and cards can be bought from Lighthouse, the Christian bookshop in Tiverton. Ring 01884 255769 to check opening times during Covid crisis.

Church contacts

Do ring the parish office number: 01823 665254 and leave a message. Or email

stjohns.wellington@googlemail.com. Or phone any of the priests directly: Tim Treanor: 01823662248, Alan Ellacott: 01823 669824, Martin Beaumont: 01823 400127, Selina Garner: 01823 66227 Maria Hearl: 01884 256380, [Editor]