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- St Mary's Church Hall: Mrs Diana Fleming Tel: 01275 875081
- The Parish Office, The Rectory Tel: 873257. The office is normally open 9 am - 1 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. Phone messages and emails will be checked daily. Eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk; www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

## CHURCHWARDENS

- All Saints' East Clevedon with St Michael's, Clapton in Gordano Mrs Kay Osborne, 2 Seymour Close BS21 6DU (342013)  
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- St Paul's Walton in Gordano Mrs Sue Betts, 1 Kings Road, Portishead, BS20 8HH (848645)
- St Peter & St Paul Weston in Gordano Mr John Bridges, The Bellows, Clevedon Road, Weston in Gordano, BS20 8PU (843380)

Website: [www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk](http://www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk)

Facebook pages : All Saints East Clevedon Church; St Marys Clevedon;

St Pauls Church Walton in Gordano; St Peter and St Paul's Church, Weston in Gordano

# The Parish Magazine

Diocese of Bath and Wells

**THE UNITED BENEFICE OF EAST CLEVEDON**

[www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk](http://www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk)

Parish Office:

Tel: 01275 873257 email: [eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk)



**November 2023 50P**

## SERVICES

All Saints', East Clevedon	Sundays	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am All Age Service (1st) Holy Communion (2nd, 3rd, 4th)
Walton St Mary Clevedon	Sundays	10.00 am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 5th) 10.00am Morning Prayer (2nd, 4th)
	Wednesdays	10.00 am Holy Communion
St Paul's, Walton	Sundays	11.15 am Sunday Worship
St Peter & St Paul, Weston in Gordano	Sundays	10.00am Morning Prayer (1st) 5.00 pm Choral Evensong (2nd & 4th) 5.00pm Holy Communion (3rd, 5th)

## WEEKLY BENEFICE UPDATE

Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive a weekly email with Readings, Prayers and Notices for the week.

If you do not have internet access please contact the parish office and we will make hard copies available for you.

Please also see [www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk](http://www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk) for copies of Morning and Evening Prayer and the current edition of the parish magazine.

**PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES:** The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday and Friday mornings, 9.00am - 1.00pm although emails and phone calls will be answered on a daily and very regular basis. You are welcome to come to the Office on the mornings it is open or otherwise by arrangement.

## MAGAZINE DETAILS

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The deadline for copy for the December magazine is Monday November 13th and the magazine will be in church by Sunday December 3rd.

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## FIRST WORD from The Rector

It will take wiser heads than mine to fathom the conflict in Israel and Gaza. Writing just days after the terrorist attacks on so many innocent people, "Israel's 911" as it is being called, one is again staggered by the inhumanity and brutality visited upon the innocent by motivated extremists.

But then again, one is staggered by the celebrations which have been seen in London and other British cities, apparently glorying in the death, terror and destruction which Hamas has wrought. These are people living in this country, surrounded by the rule of law, yet celebrating evil. One wonders how it's possible. Perhaps the Home Secretary was right to say that multiculturalism has failed if such attitudes can thrive here at home.

Of course, the result of these terrorist outrages will be a large scale military response from Israel and the conflict will go on. Perhaps that's the aim of Hamas, to create instability across a wider area, enabling nations who have no liking for "the international rules based order" to gain advantage. Perhaps we see the hand of Iran, and indeed other nations, keen to add to the instability.

But on a more intimate level I wonder what the children who witness these events must think? I wonder how they will see the world and the fighting for survival which they must endure. The Old Testament asserts that wrongdoing reverberates down the generations, "to our fathers' fathers" and beyond. It's little wonder that tensions across national, ethnic or religious boundaries can fester for generations when this is what children learn.

The roots of this conflict, of course, go back a long way. In an immediate sense it goes back to the aftermath of the First World War and the desire at the Paris Peace Conference to establish a settled land for the dispersed Jewish people. This gathered energy and pace in the 30s as the Nazis ratcheted up their violent and murderous oppression of the Jews when many thousands of Jewish people emigrated to Palestine. The British had a mandate to govern the area, and so had a guiding hand in the establishment of Israel after the Second World War. The horror of the holocaust made the necessity of a Jewish homeland all the more urgent. Since then, as the Jewish state has grown and as Arab Palestinians were removed from their homes to create space for the new population, so the animosity between the Jewish people and the Palestinians has been allowed to develop. The complexity of this situation is made significantly more so by the 1979 revolution in Iran and the inflamed hatreds towards Israel and the West it fosters.

But the roots of the conflict surely go back even further. Our Bible tells of conflicts almost too numerous to number between Israel, Egypt, Iran, Iraq and Syria. In



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church we still speak of the “Holy Land” and the faith is replete with God’s promises to his chosen people to occupy the land for ever, but the same land has been conquered and fought over for millennia. Who knows how or when this latest strife will end.

But evil must be resisted and a government’s first duty is to keep it’s citizens safe. That was the case in 1939 and it is still the case in the face of barbaric terrorism. So there will be more fighting even as we hope and pray for justice and for peace. As we gather for Remembrance Sunday, therefore, we will have sobering reminders of conflicts present and past. The conflicts of Israel and Ukraine are uppermost in our minds, but there are other lesser known conflicts in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, all of which will have their historical roots and their immediate acute causes and each of them will involve the same suffering and plays for power.

There is a classical motto, widely copied, that “if you want peace, prepare for war”. In other words, peace is not kept by weakness but by strength. Most of us would agree. A Putin or an Isis or Hamas terrorist thrives of perceived weakness and the sorry tale of human history has borne this out many times. Remembrance Sunday, therefore, also gives us the chance of giving thanks for our armed forces, and those who support them, for they are in many ways the keepers of our peace. But Christ was a peacemaker of a different stripe. He never engaged in violence nor encouraged or advocated it. He prayed for his enemies and taught his disciples to do the same. He was committed to confronting violence and conflict with grace and truth but refused to retaliate. In such a way he tried to reduce conflict, find resolution with justice, and offer a better way. Remembrance Sunday gives this opportunity too – to pray for justice and peace and to encourage the powerful to seek it. Peace is maintained by strength – moral, cultural, spiritual, economic and military. Freedom, tolerance and the rule of law need to be defended just as much now as ever before and now is a time for strength across our whole Christian culture.

On this Remembrance Sunday we look afresh at the horrors of conflict today and remember those of former years. The key to understanding Remembrance is that it isn’t an occasion for glorifying war nor of a nostalgia of times past, but an opportunity to commit ourselves to the values which make for human thriving, peace and service in the conviction that goodness is stronger than evil. Christ is the very personification of that goodness of God who taught of a peace which passes our understanding. It is a time for moral and spiritual strength. Let us hope and pray for that.

**Noel**

## **Subscriptions and donations**

For magazine subscriptions and other donations to our churches please use the following details. General donations to the United Benefice can be made using the bank details provided.

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Email: [ruthmaddock@gmail.com](mailto:ruthmaddock@gmail.com)

## Pause for Thought

### The Prayer of St BENEDICT of NURSIA (480 - 547)

O gracious and holy Father,  
Give us wisdom to perceive you,  
a mind to understand you,  
diligence to seek you,  
patience to wait for you,  
a heart to meditate on you,  
and a life to proclaim you,  
through the power of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

St Benedict was born in Nursia, modern day Norcia in Umbria, in 480, and died at the Monastery he founded at Monte Cassino in 547. His father was a wealthy Roman nobleman. Benedict had a twin sister, St Scholastica, whom Gregory the Great says was also dedicated to God from a young age.

Saint Benedict was a Christian monk, writer, and theologian who is venerated in all the mainstream Christian traditions. His lasting gift to the Church was his 'Rule', which has a unique spirit of moderation and reasonableness, unlike the harsh, hair-shirt Rules of some early communities. It comprises 73 short chapters. These focus on how to live a Christ-centred life and how to run a monastery efficiently. He encourages people to be obedient and humble, and explains what to do when a member of the community is not, reflecting his own gentle and disciplined nature.

Benedict's Rule played an enormously significant role in the creation and development of monastic communities and he is regarded as the founder of Western Christian monasticism. In 2008 Pope Benedict XVI said "St Benedict exercised a fundamental influence on the development of European civilization and culture", which helped Europe emerge from the "dark night of history" that followed the fall of the Roman empire. My Godfather was a Benedictine monk at Nashdom Abbey, and whenever I stayed there I loved the atmosphere of communal peace, holiness and welcome.

This prayer begins by showing his reverence for God, and goes on to encourage all Christians to persevere in developing a personal relationship with their Creator and Redeemer. He wrote, "Let nothing be preferred to the work of God," meaning that everyone is called to a life of holiness and honest endeavour, thereby building up both the individual and the community. As we daily witness horrendous stories of avoidable sadness and tragedy, in our TV news bulletins, there has never been a more important time to steep ourselves in God's Love and Peace, so we too can become channels of that Peace, to quote his compatriot St Francis.

*Nicholas Maddock*



## LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

Time to re-member

I am shortly leaving Bath and Wells for a time to serve as interim Acting Diocesan Bishop in the Diocese of Coventry. You may know that the city of Coventry saw some very heavy shelling during World War 2, which resulted in the destruction of the Cathedral.

A new Cathedral has since been built and stands alongside the old ruin as a testament of hope. Though different in style, there's a harmony of old and new. It shows us where conflict can destroy, peace can be found as we seek to live together as the people of God.

This marrying of modern and traditional styles of architecture, helps us to consider how we fashion the life we are called to live as Christians in our communities. It is not that we put aside our differences nor require others to conform to our own shape or form. Rather we recognise the value of listening fully to others and learn to hear the voice of God. Determining to value the worth of each contribution and discerning together a faithful walk with God.

This season of Remembrance encourages us to look back and to value the contributions of those who have gone before us, giving their lives in the service of others. It is not about glorifying the concept of war and conflict but the desire to establish a peaceful world for all. As we look back, so we are invited to look forward and commit to establishing a world where all have a place and where the Prince of Peace, Jesus, is our example.

Coventry is the home to the Community of the Cross of Nails. A community of reconciliation based around the cross fashioned by iron nails found within the ruins of the Cathedral following the fire. Its mission is to live out the practice of peace-building, encouraging people across the world to learn to be reconciled with themselves and one another, as they find reconciliation with God, through Christ. As I leave here, I do so with plenty of memories, many happy, occasionally sad. Often the latter are those where I have got things wrong and failed to live up to my calling to be the grace-filled child of God I long to be. So, if I have let you down, I am sorry and please pray for me, as I will for you, that God continues to reconcile us to Himself and to one another.

And as we hold our acts of remembrance this month, may we become re-membered (put back together), as the people of God.

**Bishop Ruth**

## READINGS AND PRAYERS

**Sunday, 5th November – All Saints**

**Revelation 7: 9-end      Matthew 5: 1-12**

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Sunday, 12th November – Remembrance Sunday**

**Micah 4: 1-5      John 15: 12-17**

Collect: Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life;  
hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we  
remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**Sunday, 19th November – 2nd Sunday before Advent**

**Zephaniah 1: 7,12-end      Matthew 25: 14-30**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having

## St Peter & St Paul, Weston in Gordano

5th 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn

12th 5.00 pm Evensong with act of remembrance -  
The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

19th 5.00 pm Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

26th 5.00pm Evensong - The Rector

Wednesday 11am Holy Communion Services suspended until Spring.  
Please join St Mary's 10am service.

## Walton St Mary, Clevedon

5th 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

12th 10.00 am Morning Prayer with act of remembrance -  
The Rector  
Michael Dyne prayers

19th 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

26th 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rector

Every Wednesday 10.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's

## November SERVICES

Correct on going to press - please check with the parish office or  
www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

### All Saints, East Clevedon

5th	8.00 am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	All Age Communion - The Rector Michael Dyne preach
12th	8.00 am	Holy Communion with act of remembrance- The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	11.00am	Clapton in Gordano Remembrance service
19th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	12.15pm	Baptism of Mack Prescott - The Rector
26th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn

### St Paul's, Walton in Gordano

5th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Sue Betts
12th	10.55 am	Holy Communion with act of remembrance - The Rector
19th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Joshua Fowler
26th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - The Rector Followed by PCC

this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
**Sunday, 26th November – Christ the King**  
**Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24      Matthew 25: 31-end**

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Art at Christmas: Jonathan Camp

#### A talk on The Adoration of the Kings by Jan Gossaert.

Saturday 9 December at 7:30 in All Saints Parish Hall

£12 to include a glass of wine or soft drink.

Pay at the door on the night but to reserve a seat please contact Rosie Jackson on 07887756914 or Kate in the parish Office on 01275873257.



# ALL SAINTS THEN AND NOW

from the archives

CONSECRATION OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH – The ceremony of consecrating this church took place on Thursday [1<sup>st</sup> November], by Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells. His lordship arrived about ten o'clock, and proceeded to Clevedon court, where he was joined by about thirty clergymen belonging to the town and neighbourhood, amongst whom were the Revds. William N. Peddar (vicar of Clevedon), G.W. Braikenridge, Thos. Bliss, E.H. Fothergill, J. Acres (incumbent of Kenn), H. Ludway (Walton-in-Gordano), C.F. Norman (Portishead), E.O. Tyler (Portbury), Prebendary Symes (rural dean, Cleve), Prebendary Ommaney (rural dean, Chew Magna), Prebendary Millward (Paulton), F. Brown (Nailsea), George O. Smyth Pigott (Kingston Seymour), F. Elwell (Weston-super-Mare), &c. A procession was formed, and entered the church by the west door. The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the prayers being said by the Rev. S.H. Saxby (the appointed incumbent), and the lessons read by the Rev. G.W. Braikenridge and the Rev. F. Brown. The Bishop was assisted in the Communion service by Prebendaries Ommaney and Symes. His Lordship took his text and preached a very eloquent and impressive sermon from Ephesians ii., verses 20 and 21.\* At the conclusion of the service, his Lordship and the clergy walked in procession and consecrated the burial ground. On leaving the church the Bishop proceeded to Clevedon Court, where refreshments had been provided. The church, which has been erected solely at the expense of Sir Arthur and Lady Elton, is situate in the pretty valley lying between Sir Abraham's and Strawberry Hills, and has been pronounced to be one of the most complete and tasteful edifices in the county. It consists of a nave (with side aisles), two transepts, chancel, and choir, with central tower and steeple. Mr. Giles of Taunton and London, was the architect. The carving, which is very beautiful, was executed by Mr. Bennett, of Portishead. Messrs. Palmer and Green of Clevedon were the contractors for the masonry and carpentry work. *Bristol Daily Post*, 6<sup>th</sup> November 1860.

*\*And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together growth unto an holy temple in the Lord.*

Francis Ford found this newspaper clipping amongst his papers and suggested it would make a good parish magazine piece for the month of our patronal festival.

Julia Elton

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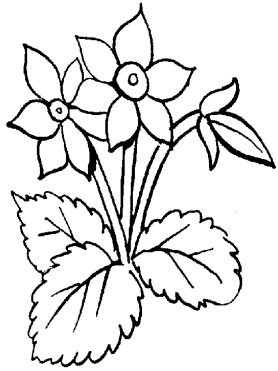
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## Garden Talk

Most gardens are ready for their winter sleep in November, but before bedding them down there are a few jobs that it is well to do.

**1 Protect tender and half hardy plants.** Most plants will stand a bit of frost but a frost which lasts throughout the day is usually lethal to zonal geraniums (pelargoniums), dahlias, tender fuchsias and many others. Remember that in winter the air temperature is usually higher than the temperature at ground level and it is a

ground frost which your plants will have to cope with. The combination of cold and wet is particularly bad so if your tender plants are not too big trim off the top growth and pot them up. Put them somewhere frost free, light, but not warm to encourage them to rest. Dahlia corms can be lifted and dried off and stored somewhere dark and frost free until spring.

**2 Collect fallen leaves to make leaf mould.** If you did this last autumn you should already have some excellent leaf mould for the garden. Now is the time to make some more for next year. Most leaves from deciduous trees will rot down if put in a leaf cage – they are easy to make with four stout stakes and a length of chicken wire – but avoid sycamore leaves which, as I discovered last year, produce myriads of seedlings in the spring. Leaf mould mixed one to one with garden soil will make compost better than you can buy at the garden centre, all at no cost.

**3 Trim shrubs and hedges.** It is a good idea to cut back the summer growth before the winter gales. Roses can be lightly pruned to minimize root rock, ready for a more drastic pruning in March. Always try to cut out dead wood which will enable light and air to reach the centre of the plant. Do not, however, cut back winter flowering shrubs such as camellias and viburnums so you do not spoil their moment of glory.

**4 Plant tulips.** November is the ideal month to plant tulip bulbs for a lovely display in the spring. I strongly recommend choosing a Darwin variety because these will come back year after year. Plant your bulbs quite deep, at least three inches, and watch out for squirrels. And plant them pointed end up – I know it's obvious but it is easy to forget. Happy autumn gardening!

*William King*



## ALL SAINTS, East Clevedon

Our church was beautifully decorated for the Harvest Festival on 1st October, not only with flowers but fruit and veg too, thank you to all who helped. During the service, harvest gifts were presented at the High Altar – these gifts were later donated to the Trussell Trust food bank in Clevedon. All Saints' School's headmaster, Mr Webber, was at the service and conducted a mini-choir of children, singing a lovely harvest song. Jam tarts and apple pies were a special treat served with tea and coffee after the service – thank you Vera and your helpers. Thank you also to the team of bellringers for ringing before the service.

The community coffee morning was well attended again on 11th October. The next one will be on Wednesday 8th November – all welcome to come along for a cuppa and a natter.

The annual Coffee at The Court will have taken place on Saturday 14th October – always a great event in a splendid location. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Grand Draw and those who donated prizes.

On Saturday morning, 30th September, as I was in church preparing for the harvest service, a visitor, Christine Searle, came in to have a look around. I welcomed her and she told me she was meeting George, our Tower Captain, who was giving her a 'tour' of the bell tower. She was on her way back home to Great Yarmouth from a holiday in the West Country and wanted to visit the church where her great grandfather, George Grey, had rung the bells. She told me her great grandfather, George, had met Sarah Boyce Stephens when they both sang in All Saints Choir in the 1880's and were married here. They lived at 28 Walton Road and then at 31 All Saints Lane in about 1881. George and his father, John Grey, both rang the bells, and John and his wife Eliza are buried in our churchyard. In the 1880's George Grey was a gardener at Clevedon Court for a period of time.

Our Tower Captain arrived to meet Christine and had arranged for three more ringers to join them so they were able to give Christine the treat of ringing in the same tower as her great grandfather. She is the Tower Captain at Great Yarmouth Minister where they have twelve bells!

I had such a lovely time chatting with Christine and her granddaughter, who had arrived from Bristol where she lives, and listening to the story of her ancestors.

*Monica Gore*



## ST MICHAEL'S, Clapton in Gordano

At a specially arranged meeting with a few of the friends, we were introduced to 3 local ladies who are willing to organise a special fundraiser event for St Michaels. They are neighbours of Yvonne Jay. The delightful trio were keen to offer a us proposal to perform a Christmas Special concert in the church. The date was set and noted for your diary will be Saturday 9th December from 18:30. The Ladies are Sue Palfrey, Laura Tuckwell,

with a youthful and talented Daisy Bullock, who incidentally will sing on the evening. The performances are programmed to be an eclectic mixture of Sea shanties and traditional songs, soul, gospel and modern. We aim to use an interval with a serving of heated mulled wine and mince pies for refreshments. Tickets are on sale for £10, with contacts Yvonne, 07796 388828, Phil, 07970 839390 and Derek, 07929 852835.

As usual the staff at Clapton Court will provide plenty of car parking plus limited disabled parking at the small upper car park of St Michaels. Our local church bell ringers have offered a peeling prelude to announce the concert beforehand from around 18:20, to welcome the audience.

We aim to offer a warm mixture of hospitality, and cheer at a quiet time of year prior to the Christmas season but we cannot guarantee the weather! Therefore you are advised to attire yourselves with warm coats etc, as St Michaels antiquated heating system is now redundant. Plans are being discussed to provide illumination for the event, to aid progress to and from the church, pre and post the concert.

The Friends received an email from Mr John Vigar to request permission for a small group of folk from the East and South of England, to spend some time viewing the church on Tuesday 17th October. Cleaning and preparation of the church and grounds were carried out beforehand, as our local nocturnally flying visitors have once again returned to take up their roosts in the church roof beams. More on the (human) visitors next month.

And finally..... A timely reminder of our two forthcoming services. Sunday 12th November will be our Annual Remembrance Service, led by the Rev'd Nicholas Maddock. All (who are able) are invited to walk Clevedon Lane from the Black Horse at 10:15. Our Christmas Carol Service will be on 17th December at 15:00.

*Derek Roberts*



## WALTON ST MARY

There has certainly been plenty of opportunities to get together over the last month.

On October 7th Ian Hubbard and some of his young pupils gave us a very entertaining coffee concert. So much talent in ones so young! The church was already beautifully decorated for our Harvest Festival service which took place on the following day. The service was very traditional and marked the moving on of the seasons. It was followed by a bring and share lunch in the hall. This was very much enjoyed and the food provided was both varied and delicious.

On October 14th we had the Quiz Night in the hall mainly led by William. The Old Wellies, a visiting team, won the competition and The Gathering, a mainly St Mary's team, came second. It was a fun evening and £310 was raised for the well restoration fund.

The Coronation Well Restoration Project is now almost complete. The decorative

## Lunchtime Advent Hymn Series

We would like to invite you to our Lunchtime Advent Hymn Series. This will be similar to our Lent Lunchtime Series, which prepares us to celebrate a Holy Easter, except this will be in Advent, to prepare us to celebrate a Happy Christmas!

We will meet in St Mary's at 12.00 noon on the three Wednesdays in Advent – December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Each week we will choose a popular Advent hymn and look at its author, composer, and its message as part of the Advent story. Finally, we will sing it as part of a short Act of Worship. Then at 12.30pm we will go into St Mary's Hall for a light lunch of warm rolls served with paté and/or cheese, plus tea, coffee or squash, for which a donation of £3.00 is requested.

We do hope you may be able to join us for this new venture. If you would like to know more, please contact the Church Office or Nicholas Maddock (*details on the back cover*).

Advent is a season of waiting, in hope and longing, for the coming of Christ. As a living sign of that waiting there will be a time of prayer in the reserved sacrament chapel at All Saint's church. This will be between 12.00 midday and 1.00 pm each Friday between the 1<sup>st</sup> of December and the 22<sup>nd</sup>. You are welcome to come and go as you wish or stay throughout. The time will be largely silent with occasional Biblical sentences, as a simple chant, to help focus our attention.

The chapel is a clear space for prayer. May we clear a space in our own lives, on our own behalf and on behalf of a very troubled World, bringing that World and our concern into the light and love of God.

### FROM THE REGISTERS....

#### FUNERALS

20th October: Robert Turner, St Mary's

20th October: Edward Gold, St Peter and St Paul

27th October: Memorial service for Jill Middleton, St Mary's

Get ready for a wonderful  
**Christmas**



Grand Raffle! Win a Luxury M&S Hamper and many other prizes! Tickets available soon

Join us for a

**Fayre**

Weston-in-Gordano P.C.C.  
 In aid of the maintenance of the Church building.

**November 18<sup>th</sup> 11am -3 pm**

**WESTON-IN-GORDANO**

**VILLAGE HALL**

Light refreshments including turkey, stuffing and cranberry bap, with complimentary mulled wine (alcohol free option available)

Christmas stalls, crafts, cakes and house plants.

Games for children and adults, children's craft table (free)



If anyone can provide cakes, or jams, or preserves, or unwanted gifts, they would be gratefully received.

Please contact Ann or John Bridges (01275 843 380)

iron framework is in place surrounding the well and only the installation of the lighting remains to be done. Some funds still need to be raised which will continue next year.

During the month we collected the items that Alan Gore has made for us out of the box tree that had to be felled in the churchyard. They are beautiful and special to us as a memento of the tree, our thanks go to Alan. They will form part of a Silent Auction that is planned for some time in the new year.

During the month we had the disappointing news that our application for the grant from Thrive had been unsuccessful. The grant would have enabled us to install more loft insulation and new lighting in the hall to save energy. We know that Diana and Cheryl could not have submitted a more detailed or valid application and we thank them for the hours of work that they put into it.

In the summer we lost another faithful member of our congregation, Jill Middleton. Jill, Paul's wife, had been ill and unable to come to church for many years. Her ashes will be laid to rest next to the churchyard cross.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

Wednesday November 1st 6pm – The Service of Light at All Saints.

Saturday December 2nd 10.30 – Christmas Coffee Morning with raffle and bring and buy.

*Sally King*

**St. Mary's flowers**

In loving memory of:-

1st October - Peter Robinson, requested by his wife Sandra;

8th October - Colin Webb, requested by his wife Lois.

22nd October - to celebrate and give thanks for the birth of our first Great Grandchild, Otilie Mae, requested by Doug and Mary Pope

27th October - for the Memorial Service for Jill Middleton, requested by husband Paul.



**ST PETER & ST PAUL,  
 Weston in Gordano**

From the beginning of November, through the colder Winter months, the Wednesday communion service will not be at St Peter and St Paul but we are invited/ encouraged to join the St

Mary's celebration at 10.00 a.m. Usually, to save expensive heating, we have met in homes in the village until the Spring. This year there is nowhere for us to meet regularly, at least at the present time. It's good to experience the reality of the United Benefice for the time being and St Mary's is pleased to see us. This does also mean that during the colder months only one celebrant will be needed. Normal services should be resumed in April!

Flowers have been lovely in the church recently; wonderful autumn colours. It's a small band who provide and keep the flowers going; and it can be surprisingly hard

work as arrangers will know. Thank you. Thank you too for the people who do the hidden quiet jobs around the church, the brass cleaning and keeping the books in the porch under some kind of control. It's wonderful that our church is open every day and I often see John Bridges walking to and from the church opening up in the morning and closing up before dark. Quite a commitment if good for the health! I took a visitor around the church recently who was fascinated by our building with its long history, and its general good order and that helped me to see it afresh. We have a treasure here for the whole village to be glad of. Both church and churchyard are peaceful places that can be restorative just to sit in.

Looking ahead this month, Sunday the 12th at 5.00 is our Remembrance Service, always a heart felt occasion. And on Saturday the 18th a rather early (pre) Christmas Fayre in the village hall, with Raffle, refreshments, cakes, children's stall etc etc. Plus a complimentary glass of mulled wine. This is usually a good occasion for the whole village. Join us there!

*Sister Carol*

### WiG Forthcoming Events

Sr Carol has already alluded to two of our forthcoming events, but here is some more meat to add to the bones.

The Remembrance Sunday service (on Sunday, 12th November at 5.00 pm) is being especially written for us and will include an address from Dav Baulch, the WiG Parish Council leader, highlighting the lives of some of the villagers involved in the two World Wars. Dav's address is always informative and interesting and we look forward to this year's offering.

The Christmas Fayre (on Saturday, 18th November, 11.00 am – 3.00 pm in the Village Hall) is slightly earlier than usual and we are planning to make the event slightly different as well. Sr Carol has already listed some of the goodies on offer, but I should add the Grand Raffle is an impressive and appealing M&S hamper. Offers of cakes, preserves, plants or unwanted gifts would be gratefully received. Please contact Ann or John Bridges [01275 843380].

### Thank You

I would like to say a huge "thank you" for the many cards and messages wishing me well, that I have received since my accident and subsequent surgery. They were immensely kind and very encouraging.

I'm pleased to say that my broken ribs (8) are healing well and giving me very little pain now. The surgery is likewise improving and I am learning to cope with its demands. I still tire very quickly, so I apologise for not being as involved as I was. I very much hope to be back to form by Christmas! God willing. I'm so very grateful to God to be alive and to so many of you for your care and prayers.

*Robb Robinson*



WALTON-in-GORDANO VILLAGE HALL  
FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER 7.30pm

Come and join us for a fun social evening!  
Nibbles provided, B.Y.O. wine & glasses.

Tickets £5 each contact Graham on  
07513111891 or email

[g.matthews1@hotmail.com](mailto:g.matthews1@hotmail.com)

to reserve your place.

Teams of 4 for the quiz



ALL PROFITS GO  
TOWARDS SUPPORTING  
PARISH PROJECTS.



## Diocese News



### A team effort for eco-award

After taking part in a discussion with Bishop Michael about caring for the environment, the Pupil Chaplain team at Backwell Junior School got involved in St Andrew's Eco Church application. After the church received its bronze award, the children spoke at the church's Harvest service at Moorside Farm, sharing their pride in the bronze award and their plans to go for the silver.

### Bell-ringing boost

A new bell-ringers training centre has been opened at Holy Trinity Church, Street. The centre hopes to attract new and experienced ringers. Mike Palmer, tower captain at St John's Glastonbury says, "This will provide a wonderful opportunity for people, young and old, to learn a skill exercising mind and body – and make a real contribution to the community." The new facility allows learners to develop their skills without disturbing the peace, thanks to muffled clappers and some technical wizardry which sees sensors on the bells feedback the outcome of their efforts.

### New art installation for St John's

Throughout November, St John's Highbridge is displaying a new art installation, Elizabeth Woodger's 'Diagenesis'. Described as 'a beautiful and provocative reflection on our natural environment and the impact of humans up on it', it is made of a photographic print which the artist folded, rephotographed and blew up to huge size. The exhibition, and a future one planned for next year, have received funding from the Somerset Community Art Foundation.



### Home made Christmas Cake

6 inch iced cake £4.50 each Gluten free also available

Contact Sue Betts on 01275 848645  
or email [roybetts7@btinternet.com](mailto:roybetts7@btinternet.com)



## ST PAUL'S, Walton in Gordano

### The Wind

Who has seen the wind?  
Neither I nor you:  
But when the leaves hang trembling,  
The wind is passing thro'.

Who has seen the wind?

Neither you nor I:

But when the trees bow down their heads,

The wind is passing by. Christina Rossetti (1830 – 1894)

November already, and as I am writing this the weather has suddenly turned a whole lot colder, the first chilly days of autumn.

We start this month with the good news that Graham Roberts and Sue have finished their course and are now fully trained Lay Worship Assistants. Well done to you both, sometime in the future they will both be receiving certificates as well. This means that they are there to take some of the load from Noel and our clergy team as they lead the worship here at St. Paul's.

This month's Welcome In Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 4th at 10.30am in the church – come along and have a natter at what will be the last Welcome In for 2023, watch out for the next one on January 6th 2024.

Then on Sunday 5th, at 11.15am, we have our Morning Gathering led by Graham R and Sue as they give the congregation a chance to experience a repeat of their combined service that they had presented to the leader and course members at the last meeting of their training.

And then at 5.30pm we have a Walton Bonfire Party, down on the old Railway Line, everyone is most welcome. Entrance is free and there will be plenty of parking, but please wear sensible shoes and carry a torch as the ground can be uneven. There will be a Guy Competition so why not have a go, bring your Guy with you to add to the fire. Food will be provided by Home Farm, but please remember NO FIREWORKS, if you would like to bring along some sparklers that would be fine. Thank you to Claire and James for the use of the old railway line, and for organising the event along with Field and Flower.

This year's Remembrance Service is on Sunday 12th at 10.55am, don't forget this earlier start to accommodate the reading of the Act of Remembrance prior to the minute's silence. This is always a very poignant occasion with the chance to commemorate the sacrifice made by service men and women, and by civilians, in times of conflict; and a perfect time to pray for peace and reconciliation. As always the collection will be for the British Legion who carry out such vital work supporting ex-service personnel and their families.

On Sunday 19th we have a Morning Prayer service at 11.15am

And then on Sunday 26th we have Morning Prayer followed by a simple 'bring and

share' lunch and our Parish Conversation. The last Parish Conversation was a lively discussion bringing forward some interesting ideas, so how about joining us this month – it's a chance for you to air your thoughts on any thing pertaining to the church.

Also this Sunday will see the opening of the Village Christmas Post Box. For the inflation busting price of 10p you can have your Christmas cards delivered around the Parish, please put your money in the wall box at the back of the church – but hurry the Post Box closes again on Sunday 10th December. Volunteers to carry out the delivering are always welcome, so if your regularly walk past the church, please pop in and collect some cards for the people on your route. This year's charity is Unicef, their amazing work with children and mums around the world needs all the support it can get. Whether it is an earthquake in Morocco or in Afghanistan, flooding in Libya, or a humanitarian crisis in Gaza or Ukraine, Unicef are there working in 190 countries and territories worldwide, wherever they are they are there 'For Every Child'. Our aim is to get enough money to provide a Baby Delivery Kit to help a newborn baby and their mum, each kit is £30, so let's see just how many we can buy with the money from the Christmas Post Box and the collection from the Carol Service. Thank you in anticipation of your kindness and continuing generosity.

And now for dates for December


Saturday 2nd – no Welcome In Coffee Morning this month

Sunday 3rd - Advent Carol Service at 11.15am. This is a popular service which includes a blend of Advent Hymns and Carols. If you are going away for Christmas, why not join us for this lovely celebration. The collection for this service will be Christmas Selection Boxes, so why not pop one in your shopping trolley and bring it along to the service. All Selection Boxes will go to the Clevedon Food Bank, to make sure that local children don't miss out on the festive seasons treats.

Then at 12.30pm we have our Christmas Fayre also in the church. Join us too for this lovely event. The church will be filled with smell of hot mince pies and sausage baps (including a veggie version). There will be stalls full of all sorts of goodies – Christmas decorations, handicrafts, home-made cakes, bric-a-brac and a tombola. As at all St. Paul's occasions there will be a raffle, and the prizes will include a Christmas Hamper. If you've ordered a Christmas cake from Sue, please come along and pick it up, we look forward to seeing you all.

Sunday 10th – Morning Prayer service at 11.15am.

Friday 15th – Village Christmas Quiz Night, organised by the Village Social Club, starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Come and join in this fun social evening.



**The 3 C's - Coffee (cake!) and Conversation** is a discussion group that takes place on the first Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm – 2.45pm at All Saints Vestry using “Day by Day with God” notes as the focus for discussion (notes available through the Parish Office) A relaxed and informal space to learn and encourage. We have had many interesting discussions over the months so if it's something you'd like to try out do join us or for more information please contact Kate Hector on 873257.

**Next meetings are** Tuesday 7th November and Tuesday 5th December. Tea, coffee and cake always provided!

**BIBLE NOTES** can be ordered through the Parish Office.

We currently order in “Day by Day with God” and “New Daylight” Bible notes. These provide bite-size Bible passages explained by those who themselves have found the Bible to be a source of strength and inspiration for life. The cost per edition is £4.75.

Crib Festival is on again this year in All Saints Church from Friday 15 December to Sunday 17 December and help will be needed with stewarding on these 3 days please.

We are so grateful for any contributions of cribs no matter what style or size, old, new or hand made.

Contact the Parish office if you can help.



### The 3C's visit to LIFE bookshop

LIFE bookshop was established twelve years ago by former architect Andrew and Lydia Williams. Over this time they have built up the business selling books and Christian resources to parishes and individuals, but it is still a small enterprise and struggles to compete with online bookshops.

Small groups from churches are able to visit the shop and can (in advance) choose from a range of presentation themes each with interactive elements.

Our discussion group (Coffee, Cake and Conversation aka the 3C's) chose 'Which translation of the Bible is most accurate'. Andrew showed us a Bible written in Hebrew and Greek, and then talked us through subsequent translations; an early modern English translation by William Tyndale, a complete modern English translation by Myles Coverdale, the King James version right the way through to New International Version and more colloquial versions. The original Hebrew is technically the most accurate although there wasn't time for an extensive discussion, but there was a chance for questions at the end.

The afternoon was rounded off by a very unexpected afternoon tea with delicious homemade cakes brought out on cake stands and tea served in china cups and saucers. A real treat!

It was an interesting and thought-provoking afternoon and we all came away with things to mull over. Andrew and Lydia showed us enormous hospitality for which we were most grateful.

Kate Hector

*All our Bible notes and as many resources as possible are bought from LIFE bookshop rather than on line. Bible book shops are a rare commodity these days so please support it if you can. It is well worth a visit. We look forward to our next!*

### A EUCHARIST SERVICE FOR ALL SOULS

10:00am, Thursday, 2nd November 2023

at St Mary's Church

nibbles are provided, please bring your own drinks and glasses. Why not get together a team of 4, then contact Graham for your ticket, either phone him on 07513 111891 or email him at g.matthews1@hotmail.com Tickets are £5.00 and all profits will go towards projects in the Parish.

Sunday 17th – Village Christmas Lunch at 12 noon in the Village Hall. Please contact Sue in advance to say if you are coming, there is no charge, but it's good to have an idea of numbers. Jacket potatoes will be provided, but please bring a plate of savoury food. Puddings and mince pies will also be provided, but don't forget your parcel for Father Christmas's sack, one for each of you please.

Then at 3pm it's up to the church for the Carol Service. All our favourite Readings and Carols – and don't forget the collection will be for the Unicef Baby Delivery Kits.

Sunday 24th – no service

Monday 25th – Christmas Day Service, time to be arranged.

Sunday 31st – no service

And a date for January, yes make a note in your new diary: Walton Wassailing at 6.30pm on Saturday 13th January, at the Village Pound – with thanks to Katherine and Seamus for the use of their garden.

Talking of saying 'thank you', a huge thank you to Emma and Kevin for volunteering to take over the position of Treasurer for the church. No sooner had I put out the call for help than they replied – their taking on this role will be a great support for Sue as she is our one and only Church Warden.

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS CAKES FROM SUE** - a bit late to put this message out this year, due to unforeseen circumstances.

It's £4.50 for a 6 inch cake, iced or un-iced, or Gluten Free, when you contact Sue please specify which you would like. And then simply pick up your cake at the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 3rd December. Email Sue on roybetts7@btinternet.com or phone her on 01275 848645



And finally, our Mouse Musings: We will see you all at the Village Bonfire with our mini jacket potatoes as we fatten ourselves up ready for winter. Can't wait to see you are the Christmas Fayre, mince pie crumbs, yum!  
Love Miss C.M.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A**

**'SERVICE OF LIGHT'**

**All Saints' Church, East Clevedon**

**Wednesday, 1st November**

**at 6.00 pm**

A simple service to remember any loved ones who have died either recently or in years past and offering our support and prayers in these difficult months.

You and your family will have an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of your loved ones and see their name in the Book of Remembrance.

If you have any names to be added to the Book of Remembrance please contact the Parish Office.

Names from previous years remain in the book.

*Light refreshments afterwards*

Further information from:

The Parish Office Tel: 01275 873257 or  
eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk



## **What is your "Ministry"?**

Phil Joyner – St Michaels, Clapton

### **A bit about me**

OK I am now 80 years old having lived with my dear wife Sue at Clapton-In-Gordano for the last 48 years. I left building school at the age of 17 and commenced training as a Surveyor. As was the custom in those days I attended day release and evening classes to obtain the necessary qualifications. I have throughout my life retained my simple faith which started with the influence of my father as a young child.

### **What brought me to the Benefice?**

I was moved by the public construction company from Manchester to Bristol in the early 1970's. We settled into our home Rose Cottage with our two children Luke and Joanne who both attended the faith primary school at Portbury. So our early family life was centred around Portbury. Sue spent many years on the school PTA whilst I became an assistant leader in the local cub pack and remained with the scout movement for a further 30 years.

### **My role in the Benefice**

Some 15 years or so ago I joined the Friends of St Michaels Group formed in the mid 90's when the village church was declared redundant and put into the Churches Conservation Trust. With excellent support from other members of the committee we managed to keep our church alive due to the considerable support from the pastoral team at All Saints. Our programme of events and services has been watered down following covid. Nevertheless, we remain confident that we should and must retain this village place of worship that has been in existence since 1226.

I am a regular at 8 o'clock holy communion at All Saints and enjoy a peaceful start to my week.