



South Wye Team Ministry Newsletter 10th November 2024 Remembrance Sunday



Hello Everyone, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well – and warm. In amongst the milder Autumn weather have been some real cold snaps and reminders that winter is around the corner.

This week we mark Remembrance Sunday on the 10th and Remembrance Day follows immediately. Acts of Remembrance and remembering take up much of our attention this month. On Remembrance Sunday and on Remembrance Day alongside the church services and local commemorations, there will be more formal, civic events. Variations on these services and commemorations have been a feature of British public life in some form or another for over a century. From the original two minutes of silence held at 11am on the 11th November 1919 we have evolved ceremonies, bought poppy decorated stickers for our cars and collars for our dogs and shared urban myths about the precise angle to which we should adjust the leaves on our lapel poppies.

I wonder if the increasing appetite for decorations and public displays has sometimes fed a desire to police how other people are choosing to remember. Is this partly because, as a community, we are losing those with real memories of the horrors of war? After all, in 1919 a simple two minutes of silence was sufficient, because every single person standing quietly had their own too recent memories of war as a combatant or as a civilian, their own losses and bereavements, their own knowledge of the real impacts of conflict. For most of us, our thoughts during the silences of 2024 will be about other people's experiences rather than our own. Not for all – among those gathering at St Martin's, St Peter's Bullinghope and in St Martin's Street over the coming days will be veterans and bereaved families with first hand experience of the effects of conflict. But for most of us, Remembrance is no longer an act of directly *remembering*. It is a community commemoration, a shared act of choosing not to forget.

As part of that shared action, most acts of remembrance today include a commitment to working for peace and reconciliation. However – or whether – we wear a poppy, whether our memories of war are personal and immediate or of family history and stories, we share a public commitment to peace. At Bullinghope we will use these words: *Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service. Will you strive for all that makes for peace? **We will.** Will you seek to heal the wounds of war? **We will.** Will you work for a just future for all humanity? **We will.***

These commitments – to strive, seek, work for peace, healing and justice – may be the most important legacy of the many ceremonies that will take place over the coming days. They may also bear repeating more often than just in this season. For those living daily with the consequences of war, remembrance is not restricted to a few days in November. For all of us, the commitment to work for peace and justice should be year round too. However you will be remembering this Remembrance-tide, I pray that you will know God's peace, healing and justice and find ways to share them.

With every blessing, Anne
07464938898
rector@stmartinshereford.org.uk

Family and Community News

Messy Church at the Scout Hut

15th November 3.30-5pm

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Clive Evans' funeral will take place on Tuesday 26th November at 1pm at St Martin's Church.

Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Donations will support the work of the British Heart Foundation.

We will continue to hold Linda and the family in our prayers

Prayer Lists

In response to requests we will shortly start to include some surnames in the prayer lists of both the sick and those who have died. There are obvious issues of privacy and safety involved in this decision and we will not include any names without the appropriate permission. Therefore we will be restarting the current list of the sick and in need of our prayers.

If you have asked for anyone – including yourself – to be remembered by name in our intercessions, please could you let the office know in writing or by email to office@stmartinshereford.org.uk . Please include the name of the person to be prayed for, your name and a contact number or email address, and the name by which the person would like to be referred to in the prayers ('Anne', 'Anne D', 'Annie', or 'Anne Dowdeswell', for example.) Please do not include details of the nature of any illness or misfortune in your note and ensure that anyone whose name is to go on the list has given their consent.

We will review the list periodically and contact those who have given us names to check whether they should remain on the list.

The families of those whose funerals are being taken by our team will be asked for permission for their names to be included in full. If you have other names that you would like to be included, please provide the same information as above, with either permission from the bereaved family or an assurance that the death has been publicised by the family.

If you have any concerns about this change, please contact me.

Anne

Catching up with friends – or making new ones!

Young at Heart - First Thursday of each month – Lunch (contact the office so that we can book the table)
Third Thursday of each month at 2pm – Meeting in St. Martin's Church – talks, games, refreshments and friendship – everyone welcome!

Toastie and Warm at St Martin's

On Tuesday afternoons the Narthex at St Martin's is a busy and welcoming space.

From 1pm there is a Bible Study group, all welcome.

From 2pm there is a coffee afternoon, full of conversations and information, with chocolate biscuits and, usually, home-made cakes.

Everyone is welcome to come along to any – or all – parts of the afternoon.

Please be aware that there will not be Bible Study or Coffee on Tuesday 26th November as Clive Evans' funeral will be taking place.

Making Room is a new initiative based at St Martin's which, whilst it will not offer any formal professional mental health treatment, will offer a safe space to express any worries you may have. *Making Room* is intended for people of working age, and is about making room to have safe discussions about our mental wellness, making room to support one another, making room for mindfulness and to start or share any hobbies and interests and making room to offer hope. If you are interested in joining us please contact us and we can discuss plans further. If you wish to volunteer equally please do get in touch.

Rev'd Lauren Bell curate@stmartinshereford.org.uk 07429 862444

Services at Belmont Community Centre

If you live in or near Belmont and find the journey to St Martin's difficult, or if Sunday mornings are not easy for you, you might like to join us for Friday Communion at Belmont Community Centre.

We celebrate a said service of Holy Communion at 12:30pm on the Second and Fourth Fridays of each month, following FoodShare. Everyone is very welcome to this service. The hall has level access and good ventilation – and if the weather is good we celebrate outside.

The next services at Belmont are: 12.30pm Holy Communion – November 8th & 22nd

How do you get to Church?

Do you drive, walk, cycle or perhaps you are unable to get here? Whatever your situation, there may be small changes we could make, to help the environment and each other.

If you drive, would you consider giving someone a lift (we know many of you already do)?

If you walk or cycle would you consider walking with someone for company?

Would *you* like a lift or someone to walk with?

If the answer is 'Yes' to any of these questions, please get in touch with a member of the Eco Church Team or Church office, and we can arrange a match.

Sarah, Peter and Dafydd (Eco Church Team)

For our Prayers

Please be aware of the note about these prayer lists on the news pages

Those who are ill or in need of your prayers, including:

Bill	James	Joan	Paul	Sheila	Ann W	Brenda B	Joy
Sue	Christina	Betty	Mandy	Jesusa	Chris	Lorraine	Mel

Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:

Kevin.. Clive Nicola

Anglican Communion: United Church of South India

Hereford: Pontesbury Deanery

Porvoo: England: Norwich, Bishop Graham Usher, Bishop Ian Bishop, Bishop Jane Steen; Sweden: Luleå, Bishop Åsa Nyström

South Wye: Please pray for military families, service men and women and veterans in our parishes

The Wider View:

The number of children employed in various industries in Tanzania continues to be of concern. Children are employed in the mining industry, and often work in extremely dangerous conditions, especially if employed in small unlicensed mining enterprises. As well as the risk from, e.g. tunnel collapses, mercury poisoning is a substantial risk. Social programmes are in place to reduce and end child labour and improve safety - pray for these to be fully implemented.

At Remembrance tide, give thanks for those who on the field of battle and in others ways risked their lives in the cause of freedom, and those who did not return. Pray for the various community, church and school events that will take place at our local memorials. Pray too for all veterans, and for the work of the various service organisations and the Royal British Legion, and for all who serve in our armed forces today.

This is Anti-Bullying Week. One of the worst things about bullies is the way they recruit others to their cause. Pray we may educate our young people and ourselves to choose respect over scorn, and not to join in when someone is targeted. Pray for all who are working for elimination of bullying, in schools, workplaces and wherever it happens. Social media can be a place where bullying flourishes.

Wednesday of this week is kept as Social Media Kindness Day. Those who are regularly active on social media are encouraged to commit to acting kindly in all they post, and in their responses to others. Pray for a kinder social media. Wednesday is in fact World Kindness Day, promoting kindness in all its forms. Pray especially for the use of this day to promote kindness in our schools, and to reinforce the importance of acting kindly in all we do. The story told of Martin of Tours, whose day is Monday, is that, as a soldier, he gave half his cloak to a cold and hungry beggar by the roadside, and later in a dream saw his cloak being worn by Christ. Pray that wherever we are as Christians, we may have the grace and courage to live sacrificially and to see all our possessions as held in trust, ours to be used in service.

Give thanks for the creative skills of those who work with wood, for those who fashion and make items of furniture, including for our churches, and for all who teach and pass on these skills to new generations of craftspeople.

Pray for the nurseries and playgroups which serve our communities, and for all who offer care and support to young children and their parents.

Services on-site, online and on TV and Radio

For the week beginning 10th November Remembrance Sunday

South Wye Services Through the Week:

8pm Night Prayer from Common Worship – on St. Martin’s Facebook page

Sunday

9:30am Holy Communion at St. Martin’s
11am Act of Remembrance in St. Martin’s Churchyard
10.45am Service and Act of Remembrance at St. Peter’s

Monday

11am Act of Remembrance at Parish Memorial, St. Martin’s Street

Thursday

10am Said Communion in St. Martin’s Lady Chapel

The 9.30am service will be streamed on St. Martin’s Facebook page and will be available on the St. Martin’s and the St. Peter’s Facebook pages

Diocese of Hereford

Diocese of Hereford Facebook: Sunday Service 10am.

Church of England

National Weekly Service Facebook at 9am.

TV and Radio on Sunday;

Radio 4	8.10am	Sunday Worship-Devotion and Duty, a service for Remembrance Sunday
BBC 1	1.15pm	Songs of Praise- Remembrance Sunday

Prayer for the day:

The Church of England website has audio and text of the Prayer for the Day.

Prayer for the Nation

The Archbishops continue to invite all to call on God in Prayer. We invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love. Find more details at churchengland.org/resources/prayer-nation

Collect for Remembrance Sunday

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.

Readings for Remembrance Sunday

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

³ The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ² 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' ³ So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴ Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Psalm 62: 5-end

⁵ For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷ On God rests my deliverance and my honour; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰ Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

¹¹ Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

¹² and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

Hebrews 9: 24-end

²⁴ For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Mark 1: 14-20

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Bible Study based on Mark 1: 14-20

Bible notes

If there is one phrase that characterises Mark, it is 'and immediately'. It's found twice in this short reading alone, and it reflects the urgency of sharing the gospel as widely as possible. The time is now! Jesus expresses this in the first words he speaks in this Gospel. The word used for time (v.15) is *kairos*, which means 'the right time' or even 'crisis moment'. Jesus' verbs pick up on the same urgency: 'is fulfilled', 'has come near'. He has a crucial message to share. God's kingdom is about to dawn! So, he invites people to change their way of life, picking up on John the baptizer's message (1.4), and put their trust in the good news, the work that God is doing in and through him. There is an undercurrent of tension contributing to the urgency. Mark introduced us to John as the forerunner. Now we learn that John has been arrested (v.14). How long will Jesus have before he suffers the same fate?

Jesus' urgent words are illustrated by his call to the disciples and their unhesitating response. There are vivid images: Simon and Andrew casting their net, then letting it fall to follow Jesus. They abandon the net, which has been their means of making a living, and they let go of their well-honed skill in using it. James and John leave their father in the boat – how would he have reacted to the loss of his two sons and their economic contribution to the family? These instantaneous decisions had difficult consequences for many. Ched Myers comments that the first step in radical discipleship is to overturn the socio-economic position of the disciples.

The disciples are embarking on a new way of life. Jesus' invitation to change is vividly expressed: 'Come behind me', he says, and gives us an image of this little group making their way behind their new leader to start fishing for people. They had no idea where the journey would take them, but it was the beginning of something radically different.

Reflection

Spend a few moments thinking about what stands out for you from the Bible reading. This idea may help.

People change direction in life frequently today. Almost no one has a job for life any more; many people have several careers. What does it feel like to retrain and begin a new line of work? Is it exciting, scary or both? How does this experience relate to the story of the disciples abandoning their careers in fishing and following Jesus? Is this a life choice the disciples make, or a response to being chosen by Jesus? What difference does it make if you believe that you're answering a call from God?

Questions for reflection



You may wish to use these questions and the picture to help you think about or discuss issues arising from this week's Bible passage.

- What do you feel about the idea that you are chosen by Jesus?
- What is it about Jesus that would make you want to say, 'yes'?
- What might make you hesitate in your response to Jesus?

Sudoku

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3	4	6	2	1	7	5	9	8
9	1	2	8	5	6	7	3	4
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Sudoku (Trickier)

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Wordsearch based on Hebrews 9: 24-end

S X R A E P P A B U K O N F K
S U F F E R R H N V O V M F E
P B K E R Z I Z U N Z O A A E
R O I A D M V E E U R T S K V
I Y F G S D N O C E S A K E M
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