

# ST. MICHAEL'S AND ST. WILFRID'S

## ARLEY

Meeting Needs, Bringing Hope, Sharing  
Love



**Each Season brings something new for us to enjoy.**

**Harvest Thanksgiving.**

**October 2020 Newsletter**

Rev. John Langlands                      07588 664962

Churchwarden    John Cox    02476 394802

Deputy Warden    Vic Murray

## **John's Jottings:** - Does Harvest Thanksgiving matter to you?

Did you know that a recent report in a national newspaper said that this year's UK harvest is the worst one for 40 years! This means that the price of bread will go up. On top of this, our nation is contending with all the predictions about Covid19 and Brexit. However bad things may seem to you, as the saying goes, 'there is always someone worse off than you'. It's a phrase that doesn't really offer much better hope or comfort! But, pause for a moment and consider this – we have so much to be thankful for. That is why every year at church we always celebrate a time of Harvest Thanksgiving. Despite the difficult time the farmers have been having, we will still have a lot more in our food chain than many other countries. The desire to consume and possess more and more leads to greed and taking so much for granted. As someone once said, 'There are many people who know the cost of everything and the value of nothing' Living in a rural area, surrounded by many farms, should help us to appreciate and value where food ultimately starts – in the soil. Jesus told many stories about farmers and the soil. Even if you are a non-church goer you will have heard from early years about the farmer whose seed fell in four different types of ground: the roadside, the stony ground, soil where weeds grew up unchecked and finally the good soil. The ground represents a person's heart. First, there is the hard heart, the seed that falls along the roadside. This represents people who hear the Word of God, but never really believe. Then there is the shallow heart. That is the seed that falls on stony ground. This signifies the people who hear the Word of God and receive it with joy, but because there is no root to sustain them, they wither. Next, there is the crowded heart. That is the seed that falls on ground where weeds choke out its growth. Slowly and surely, these people, busy with the cares and riches of the world, just lose interest in the things of God. Finally, there is the fruitful heart that receives the Word. The seed falls on good ground and the plants produce a rich harvest. Only you can determine what type of ground your heart will be. However, life brings us many experiences and happenings that cause us to change our outlook and understanding of how God can bless us with a richer life, with true value and meaning, and with those things that money cannot buy, such as love, joy and peace. Why not join us at one of our Harvest Thanksgiving services this October and discover some of the real things that matter! Do continue to take care and have a month of peace and blessing. Rev: John



## **ST. WILFRID'S CHURCH - OLD ARLEY**

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE 10.30am**

Next Sunday (4th Oct) is HARVEST at St Wilfrid's  
10.30am - sadly no fruit or veg displays.

# Find these words! HARVEST WORD SEARCH

- Apple
- Autumn
- Barley
- Blackberry
- Cabbage
- Carrot
- Crops
- Cucumber
- Festival
- Fruit
- Harvest
- Lettuce
- Oats
- Onion
- Parsnip
- Pies
- Potato
- Seasons
- Spring
- Summer
- Swede
- Thanks
- Giving
- Tomato
- Wheat
- Winter

P	W	C	F	R	U	I	T	O	D	E	L	P	P	A	F
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L	O	S	R	I	R	N	E	H	U	O	I	I	K	A	B
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***May every sunrise hold more promise  
And every sunset hold more peace.***

## Preach or Plough?

According to the family legend, two brothers, one named Billy and the other Melvin, were standing on the family's dairy farm one day when they saw an aeroplane doing some skywriting. The boys watched as the plane sketched out the letters "GP" overhead.

Both brothers decided what they saw had meaning for them. One thought it meant 'Go Preach'. The other read it as 'Go Plough'.

Later one of the boys, Billy Graham, dedicated himself to preaching the gospel, becoming an icon of evangelism. His brother Melvin went on to faithfully run the family dairy farm for many years.

Skywriting signs aside, if God did call Billy to preach and Melvin to plough, as seems to be the case, they both honoured God through their vocations. While Billy has a long preaching career, his success doesn't mean that his brother's obedience to his calling to plough was any less important.

While God does assign some to be in what we call full-time ministry (Ephesians 4:11-12) that doesn't mean those in other jobs and roles aren't doing something just as important. In either case, as Paul said, "each part should do its work" (v16). That means honouring Jesus by faithfully using the gifts He has given us. When we do, whether we 'go preach' or 'go plough' we can make a difference for Jesus wherever we serve or work.

**How can you use your gifts to honour God in your vocation?** *Help us God, to be used right where you put us. Help us to see that our words, actions and work ethic can profoundly affect others.*

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When out walking, I spied a sunflower in a rocky dry place where nettles grew. It was bright, I felt cheered. The unexpected bright spot in rough terrain how life can seem barren and cheerless. Sometimes in bleak places, God sends a sunflower – an encouraging word or note from a friend; a comforting verse or Bible passage; a beautiful sunrise – that helps us to move forward with a lighter step, with hope. Even as we await the day we experience God's deliverance out of our difficulty. *Loving God, thank you for being compassionate and gracious. Help us to remember how You've been faithful and answered our prayers in the past, and will again in the future.*

PSALM 121 The Pilgrim Psalm is a beautiful psalm often called “The Traveller’s or Pilgrim’s Psalm”. It’s a psalm that marks life’s journeys, reminding us that the Lord is our keeper from our birth until our death. It’s a psalm well-suited for the journey of life which we are all travelling. It was the special psalm of David Livingstone’s mother-in-law when she said her last farewell to her son-in-law, as he set out for what was known then as Africa, the dark continent. It was on the morning of November 17th 1840 that the Livingstone family got up at five o’clock. His mother-in-law read Psalm 121, then he and his father walked 12 miles from Blantyre to Glasgow to catch the Liverpool steamer. His old father walked back alone to Blantyre with a lonely heart. When David arrived in Africa and set out on his dangerous travels, this psalm was a ground of hope to him and his family back home. It is entitled “A Song of Ascents” which literally means a ‘Song of going ups’ and it was originally used on or before a journey to one of the 3 major festivals in Jerusalem. Around Jerusalem would be the surrounding mountains to which the pilgrim would look up to as he approached the city. Hence the words, ‘I lift mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help?’ Although they looked up and saw these daunting mountains, they were looking beyond them to what lay on the other side, which was their ultimate destination – the city of Jerusalem. The pilgrims would travel together for fellowship and for safety’s sake as the roads were dangerous. Of course, the dangers in modern society are just as great if not greater. We see in this psalm that whatever direction we take on our life-journey, God is both our Helper (verses 1,2) and He is our Keeper (verses 3 – 8). Where there are mountains there must be valleys. Outline of the book ‘Pilgrim’s Progress’ tells the journey of the man called Christian from the city of destruction to the Celestial city. One of the unforgettable images from The Pilgrim’s Progress is the heavy load that Pilgrim always carried around on his back. This crushing load was his sin which rolled away when he came to  
the cross







## Little Quips:

When the grandmother returned from the supermarket, her small grandson pulled out the box of animal biscuits he had begged for, then he spread the animal-shaped biscuits all over the kitchen counter. "What are you doing?" his grandmother asked. "The box says you can't eat them if the seal is broken", the boy explained. "I'm looking for the seal"

The new father, beside himself with excitement over the birth of his son, was determined to follow all the rules to the letter. "So, tell me nurse," he said. "what time should we wake the little guy in the morning?"

When criticised, try to remember an important truth from John Bunyan; "If my life is fruitless, it doesn't matter who praises me, and if my life is fruitful, it doesn't matter who criticises me".

A young man was a slow worker and found it difficult to hold down a job. After a visit to the employment office, he was offered work at the local zoo. When he arrived for his first day, the keeper, aware of his reputation, told him to take care of the tortoise section.

Later, the keeper dropped by to see how the young man was doing and found him standing by an empty enclosure with the gate open. "Where are the tortoises?" he asked. "I can't believe it", said the new employee, "I just opened the door and woooooosh, they were gone.!"

I am hereby officially tendering my resignation as an adult. I have decided I would like to accept the responsibilities of an eight year old. I want to go to McDonald's and think it's a four star restaurant. I want to sail sticks across a fresh mud puddle and make a path with rocks. I want to think MnM's are better than money because you can eat them. I want to lie under a big oak tree and run a lemonade stand with my friends on a hot summer's day. I want to return to a time when life was simple; when all you knew were colours, multiplication tables, and nursery rhymes. I want to think the world is fair and everyone is honest. I want to live simple again and not hear depressing news and the loss of loved ones. I want to believe in smiles and hugs, and making angels in the snow. So, here's my chequebook and my car keys, I am officially resigning from adulthood.

## Children's Corner:

### Jesus Cares...Anyway:

When He landed, he saw a great crowd waiting. Jesus felt sorry for them... So he taught them many things. (Mark 6:34)

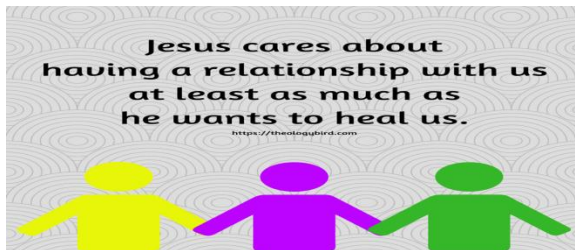
Jesus had been teaching people for hours. He needed to get away from the crowds. He needed to rest and relax with His friends. He got in a boat and crossed over the Sea of Galilee.

But the people followed Him. When Jesus stepped out of the boat, He stepped into a sea of people. And Jesus felt sorry for them. His love for the people was greater than His need for rest.

Many of those He healed would never say, "Thank You," but He healed them anyway. Most just wanted to be healthy, not holy, but He healed them anyway. Some of those who asked for bread would cry for Him to be killed just a few months later, but He healed them anyway.

Jesus cares for them .....anyway!

*Choose to love and be kind...anyway If someone cuts in line, let him go first anyway. If your friends want to play a game you don't like, play it anyway. When you don't want to obey your parents, do it anyway. Do the right thing...anyway.*



### Ansley Virtual Flower Festival:

Due to the Corona virus, like many others, Ansley Church decided to create a virtual flower festival over the bank holiday weekend, up to now they have made £850 plus money from the flower pot of £800, which is truly amazing; this will be given to two charities - £450 each and the £800 goes into the funds for Ansley church. Well done and thank you to all who donated their time and money to make this a success.

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### PLANS FOR CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE:

#### October services:

- 4<sup>th</sup> October at St. Wilfrid's – 10.30am Harvest Festival
- 11<sup>th</sup> October at St. Laurence 10.30am Harvest Festival
- 18<sup>th</sup> October at St. Wilfrid's 10.30am.(Rev. John on holiday)
- 25<sup>th</sup> October at St. Laurence 10.30am.

#### November services:

- 1<sup>st</sup> November at St. Laurence 10.30am
- 8<sup>th</sup> November at St. Wilfrid's – Remembrance Sunday(time to be confirmed)
- 15<sup>th</sup> November at St. Laurence 10.30am(Rev. John on holiday)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November at St. John's 10.30am
- 29<sup>th</sup> November at St. Wilfrid's at 10.30am

Hygiene: Hand sanitisers, wearing of masks, social distancing, cleaning and other issues are organised, as well as stewards to officiate.

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals, strictly regulated with the latest guidelines.

## Another True story by our friend Anne:

Looking back I wonder how many modern teachers could have coped with the primitive conditions in our school. The classrooms were heated by black pot bellied stoves which were replenished from the pile of coke in the playground. The toilets were across the yard and were of the 'ducket' variety with a wooden seat and a bucket underneath which was emptied by the 'lavatory man', the night soldiers, what a job! Bottles of milk were provided and were 2d a week. In the winter the bottles of milk were set around the stove to warm. I can't describe the nausea I felt when I pushed the cardboard cap and saw the wrinkled skin on top of the milk. To this day I cannot bear warm milk. The alternative was to drink it with chunks of ice in it, I don't know which was the worse. A useful by product of these bottles of milk were the cardboard tops with a hole in the middle. Two of these put together and wound around with wool would make a pompom. There is a certain smell mixture of carbolic soap, chalk dust and sweaty boys which is evocative of the smell of that school. Many years after I left I went back with Auntie Nell who was by now caretaker. As I opened the door I smelt the same familiar smell and was transported back to being six years old again. In a village like ours there were three centres for socialising, the pub, the school and the church. We, like most children of our generation had to go to Sunday School. I don't think we were sent for the good of our souls but more to give our parents an hours peace. The rector, The Rev. T Y Price was a small man with the yellow tinge that is common in people who have spent many years in the far east. His wife, Janet, had the same yellowish skin and a rather flat oriental type face. They lived with their only son Christopher in the rambling Victorian vicarage, built for when the clergy had large families. Rector's Christopher as he was known locally was a bespeckled youth who wasn't in the army and didn't seem to have a job. He spent his days walking the fields with a gun over his arm and a dog at his heels.

Perhaps they had a private income; my mother used to say that second sons of the gentry often went into the church so perhaps Rector was one of those. He sleeps now alongside his wife in a grave near the doorway of the church he loved, However, he cut a stern figure to us children. He expected us to sit quietly during his services which were as dry as dust, so it was no wonder the children's attention strayed to the point where the girls slipped notes to one another and the boys made

(continued)

paper planes when the Rector's back was turned. The only concession made for the fact that he was preaching to children was that we sung our favourite hymns, ' Gentle Jesus, meek and mild'. and 'There's a home for little children above the bright blue sky'. The latter hymn on reflection was quite frightening, putting into a child's mind that children sometimes did die, we couldn't really be aware of the fact, though with the number of little crosses outside in the churchyard. One person I remember vividly was Mrs. Sylvester or 'Creeping Jesus' as my mother called her, she was a devout woman, mother of a local policeman, and attended every church service, even Sunday School. Sometimes I sat behind her and was both fascinated and terrified by the Fox fur she wore over her shoulder. Beady black eyes of the Fox hanging down her back glared at me malevolently but I could not take my eyes away. If I moved, the eyes seemed to follow me, and I was convinced it would somehow jump off her shoulder and get me. She was a dear old thing and she gave me a Bible when I passed my scholarship. Mum once offended her quite unintentionally at the village fete, Mum picked up a knitted object from Mrs. Sylvester's stall and asked if it was a tea cosy but she was coldly informed that it was a child's cap. Another lady who caused amusement was Miss. Wilkes who went to the church three times a day, she would walk along the road nodding her head from side to side, of course being the cruel children we were called her noddy. She obviously suffered with a disease of the nervous system, but we used to follow her along the road mimicking the noddy action. What little beasts we were! We made a story up about her being jilted at the altar, or her lover had been killed in the Great War, and she went every day to pray for him. In reality the poor lady had a form of religious mania and got comfort from her daily visit to church.

Thank you once again Anne, for your trip down memory lane. Maureen

God's Amazing Artwork:

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible...All things were created through Him and for Him. (Colossians 1:15 – 16)

We live in a broken world in which many things are askew; so it's no wonder we forget all the lovely things God has written his signature on, starting with the heavens and the earth.

Perhaps because children live so close to the earth, they often are the messengers that remind us of a frog's throaty croak or a cricket's high pitched chirp or a Katdid's tattletale song. Kids are the ones who affirm the dandelion's beauty, a stick's usefulness, and a pebbles colours.

When was the last time you stared into the dazzling pattern of the stars? Or gathered a fistful of lillies of the valley or crammed a jar full of hydrangers or arranged a vase of peonies? When did you sit at the waters edge and lean in to hear it's song? Has it been too long since you sifted sand through your toes or traced the lines on a beautiful shell that you discovered? Who was the last child you introduced to a tadpole? Or helped catch a turtle?

Creation is bursting with discoveries. A billowing cloud, a sun pattern on a patch of pumpkins, or a bulging garden all comfort us. I guess the Lord knew we would need these undeniable reminders of His presence on earth.

God in the Garden: October ; Himalayan Balsam:

A friend of mine is a brilliant gardener but it took her awhile to get me interested in helping her in the garden. I really just wanted wild flowers to self-seed. The thing I find inspiring is all flowers are beautiful and no matter where they pop up they always seem to be in the right place!

Some of her favourite flowers are Himalayan balsam which tend to self seed all over the British countryside, particularly by streams and rivers. It has pink flowers with a hooded shape. When the flowers are ready to disperse their seeds the seed pods spring open and throw seeds all around. Around this time of year the seedpods also explode when touched or shaken. The seeds can be expelled up to seven metres from the plant. Himalayan balsam always reminds me of my friend, and her love of plants whether self- seeded or lovingly nurtured, has stayed with me as well. In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount he asks us to consider the wild flowers.

*Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour has dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you – you of little faith! (Luke 12: 27 – 28)*

Consider : In what ways could you trust God more?

What can you learn from the wild flowers?

Are there any ways you can step out in faith, knowing that God loves you and cares for you?

*Lord God, Help us to learn from the wild flowers. Help us to trust you completely, Help us to relax in the certainty of your love and care.*

Possible gardening tasks this week: - Raking leaves up. Pruning your rambling roses. Picking runner beans. Cutting back perennials that have died down.

WE PLOUGH THE FIELDS AND SCATTER:

We plough the fields and scatter  
The good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered  
By God's almighty hand:  
He sends the snow in winter,  
The warmth to swell the grain,  
The breezes and the sunshine  
And soft refreshing rain.

Chorus: *All good gifts around us  
Are sent from heaven above  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,  
For all His love.*

He only is the maker  
Of all things near and far;  
He paints the wayside flower,  
He lights the evening star;  
The wind and waves obey Him,  
By Him the birds are fed;  
Much more to us, His children,  
He gives our daily bread.

Chorus:

We thank You then, O Father,  
For all things bright and good,  
The seed-time and the harvest,  
Our life, our health, our food.  
Accept the gifts we offer  
For all your love imparts;  
We come now, Lord, to give You  
Our humble, thankful hearts.

Chorus:

As more restrictions are being put in place during this pandemic,



Let us have a moment together to share this prayer.....

Merciful God, we pray for the many people who have contracted the coronavirus here and other parts of the world. Bring comfort to those grieving loved ones who have died and peace to those worried, fearful and uncertain as the virus spreads. We also pray for governments and authorities who are developing strategies to contain and deal with the virus and those in the health services who may be risking their own lives to care for sick patients.

Help us all to be responsible in the things that we do in our lives to prevent the spread of the virus by taking heed of the recommended precautions and avoiding situations which may make things worse. Amen

Please keep safe and well and look after yourselves. You are all very precious and you are in our prayers each day. If you need anything, please contact us, telephone numbers on the back and front of newsletter and we will be happy to help. Maureen

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**Warwickshire Trading Standards Scam alert: Fraudulent online traders, test & trace scams and scam phone calls**

**Scam Phone Calls** Residents are warned to beware of scam phone calls after a spate of bogus calls were reported recently to Warwickshire Trading Standards. They included: Phone calls from fraudsters claiming to be calling from Amazon, saying that the resident owes money for an order or that there has been an unauthorised purchase on the resident's account. Bogus phone calls from people falsely claiming to represent HMRC, stating that they have either defrauded the Government or owe money to the Government and will be arrested if they don't immediately resolve the problem. False threats to cut off utilities, in particular broadband because of unpaid debts. Fraudsters claiming to be calling from 'Scotland Yard' to say that the resident's bank account had been cloned and money used to purchase consumer electricals. The caller asks the resident to dial 999 on their keypad. In all cases residents are encouraged to reveal personal and financial information, including passwords, or send money, often via bank transfer or gift cards. Trading Standards advice is to put the phone down. It is highly unlikely that you will receive an unsolicited genuine phone call from any company or Government department. If you believe a call to be genuine, phone them back on a publicly listed telephone number.

**Fraudulent Online Traders.** COVID-19 has led to a boom in online sales and with it have appeared bogus sellers. Their websites appear glossy and professional and advertise what at first glance appear to be good quality products. The companies themselves claim to be based in the UK or Europe. In reality, these websites are selling poor quality products.

**Be Alert to Test and Trace Potential Scams.** Stratford-on-Avon District Council has issued a warning to residents to be vigilant after being alerted to new reports of fraudsters posing as people from the NHS Test and Trace programme, launched to help control the COVID-19 virus.

Find out more about the NHS Test and Trace service by visiting – <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

[Children's Colouring Page:](#)



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Why Me?

Job had to suffer his own season of devastated losses (Job1-2)

Of all people on earth, Job had strong reasons to cry out to God: “Why have you made me your target? Have I become a burden to you?”

When “the Lord spoke to Job out of the storm”(38.1), He didn't give Job answers to why he had suffered. Instead He said, “Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me”(v.3)

Through God's questions, Job realised just how awesome God truly is, God took Job's attention away from his pain (as real and devastating as it was) and put it back on the King of the universe who loved him. Job's response?

“Now my eyes have seen you”.(42.5) We may not get an answer to “Why me?” when we are struggling or things are really hard. But we too can ‘see’

God in His word, rest in His presence and be strengthened for the trials we have to go through, knowing the love and faithfulness of the One who walks with us. God is with us in our suffering:

God is not distant during our suffering; the King on His throne in heaven, surrounded by praise but removed from our pain here on earth. God has made each one of us with care and attention; committing Himself to being intimately involved in everything we go through. He has promised us, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you”,(Hebrews 13:5) Yet even more incredibly, we also know He understands because He has been to earth and experienced life as a human being. He' became flesh and made His dwelling among us”as the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus' earthly life included a wide range of difficulty. He was born into poverty, then hunted by the authorities, ,persecuted, hated and rejected. He felt the searing heat of the sun, the pain of an empty stomach and uncertainty of homelessness. He endured the burn of betrayal and violence. Even though innocent, worked miracles and showed people the Kingdom of God, the end of His public ministry saw Him crucified as a common criminal. Jesus experienced the joys of friendship and family, as well as the worst of our world. He is the One who can truly say to us, “I've been through that, I understand”.

*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world, but to save the world through Him(John3:16-17)*

**Praying each day during October.**

Be strong. Be strong in heart, all you who hope in the Lord (Psalm 31:24)

1	Pray for Rev.John and Frances – uphold them Lord and give them the strength to minister and continue their good work within our Parishes
2	Remember our Lord cares for you, simply trust, and focus upon Him
3	When in dark places, you need light from our Lord who will fill you with hope
4	Let us pray for our Harvest Festival Service today
5	Come let us sing for joy to the Lord in thankfulness for His blessings
6	Help us, God, to see the needs of others and reach out to them in your embracing love.
7	Dear Jesus ,Thank you for working in small, hidden ways to help us
8	Lord we pray for those who mourn, bring them much comfort and hope
9	A God-like life gives us much when we are happy for what we have
10	Lord, please give us grace to live for You – thank You for loving us
11	Lord,thank you for the honour of joining You in your work in the world and help us to reflect Your love, wisdom and order in our lives.
12	Thankyou Creator God for the beauty of the countryside around us
13	Praying for all families during this difficult time that you will bless them all`
14	We want to be like You father God, guide us and show us the way forward
15	Dear God, help us embrace our need for You today and draw us closer
16	Praying for all suffering with pain – Lord Jesus bless them with your healing
17	Let us pray for those awaiting hospital appointments and test results
18	Lord, protect all those working and caring for the sick and vulnerable
19	Pray for all emergency services working so hard to help us where needed
20	We give thanks Gracious Lord for our Dear Families and friends
21	Praying for all children and students returning to school and colleges
22	Father, show us others that we can bless today as we reach out in your name
23	Remembering all those living in sheltered dwellings around our villages
24	Heavenly Father give us all strength and hope to look to the future
25	Let us pray for all patients in hospital and care homes at this time
26	We give thanks for all who keep in touch with us that brings us joy
27	Give thanks for Farmers ,Shopkeepers. Drivers and all supplying our food
28	Praying Scientists will find a cure soon for Covid19 pandemic
29	Lord look after those who live alone and the lonely – bring comfort`
30	Thank you Lord God for your many blessings and loving us
31	Enjoy this beautiful Autumn season so full of colour and be thankful



# Autumn is Here



Autumn leaves  
Red, gold and brown  
Falling, swirling,  
Drifting down.



Prickly conkers  
Cracking, popping.  
Branches snap,  
Acorns dropping.

Picking pumpkins,  
Juicy apples too.  
Gathering blackberries  
In hedgerows for you.



Foggy mornings  
Damp, cold and grey.  
Nature's blanket,  
Clouding the day.

Swallows gather  
Swooping up high.  
Off they go  
To Africa, they fly.



Hibernating hedgehog,  
Finds somewhere to sleep.  
Be sure it's not your bonfire  
Or your rubbish heap.



Shorter days,  
Frosty and wet.  
Winter's round the corner,  
But not quite yet.



Without the sunshine and the rain – we could not have the golden grain  
Without Thy love we would not be fed, we thank thee for our daily bread.

## October Recipe: Pre-made Black Forest Brownies: (Makes 12)



### Ingredients:

175gms Unsalted butter plus extra for greasing.  
300gms Soft brown sugar  
2 Eggs  
2 tabspn cocoa powder.  
½ teaspoon of sea salt  
125gms of Ground Almonds  
300gms Dark chocolate  
400gms tinned or frozen black cherries drained/defrosted.  
50 gms White chocolate, roughly chopped  
Whipped double cream to serve  
20cms square cake tin & Greaseproof paper.

Method: Preheat oven to 160degC/Gasmark 3 and grease and line cake tin with the greaseproof paper.

In a food processor combine, the butter, sugar, eggs, cocoa powder, salt and ground almonds until smooth and completely combined.

Break half of the dark chocolate into pieces into a microwave bowl, and microwave for 1 minute until it can be stirred until smooth. Finely chop the remaining dark chocolate. Mix the melted chocolate, chopped chocolate, and all but 10 of the black cherries into the almond mixture and transfer into the prepared tin. Scatter the reserved black cherries on top, then cook for 45 – 50 mins, until the top is set, but the brownie is still soft underneath. Allow to cool until cold in the tin. Melt the white chocolate in a microwavable bowl for ½ minute, then stir until smooth. Drizzle roughly over the brownie and allow to set. Remove brownie from tin and cut into 12 pieces. If baking to eat immediately, chill for one hour before serving. To freeze, separate each brownie with a piece of baking paper to prevent them sticking together, and create four stacks of 3 brownies. Place the stack each in airtight wrapping and freeze. can be frozen up to 2 months. When ready to serve, defrost at room temperature for 1.1/2 hours, then serve with whipped cream.

