

ST. WILFRID'S & ST. MICHAEL'S

Meeting Needs, Bringing Hope, Sharing Love



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

NOVEMBER 21 NEWSLETTER

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What is All Saints Day?

There's a yearly reminder of our connectedness as Christians to the church. It's called "All Saints Day" and is commemorated every November 1st. Perhaps, you were taught to think of saints as statues in a church building. But the Bible teaches something completely different. Who is a saint? *You are*. That is if you're a follower of Jesus. God calls a "saint" anyone who trusts in Christ alone for [salvation](#) (see [Acts 9:13](#), [Acts 26:10](#), [Romans 8:27](#), [1 Corinthians 1:2](#)).

All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honour of all the saints from Christian history. In Western Christianity, it is observed on November 1st by all Churches.

The Christian festival of All Saints Day comes from a conviction that there is a spiritual connection between those in Heaven and on Earth. All Saints Day relates to giving God earnest gratitude for the lives and deaths of his saints, remembering those who were well-known and not. Additionally, individuals throughout Christian history are celebrated, such as Peter the Apostle and Charles Wesley, as well as people who have personally guided one to faith in Jesus, such as one's relative or friend.

MBE

Midland Brass Ensemble



IN CONCERT AT ST WILFRID'S CHURCH

OLD ARLEY

9TH DECEMBER 2021 7:30 pm

THEY WILL BE PERFORMING MUSIC

WITH A CHRISTMAS THEME

AS A PRELUDE TO THE FESTIVE SEASON

**ADMISSIONN CHARGE IS £3 PER PERSON
THIS INCLUDES LIGHT REFRESHMENTS IN THE OLD BARN
HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US.
EVERYONE WELCOME**

LOVE IS A DECISION: (Mark 22 : 37)

When a lawyer asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was, He replied that he must love God, others and himself. Observe that He said, 'You *must* love', (emphasis added) This tells you a lot about the true nature and behaviour of love. If love can be commanded, then it can't be only emotional, or a matter of feelings; it's a matter of the will. That's why Jesus could command us to express it. It is a commandment followed by a commitment. Although feelings are important, true love functions regardless of how you feel. In his book, 'The Fred Factor', Mark Sanborn writes, 'I learned a long time ago that liking people and loving them are different. Liking someone is an emotional response. Unlike love, 'like' is a feeling. The tough part is that we can't control our emotions. We can control how we choose to express those emotions but not the feelings themselves. A healthy person can choose to be angry and still choose to act lovingly...A feeling is a reaction. Maybe that's one reason Jesus didn't say 'Like your enemies'. He knew that liking or not liking someone was not always in our immediate control...I have learned that love is, among other things, an action. I can love someone I don't necessarily like. I can do something or act towards that person in a certain way because I know it is the right thing to do even if I don't feel warm and fuzzy doing it.' And here's the thing: when you act lovingly towards another person, your emotions begin to line up with your actions. Go ahead, try it and see!

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Confusion:

God doesn't stir up confusion. It's important to know this because we are often confused and wonder if God is behind it. He is not. The enemy of our souls is the author of confusion. The Lord is light, guiding our path. So if you're facing confusion today - as an individual or as a family - first come to grips with the fact that God isn't behind it. Speak the name of Jesus and take a stand against the enemy. He has to flee, along with any confusing thoughts, at that name. God is a peace giver, not a chaos giver. What a relief!

Father, we thank You for the reminder that You're not the one creating confusing, chaotic thoughts in our minds. We command those thoughts to go, in Jesus' name! Amen .

Little Quips: (From Vic the Quip) *

* You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen, it said 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice.

* I'm so lazy I've got a smoke alarm with a snooze button.

* So this bloke says to me, "Can I come in your house and talk about your carpets?" I thought "That's all I need, a Je-hoover's witness".

* Apparently, 1 in 5 people in the world are Chinese. And there are 5 people in my family, so it must be one of them. It's either my mum or my dad. Or my older brother Colin. Or my younger brother Ho-Chan-Chu. But I think it's Colin.

* This policeman came up to me with a pencil and a piece of very thin paper. He said, "I want you to trace someone for me."

*Conjunctivitis.com – that's a site for sore eyes.

* I rang up my local swimming baths. I said: "Is that the local swimming baths?" He said: "It depends where you're calling from."

The most significant achievement of our age is not that man stood on the moon, but rather that God in Christ stood upon this earth.

A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was leaving the room after paying a visit, and said, 'Doctor I'm afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side'. Very quietly the doctor said, 'I don't know'. The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side a came a sound of scratching and whining, as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the doctor said, 'Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing; I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness.'

Quiet Corner:

My grandmother grew beautiful roses. They trailed up and over a white trellis that framed the view into her vegetable garden. In my memory, I can still smell those wonderful old-fashioned roses. Just two steps out of Grandma's back door, the heady fragrance rushed up to greet me. I sometimes sat beneath the trellis and tried to count all the blooms. It seemed impossible that so many flowers could grow in one place. It was glorious!

Given my feelings about roses, you can imagine my surprise one day in early spring when I saw Grandma heading toward the roses with pruning clippers. I watched from a safe distance. I'd never seen this side of Grandma. She loved her flowers, didn't she? I mean, this is the woman who sang to her houseplants to make sure they stayed happy. What could she be planning to do with those clippers?

You probably know – especially if you grow roses. Grandma's pruning helped the roses stay healthy, helped them to continue to grow the way she wanted them to – up and over the trellis. I was very surprised to learn from Grandma that pruning was also what caused plants to bloom so profusely! In the end, I learned that pruning was a good thing for roses.

And not just roses either. Pruning, or testing, is good for Christians, too, especially when a loving God holds the pruning tool in his gracious hand. Pruning isn't always pleasant – especially when you're the one who is going through a difficult time of testing. What matters is in the end, God has promised to accomplish something productive in us – a stronger faith, and change of heart, a deeper walk in our relationship with Jesus.

If God has brought you to a difficult time of testing, thank Him for loving you enough to guide you closer to Him and helping you to bloom even more than before!

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Inspiring Scripture:

May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word (2Thess.2:16 – 17)

May you experience the love of Christ...Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.(Eph:3:19)

Don't Judge a Book by its Cover. ('Look beneath the surface')

(John 7:24)

John Wesley said, 'We should be rigorous in judging ourselves and gracious in judging others'. Why did Jesus say, 'Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly'? (v24) Because He had experienced the pain of rejection and misunderstanding. 'He came unto his own, and His own received Him not' (John 1:11) The apostle James writes: 'How can you claim to have faith in ...Christ if you favour some people over others...give special attention...to the rich...but. Say to the poor...'Stand. There or ...sit on the floor'...Doesn't this discrimination show... show your judgements are guided by evil motives? If you favour some people over others, you are committing a sin' (James 2:1, 3 – 4, 9) the story is told that when country singer Lonzo Green's nephew Jimmy asked him to tune a friend's guitar, he agreed. The problem was Jimmy's friend was from the 'wrong side of the tracks', and Jimmy's parents wouldn't allow him inside their house where Uncle Lonzo was visiting. So they decided to meet outside. As the kid approached, Green noticed his self-consciousness and sideways glances at the upscale neighbourhood. Lonzo who had experienced poverty and discrimination in his own life, tuned the boy's old guitar, played a few songs, and taught him some chords. The young man thanked him and left with a warm memory he would carry throughout the rest of his remarkable life. Eventually that boy crossed the tracks for good with his guitar and his soft, polite drawl and hesitant smile, and was never unwelcome again. That's because the boy who wasn't allowed in the house that day was – Elvis Presley!

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FOCUS ON TODAY:

Some people are afraid of the future. They're terrified of what it might hold. They worry about it before it even arrives. Others are hyper-focused on the future because they're disappointed with today. They're unhappy with their present circumstances and dream of better days ahead. There's nothing wrong with hoping for a happier tomorrow, but we shouldn't overlook what God is doing, right now, right here. Perhaps He is moving in ways we can't or understand. If we're too preoccupied on getting past today, we might just miss an amazing moment with Him. On the other hand, we shouldn't be afraid of the future either. We've got to start to trust that the Lord has all of our days in the palm of His hand: yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Lord, we can trust You with our days. Maybe today isn't great. Maybe we've got some concerns about tomorrow. You are trustworthy. We're hanging on to that, We're so grateful You've got this!. Amen.

Remembrance Sunday, in the [United Kingdom](#), on the second Sunday of November that [commemorates](#) British service members who have died in wars and other military conflicts since the onset of [World War I](#). By tradition, a two-minute period of silence is observed throughout the country at 11 AM, and church services and other ceremonial gatherings take place during the day. A nationally televised remembrance service, generally attended by politicians, religious leaders, military personnel, and members of the British royal family, has been held for decades at the Cenotaph monument in central London. Remembrance Sunday is observed in the United Kingdom on Sunday, November 14, 2021.

The holiday has its origins in Armistice Day, which was dedicated in Great Britain on Nov. 11, 1919, in commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the peace agreement that ended World War I. In response to a politician's suggestion, King [George V](#) requested that the country pause in silence for two minutes in acknowledgment of the war's fatalities. Thereafter a period of silence became the centrepiece of Armistice Day events that occurred annually until the outbreak of [World War II](#) in 1939, when it was decided that general celebrations would not be held on November 11 of that year. Instead, a proximate Sunday was observed as a "day of dedication" during the span of the war. After the conclusion of World War II, the British government, seeking to honour participants in both World Wars, officially replaced Armistice Day with the new Sunday observance, which was thereafter known as Remembrance Sunday. In 1956 the date was fixed as the second Sunday of the month. In recent years Armistice Day has been revived as an additional occasion for silence, though Remembrance Sunday remains the main day of commemoration.

The most recognisable symbol of Remembrance Sunday is the red [poppy](#), which became associated with World War Memorials after scores of the flowers bloomed in the former battlefields of Belgium and northern France. (The phenomenon was depicted in the popular 1915 poem "In Flanders Fields," by Canadian soldier John McCrae.) In 1921 the newly formed British Legion (now the Royal British Legion), a charitable organization for veterans,

began selling red paper poppies for Armistice Day, and its annual Poppy Appeal has been enormously successful since. In addition to poppies intended to be worn on clothing, wreaths made of poppies are frequently displayed at memorial sites.

POPPIES FOR REMEMBRANCE:

Scarlet Poppies can flutter, like fragile butterflies
In the dry yellow corn of Summer
And they can dance – like graceful ballerina's
Among the feathery stalks of Barley
Red Poppies can glow – like bright little lamps
On our warm winter coats in November.
And they can whisper – like long lost voices
From the forgotten fields of Flanders

Always
&
Forever



The Royal British Legion

Children's Colouring Page:



ANOTHER TRUE STORY OF LIFE IN WHITACRE BY OUR FRIEND ANNE (continued)

Auntie Netty's older daughter Margaret and her husband Robbie Adair lived there with their son Baby Robbie. Margaret had gone back to her Scottish roots and married Robbie who was also a Scot. He had a good singing voice and as Auntie Netty lay dying she asked him to sing to her, and he sang, 'I'll take you home again Kathleen' and 'Danny Boy'. The relationship between Clarice and Tony Bell didn't last long, she was a bit simple, but clever enough to know she'd be better off without him. She didn't grieve very much when he ran off with an older woman he met in a pub and took baby Janet with him. To her credit the older woman called Ada did her best with the child who was very difficult as she grew up and eventually she went to America to live with her daughter and left Tony and young Janet to their own devices. Young Janet, now known as Netty, came to stay at my mother's house when she was about fourteen, but my mother couldn't take to her, and felt very guilty unable to love the child for her mother's sake. So she palmed her off on me. She only stayed with me about four weeks but she nearly drove me mad. She was a really wild child and boy crazy. My neighbours, after a time, wouldn't let their daughters go out with her so she was despatched back to Bradford to her father.

When she was born Auntie Agnes and Uncle Neil had wanted to adopt her and bring her up with Dorothy, but Uncle Tony wouldn't let her go. How different her life might have been if he could have put her needs first. Heaven knows where she is now. Last we heard she had about six children of various colours and creeds. She had been better off being brought up with us despite everything we all turned out alright. Next on the agenda would be Uncle Jacks and Auntie Mary's house. We always referred to her as Auntie Mary Atherton. Mum did that – referred to our Aunts by marriage and our honorary aunts by their maiden names – hence Auntie Mary Barber was Mary Green. Mary Weston – Mary Bell. Auntie Lily- Lily Oldfield AND Auntie Agnes – Agnes Atkinson, it helped with the Mary's because we knew which Auntie she was talking about.

Uncle Jacks family lived in a large council house in Worsborough Bridge where a council estate had been built just post war. They were the sort of houses that were considered unsafe now having been built of asbestos sheeting but at that moment in time, to us, this house seemed to be the epitome of luxury and high living. Incidentally Worsborough is famous for being the birth place of Arthur Scargill or King Arthur as he was known in his home town.

They even had a fridge in this house rented for the council for an extra 3d a week and Auntie Mary had the largest washing machine I had ever seen. It was enormous, with a round tub on claw feet and a mangle on top. She had washing machine right until her children left home. Auntie

Mary was a good cook and baked lovely teacakes and gorgeous sticky parkin. My mother's first words to her were always, 'Have you baked, have you baked?' She always did us a grand tea and we enjoyed ourselves playing with our cousins. Uncle Neils was our favourite port of call. He was a similar type to my mother and they would laugh until tears ran down their faces at tales of their childhood. 'Do you remember, Meg he'd say, when Mam made scotch broth and you were lucky to get the string off the meat.' It seems Grandma was a good cook but had Jans habit of picking at food so that by the time the meal was served she'd eaten half of it before it got to the table. He swore that Grandma's apple pies were so thin and lacking in apple that you might as well eaten a slice of pastry. He used to tell tales about Grandma taking young Neil then aged five to Scotland on the train. He'd been told to say he was four if asked so that he could travel free. When the ticket collector came he asked Grandma how old the young man was. Uncle Neil piped up, 'I was five yesterday, but today I'm four'. The two couples would go off and leave we three and Dorothy with grandma. Dorothy was our favourite cousin, she was full of fun and had her Dads sense of humour. Although she was only a child she wasn't a bit spoilt and she loved to come and stay with us when she was a bit older, and liked roughing it. I remember her staying once and she and Janet had gone potato picking. She went with Janet to meet her parents at the station. After the first hugs and kisses of delight at seeing their daughter there was a big shout of, 'Get in yonder and wash thi neck tha mucky little bairn'. We didn't bother to wash our necks too often and Dorothy was quite happy to follow suit. My mother didn't bother checking. Dorothy was on her holidays anyway, wasn't she?

THE IBBERSONS: As well as visiting our McNair relations we paid daily visit to our paternal grandmother Ibberson – Lizzie or Elizabeth as she preferred to be called. She also lived in a terraced house but of a much superior type to the one our McNair grandparents lived in. Reasebeck Terrace was in an outlying area of Barnsley called Smithies. The road consisted of about a dozen houses on either side of the street which sloped to an area called 'the fleets' which was waste ground leading to the canal. Grandma's house was at the top of the street and it had a garden at the back and side and a small area at the front all surrounded by a wall. From the Wakefield Rd which ran across the top you looked right down into Grandma's garden. It was really weird when playing in the garden to look up and see 5 rows of heads bobbing over the top. Human nature being what it is, people couldn't resist peeping over the wall. The back garden had a Laburnum Tree, so when I read Thomas Hood's 'I remember' it reminded me of that garden.

Thank you Anne for sharing your memories with us. – Maureen x

November Recipe: Chicken Lasagne:

Ingredients:

12 sheets of Lasagne
1 tablspr Oil
1 Onion - sliced#100gms/4oz sliced mushrooms
2 teaspns ground Ginger
1 teaspn grated nutmeg
3 bayleaves
Salt and pepper
3 cooked chicken portion/cooked, skinned and boned
1 tblsp cornflour
450ml/3/4 pint milk
150ml/1/4 pint natural yoghurt
100gms/4oz grated cheddar cheese

Method:

Cook the lasagne in boiling salted water until tender.
(A little oil added to the water will prevent the sheets of pasta from sticking together)

Meanwhile heat the oil in a saucepan and fry the onion until softened.

Add mushrooms and fry for a further three minutes.

Stir in the spices , bayleaves, salt and pepper ,then mix in the chicken(Shredded or chopped)

Dissolve cornflour in the milk and add to the pan. Cook ,stirring until thickened.

Drain Lasagne spread out on paper towels.

Make alternate layers of lasagne and chicken mixture in a baking dish. Combine the yoghurt and cheese and spread over the top.

Bake in a preheated oven moderately hot oven (200C/.400F)
Gasmark 6 for 30 minutes or until the top is golden brown.

Enjoy!

Dates to Remember:

DON'T FORGET TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK TONIGHT!

Sunday 31st October – All Saints Day. Joint Service at St. Wilfrids 10.30am

Sunday 7th November – Service at St. Michael's 10.30am

Thursday 11th November – Armistice Day

Thursday 11th November. 7.30pm. Band Practice at St. Wilfrid's

Sunday 14th November – Remembrance Service by Cenotaph 10.30am

Sunday 21st November Service at St. Michael' 10.30am

Sunday 28th November –Service at St. Wilfrid's 10.30am

Saturday December 4th – Christmas Craft Fair at St. Michael's 10 – 4.30pm

Thursday December 9th at 7.30pm – St. Wilfrid's Church- A concert by the **Midland Brass Ensemble** playing a variety of music to entertain us.

After the concert we will go to the Old Barn and enjoy light refreshments.

If you wish to donate £3 towards Church funds that would be appreciated.

Look forward to seeing You!

Each Wednesday and Saturday there is a craft session held by Edith – Knitting, Sewing, Crocheting etc from 10.00am – 12noon. In the Old Barn In the grounds of St. Wilfrid's Church. Do pop In to see what is happening. You will be made most welcome.!

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Thank you to those who kindly donated fruit, cakes, vegetables and tinned Items to our Harvest Festival. We were pleased to see the variety of foods given. We have donated all the food to a food bank to be distributed to those in need. Thank you so much for all the fruit and crops gathered in!.

Thank You for supporting our churches in our villages.

Hiring the Old Barn



The Old Barn is a traditional building, refurbished to a high standard and is available to hire at competitive rates.

It is ideal for Corporate events including conferences, meetings and team-building days or as a party venue for up to 40 guests.

FACILITIES

Parking area, Fully-fitted Kitchen, Lounge with tables and seating for 40, Toilet with baby changing.

There are 5 steps to the lounge and kitchen.

We are always happy to arrange visits to the Barn to view the facilities and to discuss your requirements.

Please contact Denise: 01676 541916 for more information.



“Did you remember to water the lawn?”

God in the Garden during November: Bonfires:

I love Bonfire night, always incredibly satisfying to rake up all the leaves and have a great fire. Although fire is destructive in the short term, it can bring new life.

A couple we know owned a shepherds hut in the Pyrenees. The land was haunting but bare. We visited most years, but it was rarely beautiful. The only thing that grew were uninspiring stumpy shrubs. One year a forest fire broke out, and as we were returning from a short walk we saw a plane overhead. We weren't allowed to return to the property it was cordoned off. Miles of hillside was ablaze. It was quite upsetting and I felt incredibly helpless, as I saw scores of fire planes with their loads of water. When the fire was under control we drove mile after mile of blackened hillsides. The following year we drove back, and what we saw was jaw dropping. It was the first time I had ever seen the hillsides in a riot of colour. Hills that usually contained nothing but scratchy green shrubs were alive with flowers.

The Lord appears to Elijah after the fire had passed by.

The Lord said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by'. Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After that came fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it , he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. (1Kings 19:11 – 13)

God doesn't always speak to us in ways that we might expect. In the Bible God has some strange and unusual ways of communicating with people, and there's no reason to think that things should be different today.

Holy God, Thank you that you communicate with us in strange and unusual ways. Help me to find time and space in my life to listen for your still, small voice. Help me to be receptive to your messages to me. Amen.

Other possible garden tasks this week include;

Cleaning your lawnmower ready for its winter break.

Laying turf can happen now rather than the spring if you prefer.

Planting Lillies.

Planting a Magnolia tree ready for a spring display.

Good News:

What God promised our ancestors, he has fulfilled for us.(Acts 13:32-33)

In 1941, as Hitler’s reign was expanding against Europe, novelist John Steinbeck was asked to help with the war effort. He wasn’t asked to fight or visit troops on the frontline, but to instead write a story. The result was ‘*The Moon is Down*’ a novel about a peaceful land that gets invaded by an evil regime. Printed on underground presses and secretly distributed throughout occupied countries, the novel sent a message: the Allies were coming, and by imitating the novel’s characters, readers could help secure their freedom. Through ‘The Moon is Down’,

Steinbeck brought good news to people under Nazi rule – their liberation was near.

Like the characters in Steinbeck’s story, Jews in the first century were an occupied people under brutal Roman rule. But centuries before , God had promised to send an Ally to liberate them and bring peace to the world(Isaiah 11) Joy erupted when that Ally arrived! ‘We tell you the good news’, Paul said, ‘What God promised our ancestors he has fulfilled for us.....by raising up Jesus’(Acts 13:32-33). ‘Through Jesus’ resurrection and offer of forgiveness, the world’s restoration had begun (vv.38-39; Romans 8: 21)

Since then, this story has spread throughout the globe, bringing peace and freedom wherever it’s embraced. Jesus has been raised from the dead. Our liberation from sin and evil has begun. In Him we’re free!

Compared to other rulers, how does Jesus bring peace to the world? How can you join Him in this work?

Jesus, my ultimate Ally, I surrender to Your rightful rule.

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Prayer is an essential part of a believer’s life. If we claim to love God but don’t spend time talking with Him – and listening to His voice – then our relationship will be weak, at best. The word of God gives special promises to those who pray.

When we humble ourselves, when we cry out to the Lord, turning away from our sin, then God not only hears...He forgives *and* heals.

What does He heal?

Our hearts, our families, our communities, our world. We don’t have all the answers, but You do. Thank You, Father. Amen.

BOLD FAITH:

After Prem Bradhan’s (1924 – 1998) plane was shot down during World War 11, He was wounded while parachuting to safety. As a result, he walked with a limp

for the rest of his life. He once noted, ‘I have a lame leg, Isn’t it strange of God that He called (me) to preach the gospel in the Himalaya Mountains?’ And preach in Nepal he did – but not without opposition that included imprisonment in ‘dungeons of death’, where prisoners faced extreme conditions. In a span of fifteen years, Prem spent ten tears in fourteen different prisons. His bold witness, however, bore the fruit of changed lives for Christ that included guards and prisoners who took the message of Jesus to their own people.

The apostle Peter faced oppo0sitionhj due to his faith in Jesus and for being used by God to heal a’ man who was lame’. (Acts4 ;9) But he used the opportunity to boldly speak for Christ.(vv8 – 13)

Today, like Peter, we too may face opposition(v3)yet we have family members, co-workers, fellow students and others we know who desperately need to hear about the One in whom ‘salvation is found’(v12) who died as payment for our sins, and was raised from the dead as proof of His power to forgive(v10). May they hear as we prayerfully and boldly proclaim this good news of salvation found in Jesus.

How will you boldly share Jesus today? What keeps you from telling others about Him? How can you be better prepared to do so?

Father, thank you for what You’ve done for me. Help me, In Jesus’ name, to boldly share my faith with others.

<>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< <>< What a creative God we serve! He designed the human body with so many different parts – and yet all designed to work together for the common good. Hands have different roles than eyes. Nose different role from elbow. But take anyone of them away, then what a challenge we would face! It’s the same in the body of Christ. We’re different, a variety gifts and opinions. God has knitted us together as brother and sister, all part of the body of Christ. Take away any one and where would we be? At a Loss! Next time you have differences arrive in the family remember God’s creative design of the human body.

God, you are so creative. What a fascinating Creator and Father You are! You made each of us unique from our brothers and sisters and yet part of the family.

We can’t do without one another. Thank You for that reminder. Amen.

Childhood memories of a London lad (By Vic Murray)

Christmas is just around the corner. There seems to be so much to do. But even with modern technology we are still running around like headless chickens. Has it always been like that? In this article I want to take a look at a few Pre-Christmas memories from my childhood days. That was in the 1950s when the country was still recovering from the war. Money was scarce and food was still on rationing. The only vehicle in the family was dad's bike, and the one way of getting food home was in a shopping trolley. Our first step towards Christmas took place in January. For that was when mum started saving at the butchers. By paying in a small amount each week, she hoped that there would be enough to cover the cost of the Turkey. Then in June she added a second savings card, this time at the grocers. October was when she started to pick up food specifically for Christmas. Starting early helped to spread not only the cost but also the weight. As supermarkets did not exist a single shopping trip could involve several shops, located a distance apart. The very first items she set aside for Christmas were the ingredients for the cake and puddings. November's highlight was the making of the Christmas cake. A task that dad always undertook. Over the years he had collected three different recipes. All of which had started life as the back of a food container. As an example one was from a Tate and Lyle sugar packet. The recipes had been glued onto card to stop them falling apart. The process started by dad comparing the quantity of each ingredient on the three cards. He would then decide how much of each he was going to use. When the cake was cooked he had nearly two months of anguish, before he knew whether he had made the right decisions. However I can say that there was never a year that the cake did not get eaten. December brought its own excitement with the arrival of the Christmas tree. Which dad had walked home laid along the top of his bike. Its destination was to be the bay window of the front room. He never checked the height before he bought it. So more often than not it was too tall too fit. This resulted in some having to be cut off the bottom and in the worse cases of the top as well. I remember our first set of fairy lights. The whole set consisted of just twelve bulbs. It was a case of hunting between the decorations, crackers and presents to find them. Although the tree was up for about fifteen days we only had the benefit of it for two. As we only used the front room on Christmas and Boxing Day. For the rest of the time we only saw it as we walked down our street and into our front door. I have to finish now as Santa has just phoned and asked for my help. A lot of the elves are self-isolating and he is late with wrapping the presents.

Thank you so much Vic – lovely memories! Maureen x

Warwickshire residents urged to avoid safety scares this Halloween!

With Halloween drawing closer Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service and Warwickshire Trading Standards are urging the public to avoid safety scares such as burns and accidental house fires.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2513/warwickshire-residents-urged-to-avoid-safety-scares-this-halloween->



[Warwickshire residents urged to avoid safety scares this Halloween! – Warwickshire County Council.](#)
www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Whilst Halloween can be really exciting it can also very scary and not always for the right reason. Therefore, this Halloween parents are being urged to follow some key safety advice to ensure that Halloween goes without a hitch.

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Today I saw a man distributing poppies stop a lady and ask if he could reposition her poppy. While doing so he told the lady she should wear the poppy on her left side (over her heart); the red represents the blood of all those who gave their lives. The black represents the mourning of those who didn't their loved ones return home. The green leaf represents grass and crops growing and future prosperity after the war destroyed so much. The leaf should be positioned at 11 o'clock to represent the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The time that world war formally ended. He was worried that younger generations wouldn't understand this and his generation would not be around much longer to teach them. I copied this from somebody else. Please pass the knowledge on to those who do not understand the meaning.

Praying each day during November:

<u>1</u>	During our interregnum we pray to our Lord to help us through this difficult period – keep our faith strong as we continue to focus on You. We pray our Diocese will send us some clergy to help us through this difficult time.!
<u>2</u>	We praise and give You thanks Gracious Lord for Your many blessings
<u>3</u>	Thank you for our Church family who continue to give each other support
<u>4</u>	Let us pray for all living in sheltered dwellings around our villages
<u>5</u>	Praying for all who are sick in body, mind and spirit- bless them & heal them
<u>6</u>	Pray today for all living alone and the lonely – bring them Your comfort Lord
<u>7</u>	We pray, as we prepare for everyone to be warm this coming winter
<u>8</u>	Bring joy and peace to all families throughout our villages
<u>9</u>	Pray for our families and friends and the love they share with us
<u>10</u>	Thank you Father for your loving attention you bless us with
<u>11</u>	Let us remember all who have been involved in two world wars and conflicts
<u>12</u>	Before a word is on our tongues, Lord, you know what we want to say
<u>13</u>	Help us to follow you with joy even in the face of opposition
<u>14</u>	Father, help us to live this day in the Spirit of Your Son than in others words
<u>15</u>	Lord, its great to be loved, as we pause today – thank you for your care
<u>16</u>	Lord, when we meet others – may they see Your love shining through
<u>17</u>	Lord, its not always easy to be joyful, but its what you have called us to
<u>18</u>	Father, let us lay at your feet any anxious thoughts we may be feeling
<u>19</u>	Thank you for the courage to continue to face any troubles ahead
<u>20</u>	We are so thankful Lord for our grandchildren who bring so much joy
<u>21</u>	Heal our hearts Gracious Lord as we begin to move forward with love
<u>22</u>	When you feel at a loss, look up, focus around you and see the beauty
<u>23</u>	Thank you Creator God for our rainbows and splendour of the sunsets
<u>24</u>	We thank you for our pets who are constant companions to us
<u>25</u>	Thank you for reminding us not to rush to reach our goals but we can still manage to get there at a steadier pace.
<u>26</u>	Thank you for surrounding us with people who truly care about us
<u>27</u>	Praying for people in hospital at this time –encircle them with your blessed healing love – in Jesus name. Amen
<u>28</u>	Praying for our Churches and congregations of St. Michael's and St. Wilfrid's
<u>29</u>	Let us give thanks for our Doctors, Nurses and Carers
<u>30</u>	We give thanks for the colours and beauty Autumn offers us

BE AT PEACE – GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL!

(This peace will control the way you think and feel) (Philippians 4:7)

Mother Teresa is attributed with saying ‘I know God won’t give me anything I can’t handle. I just wish He didn’t trust me so much! Is that how you feel today? Like there is too much to do and not enough of you to do it? Let Romans, chapter 15,verse 13, percolate in your mind. ‘May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace, as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. The way to have peace in the midst of a troubled situation is by staying filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. How do you do that? By developing a spiritual hunger and letting God fill you. He can give you a sense of serenity when you’re surrounded by stress. So, if you are in over your head today, pray this; ‘Father, you said no weapon formed against me shall prosper (see Isaiah 54:17) I can’t keep the enemy’s weapons from being formed, but I know you will keep them from prevailing against me. You said, if I ask anything according to Your will, You will grant my request (see 1 John 5: 14 – 15). You said when I walk in obedience, I will be blessed when I come in, when I go out, when I lie down, and when I get up (see Deuteronomy 28:6,) Psalms 1:2; 3:5) You told me to turn all my troubles over to You and You will take care of me (see 1 Peter 5:7) So here they are! Today I’m standing on your promises. You said it! I believe it! That settles it. Amen .

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Your People; My People: Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or return from following you. For where you go, I will go, where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. (Ruth 1:16)
Don’t you love the story of Ruth? Her words to her mother in law, Naomi, have touched countless lives. She committed herself to stick close to her. It’s the same with us. God calls us to stay connected to other believers. When we wonder away from the fold we face dangers. But when we stick close, when we make His people our people, we’re inside the safety net. Best of all, we are surrounded by people who love us, who ‘get’ us, and who are like minded. These are the people we do get to do life with, What a blessed privilege!

We are so grateful for the people you’ve put in our lives, Father, they are our family! We’re brothers and sisters, quick to lend support and to love one another through life’s storms. We’re so blessed to live in community with like minded people. Lord. Thank you for that! Amen.

Family & Friends

**We all have a cherished garden we tend -
It is planted with love of family and friends.
The memories and dreams we treasure and share
Are like beautiful roses found blooming there.
The comfort and care on which we depend
Is given with love between family and friends.
The sunshine of laughter and rain of a tear
Only make our love grow with each passing year.**

**We may all be ourselves with no need to pretend
Because of the love of family and friends;
They notice the rainbows and weather the showers.
They overlook weeds and praise all our flowers.
The most valuable thing is the time that we spend
Tending this garden with family and friends.
When counting our blessings, we know from the start
That family and friends come first in our heart.**

Lizzy Pureheart

If you wish to contact us for any reason, or to contribute a story or poem,
Please get in touch by ringing 02476 – 394802. OR via our e-mail
strowgerhouse@btinternet.com. We would love to hear from you!
Maureen & John.

NB - To checkout our church website

www.arleycofechurches.org.uk/