

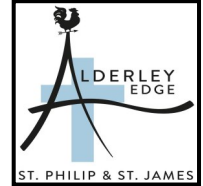
Calendar for NOVEMBER 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
<u>Sunday 3rd November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	11.45am	Pipnjay
	5pm	All Souls Service
<u>Sunday 10th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	3pm	Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph
	6.30pm	Taize Service
<u>Sunday 17th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Family Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong at St Martin's Ashton upon Mersey
<u>Sunday 24th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	Christingle at St Catherine's
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	11.30am	Warm Wednesday

*Please see website for details
of our future services*
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St Philip & St James Parish Church, Alderley Edge NOVEMBER 2024 NEWS SHEET



Dear Friends,

I have had a lot of success this year growing pumpkins with my grandson. We are especially pleased with one very big pumpkin we grew which he is planning on turning into a lantern for Hallowe'en. Some churches take a dim view of Hallowe'en, equating it with worship of darkness and evil and criticising trick or treating as a form of harassment.

I am too old to have gone trick or treating as a child but as an adult I have entered into the spirit of it, making sure I have treats for children and pretending to be scared by their costumes.

I know Hallowe'en is an American concoction designed primarily to sell large amounts of plastic tat, but it is built on a mash up of traditions from all over the world, many of which relate to All Souls in the Christian calendar when communities would gather to honour their dead and process collective experiences of bereavement.

In our church, the annual Requiem Service for the Dead is one of our most popular services, not least because our choir sing a very fine Fauré's Requiem.

Grief is so hard to cope with. People often try to cope with it on their own. That's not how our ancestors did it. We should come together when we grieve. We know we will always grieve for the people we cannot replace but it's a comfort to know that the love we remember sharing with our loved ones is part of a love that still surrounds us.

I have a simple faith in the promise of eternal life and so I am comforted by a belief that death is not the final word. You may share that belief, or you may find it simplistic and quaint. But if you are living with grief, don't do it alone. Reach out to those around you. If you think it will be helpful, please know you are welcome at the Fauré Requiem service. It's at 5pm on Sunday 3rd November.

Yours, Robin

SPECIAL EVENTS

All Souls Service

This very special service will take place at 5pm on Sunday 3rd November. It is a service of Holy Communion and the choir will sing Faure's Requiem. During the prayers, we read out the names of all the people whose funeral services have taken place in church since All Souls last year and any additional names we have been given.

It is possible to come along on the day and add a name to the list of those being read out. Or you can come into church beforehand and add the name to a list which you should find at the back of church.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is 10th November this year.

The Parish Council Act of Remembrance takes place in the church grounds round the cenotaph at 3pm as usual.

Our main church service that Sunday starts at 10am but in a change from what we have done in previous years we will leave the church at 5 minutes to 11 and gather round the cenotaph for two minutes of shared silence. This means it is possible for people to come and join us at the cenotaph at that time if they wish.

In the evening at 6.30pm there will be a Taize style service in church with prayers for peace.

Christmas Fair—Saturday 7th December 10.30am 3.30pm

We had so much fun with this last year that we are doing it again this year. The whole family will enjoy coming to the Christmas Fair so book it into your diary now!

Our Santa's Grotto is the best you will have seen for a very long time.

St Bartholomew's brass band will play from 2pm to 4pm and create a wonderful atmosphere. And have you witnessed the engineering marvel that is the Teddy's zip wire? Bring your own teddy along to have a go! Come and have a great time with your friends!

MEDITATION IN CHURCH

Although it's getting colder we are carrying on with meditation in church because it is just such a good way to get your head straight on those complicated days when there is a lot going on.

This is the rhythm—pick the sessions that suit you best.

- Mondays at 11.30am Lectio Divina for half an hour. Working from home? Need a break? Come to Lectio Divina to get a perspective on life and then pick up a coffee or a snack on the way home before diving back into work.
- Tuesdays at 8.30am. Monastic Meditation. Music, incense, candles, a mantra, a passage of Scripture and a prayer. With 25 minutes of silent meditation. Times to fit in with the school drop off.
- Thursdays at 8am. Monastic Meditation. As above but with an earlier start. Timed to allow you to be ready to start work at 9am.

It's all based on centuries of Christian meditation traditions informed by practices developed in other faith traditions and it's all free.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Bible Study Monday 4th November
7.30-9.30pm at St Philip & St James Church

Traditional Christingle Service *Thursday 5th December*
6pm with the Choir of Alderley Edge Community Primary School

Tuesday Tots *Every Tuesday*
10-12pm in the Parish Rooms

ST PHILIP & ST JAMES MINISTRATIONS OCTOBER
FUNERALS *1st Elisabeth Jackson, 22nd Peter Twist, 28th Lesley Ann Schofield*
BAPTISMS *13th Isla Rose Stockley-Payne, 27th Elizabeth Gillian Bentham*