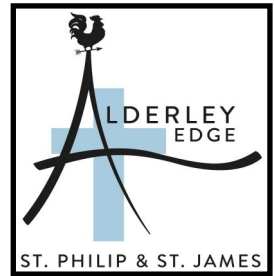


Calendar for NOVEMBER 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
<u>Sunday 5th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	11.15am	PipnJay Toddler Service
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
<u>Sunday 12th November</u> Remembrance Sunday	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	3pm	Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph
	6.30pm	Taize Service
<u>Sunday 19th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Family Communion
	4.30pm	Choral Evensong at Christ Church West Didsbury
<u>Sunday 26th November</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Family Communion
	6.30pm	Christingle & Feast of St Catherine at St Catherine's Church, Birtles
<u>Every Wednesday in November</u>	11.30am	Warm Wednesday

St Philip & St James Parish Church Alderley Edge NOVEMBER 2023 NEWS SHEET



Dear Friends,

In March 2023, speaking about the war in Ukraine, Rishi Sunak said, 'this will end as all conflicts do, at the negotiating table.' The war in Ukraine has become a bloody stalemate and NATO are running out of weapons to send to Ukraine. Therefore, our Prime Minister appears to be preparing us for compromises about where the new boundary between Ukraine and Russia will run.

Actually, while some wars end in a negotiated or a de facto settlement (thinking of Korea and Cyprus), other wars run their course until one side is overwhelmingly defeated as Hitler was in WW2. And then the hard work really starts: building a lasting peace. Lasting peace is based on justice. If there is no peace with justice, then the way the last war ends just turns into the way the next war begins.

Israel has won several decisive victories since its foundation as a state. And yet the settlements agreed at each negotiating table appear to have simply created the conditions for the next war. The suffering we have seen in recent weeks will very likely create the conditions for the next war in a generation's time unless a lasting peace based on justice is achieved.

Some of the men whose lives are commemorated on our cenotaph lost their lives fighting for the British Empire in the Middle East in WW1. At the end of that war, Great Britain gained control of Palestine only to create the conditions for the fighting and suffering we see today.

And so we wonder, what has been gained? Was the sacrifice these men made and the suffering of their families worth it?

For men and women who serve in the armed forces, or have served in the armed forces, a big part of the purpose of Remembrance Sunday is to reflect on the willingness of members of the armed forces to give their lives for their country.

But for many of us, it is also a day to reflect on why we go to war and how we build peace. These are very big questions. The consequences of arriving at the wrong answer are devastating. Yet, finding the right answer is very difficult. Personally, I find these questions very difficult.

And so, I bring my questions before God. And God shows me a man dying on a cross. Jesus did not go into battle. Instead, he proclaimed a kingdom of justice and peace. And they killed him for it. May God guide us in the ways of peace so we can leave the world a better place for our children.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES
Sunday 12th November

8am Holy Communion

10am Choral Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday

3pm Prayers at the cenotaph

6.30pm Taize style Prayers for Peace

revrobinpye@gmail.com
07794 122602
www.stphilipandstjames.co.uk
Parish Office
01625 581477

ST PHILIP & ST JAMES CHURCH

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2023

10am – 4pm

Please join us on Saturday 2nd December for our fun and festive community Christmas Fair, come and see the stalls, activities and entertainment in and outside the Church including:

- Tea, Coffee & Mulled Wine
- Artisan Markets supported by Independent Street
50 small local business stalls showcasing the best local food, drink and gift ideas
- Brass Band
- Teddy Bear Zip Wire
- Arts and Crafts
- Live acoustic performances from local musicians and choirs
- Toddler Play

ST PHILIP & ST JAMES MINISTRATIONS OCTOBER

Funerals: 13th Jerald Jenkins, 24th Ken Paley, 26th Ann Brooks

Baptisms: 8th Zachary Peck, 22nd Keiran Pattison