

Facebook Posts – 1st to 16th November 2021

1st November



2nd November – Deacon Jen Woodfin

Let me paint you picture. It is a cold frosty Autumn morning, standing on heathland with the bracken a beautiful russet brown, the sky a deep blue that you only get at this time of year, and, in the distance, someone riding a white horse across the horizon. For me this is a picture in my mind that I hold dear. I was with my mother in Sussex many years ago and we both commented that this was a scene to remember. It was a special moment to share with my Mum.

On Sunday, at Watton, we had a memorial service where people came to remember their loved ones. As I read out the names there was a deep sense of holding these names in a sacred space both in the church and in that moment of time. Then people came up to light candles and as each one was added so the special memories were added together in an act of thanksgiving and prayer. It felt both intimate and at the same time a privilege to be sharing together.

What are your special memories? On this All Souls' Day my prayer for everyone is that we hold onto special memories that we shared with loved ones. That we give thanks for those memories and we give thanks for all the special people in our lives.



5th November

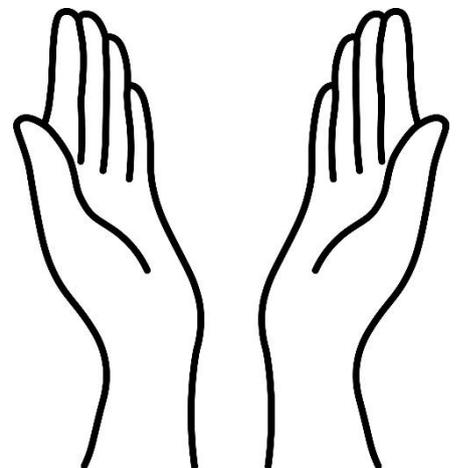


8th November



9th November – Rev Jacqui Horton

Seventeen people from our Circuit prayed on zoom yesterday morning about the Climate Crisis. That is more than we usually get for morning prayers but, still, it left me thinking: do our prayers make any difference? That reminded me of the question that often comes up around changing our lifestyles: do small changes from individuals make any difference? I can think of at least 3 answers about making a difference: 1. if everybody does something, that would add up to something huge 2. trying to live as God wants us to is a must for the Christian regardless of the difference we think it might make 3. we have no idea of the impact that our actions might have. The extremely poor widow in Mark's Gospel that put 2 small coins into the Temple collection might not have thought her gift would make any difference but we are still talking about it 2,000 years later! So, let us continue to take action in our own lifestyles and let us continue to pray - for the planet, for justice, and for peace.



11th November – Prayer for Remembrance Day, Rev Cliff Shanganya

Lest We Forget

Today is Remembrance Day

To remember with thanks

those who have given their lives in service of others.

To remember with sadness

the suffering, destruction

and pain caused by human conflict.

We come also to commit ourselves

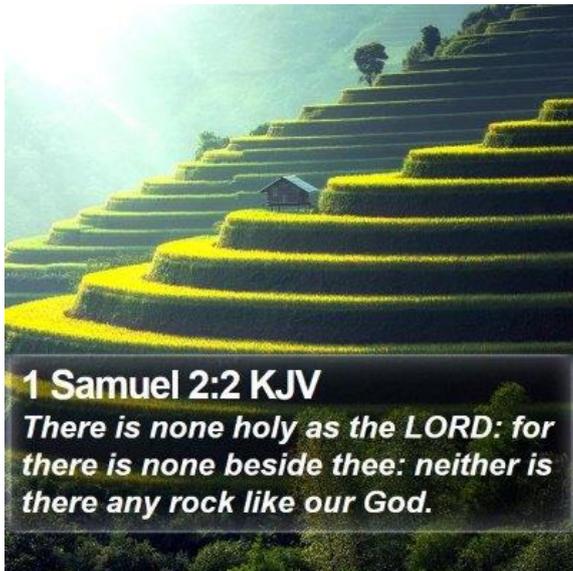
to be peacemakers

and peacekeepers wherever we can.

In Jesus' name. Amen.



12th November



15th November



16th November – Deacon Jen Woodfin

On the 21st October there was service of 'Reflection and Hope' at St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh. It was a Service of Reflection and Hope to mark the centenaries of the partition of Ireland. It was very moving to watch and listen to and some particular phrases have stayed with me since then. It was an ecumenical service with all the clergy sharing personal stories of how the partition affected their families. The sermon was given by the President of the Methodist Church of Ireland, Rev. Dr Sahr Yambasu. Towards the end of the sermon, he said that for true Peace to be sustained we need to prioritise relationships over the need to be right.

Whether on a large scale, between countries, or on an individual scale, how true that is. It is so easy to think we need to show we are right rather than thinking-how is this going to affect our relationship and what is more important? This thought has certainly challenged me and it is one I have tried, and will continue to try, to hold in the forefront of my mind.

