

Saint Peter's Church, Woodmansterne November Monthly Newsletter



Welcome to this month's newsletter! If you have an activity or something uplifting to share please do get in touch: office@saintpeterschurch.org.uk We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

A word from John Itumu

Karibu ('car' 'ree' 'boo') is an essential word that visitors to the Kiswahili speaking East African coast including mainland Kenya and Tanzania soon learn. It greets them on large billboards at the airport. They hear it from the tour operators, drivers, hotel receptionists and street vendors. If they have a chance to engage with the local communities the same word reverberates. It is a selling point for the very crucial tourism industry in these beautiful countries. In that word is packed many hours of labour, preparation and sacrifice for these visitors who make significant contributions to their economies. It simply means 'welcome'.

I have been wondering what may be understood from the 'we welcome you' inscription on our new notice boards. Rudimentarily, this could be indicative of an imaginary boundary between those who are 'in' and 'out' of St Peters. Thus understood, we, the 'in' group are simply exercising a basic Christian duty by extending an open invitation. But this trajectory soon sails into a powerful headwind. Who exactly is 'in'? The Church Council and rector? The myriad hall users and hirers? The rather nebulous army of volunteer saints? And now even the more troubling 'you'. Just who is 'you'? The novice or lapsed service attendee? The local resident in pursuit of a 'life-event' service, and nothing more? And then in our times, just how might we genuinely enable a socially distanced welcome for a person who hails from a riskier tier? And then, welcome them to what? Plenty to ponder there!

Jesus, redefined and broadened the karibu principle when he habitually reminded his listeners of the need to be aware of the other, especially the different other. Humanly, it is infinitely more convenient to extend our welcome to those who are like us. For this reason, the epithet 'friend of sinners' (Matthew 11.19) was not offensive. He clearly defined priority was to love this lot. It cost him his life.

His apparently harsh indictment to the wealthy by asking them to sell all their property and give their money to the poor (Luke 18:22) was neither a glorification of poverty as a Spartan ideal nor asking us to surrender all our property. It is rather an exhortation to take seriously the Biblical teaching of showing concern to the poor, to give without expecting anything back, to welcome them into our lives. In this spirit of minding another's business those of us with two coats are to give one to someone who has none. (Lk 3:11) Karibu begins with me.

The key to unlocking 'welcome' is tucked between these two seemingly distant poles. The encouraging thing is, it awaits being found and lavishly used. May one of the things we remember in the month of November be the countless blessings from God. As we do this may our hearts be quickened to make a special 'welcome' to someone. Amen!

Parish Notices

Service sheets and accompanying You Tube messages are being produced and distributed every week. You can catch up with the weekly messages at St Peter's Church, Woodmansterne You Tube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI9hrwcOXgd7g8lg9WVqg7A>

We have two Sunday services - 9.00am via Zoom video conferencing and 11.00am in church. So please do get in touch with us for details.

If you want to receive more information about any of the above or would like to have a chat with someone please do get in touch with us: rector@saintpeterschurch.org.uk or ring 01737 423892.

Praise and Prayer - now fortnightly on a Wednesday evening. The November Praise and Prayers will be Wednesday 4th and 18th November. Zoom details to follow nearer the time. If you have trouble accessing Zoom or want to join by phone contact Rachel: cfm@saintpeterschurch.org.uk

Woodmansterne Charities

A local charity, which can help people who are struggling to pay fuel bills. To qualify, you must live in the Parish of Woodmansterne. If you would like to be considered for assistance then please contact us: office@saintpeterschurch.org.uk or 07816293554.

Foodbank at St Matthew's Redhill

St Matthews are accepting donations of money for the foodbank. Please make cheques payable to St Matthew's PCC, marked 'Foodbank' on the back. Send to Foodbank at St Matthew's, c/o The Parish Office, 71 Station Road, Redhill RH1 1DL. More details are available at: <https://www.redhillfoodbank.org.uk/how-can-i-help>

Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Shoebox appeal this year. The shoeboxes are on their way to children. We will find out next year which country they went to.

Harvest at St Peter's

This year's Harvest Service was on 4th October with the harvest gifts being collected over several weeks prior to the service. Here is a selection of the gifts brought which have been delivered to the foodbank at St Matthew's Church, Redhill. The foodbank send their thanks to all who donated items.



We also had some beautiful flowers and thank you to the ladies that arranged these for us.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

The Bus Stop café team (Sally, Dot, George, Gillian, Pat and Sandra) pulled out all the stops on 24th September to welcome back a socially distanced group of their usual clientele (in two sittings) to help raise money for Macmillan by supporting the World's Biggest Coffee Morning. Admission was by donation which provided the 'guests' with a coffee and a selection of coffee cakes and/or sausage rolls.

There was also a 'Takeaway' Macmillan gift bag on sale (provided by Carol) which included all the components to enjoy a coffee and cake at home and Maureen very kindly donated gifts and ran a raffle.



Macmillan are concerned that because of Covid-19 restrictions their fundraising this year will be impacted severely. With the generosity of those who gave their time as well as the donations received we were able to make a healthy contribution of £336. The money has been paid to the charity and we are just awaiting their usual thank you letter. Thank you to all who donated to this event.



Many people are feeling the effects of Covid restrictions. Pray for all experiencing mental, emotional and physical stress and for the partners as they share the hope of Jesus in highly challenging conditions.

Argentina is now experiencing a massive increase in COVID-19 cases after a previously relatively successful lockdown. Hospitals in Salta are full and many have caught the virus in the area. Please pray for a reduction in the numbers of cases and particularly for all of our people in mission and partner organisations in the north of Argentina. Please remember St. Peter's mission partners Andrew and Maria Leake.

Bolivia: Pray for peace, stability and justice, following elections for president and congress on 18 October in the midst of uncertainty and tension. This year the collapse of the healthcare system and the breakdown of the economy and recent Amazonian fires have brought the situation to boiling point. Pray for calm.

Cambodia: Pray for the hundreds of families in Cambodia and Vietnam who have been affected by extreme tropical rainfall across the Mekong region.

Paraguay Pray for enough rain to fill the waterways and end the wildfires, which are also causing poor air quality in the capital, Asuncion.

Uganda: Heavy rains have caused flooding and damage to Kisiizi Hospital. The hospital lost their water supply and has been relying on collecting water in jerry cans, and the main generator was damaged. Patients had to be moved out of some wards. Praise God that the back-up generator worked. Please pray that all the necessary repairs can be done, and that staff are given the energy to do all the vital care the hospital provides.

Congo: Local partner Bisoke Balikenga reports much rebel activity in Bunia, where he has 21 people staying in his home and is struggling to sleep well because of all the tension. Pray God's peace and protection over Bisoke, his family and all those sheltering in his home. Pray God's restraint on the forces of evil that are stirring up violence. Please pray too for all those in the Bunia area, for safety and peace. May they come to experience that peace and hope which only God can give.

UK: The new intake of Pioneer Mission Leadership Training students met recently at CMS house. Please pray for the students as they begin a new year of studies, that their year will be a time of learning and encouragement.

Philippines: Please pray for protection for Jigsaw organisation from COVID-19 as they offer practical help in several communities despite increased COVID numbers. Please pray for God's blessing on their work among vulnerable children and families and for the good news and love of Jesus to be spread across the hundreds of urban homes and households.



THIS MONTHS RECIPE - STRAWBERRY TART

Strawberries, unless they are the imported flavourless kind are hard to find in November, but this tart tries to bring back memories of our summer. Perhaps as we were all confined to our homes we found time to make our own strawberry jam, this is the recipe to make use of it.

I was never very good at making shortcrust pastry - my domestic science teacher (that shows my age) said I had too warm hands, but when I acquired a food processor it was so easy. This pastry however must be made by hand. If you use a food processor it will just turn into a greasy ball of pastry and when cooked be very hard - even our resident fox refused to eat it!

100ml extra virgin olive oil	350g plain flour
150g golden caster sugar	½ teaspoon baking powder
1 lemon - grated zest	2 medium eggs, beaten
1 tablespoon red wine/brandy/marsala	370-390g strawberry jam

Brush a 23cm loose bottomed tart tin with a little of the olive oil. Preheat oven to 180°C, 350°F, Gas 4. Place a baking tray in the oven.

In a large bowl, mix the flour, sugar and baking powder. Whisk together the olive oil, eggs and wine in a jug. Pour this over the flour mixture then add the lemon zest. Mix gently using a wooden spoon until it is just combined then bring the pastry together using your hands, don't knead at all, try to be very gentle with it. Wrap in cling film and put in the fridge for about 15 minutes. Set aside 1/3 of the pastry for the topping. Gently gather the remaining 2/3 into a ball and roll out, on a lightly floured work surface into a circle about the thickness of a pound coin. Line the tin with this, trimming the edges.

Lightly prick the base with a fork and spread the jam in an even layer onto the pastry shell.

Roll out the remaining 1/3 plus the trimmings, again to the same thickness. Using a very sharp knife (so that you don't drag the pastry otherwise it will shrink when cooked) cut about 8 long strips of pastry about 2cm wide, then lace them on top of the jam to form a lattice. Trim all the edges to neaten.

Place the tart on the preheated baking tray and cook in the centre of the oven for about 30-35 minutes. If it starts to brown too quickly round the edges cover with foil.

When cooked allow to cool complete in the tin. If liked dust with icing sugar. Serve with cream or a scoop of ice cream, summer in November!! Ann Kayser



YOUR GARDEN IN NOVEMBER BY A WOODMANSTERNE GARDENER

November is a tricky month in the garden, often a sort of in-between time, not autumn nor winter. The glorious leaf colours of trees and shrubs of October have fallen, the birds have eaten the brightest berries and the first frosts have laid waste to any late flowering plants. If the weather has been kind a late display of fuchsia pink nerines (plant the bulbs in spring in a south facing position) will still be in bloom, and the yellow berries of the mountain ash - 'Joseph rock' will, as yet, be untouched by the birds.

The task of leaf clearing still beckons. A blanket of sodden leaves on the grass and around the base of plants will do no good, encouraging rot. Wet leaves on paths can be a real safety hazard. Either start to collect them for leaf mould or put them in the garden bin. Leaves which should not be composted - only binned - are rose leaves which show signs of black spot. It is a fungal disease which overwinters on fallen leaves waiting to re-infect plants next year.

It has been a year with storms and gale force winds so now is a good time to check tree ties and stakes and to start the pruning of roses so that the winds do not create loose soil around the base of plants, where rain can lay and then freeze. Tie in long, whippy shoots of climbers and wall shrubs to prevent damage.

If the weather is mild and/or sunny the lawn may need cutting but then the mower can be given a good clean and retired to the shed or garage for another year - Hurrah!!

Tulip bulbs can be planted this month. A tip I was given by an old gardener - to determine the depth of the planting hole, line up 3 bulbs base to tip - their combined length is a good guide for the depth needed. Planting too shallow is often the reason that tulips do not come back to flower, or just disappear, in their second year.

Seeds of dill, chives, parsley and basil can be sown now and grown on a sunny windowsill, making sure to turn them around regularly. Keep an eye on houseplants. Water only when needed and check regularly for pests and disease. Keep them all in good light.

Think especially of our wildlife. Clean out any bird boxes. This will encourage birds to use them as winter roosts and make it more likely that they will nest there in spring.

Check stored fruit for rot. Any showing signs of disease can be thrown out on the grass for birds, such as blackbirds and thrushes, to eat. Always keep bird baths clean and topped up as bathing is essential in cold weather to keep their feathers in good condition.

As it is November we may (or may not) be able to gather in our gardens for the traditional Bonfire night. Please, before you light a bonfire, especially if you have gathered it together over several weeks, check that no hibernating hedgehogs, frogs or toads have made it their winter home. If you find any, leave them alone and if you can, relocate the top layers of the heap elsewhere. Remember to keep seed, nut and fat feeders topped up.

Autumn Leaves by Edel T Copeland

Golden, crisp leaves falling softly from almost bare trees,
 Lifting and falling in a hushed gentle breeze,
 Slowly dropping to the soft cushioned ground,
 Whispering and rustling a soothing sound.

Coppers, golds, and rusted tones,
 Mother Nature's way of letting go.
 They fall and gather one by one,
 Autumn is here, summer has gone.

Crunching as I walk through their warm fiery glow,
 Nature's carpet rich and pure that again shall grow,
 To protect and shield its majestic tree,
 Standing tall and strong for the world to see.

They rise and fall in the cool, crisp air.
 It's a time of change in this world we share,
 Nature's importance reflecting our own lives,
 Letting go of our fears and again, too, we shall thrive.

October Morning by Margaret Chorlton

Sunrise red, pink and yellow,
 Gentle breeze serene and mellow.
 Dewdrops, cobwebs, sparkling bright
 A spider's magic overnight.
 The robin watches - hear his call
 Heralding the splendour of this morn.

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Beware the scams

A church member recently received a telephone call from an organisation saying they were info@yourlotteryservices and I was being awarded free lottery tickets. They were doing this to encourage people to use the lottery because numbers had fallen recently. Having used the free tickets they would like to offer me the chance to pay £20 per month to purchase tickets in the future. They would email me the details.

I received the email, but then thought perhaps this is a scam! So I waited to speak to my son for advice before opening it. He suggested I contact the Lottery, which I did by telephone, spoke to a very nice lady who said the Lottery does not use outside organisations and she agreed this was a scam and to delete it, which I did.

Please be aware of this and similar scams. According to the Surrey Police fake prizes is a very common type of scam. For more information see: <https://www.surrey.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/personal-fraud/internet-email-mobile-fraud/>

LAUGHTER LINES

At a drinks party at a wealthy golf club, the conversation turned to the subject of ancestry. "Of course, we trace our family back to coming over with William the Conqueror," observed one lady with satisfaction. She turned to a second woman, who was new to the club, and asked, "What about you dear? Can you go back very far?" "Not very far," came the reply. "You see, all the early family records were lost in the Flood."

CALENDAR QUOTES

Grievances like bed clothes, need sleeping on before they are aired

It is better to give than to lend, and it costs about the same.

Keep smiling, people will wonder what you've been doing.

Don't just drift through life, pursue it.

Aim at heaven and you will get Earth 'thrown in '. Aim at Earth and you will get neither. [C.S Lewis]

I have been intrigued lately by how inadvertently appropriate the lyrics of some pop songs are to us Christians. Here is an example. This is by a group called The Teddy Bears. Circa 1959. Anyone remember this one? George Jones

To know, know, know Him,

Is to love, love, love him

just to see Him smile,

makes my life worth while,

To know, know, know Him

Is to love, love, love him

And I do, I do, I do.

The Soldier's Prayer

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.

I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.

I got nothing that I asked for –
But everything that I had hoped for,

Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed.



of

Poppy Appeal 2020

Look out for the Poppy Appeal again this year, but not so much via street collections. Instead, the Royal British Legion will focus on contactless donations, as a safer way forward during the pandemic. However there will be a box of poppies in the St Peter's Church as usual. Please put the money in the wall safe

One such method will be 'point of sale donations'. This means that when you shop at your supermarket and reach the till or online, you may be invited to round up your total to the nearest pound to help the Poppy Appeal.

A spokesman for the Royal British Legion said: "The Poppy Appeal 2020 is very much still going ahead", but that "the safety and wellbeing of our volunteers, staff and members is paramount.

This means that collectors who fall into the vulnerable category have been advised "not to take part in activity on behalf of the Poppy Appeal that would expose them to any additional risks while coronavirus is still present."

And yet the need is still huge: "Members of the Armed Forces Community are suffering significant hardship as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak and we at the Royal British Legion will do everything we possibly can to support them."

The destruction of Coventry

German Luftwaffe bombers virtually destroyed the city of Coventry – including its medieval cathedral – 80 years ago this month, on 14th November 1940.

Coventry was targeted by 'Operation Moonlight Sonata' as an industrial city, but more than 4300 homes were destroyed and about two-thirds of the city's buildings were damaged. There were many direct hits on the cathedral, and flames spread quickly. More than 550 people were killed and over 850 badly injured, with nearly 400 sustaining lesser injuries.

There would have been more casualties, but many citizens left at night to sleep in nearby towns or villages after earlier air raids. Rumours that Churchill knew of the raid in advance but declined to take precautions to prevent the Germans knowing their code had been broken were later shown to be misguided.

Joseph Goebbels later used the term coventriert ('coventried') to describe high levels of destruction in other towns.

The cathedral was left as a ruin, still standing today as a reminder of the bombing. A new cathedral was built close alongside in the 1950s, designed by the architect Basil Spence. The Queen laid its foundation stone in 1956. It was consecrated in 1962, and Benjamin Britten's War Requiem was composed to mark the occasion.

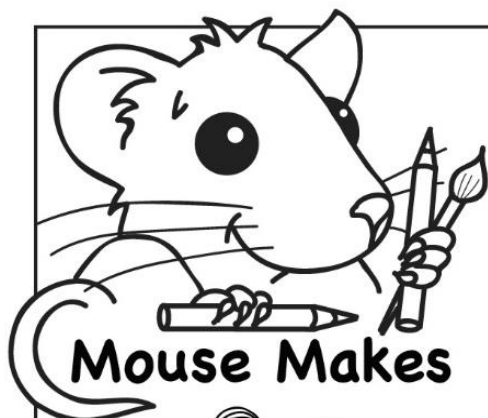
SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

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REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people would remember what God had done for them by building monuments made of stones and by holding festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.

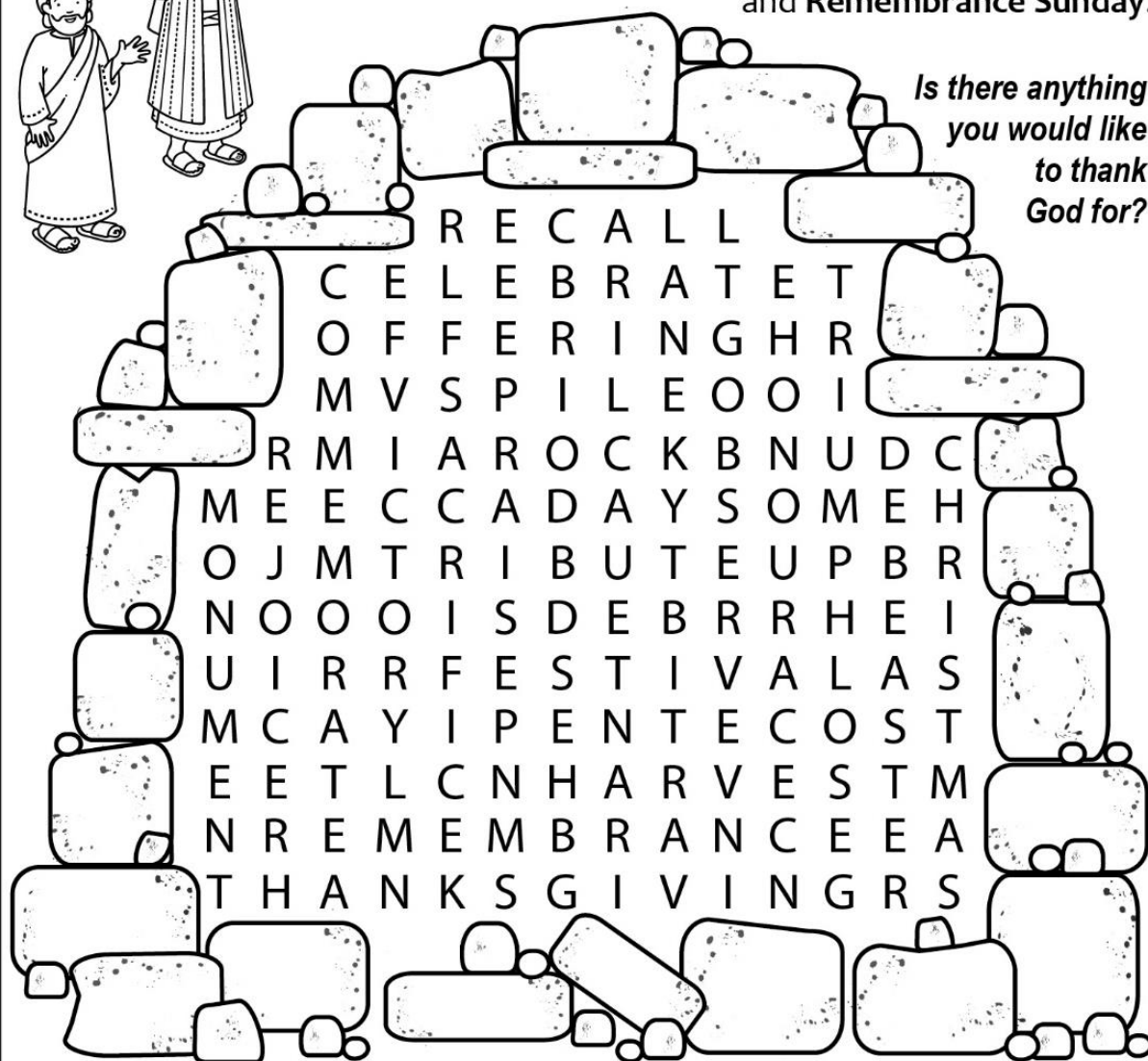


READ Joshua 4:1-9 and Exodus 12:1-14

Today we too build monuments to remember and hold services of thanksgiving like **Harvest** and **Remembrance Sunday**.



*Is there anything
you would like
to thank
God for?*



REMEMBRANCE • SACRIFICE • VICTORY • TRIUMPH • MONUMENT
ROCK • PILE • OBSERVE • TRIBUTE • COMMEMORATE • RECALL • OFFERING
HONOUR • CELEBRATE • PRAISE • REJOICE • THANKSGIVING • DAYS
FESTIVAL • EASTER • PENTECOST • HARVEST • CHRISTMAS