

# KEYNOTES



**November 2023**  
**£1.00**



## PARISH EVENTS DIARY

The following events taking place in November as notified are:

**Saturday 11th November - Blue Jeans Saturday (churchyard tidy)  
- from 10am**

**Friday 17th November - Free lunchtime concert - 1.10pm  
Amity Singers**

**Saturday 18th November - Film Night - 7pm**

**Thursday 30th November to Saturday 2nd December - Christmas  
Tree Festival - see poster for full details**

**Please continue to keep us informed of events that you have  
planned or know about by sending a message to our email  
address which is [stpetersadmin@zoho.com](mailto:stpetersadmin@zoho.com)**

**The deadline for the December 2023/January 2024 issue is  
9th November**



**Lamentations 3:22–23**

**"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies  
never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is  
your faithfulness."**

## **EDITORIAL**

After a lovely autumn our thoughts now turn to Christmas which is fast approaching. As we rush around buying Christmas gifts and food, let us not lose sight of the real meaning of Christmas when our saviour Jesus was born.

On the subject of shopping don't forget to use the Easyfundraising app. It is proving to be quite successful in raising funds for our church.

In October we celebrated Harvest Festival and once again our church family were very generous with their donations of food. This was followed by a Bring and Share Harvest lunch in the Community Centre which we all enjoyed.

By the time this is printed we will have enjoyed the lunchtime concert on the 13th October featuring Belladonna and also taken part in a Quiz on the 14th October expertly run by Jenny. The next lunchtime concert is on 17th November when the Amity Singers will entertain us, always a popular concert followed by a Film Night on the 18th November. Mustn't forget Blue Jeans Saturday on the 11th November when we have our church tidy up.

A very important time is coming up when we hold our Christmas Tree Festival between 30th November and 2nd December. This is an important fundraising event and we hope that as many people as possible will get involved to make it as successful as it has been in previous years. Lots of hands make light work!

Subscriptions are due to be collected for Keynotes next year. Currently we are below a hundred subscribers but want to build on this. You will again have ten issues and we have decided that the price for these will remain at £1 for each copy or £8 if you pay in advance. We look forward to your continued support. We will start seeking renewals from the middle of November and it would be helpful if you would hand your subscription to a member of the Editorial Team.

Another important task that will need to be done is the distribution of the Leaflet containing details of the Christmas Services which we send out to every household in the parish. Please help with this by taking just one street (or more if you're happy to do so).

Editorial Committee

## **Rectors Ramblings**

“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33. Niv UK

The end of October/beginning of November is a time when we are reminded of the fragility of life and the grim presence of death. All saints and All souls causes us to be mindful of those who have died in recent memory and the Christian witnesses of the last 2,000 years, whose example spurs us on to follow Christ. The 5th November marks our country's tumultuous religious past with the threat of gunpowder and plot and lastly Remembrance Day causes us to pause and remember all the servicemen and servicewomen who have died through conflict, in protecting our freedom and liberty from tyranny and oppression.

John records in his gospel the words Jesus spoke to his disciples at the last supper and the verse above contains two promises for all Christians.

1. In this world we will have trouble.

This isn't a case of 'if' but 'when'. To align yourself with Christ is to be opposed to the spiritual forces of darkness in this world. The world doesn't like Christ and it certainly doesn't like Christians. A lot of the time God graciously spares us from what is sadly common for many of our brothers and sisters in parts of the world where persecution is an ongoing fact of life.

But perhaps you recognise this in your life? Have you ever been left to feel stupid, ignored or alone because of your faith? If so, let it not be a surprise, but rather what Christ promised would happen until the day he returns. This time of year reminds us that it's not only those who wear services uniform who face conflict, but also every believer in the Lord Jesus.

2. Jesus has overcome the world.

This second promise shows us that the forces of darkness that stand against the Kingdom of God ultimately will be defeated. The penalty of our sin has been voided at the cross. It was paid by another, in our place, so we need no longer fear its condemning verdict.

As we continue to see the ravages of war fought out across nations including our neighbours in Ukraine, it can make us feel as if evil, injustice and death are the greatest force on this earth. But Christ shows us a different story. Christ defeated evil, injustice and death not through military might, but through laying down his own life, the ultimate sign of strength which to the onlooking world looks like weakness.

As we are reminded of the presence of death in this season, let our heads not drop as if the battle was lost. But instead raise our heads and fix our eyes in Christ, who has not only won the victory for you but has overcome the world.

Rev Tim, Rector

### **WOMEN'S SOCIAL**

We held an impromptu meeting in Church on 14<sup>th</sup> September in order to make plans for our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival.

Our planned coffee morning at Sandy's home on the 28<sup>th</sup> September had to be cancelled as Sandy's grandson had Covid.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> November we will meet for coffee at Moz's home and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November we look forward to enjoying an early Christmas meal together.

On 13<sup>th</sup> November Iris will celebrate her birthday and Audrey will be celebrating hers on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to you both.

Maggie Keeling



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### **Did Noah fish?**

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?"

"No," replied Johnny. "How could he, with just two worms?"



The vicar got a little carried away with the church's new state-of-the-art PA system

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**With Remembrance in mind, here are some observations on war...**

The tragedy of war is that it uses man's best to do man's worst. – Anon

Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind. – John F Kennedy

Let men who delight in the cruelties of war remember that their day is coming. – Louis Mumford

In war, whichever side may call itself the victor, there are no winners, but all are losers. – Neville Chamberlain

## **Making melody unto the Lord**

Miriam plays her tambourine  
In tribute to her Lord,  
The harpists play their melodies  
Their sound is heard abroad.

The trumpets and the cymbals too  
Ring out throughout the earth,  
Extolling God our Saviour  
And telling of His worth.

So let there be a paeon of praise  
To Him who set us free,  
Forgiveness and His gift of life  
He gives to you and me.

This gift was bought by Christ's own blood,  
A cost none could afford,  
So let us join with heaven and earth  
To praise our Risen Lord.

By Megan Carter



## Sponsored Bike Ride

Today was our Sponsored Bike Ride - at Hove Park - Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

We met in Hove Park by the sign just up from the Cafe at 2pm, in glorious sunshine and 21 people and 3 dogs attended. There were 13 adults and 8 children of which there were 12 cyclists, 1 girl on Blades and 8 supporters. Isaac, Arthur & Tim Hall completed 8 laps, Lottie, Edward, & Ben completed 7, Sam did 6, James/Tim Gage did 5, Erica & Zanita cycled 2 laps and Ella completed 2 laps on her blades, with her mum Ivana.

It was such a lovely afternoon that we decided to add another Alphabet game, so here we have what we saw in Alphabetical order.

A = Anna & Arthur  
B = Ben  
C = Clare, Claire & Catherine  
D = Dogs & Dog walkers  
E = Erica, Edward & Ella  
F = Fran, Flowers & Footballers  
G = Goal posts  
H = Hove Park  
I = Isaac & Ivana  
J = James & Joan  
K = Kate & kicking footballs  
L = Lottie  
M = Moss & many men  
N = Nets for basketball  
O = Oak trees  
P = Paul & Playground in the Park  
Q = QR codes  
R = Railway  
S = Sam & Shaun the Sheep  
T = Two Tims  
U = Undergrowth  
V = Van

W = Water closet  
X = Xpiotos (Greek for Christ)  
Z = Zanita.

So what a wonderful afternoon, we have been truly blessed.

Zanita Thaxter



### **Died in the services**

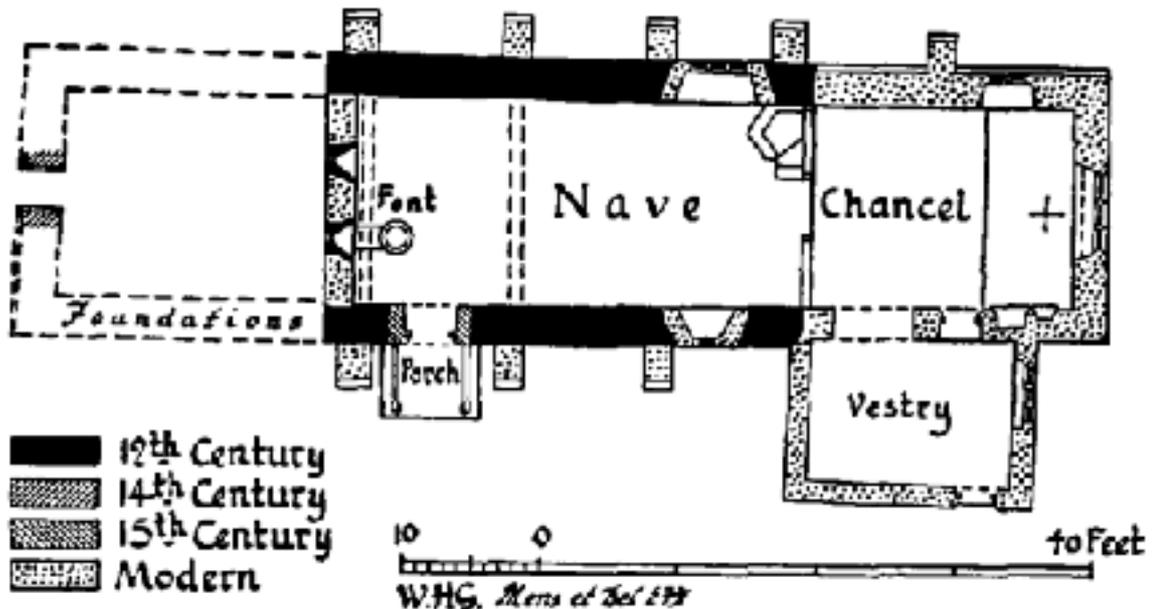
Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and it seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. “All those names,” he said to the minister. “Who are they?”

“Well, they were people who used to go to this church,” explained the minister. “This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services.”

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex’s voice was barely audible when he asked, “Which service, the 9 o’clock, or the 11 o’clock?”

## St Peter's West Blatchington – Past Generosity

This item has been inspired by the leaflet under the above title. When I started attending St Peter's World War II was still waging and just the Old Church was as the plan below.



The parish was much smaller with allotments where King George VI Mansions is, the Sunninghill Estate was non-existent, both sides of Hangleton Road had gaps with no houses, Goldstone Crescent houses ceased just to the West of the bottom of Nevill Way and the area behind the North side of Goldstone Crescent was fields. Once the War had finished the building began. Hove Council started building the Sunninghill Estate and Cooks, a local private building firm built King George VI Mansions and the Goldstone Valley Estate.

As regards the church, there was no Rectory. The Rector was housed at a house at 4 Woodland Avenue. There was no church hall either.

St Peter's West Blatchington became an independent parish on 31<sup>st</sup> January 1940 as pre-war housing development had brought it to the edge of Hove. With a seating of just over 80 and the then Rector, the Reverend Hugh Hamilton had the service broadcast by loud speaker to people sitting outside on the grass or on deckchairs in the churchyard in the summer of 1941. Later that year outline plans were drawn up for a large church and the purchase of a strip of land immediately to the west of the church stretching from Windmill Close to the Hangleton Road for future development as soon as possible after the War ended.

The purchase of the land in 1945 drained funds and the urgent need was to find somewhere to accommodate parish activities and ultimately the former Civil Defence Headquarters at the back of the old Manor House was made available and opened by the Mayor and Mayoress of Hove in time for Christmas 1946.

Fundraising continued and in 1949 the PCC were able to consider the next project. The building of the Rectory was forced on them with the owners of 4 Woodland Avenue seeking to repossess the property. This was completed in June 1950 following delays and at a higher cost than the estimate. This was occupied by the Reverend Jim Robinson and his family.

The next challenge arose in 1951 when the Council gave notice that they were ending the tenancy agreement for the building used as a Parish Centre, but this was extended until the next year. During the last two years the parish had doubled in the number of people living there putting pressure on the need for a large church. Also, a Church Hall was essential for the parish activities.

The PCC took the bold decision for the construction of a church hall of sufficient size to accommodate 200 people and to be a multipurpose building. It was to have a raised stage at one end of the hall for plays but also have a space to accommodate an altar for services which attracted a larger congregation. The foundation stone for the hall was laid in April 1952 and on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1952 it was opened and consecrated by the Bishop of Chichester.

The use of the hall for larger services did not go away as many of the parishioners were uneasy about services in the hall. The burden of the loan repayment on the hall and the Rectory mortgage prevented the taking on the enlargement of the church.

To meet the need of an enlarged church the PCC took a very bold decision to engage a professional fundraising firm, the Wells Organisation, to run a campaign in the parish. This was launched by a diner in Hove town Hall and subsequently volunteers from the church obtained pledges from 400 families living in the parish. This enabled the project of the enlargement of the existing church to go forward after consideration of other options by the Diocese.

The foundation stone was laid on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1960 and the church as you all know it now was consecrated by the Bishop of Chichester, Dr Wilson, on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1961. A photo of Dr Wilson knocking on the west

Door, accompanied by me as Churchwarden, hangs in the west lobby by the stairs.

We have so much to thank God for with what the early Rectors, Churchwardens, PCC members and the congregation did with the vision and commitment over the 20 years to give us the facilities we have now.

This is the base on which we are building to meet the challenges of the coming years.

William Holden



## Our Charity for November



### Off the Fence

**For over 20 years, Off The Fence’s vision has been to see an end to social and spiritual poverty in Brighton and Hove.**

In 1993, CEO Paul Young responded to the question, “When are Christians going to get off the fence and do something about social poverty?”

This was when he and his wife, Wendy, made the decision to go out into the streets of Brighton and Hove to help the most marginalised and vulnerable in the city. Paul started out with one friend, speaking with the homeless, guiding them to areas and services in the city where they could receive help.

This team of two soon turned into a team of four. Eventually, seventy volunteers from across a range of local churches and different denominations joined them, all with the goal of caring for, and saving the lives of those who were falling through the cracks of society.

Restoring the lives and hopes of the homeless, women in difficulty and vulnerable school children in Brighton and Hove.

Please support them if you can.

## Cricket Match and Picnic

A total of 27 of us met in Hove Park on Saturday 16th September for our annual cricket match where the rivalry between Rev Tim & Rev Jan was palpable. Rev Jan has won the previous three years, was it going to be Rev Tim's year?

We split into two teams. Rev Tim's team was first to bat and had a brilliant start until we realised that it was too easy for adults to hit a tennis ball a long way! We swapped to a cricket ball but that didn't stop them, fours and sixes were being scored regularly.



When we swapped over Rev Jan's team had some catching up to do but we had a few professionals on our team and matched the other team with effort and skill. At the end of the match, it was a draw! Not sure if that was Maggie's decision as she couldn't bear to see Rev Tim lose again!

We decided on a tie break with 6 balls to both Rev Tim & Rev Jan. Rev Tim hit some blunders. Rev Jan

stepped up to the crease with all to lose and got caught out on the third ball! Finally Rev Tim's team were declared winners.



What a wonderful afternoon. Let's do it all again next year!

Mandy Gander

## Wordsearch Clues

This month, on 30<sup>th</sup> November, Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus. St Andrew is honoured, not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour, and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan, too! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself.

Andrew's connection with Scotland dates back to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this may be no more than pious legend, but that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland and became its patron saint is beyond doubt.

Scotland	Patras
disciples	Archaia
Jesus	eighth
Andrew	remains
honoured	translation
Peter	Fife
Nathanael	pilgrimage
Bartholomew	tenth
Messiah	pious
Saviour	patron
saint	introducing
love	place

H T H G I E F I F S B L E  
S N P I L G R I M A G E R  
A I A H C R A E R N N A E  
T R A N S L A T I O N N M  
M E S S I A H C R D W A A  
T S R E I O U T E N E H I  
N S C H L D A A V P T T N  
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A T M R T E I I L O E N U  
S E T T T L C C C U O D S  
W N U E N A A A S S N R E  
I T P N E L P N L I I E J  
P H O N O U R E D P D W T

**Revelation 21:4**

**"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away."**

## The Order of St Richard Awards 2023



Above is a photo of all the people who were awarded the Order of Saint Richard together with me on 30<sup>th</sup> September at Evensong in Chichester Cathedral by Bishop Ruth, the Bishop of Horsham. To help you identify me in that photo I have another one taken of me in the Royal Sussex Regiment Chapel. I chose this location as during my National Service I was commissioned into the Royal Sussex and sent to West Africa.

We were briefed as to when our name was called out and one person was asked to stand. It was a very friendly atmosphere and all of the similar age and of mobility. Fortunately, the awards were given out at the beginning of the service of Evensong. Bishop Ruth welcomed everyone and saying that this was a way of thanking the faithful and loyal service of many kinds over a great number of years.



what we had to do called out and one show us what to do. atmosphere and all we with a varied degree the awards were given out at the beginning of the service of Evensong. Bishop Ruth welcomed everyone and saying that this was a way of thanking the faithful and loyal service of many kinds over a great number of years.

Then the handing out of the medals and certificates began. Brighton and Hove Archdeaconry was first, and I was the fifth one, it is strange how on these occasions one's concern is about tripping over in the walk up to the Bishop. As a result all I heard of my citation read out by Archdeacon Martin after calling my name was, "for over 70 years' service ,,,,,,,,,," My eyes were fixed on Bishop Ruth and I held out both hands to receive the badge on its ribbon, then mummering a "thank you", I turned to my left to receive my certificate and went to stand by the side. It was interesting to listen to the others with a whole variety of citations for a wide range of works. This brought home to me the need for a wide number of skills for the ministry of the church. We all have different gifts and different life experience which can be used for the common good.

When the award giving was complete, we went back to our seats and joined in the Evensong service. How uplifting to hear the Cathedral Choir sing. When the service finished, we were led round to the shrine of St Richard where several photos were taken. We then broke off and I joined my family and more individual pictures were taken.

To help you identify me in the group photo, I am at the back left of centre, or come to see me with a copy of Keynotes and I will show you.

William Holden

## **Why go to church?**

A church-goer complained to his minister: "I've been coming to church every Sunday for 30 years, and in that time I have heard thousands of sermons, but for the life of me, I can't think of a single one now. So, I think I have wasted my time."

The minister thought for a moment and replied: "I've been married for 30 years, and my wife and I have cooked thousands of meals. For the life of me I can't recall the entire menu of a single one of those meals now. But I do know that each one nourished us and gave us strength to carry on living. If we had not had those meals, but snacked on rubbish instead, we would have been stunted and eventually starved.

Without regular Christian nourishment, we also will starve – spiritually."

## **Slugs** by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

I've had a strange fascination with slugs since I was a little boy. Back then I believed that they were homeless snails that had lost their shells. It turns out I was right. Sort of. The whole eviction process had started as far back as the murky Mesozoic when some land snails cast off the shackles of a shell and evolved into slugs for some truly independent living. Sure, shells are great for protection and will help you to avoid drying out but they're clunky and require calcium to construct. Without them you can roam anywhere and (to namecheck another mollusc) the world's your oyster.

The slug's shell has never been completely lost — a fragment remains hidden under their skin, a tiny, shrunken souvenir of their snail ancestry. Another link to their slimy dynasty is that all slugs, like all snails, are both male and female. As hermaphrodites, they possess both sets of sexual organs and this means that, if the situation dictates, they can go it alone and simply self-fertilise to produce their offspring. A true state of independence. Self-fertilisation creates a clone - or in a slug's case hundreds of clones – but the problem with inbreeding is a lack of genetic variability. Clones all possess the same weaknesses. An entire slug population can be wiped out by the same parasites and pathogens. To produce varied and resilient offspring, most slugs go in for the more old-fashioned approach of finding a partner for a quick rustle in the undergrowth.

But one garden slug species has turned this chore into art - a flamboyant celebration of a lack of independence. The spotted and striped Leopard Slugs start their performance by chasing each other around a tree, giving each other sonic, sensuous strokes and cheeky nibbles. Then they climb, shimmy along a branch, and descend on a rope made of their own mucous. Here, hanging in mid-air, the slugs evert their sexual organs, entwining them to create a moonlit globe. This graceful, balletic trapeze performance must be one of the most mesmerising sights on our planet. If you search hard enough, you can find beauty in the strangest places. Still, if I was strolling through the woods at night, I'd hate to walk into it face-first.

## **Prayer List Requests**

Each Sunday we pray for people in any kind of need.

These may be the names of people on the prayer list which is printed in the Pew Sheet each week. The names are not read out individually during Sunday Intercessions, but are prayed for individually at the monthly Wednesday Prayer Together Service.

This is a lovely, peaceful, prayerful time in The Old Church. Please join us.

The Prayer Together Services are always on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.45pm.



### **St Peter's Pastoral Care Group**

**Our Pastoral Care Group exists to offer entirely confidential help and support on any pastoral matter.**

**Perhaps you would like a friendly visitor for a good chat now and then, help with transport, a name included in our prayer list at Church, some professional advice which we can help find, or an offer of Communion at home?**

**Please contact, in the first instance, Carol Gander on 01273 555414.**

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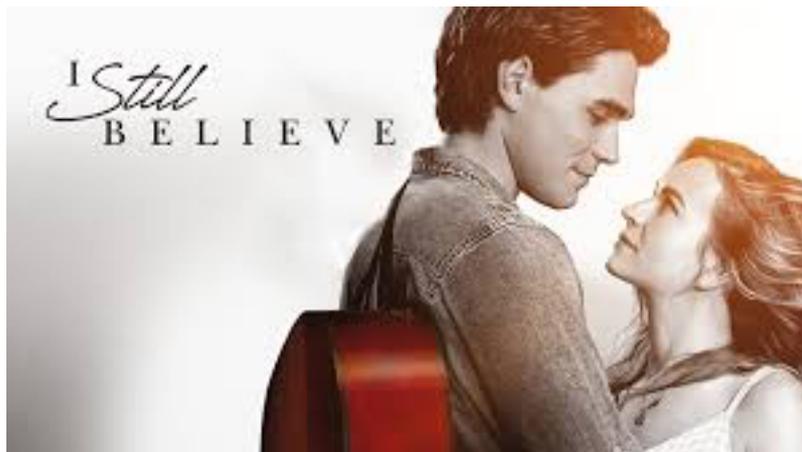
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# St Peter's Film Night

## 'I Still Believe'

Saturday 18th November at 7pm in  
the Community Centre



Music star Jeremy's (KJ APA) dreams come true when he finds professional success and the love of his life however things were not meant to be. I Still Believe is an incredible true-life story about music, stardom, love, loss and hope. Starring K.J. Apa, Britt Robertson and music star Shania Twain.

Cost is £5 per person which includes hot drinks and biscuits

Pay on the door - Hope to see you!

## People and Places of the Bible

In line with our Bible Study, I am continuing with people and places in the Acts of the Apostles.

### **Ananias.**

There are three people named Ananias mentioned in the Bible but the one I was to look at today is the man who lived in Damascus. He was described just as “a disciple’ Acts 9.10 and again in 22.12 as ‘a devout observer of the Law.’ This ordinary man had the courage and faith to visit the man who had come to arrest him and others who believed in Jesus as the Christ.

Think of the courage of the man; put in the terms of World War !!, is like an ordinary Jew going to an area Gestapo Commander to restore his sight.

### **Antioch**

At the northeast corner of the Mediterranean Sea, is the city of Antioch a few miles inland on the Orontes River. It is in a particularly important location because it links the eastern and western worlds. There was no important city located there until the Greeks conquered the area in the fourth century BC. When the Greeks conquered a new area, they brought their culture, art, architecture, philosophy, and religion to the region. The process of making a new area Greek is called *Hellenization*. The Greeks Hellenized the new cities in their empire. The Greeks built buildings in classical Greek style in Antioch, and it soon became an important city to trade, politics, and religion that connected the eastern and western worlds.

In 64 BC, General Pompey of the Roman army captured the city of Antioch from the Greeks, and it remained an important city in the Roman Empire for many centuries. One can imagine the variety of religious conversations overheard in the city streets from the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, and Phoenicians who established their places of worship throughout the city. Add to the mix a few eastern cults and no small number of Hellenistic Jews who were brought to the city or migrated there when the Greeks still controlled it. It was a truly cosmopolitan city, which reflected the cultural and religious diversity of its population, but all under Roman rule.

Following the martyrdom of Stephen in Jerusalem in the mid-30s AD, many followers of Jesus migrated northward to Antioch to take refuge there (Acts 8:1, 11:19). This is where followers of Jesus were first called *Christians* (Acts 11:26). The earliest and most well-known Christian missionary work of the first century had its genesis in Antioch. Paul and Barnabas were sent out by the Church of Antioch to the northern Mediterranean world. Paul's three missionary journeys and his trip to Rome were responsible for the spread of Christianity to the Jews and Gentiles around the Roman Empire. By the end of the first century, Antioch had a population of 300,000, making it the third largest city in the Roman Empire, many of whom were Christians. It was not only an important city to the empire but to Christianity in its earliest and most vulnerable stage. Christians in Antioch were among the most persecuted Christians in the Roman Empire. Some well-known monastic communities also spread east from Antioch.

Before and after Christianity became the legal—and eventually official—religion of the Roman Empire in the fourth century; Antioch was recognized as one of the major centres of Christianity. It boasted a robust theological school to train people for ministry that rivalled the theological schools in Alexandria and Carthage. Since the city's population was so big, its location so crucial to the exchange of ideas, and its school so influential; the Bishops of Antioch would wield significant influence over matters of church doctrine for centuries to come in the early church era. Along with Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, and Jerusalem; the city of Antioch was crucial to the growth and direction of Christian life and thought.

Compiled from The Universal Bible Dictionary published by Lutterworth Press and Who's Who in The Bible published by The Reader's Digest and other sources by William Holden

### **Joshua 1:9**

**“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”**

## Small Donations Scheme

We have reintroduced the above scheme, or SDS, which ran very successfully up to several years ago. The idea is to give people the opportunity to make a donation towards the cost of items which are one-off purchases or materials which we use. These donations are not regular but are on an “as and when able” basis which may be something in which they are interested.

The next edition of Keynotes will then contain a “thank you” notice for the gift which can be anonymous or include the sponsor’s name.

Mandy has produced a list of items which may appeal to the congregation and any discussion can be held in confidence with her. This list includes the following;

New sign board magnets	£	8.58
New tea towels	£	10.49
Stamps	£	24.00
Livestreaming licence	£	109.00
Paint for the Community Centre	£	80.00
Monthly website fee	£	19.34
Altar Breads for communion	£	10.94
Monthly bank account fee	£	5.00

### Thank you for your sponsorship

Our grateful thanks go to the various people who wishing to remain anonymous, very kindly donated the cost of the coffee for refreshments after Church, envelopes and the Tea and Tots supplies.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the funding of some of the items of expenditure in and around our Church then please contact Mandy Gander, our Treasurer.

## **The Early Church Fathers – Polycarp**

Polycarp (c. 69-155) is an important link for the early church but little of detail is known about him. What we do know comes from his pupil Irenaeus who stated that Polycarp had contact with the Apostles and more particularly John and who had conversed with many of those who had seen the risen Christ in the flesh. In a way his importance is as an authenticator of Irenaeus.

According to Tertullian and Jerome he was consecrated Bishop of Smyrna by John. From the latter part of his life we know, that, while Anicetus was Bishop of Rome, he visited that city to establish uniformity throughout the Christian Church with respect to the term of the celebration of Easter. He did not succeed, but, on the other hand, the difference did not destroy the church communion with Polycarp participating in the Lord's Supper while in Rome.

It is also believed that he was born near today's Izmir in Turkey around 69 AD in a non-Christian household and was enslaved as a young boy. Rescued from slavery he was adopted by a woman named Callisto, who cared for him and introduced him to ways of Christ.

According to the Martyrdom of Polycarp, he died a martyr, bound, and burned at the stake, then stabbed when the fire failed to consume his body.

As mentioned earlier, although little of his writings survive, his importance is his personal link with the Apostles and those who saw the Risen Christ and through the teachings of his pupil Irenaeus.

Compiled from various sources by William Holden

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## REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES

10.00 am Sunday Parish Eucharist with Sunday School in term time (except for the first and third Sunday of the month)

10.00 am All-Age Worship on the third Sunday of the month

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 4.00 pm - St Peter's @ 4 family service

1st Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm - Prayer Together

10.00 am Online service via Youtube



The Rector is always available for spiritual counsel and healing prayer



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 3rd December

Christmas tree All-Age service 10am  
(countdown to Christmas)  
Advent carols 5.00 pm

Sunday 24th

'Christingle in the Crib' 5pm  
Midnight Mass 11.15pm

Monday 25th

Christmas day all-age Eucharist 10am

Sunday 31st December

All-Age Carols 10am



**FRIDAYS AT ST PETER'S  
St Peter's 'Open Church' drop-in**

**The First Friday of each month  
10.30am – 12noon**

**For coffee, conversation and companionship.**

**We are open between 10.30am and 12 noon for you to  
'drop-in' for a coffee, piece of cake and a chat.  
A very warm welcome awaits you, so please do 'drop-in'  
we'd love to see you.**



## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR GARDEN?**

- 1) Insulate any outdoor containers vulnerable to frost. Use hessian or bubble wrap held in place with twine.
- 2) Prevent containers becoming waterlogged by raising them off the ground for the winter using bricks or pot feet.
- 3) Protect Roses from wind rock by pruning them by one third to a half their height.
- 4) Remove fallen leaves from around the base of any Rose bushes which suffered from blackspot or rust this Summer to reduce the chance of re-infection next year.
- 5) Continue to lift Dahlia tubers, Gladiolus corms and Begonia tubers.
- 6) Cut back the yellowing foliage of herbaceous perennial plants and lift and divide overcrowded clumps to maintain their vigour.
- 7) Continue to clear fallen leaves from the lawn to keep it healthy using a light rake.
- 8) Aerate your lawn before winter sets in.
- 9) Set your lawn mower to a higher cut height for the winter.
- 10) Clean and maintain your greenhouse.



## **COME INTO MY KITCHEN.....**

The recipes this month come, not from my kitchen, but from Jenny Butter's. Jenny has brought these goodies to various events and they have always been much enjoyed.

Thank you, Jenny.

### **CHICKEN SOUVLAKI, CHILLI SAUCE AND BBQ OLIVES**

Serves 4

800g skinless and boneless chicken thighs  
300g Greek yogurt  
2 garlic cloves  
2 lemons  
sea salt and freshly ground black pepper  
½ tsp dried chilli flakes  
1 tsp dried oregano  
olive oil  
40 black olives (the wrinkly ones, not those in brine – but you can used those if necessary)  
1 onion  
¼ white cabbage  
a few sprigs flat-leaf parsley  
3 tomatoes  
½ cucumber  
4 pita breads  
tzatziki  
pickled green chillies  
a good chilli sauce

If using wooden skewers, be sure to soak in water to prevent them from burning.

Cut the chicken into even 2-3 cm chunks and place in a large bowl. Add the yogurt. Peel and finely grate in the garlic and the zest of one of the lemons. Season well. And add the dried chilli and oregano and stir to combine with 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Cover and refrigerate for at least half an hour – longer if possible.

Get the sides ready. Push the olives onto skewers. Peel the onion and shred with the cabbage as finely as you can. Place in a bowl and squeeze over the juice of one of the lemons, then season well. Chop the parsley and toss through the cabbage, then set aside. Slice or chop the tomatoes and cucumber and toss together.

When you are ready to cook, preheat a griddle pan to a high heat (or fire up the bbq). Thread 4 large skewers with the marinated chicken, being careful not to push the pieces too close together. Cook for about 12 minutes, turning frequently to ensure they are cooked evenly.

Griddle the olives at the same time, for around 6 minutes until toasted and a little crispy.

Warm the pita breads on the side of the griddle or bbq for a few minutes at the end.

Serve the skewers with the warm pita, shredded cabbage, chopped salad, tzatziki, toasted olives and chilli sauce and let everyone build their own kebabs. Be sure to finish with more lemon.

### **AFTER EIGHT BROWNIES**

Makes 24 squares

200g butter

200g dark chocolate – broken into squares

250g caster sugar

4 eggs

125g plain flour

50g cocoa

200g After Eights – roughly broken into quarters

50g dark chocolate

Preheat oven to 190C/170C fan and line a baking tray with baking paper

Melt the chocolate and butter together in the microwave or in a bowl over a pan of simmering water and leave to one side.

Whisk together the eggs and sugar until the mixture has thickened and is pale.

Pour the melted chocolate and butter into the eggs and sugar and stir until the mixture is smooth and even.

Stir in the flour and cocoa and fold together.

Add around two thirds of the broken up After Eight into the mix and stir until well distributed.

Pour into the lined tin and bake for 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and sprinkle over the remaining After Eights before returning to the oven for 5 minutes.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely in the tin.

Melt dark chocolate and drizzle over with a spoon or piping bag.

And finally.....

### **BEST CHOCOLATE CAKE EVER**

2 cups plain flour

2 cups sugar

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup cocoa powder

2tsp baking powder

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsps. Baking soda

1 tsp salt

1 tsp espresso powder (or strong coffee)

1 cup milk

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup vegetable oil

2 large eggs

1 cup boiling water

### For frosting

1 ½ cups butter  
1 cup cocoa powder  
5 cups of icing sugar  
½ cup milk  
2tsp vanilla extract  
½ tsp espresso powder (or strong coffee)

Preheat oven to 180C/160C fan. Prepare two 9 inch cake tins by spraying with baking spray or buttering and lightly flouring.

Add flour, sugar, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda, salt and espresso powder to a large bowl and whisk until combined well.

Add the milk, vegetable oil, eggs and vanilla to the flour mixture and mix together on high speed until well combined, reduce speed and carefully add boiling water to the cake batter until fully combined.

Distribute evenly between the cake tins and bake for 30-35 minutes until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool for about 10 minutes before removing from the cake tins.

### **For the frosting**

Sieve the cocoa powder to remove any lumps. Soften the butter and then cream together with the cocoa.

Next, alternately add sugar and milk to the cocoa mixture by adding 1 cup of sugar, followed by about 1 tbsp of milk. After each addition has been combined, turn the mixer to high speed for about a minute. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE THE FROSTING REALLY FLUFFY!

Add the vanilla extract and espresso powder.

If the frosting seems too dry, add milk a tablespoon at a time.

Use the frosting to sandwich and decorate the cakes.

Maggie

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## **FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES**

**Our afternoon concert series continues with**

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**1.10 p.m. on Friday 17th November**

**The Recital is for approximately 40 minutes**

**Refreshments provided.**

**There is no admission charge, but donations to fund  
future concerts will be gratefully accepted.**

**All welcome!**



## **NOVEMBER – FESTIVALS AND SAINTS**

### **1<sup>st</sup> November - All Saints**

Many churches, particularly Roman Catholic and Anglican churches, in the United Kingdom annually mark All Saints' Day on November 1. This occasion honours all the saints in Christian history, particularly those who do not have their own special feast day.

According to some sources, the idea for All Saints' Day goes back to the fourth century when the Greek Christians kept a festival on the first Sunday after Pentecost (in late May or early June) in honour of all martyrs and saints. Other sources say that a commemoration of "All Martyrs" began to be celebrated as early as 270 AD but no specific month or date is recorded. Pope Gregory IV made All Saints' Day an authorised holiday in 837 AD. It is speculated that the chosen date for the event, November 1, may have been an attempt to supplant the pagan Festival of the Dead (also known as Samhain or the feast of Saman, lord of death).

### **2<sup>nd</sup> November - All Souls**

The exact origin of All Souls' Day is unknown, but it is not more than about 1200 years old. The Orthodox Church traces the first All Souls' Day to 893, when Emperor Leo VI was denied his request to dedicate a church to the memory of his late wife and dedicated it to all Christian souls instead.

Originally, All Souls' Day was held around Easter time. The Orthodox Church celebrates it several times throughout the year, including four times around Lent. Roman Catholics and liturgical Protestants celebrate All Souls' Day on November 2, unless it falls on a Sunday, in which case it is moved to November 3.

### **12<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Sunday**

It is now held on the second Sunday of November commemorating 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, often around war memorials, with the ceremony at the Cenotaph in London being the main example.

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. 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.

With the continued conflicts in many parts of the world, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, and now Ukraine, it is important that we focus on the consequences of war and the need to work for peace.

### **26<sup>th</sup> November – Christ the King**

Feast of Christ the King, also called Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, festival celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church in honour of Jesus Christ as lord over all creation. Essentially a magnification of the Feast of the Ascension, it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. Originally, it was celebrated on the last Sunday in October, but in the revised liturgical calendar promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969 it was moved to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time (immediately preceding Advent), where its theme of Christ's dominion made it a fitting end to the liturgical year. The festival is also observed in Lutheran, Anglican, and other Protestant churches.

Only a few years after the Bolshevik October Revolution, and at a time in Europe after the First World War when fascism and dictatorships posed a serious threat, Pope Pius XI in 1925 did indeed inaugurate a new festival in honour of the Kingship of Christ. This was primarily intended to counter the claims of secularism by holding up the model of Christ, as King of the Creation, whose just and gentle rule is supreme.

In the Church of England, it was made a mandatory celebration in *Common Worship*, on the Sunday next before Advent.

Several theological and liturgical considerations account for the prominence of its observance. It concludes the Christian year with a

climactic celebration that focuses on Christ as glorified Lord and King - a powerful reminder that praise of his Kingship is always the theme of the calendar. Many times, it has been pointed out that every Sunday is really designated as a day of Christ the King. In addition, this festival also deepens awareness of the final end of all things in the triumph of Christ: it brings the cycle of the liturgical year to an end but looks forward to its turning again on Advent Sunday. Worship of Christ on his throne leads on to the message of Christ as Judge.

Compiled by William Holden from various sources.

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## MONEY MATTERS - Figures for October 2023

### Receipts

Planned Giving	£	3101
Income tax recovered	£	1246
Community Centre Income	£	1537
Pay Donation Station/Sundry Donations	£	540
Collections/Other giving	£	137
Credit interest	£	5
VLS donations	£	6801
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>13367</b>

### Payments

Parish Contribution	£	6304
Salaries	£	788
Utilities and Insurance	£	535
Rectory	£	326
Community Centre running costs	£	1373
Sum Up/Bank Charges	£	26
PCC expenses	£	327
Photocopier	£	480
Charity donation	£	125
Church running expenses/maintenance	£	1692
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11976</b>

**Year to date deficit £49,645**



<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading, Commemorations &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for November (Year A)
<b>WEDS</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	All Christian people
<b>THURS</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	For the departed especially those known to us
<b>FRI</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	Our understanding of our faith
<b>SAT</b> <b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Bible reading
<b>SUN</b> <b>5<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>4th Sunday before Advent Micah 3. 5-end 1 Thessalonians 2. 9-13 Matthew 24. 1-14</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>6<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our PCC
<b>TUES</b> <b>7<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Churchwardens
<b>WEDS</b> <b>8<sup>TH</sup></b>	Christians in the workplace
<b>THURS</b> <b>9<sup>TH</sup></b>	Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance
<b>FRI</b> <b>10<sup>TH</sup></b>	Bishop Martin
<b>SAT</b> <b>11<sup>TH</sup></b>	For all victims of war
<b>SUN</b> <b>12<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday Wisdom 5. 12-16 1 Thessalonians 4. 13-end Matthew 25. 1-13</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>13<sup>TH</sup></b>	Diocesan Synod
<b>TUES</b> <b>14<sup>TH</sup></b>	Bishop Will
<b>WEDS</b> <b>15<sup>TH</sup></b>	Archdeacon Martin

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading, Commemorations &amp; Intentions</b> Calendar for November (Year B)
<b>THURS</b> <b>16<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Civil Service
<b>FRI</b> <b>17<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Sunday School and its leaders.
<b>SAT</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>The King and Royal Family</i>
<b>SUN</b> <b>19<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>2nd Sunday before Advent Zephaniah 1. 7, 12-end 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11 Matthew 25. 14-30</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>20<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Bible Study Groups
<b>TUES</b> <b>21<sup>ST</sup></b>	St George's Roman Catholic Church
<b>WEDS</b> <b>22<sup>ND</sup></b>	All working at Diocesan House
<b>THURS</b> <b>23<sup>RD</sup></b>	All involved with church music
<b>FRI</b> <b>24<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our sidespeople
<b>SAT</b> <b>25<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our Organist and Choir
<b>SUN</b> <b>26<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>Christ the King Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24 Ephesians 1. 15-end Matthew 25. 31-end</b>
<b>MON</b> <b>27<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our readers and intercessors
<b>TUES</b> <b>28<sup>TH</sup></b>	Our serving team
<b>WEDS</b> <b>29<sup>TH</sup></b>	Thanksgiving for the Missionary work of the Church
<b>THURS</b> <b>30<sup>TH</sup></b>	All missionary societies

And finally.....

## **A Prayer for November**

Father God,

November is not many people's favourite month, unless there is a birthday or a delight in bonfires. Short days, sometimes dismal weather can lower our mood. The days of springtime optimism and summer sunshine seem a long way away, whether we look back or forward.

Help us Lord, whatever the month, whatever our circumstances, whatever our mood, to know the reality of Your presence and peace; to treasure each new day and know it is transformed by You into the most precious and beautiful gift. Help us not to waste a single one of them, Lord. Thank You so much for November days.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

