

# AROUND THE SPIRE

*FREE Magazine for the Parishioners*

*of Quedgeley & Kingsway*



**St. James  
& Saint Mary Magdalene  
Quedgeley & Kingsway**



**Issue No 86**

**November 2022**



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Saint James' Church Quedgeley & Kingsway

# Christmas Fayre

Saturday 12th November

Quedgeley Community Centre  
School Lane  
Quedgeley

GL2 4PN

2.30pm -4.30 pm

Stalls  
Refreshments  
Cakes  
Tombola



St. James' Church Quedgeley & Kingsway

# Coffee Morning, Stalls & Christmas Raffle

Saturday 3rd December

10.30am - 1pm

**First Prize**

£100

Wine  
Hampers  
Chocolate

and many more prizes!

We have a Special Guest to draw the Raffle!

Thank you to the following for some great raffle prizes!

**ARRK**  
**TESCO**

**ST. JAMES' CHURCH**

All proceeds towards the upkeep of Saint James' Church Quedgeley

Please support our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 12th November. We've an assortment of stalls, tombola and some really yummy refreshments. The fayre starts at 2.30pm so don't be late if you want to snap up a Christmas bargain!

On Saturday 3rd December we shall be drawing our Christmas Raffle at a Coffee Morning, in church from 10.30am –1pm You may be the lucky winner of £100, first prize. Please support these two fund raising events. All proceeds to church funds.



## The J a M sessions

**Every Sunday from November 27th, lively praise, worship and teaching from 5 to 6pm. If you want to know more, please talk to Revd Mark on 01452 722916 or [drmarksid@gmail.com](mailto:drmarksid@gmail.com)**



**Editorial**  
**Thoughts for November**  
**Revd. Mark Siddall**



For this month I am acting as guest editor for Fr. Hugh, who has been taking a well earned holiday. Fr. Hugh will be back in post next month. This is the season of Remembrance in the Church and in the world. As a Christian, remembrance has a particular poignancy from John chapter 15 verse 13:

**Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

Over recent years, Remembrance has become the largest mass participation event in our country. As the last survivors of the world wars die of old age, there has been a new impetus to remember the follies that lead to war that we might avoid such struggles in the future. Equally, the recent conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and Ukraine have resulted in the loss of fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers, sons and daughters. God knows that we must continue to seek peace. Many of us will have lost loved ones and remembrance is very personal but there is a strong sense in remembrance that we must also remember together. It is for good reason that all of the prayers, poems and words around commemoration use the word 'we' and not the word 'I'.

**At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
WE will remember them.**

WE remember collectively the great sacrifices made. Sacrifices made so that we might continue to live and prosper in peace, safety and hope.

## A prayer of Remembrance

O God of truth and justice,  
we hold before you those people  
who have been injured or who have died in active service.  
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory, may we put  
our faith in your future;  
for you are the source of life, peace and hope,  
now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

Revd. Mark Siddall

### THE SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE



**2nd Nov All Souls (Requiem)\***

**6th Nov 4.00pm Memorial service** for those who have lost loved ones in the last year\*

\* During these services we shall be offering the names of those who have died. There is a list

in church for you to write the names of departed loved ones; please print names to avoid mistakes. Alternatively please email any names to Revd Mark: [drmarksid@gmail.com](mailto:drmarksid@gmail.com)

**11th November Armistice Day**

10.45am for 11am Civic Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

**13th November Remembrance Sunday**

9.30am Scouts Association

10.30am Holy Communion with act of Remembrance

# Warm Wednesdays at St. James'

***Take a break from the chill with WARM WEDNESDAYS at St James***

9.15 to 9.30am Quiet Prayers, a great start to the day after the school run or just a pause to reflect

10 to 11am Holy Communion, beautiful worship and friendship in a warm environment

11am to 12pm Space for personal prayer and reflection

1.30 to 3pm Tea@2, conversation, fun and games in a warm, friendly environment

## Sleeping Out

On a cold but dry night in October, Theresa Fisher, Community Champion at Tesco and her team of 4 took to the streets in Gloucester to participate in a 'Sleep Out'. Along with 36 other people from various organisations and businesses across the city, their task was to raise as much money as possible for the City Mission.

The City Mission supports those who are homeless, providing daily food, clothing and shelter during the winter months. The mission relies solely on donations either by cash or kind.

Theresa and her team armed with sleeping bags and cardboard sheeting set up camp in Southgate Street at 7.00pm. It was going to be a long night finishing at 7.00am the following day. As the temperature plummeted Theresa said "I was thankful for the Knit and Natter bobble hat and thermals" although she did say "going to the toilet was a bit of a challenge". Spending 12hours on the street could be a lonesome business and a challenge for most of us but with 39 other people around Theresa and her team were

undeterred. “There was lots of laughter which helped to pass the time and everyone was on good form. Some of the homeless people came over to chat to us and many people who had been on a night out in Gloucester were generous in giving donations” said Theresa.

In fact, as the donation bucket rattled throughout the night, an amazing £150 was raised. Along with sponsorship Theresa and her team managed to collect a staggering £800. Theresa added “ I’m glad I took part. It makes me thankful and appreciative of a nice warm bed at night and food on the table”.

Some of the people Theresa met were ex veterans, others suffering from mental health, drug /alcohol issues, each with their own story to tell. The poignant message here is that none of us can say hand on heart, “This won’t happen to me”. No one knows what the future holds. None of us are immune from becoming vulnerable.

If you would like to donate or find out more about the City Mission click on to <https://www.gloscitymission.org.uk/>



# STJ's Harvest



Rev. Ann showed us some of the vegetables and fruit she had grown in her allotment, mainly from some very small seeds. Some vegetables had grown well others less so. We can all sow seeds of kindness in our daily lives and we don't need an allotment to do it. Why not try it—you'll be amazed at the results.



**STJ's is held on the first Sunday of each month at 10.30am.**

**Don't be late or you'll miss the fun!**

## Belonging to the Prayer Cell led by Fr Hugh

A small group of us are part of a PARISH PRAYER CELL led by Fr Hugh. We pray each day at home and join together at occasional meetings. We pray to begin with using the booklet, 'Time to Pray' which is drawn from *Common Worship: Daily Prayer* and offers 'Prayer During the Day' and 'Night Prayer'. We follow the short service contained in the booklet and when prayers are invited, they can be said in our own words, out loud or silently. We then move on to freer discussion and more personal prayers. It was remarked upon at one of our meetings that when we use 'Time to Pray' and follow the themes suggested each day for prayer, we are joining in with Christians in different parts of the world all praying in the same way, which brings a sense of worldwide togetherness and power to our prayers.



I like a set format to my prayers and am therefore grateful to having been introduced to the booklet, 'Time to Pray'. It helps me to focus my mind and reminds me of God's presence, his love and his care. It helps me be aware of the background history in the Bible out of which Jesus was sent to us, by whose death on the cross Christianity was born. Praying gives me new resolve. Being part of a prayer cell helps in my endeavour to be guided by a Christian way of life.

Liz Keenan

A small group of six keeps us together and focused, giving trust in and help from our daily prayers. The group can pray together on issues or subjects at a meeting or by email, giving power to prayer. I enjoy the meetings, where we exchange thoughts and ideas about the way we each like to carry out our daily prayers. I use the 'Time to Pray' App on my phone, so I have it with me wherever I go.



Tony Cockerton



## Out and about in Kingsway and Quedgeley with Revd Mark



### *Reviews and insights from our community*

As a break from my usual review, this month I thought I would report on my new Chaplaincy role at Severn Vale school in partnership with Revd Richard Martin of Hardwicke and Elmore Benefice.

Severn Vale is an amazing place, teaching some 1400 students from 11 to 16 years old. Christian Chaplaincy is rooted in Jesus' example of coming alongside, simply as a listening and friendly presence. Such a role is becoming increasingly important in our very structured and organised workplaces and there is a long history of Chaplaincy in school. It is a chance to live out some of my most basic calling as a Christian and a priest and that is simply to be, to listen and to care.

An old Quaker friend once told me that to listen is the greatest act of love and Chaplaincy certainly models that. Spending time with these young people, whether vivacious and extravert or quietly creative is a joy. I have learnt a lot and I have been reminded once more that to step out in faith into a new calling offers some of the most rewarding experiences life has to offer.



## Creation Care /Cash tips

By Revd. Mark



### Wisdom in the weave

I am sure many of us will be getting blankets out as temperatures drop and we consider carefully whether or not to crank up our heating. My family have for generations holidayed in Wales. Whether staying in chilly caravans or draughty old cottages a constant comfort has been the weight, warmth and beautiful craft of Welsh blankets or *cartheni* in Welsh. They are so heavy that they almost pin you into place and their weight tucks them into any gaps where cold air might get in. We love them so much that we have bought a few over the years. These are the kinds of blankets that are passed down the generations offering familiar warmth, comfort and savings to each new generation. You know something often said is that caring for creation is a 'trendy new thing'. In fact it is often more about discovering that the very best things of the past have a new role in all our futures and not just in saving money on heating bills.



Saint James' Church  
Second Hand Toys



**TOY FAIR**

Saturday 26th November  
10.00am  
Saint James' Church  
Quedgeley  
GL2 4PN

For £2.00 you can enjoy some of our delicious cake and a cuppa too!



**Tea@2** Every Wednesday  
at 2pm—4pm  
Refreshments, Quiz and Bingo

Due to insufficient space last month we were unable to publish the answer to September's photo quiz. The answer is Lechlade on Thames

## **“Lights in their Own Generation”**

*A new series celebrating, month by month, some of those who left a special mark on the history of the worldwide Christian Church.*

*“Lights” that shine in November*



**1<sup>st</sup>: All Saints** From its earliest days, the Church has recognised as its foundation stones those heroes of the faith – well-known and unknown – whose lives have guided and inspired others to holiness, and we acknowledge a Communion with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven. The feast of All Saints has been observed worldwide since the fourth century.

**2<sup>nd</sup>: All Souls** In Christ all the faithful, both living and departed, are bound together in a communion of prayer. That is what we celebrate on this day. Christians have long recognised that the Church is at its most perfect when it professes its unity in God's redeeming love with all those who have said, ho say no, and who will say in the fullness of time, “Jesus is Lord”.

**6<sup>th</sup>: William Temple, Archbishop** As a scholar, William excelled in philosophy and theology. After ordination, he quickly made his mark in the Church, and was consecrated Bishop at the age of forty. Within a decade he was Archbishop of York. He is remembered for his work in the ecumenical aspect of church life and for his concern with social issues, contributing to the process which eventually created the welfare state. He became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1942, but sadly died just two years later.

**9<sup>th</sup>: Margery Kempe, Mystic & writer** She was born in Lynne, Norfolk, in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century, a contemporary of the lady Julian of Norwich. She received many visions – several of them of the holy family – and had conversations with the early saints. People sought her out for counsel, and she was often rebuked by the Church hierarchy. She made pilgrimages to many holy places cross Europe and the Israel, often setting out penniless. She enjoyed the consciousness of a close communion with Christ and developed a strong compassion for the sins of the world.

**16<sup>th</sup>: Margaret of Scotland** An Anglo-Saxon, born in 1046, she was educated in Hungary where her family were in exile during the reign of Danish kings in England. Following the Norman invasion in 1066 her royal personage was still a threat to the new monarchy; he was welcomed into the Scottish court of Malcolm III, whom she married in 1069. It was a happy and fruitful union, and Margaret proved to be a holy presence, instituting church reforms and founding several monasteries. She was a woman of prayer and good works, and seemed to influence for good all with whom she came into contact.

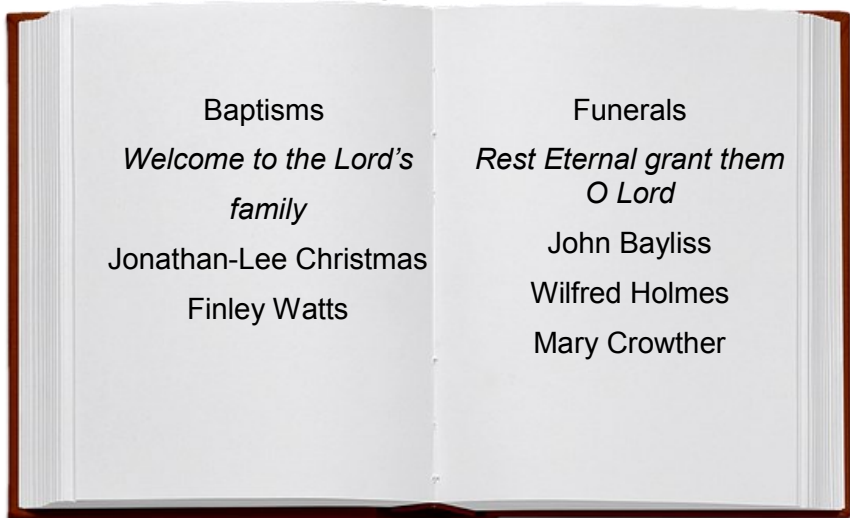
**19<sup>th</sup>: Hilda, Abbess of Whitby** Hilda was born in 614 of the royal house of Northumbria and was baptised by Paulinus (the first Archbishop of York). She became an influential lay leader of the Church and was encouraged by Aidan of Lindisfarne to become a Religious. She established the abbey at Whitby and the house became a great centre of learning. It was there that the important Synod of Whitby gathered in 664 and Hilda's role was that of a reconciler between the Celtic and Roman traditions.

**22<sup>nd</sup>: Cecilia, Martyr at Rome** Cecilia was one of the most revered martyrs of the church in Rome, but the only thing known for certain is that, at some point in the second or third century, a woman called Cecilia allowed the Church to meet in her house in Trastevere in Rome. She is remembered as a brave woman who risked giving hospitality to Christians at a time when it was dangerous to do so. She and her husband were martyred together and she is honoured as the patron saint of music.

**25<sup>th</sup>: Catherine of Alexandria** Tradition has it that Catherine was a girl of a noble family, who, because of her Christian faith, refused marriage with the emperor as she was already a "bride of Christ". She is said to have disputed with fifty philosophers who had been sent to convince her of her error, and she proved superior in argument to them all. She was tortured on a wheel before being executed.

**30<sup>th</sup>: Andrew the Apostle** It is in St John's gospel that we learn most about Andrew. He was a Galilean fisherman, mending his nets, when Jesus called him to follow him – which he promptly did. Having gone to find his brother Simon (later to be known as Peter), he seems to have remained with Jesus until the end. He was there at the feeding of the five thousand, and later introduced a group of Greeks to Jesus. Tradition has him travelling on several missionary journeys and eventually being martyred on an X-shaped cross. *To be continued....Fr. Ian*

## Church Register for October



## Act of Remembrance over the years



Our grateful thanks to Andrew Wakely and his team for organising Songs of Praise. The afternoon was enjoyed by many. Hymns old and new were sung . We heard from Val, Caroline, Eileen, Di and Pete Allen, who explained to us why the hymns they had chosen meant so much to them. Everyone enjoyed a glass of wine and light buffet following the event. Once again, many thanks again Andrew.



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# MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



On Thursday 29th September, in partnership with Tesco Stores, and the Q Club Quedgeley we held a Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. There are few people who have not been either directly or indirectly affected by this cruel disease. The support shown by the community to the Macmillan cause was overwhelming. We raised £500.00 during the morning. Thanks go to everyone who helped either by volunteering, donating cakes, making knitwear or contributing to the raffle. Your contribution was vital.



## Who's Who in the Parish Church

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