

St Cuthbert's Church Ormesby

Sunday 8th November. The third Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday



*They shall grow not old, as we that
are left grow old: Age shall not
weary them, nor the years
condemn. At the going down of the
sun and in the morning we will
remember them.*

Once again more we are facing a Sunday without the possibility of attending a service in our church. This will be especially sad for many people because it is Remembrance Sunday today. You can still mark this special day of remembrance in other ways.

The Remembrance Sunday service at the Cenotaph will be broadcast live on BBC One starting at 10.15 or use this link

<https://www.churchofengland.org/> for other ways to participate.

Although places of worship cannot hold services we will be able to open for private prayer. At the moment we will be open on Sunday mornings between 10:30 and 12 and Wednesday mornings between 10 and 11.

In July we produced what we were hoping was to be the last-ever on-line bulletin. Sadly this did not turn out to be the case. So we have decided to produce mini bulletins while the latest lockdown lasts. These will not

be as elaborate as the bulletins produced earlier in the year, but there will be details of the Bible readings for the week, the collects, a short meditation from one of the ministry team, and any other news items or contributions from readers that you may like to send in.

The **Church's website** and the **St Cuthbert's Facebook page** are good ways of keeping in touch: links below.

<https://stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/stcuthbertsormesby/>

but if you are reading this from a paper copy and do not have access to the Internet, the following names and phone numbers may prove useful.

Deacon:	Revd. Janet Caldwell	0162454790
Reader-in-training:	Elizabeth Furnell	01642 293108
Church Warden:	Janet Danks	01642 321347
Church Warden:	Elaine Boyle	077946227152

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Don't forget that there is an online service at 9am every Sunday. Use this link to The C of E's website where you will find this service and also many other helpful items.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Whatever you choose to do, you can find the readings for this Sunday listed below. For copyright reasons, we will not be printing the full texts of the readings, so if you have not got your own Bible, you can get all the texts from the Bible Gateway website. You can even choose which version of the Bible you prefer! Here is the link: BibleGateway.com

Readings for Remembrance Sunday

First Reading :Wisdom of Solomon 6, 12-16

The Epistle : 1 Thessalonians 4, 13 - end

The Gospel. Matthew 25, 1-13



The Collect for Remembrance Sunday

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that the earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

A letter from our own Deacon Janet

For the Sundays before Advent, the Church chooses passages from the gospels which reflect the need for awareness about the coming or in-breaking (to use contemporary church speak) of the kingdom of God. A kingdom which will bring not only justice and mercy but also judgement.

So the gospel passage today is a well-known story about the 10 bridesmaids who await for the arrival of the bridegroom. Five of them took enough oil for their lamps and a bit more to spare. Five of them took their lamps but not enough oil. Like all weddings there was a lot of waiting and all 10 of them fell asleep. When the bridegroom finally arrived, those who had insufficient oil missed him because they had gone off to a lamp oil shop to buy more supplies and on their return found the doors of the wedding feast shut against them and a challenging message left for them

'Keep awake therefore for you know neither the day nor the hour'

To me this means keeping our spiritual resources topped up at all times. Even though we are denied our regular spiritual food in the form of Holy Communion, there are other ways in which we can keep our spiritual lamps burning; by prayer, service to other others, giving our time and resources to make somebody's life better; supporting the needy and isolated and by setting time aside for prayer and bible study, especially during this time of second lockdown.

On Remembrance Sunday think about our forebears from all nations, who waited and waited, endured hardship and separation for years, lived and sometimes suffered and died in two world wars yet kept their lamps of faith burning and I'm sure you will too.

With love and prayers

Deacon Janet

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and a number of senior church leaders are inviting Christians across the nation to participate in the month of prayer as a second lockdown in England comes into force.

“We call upon the Church of England to make November 2020 a month of prayer for our nation. We know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures forever.”

Read the Archbishops letter

Dear Friends,

These are deeply challenging and difficult times for us all. When we are surrounded by fear and suffering, it can be hard to feel hopeful. This coming winter feels like it will be longer and darker than usual. There is a story in the Bible where Jesus and his disciples are caught in a storm. The disciples are understandably terrified as the wind and waves threaten to overpower them. ‘Why are you so afraid?’, Jesus asks. This year, we too have been caught in a storm which often feels overwhelming. And yet we can look to Jesus, in the boat with us, who calms the storm and comforts us in our fear. We are writing to share our belief that whoever you are, and whatever you happen to believe, you are loved by God. Beyond measure. We also want you to know that we are praying for you, particularly asking that Christ’s love will comfort us, calm our fears, and lead our nation and our world through this terrible pandemic. Starting this week, we have asked every church to pray each day at 6pm. We invite you to join with us. You’ll be able to find simple resources on the Church of England website and social media channels. There are three other

responses that we want to encourage everyone to consider - First, let's be calm. By only buying what we need and not hoarding, or by reaching out to our neighbours as we did during the first lockdown, we can be stronger together in ways that are impossible if we go it alone. When things go wrong - as they always will with such complex challenges - let us look for good and right ways forward together. Secondly, let's be courageous. There are many reasons to be fearful at the moment, but the story of Christ calming the waves calls us to give our fears to Jesus and have faith in Him. The British willingness just to get on with things is one of our very best characteristics - let us not be paralysed by fear. We will all need each other's courage in the months to come. Thirdly, let's be compassionate. So many of us are holding so much pain - our own and the pain of those we love. We will need to be gentle, kind and patient with each other. In the first wave we showed we are a nation of compassion and kindness. Let's dig deep and keep that love for our neighbours strong in this second time of struggle. Even though there is much darkness around us, there are also many points of light in the weeks ahead. This Sunday is Remembrance Day. As we remember the courage and sacrifice of those who gave everything for this nation in war, we are also reminded of the possibility for hope after destruction, of new life after suffering. In the coming weeks, there are great religious ceremonies. For Hindus, Sikhs and Jains there is Diwali, the festival of light. Sikhs will celebrate the birth of Guru Nanak. The Jewish community will observe Hanukkah. Many Muslim communities have just celebrated Eid-e-Milad, the anniversary of the birth of Muhammad. Soon it will be Christmas. At his birth Jesus

was also called Emmanuel. It's a word that appears in lots of carols. It means 'God is with us'. And this is the message of Christmas: in Jesus, God is with us, sharing our darkness and our struggles, bringing comfort and joy. It is the source of our hope. As the Bible says: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5) Let us shine in the darkness of this winter. May God bless you and keep you, and all those you love.

† Justin Cantaur

† Stephen Ebor

The prayer for week 1 (9-15 November)

Loving God,
at this time of crisis when so many are suffering,
we pray for our nation and our world.
Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength,
our people hope.
Lead us through these parched and difficult days
to the fresh springs of joy and comfort
that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Now find out how you can play Father Christmas this year!

St. Cuthbert's 2020 Christmas Appeal

Mission to Seafarers

Due to Covid 19 restrictions, we won't be filling shoeboxes this year, instead, the chaplain Peter Barrigan and his team at Tees

Dock will be making up individual bags for crew members. They have asked us if we could supply the following items:

Shaving cream, Gloves, Lip Balm and 'sweet treats' such as bars of chocolate/ bag of sweets. Christmas cards are also welcome so one can be put in each bag.

Food banks

They need:

Tinned fish, meat, vegetables including potatoes and tomatoes. tinned and packet soup, pasta (not spaghetti or Lasagne), instant mash, Milk (uht or powdered) tinned rice puddings biscuits, other sweet treats such as chocolate and crisps Tea, coffee squash and long-life fruit juice, breakfast cereals (not porridge), jam, marmalade, peanut butter and chocolate spread. Non-food items needed are toothbrushes, shaving foam, razors, deodorants for men and women, washing up liquid and washing powder or gel.

Please help if you can by buying some of these items when you do your weekly shop. We will find a way of passing them on, we hope, by the second week in December. We may be back in church by then, but meanwhile, when we open the church for private prayer you will be able to drop items off at the Church.

Please check the website or ring Carol or Larry on 01642 489568 for updates or if you would like us to collect your gifts.



Finally, are you missing Canon Peter's jokes? Well here's a story to cheer you up.

An answer to prayer?

There were two next door neighbours who were quite friendly but had agreed to differ on religious matters.

During lockdown, Jane, the Christian neighbour, mentioned to Mary, her atheist friend, that her Tesco order hadn't been delivered. Atheist friend said, scoffing, "well why don't you pray about it?" Ask the Lord to send you a basket of groceries"

"OK "said Jane, I will! Early next morning, Mary nipped round to the CO-OP (she may have been an atheist but she was an ethical shopper), bought a basketful of groceries and, chortling away to herself, left them on her friend's doorstep.

Jane phoned Mary and excitedly told her that her prayer had been answered. "Sorry to disillusion you" said Mary "but actually / bought that food." Jane immediately cried "Thank you Lord for sending me those groceries and for getting an atheist to pay for them".

If you would like to contribute an item, write a letter or send in a photo please email

carolmbruce@yahoo.co.uk

if you know someone who would like a paper copy of the bulletin and you are unable to print a copy for them yourself, please send an email to the above address or get in touch with Janet Caldwell on 0162 454790