



Newsletter

2 & 9 November 2025



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Services for Sunday 2 November 2025 All Saints/All Souls

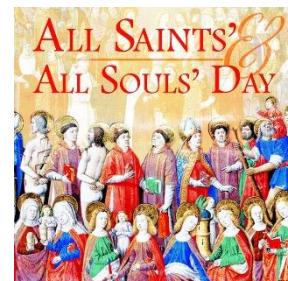
St Paul's 10am **All Age Worship for All Saints** led by Anthea Darlington and Revd Andy Smith

St Andrew's 11am **Holy Communion for All Saints** preside and preach: Revd Mike Dyson

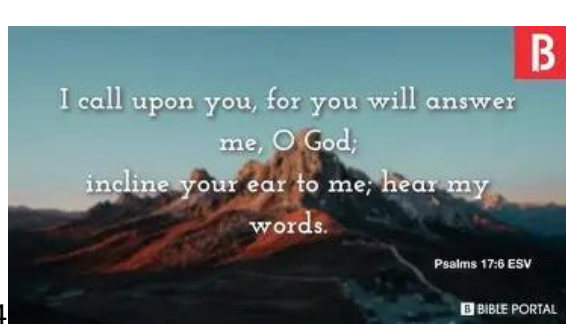
Joint Service for Sunday 9 November 2025 Remembrance Sunday

St Paul's 10am **Remembrance Service** led by Revd Mike Dyson and Anthea Darlington with the uniformed organisations

NO SERVICE at St Andrew's



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Readings for Sun 2 November
(St Paul's)
(St Andrew's)

Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18
Luke 19: 1-10
Psalm 149
Luke 6: 20-31
Psalm 17: 1-9
Luke 20: 27-38

(1) *the Holy Ones of the Most High*
(2) *Jesus and Zaccheus*
(3) *Praise the Lord*
(4) *Blessed are you*
(5) *I will call upon you O God*
(6) *About the Resurrection*

Readings for Sun 9 November

+++++ Recently a group consisting of people who trained as Spiritual Companions in the Diocese of Manchester went on their annual retreat together to the Prayer Centre at St Joseph's, Formby. Our study times were based around the theme of 'Living Stones.' While we were there, one of our number, Susan Edmondson, wrote the following poem. You may remember Susan as the wife of Bishop Chris Edmondson, Bishop of Bolton from 2008-16. Though now retired, they are both active in their local church in their home city of Bradford, and Bishop Chris is now chaplain to Yorkshire County Cricket Club at Headingley. He recently gave the address at the funeral of the legendary cricket umpire, Dickie Bird.

Stones

Let's build a church, said God.
We have a pile of rubble here, they said.
We don't think it will ever make a church.
But look! said God:
These stones may look dirty cracked and worn,
But I will clean them and help them fit together.
Stones which have been broken by harsh words and abuse:
I will bring them justice and kindness
Stones which are spiky with jealousy and insecurity:
I will bring them self-esteem and confidence
Stones which are crumbly with irritability and bad temper:
I will bring them peace and patience
Stones which are misshapen through care and struggle:
I will bring them strength and contentment



Stones which are porous and have absorbed unhelpful ideas:

I will bring them truth and new direction

Stones which are big and shiny with a sense of their own importance:

I will bring them humility and self-awareness

Stones which are cracked and damaged by their past mistakes:

I will bring them forgiveness and healing

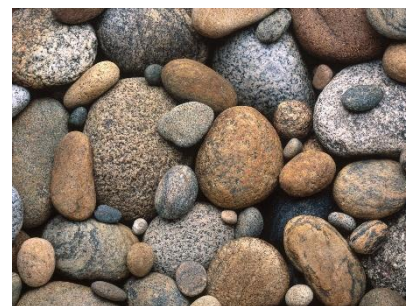
Stones which are round and don't think their shape fits in anywhere:

I will bring them value and purpose.

I can build with these stones, said God.

None of them will be left out

And they will be held together with love.



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News on Community Payback. The young people on community service placements will be



working in St Paul's churchyard more often in the coming weeks. Some of their summer jobs cease, freeing them up to spend more time clearing the churchyard. We are grateful for the work they are doing to clear away grass, weeds and brambles in several areas. Some parts of the churchyard becoming more accessible to visitors, and it is good to have positive rather than negative feedback from visitors to graves.

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Prayers As we celebrate the feasts of All Saints and All Souls and prepare to remember those who have died in conflicts past, we pray for our world: that wars may cease and that we may all live as one in peace and harmony. We give thanks for the work of the Royal British Legion supporting ex-servicemen and women in need. We pray for all who have died and gone before us, especially those who gave their lives in the two Great Wars and subsequent conflicts. We pray for those who remain and who seek to follow your will in this life and in the life to come.

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News and events

Shoeboxes will be filled and wrapped on Tuesday afternoon 4 November at Time Out at 1.30pm. Please come along to help if you can. Financial contributions towards the cost of sending the shoeboxes (now £3 per box) will be greatly appreciated. The shoeboxes will be collected in early November. Thank you to all who have contributed items to fill the boxes.



Recruitment for a new Rector will begin shortly as a team begin work on an updated Parish Profile, and our Pre-Vacancy meeting with Archdeacon Rachel and the PCC takes place on 26 November. Watch this space!

Poppies: our poppy contact at Prestwich Royal British Legion retired last year and does not appear to have been replaced. As a result, we have not received any poppies to sell this year. Apologies to those who were expecting them. Please look out in the local supermarkets.

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Wed 5 Nov: Psalm 112; Luke 14: 25-33 Wed 12 Nov: Psalm 23; Luke 17: 11-19

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Next 2 weeks

Tuesday 4 November: Time Out 1.30pm Filling the shoeboxes – extra volunteers welcome

Tuesday 4 November: Bible study 6 7pm at St Paul's

Wednesday 5 November: 10am at St Paul's: Holy Communion with **Revd Christine Hardy**

Thursday 6 November: 7pm **Finance group** at 32 Moor Lane

Friday 7 November: 10-12 noon Motherhood and Milk group St Paul's Social Area

Tuesday 11 November: Bible study 7 7pm St Paul's **NB football match** so limited parking

Wednesday 12 November: 10am at St Paul's: Morning Praise with David and Heather Martin

CONTACT INFORMATION

Current Clergy Team:

Revd Mike Dyson (Associate Minister)

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Revd Hilary Shedlock (Associate Minister)

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Revd Andy Smith (Associate Priest)

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All other needs:

David Martin Parish Churchwarden

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Anthea Darlington Parish Churchwarden, Data Officer,

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Eileen Booth PCC Secretary 0161 792 9960

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For more information visit our websites:

St Paul's: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15877

St Andrew's: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15878