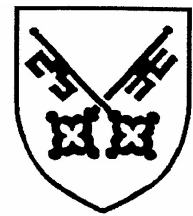


St Peter's Church Magazine



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St Peter's Church, Newlands Avenue, Didcot ❖ www.stpeters-didcot.org.uk
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Prayers from the Bible – ‘The Prayer for Holy Love’ By Rev'd Hannah Reynolds

In the New International Version, Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians (chapter 3, verses 12 and 13) reads: 'May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.' Paul's first letter to the Thessalonian church, dating from about 51 AD, is generally regarded as the first book in the New Testament to have been written. That means that this prayer is the first New Testament prayer to have been written and recorded (after the Lord's Prayer).

Paul has already highly commended the genuine spiritual experience and character of these new Christians. He thanked God for their faith, love and hope, 1:3; they were examples to others, 1:7; their faith in God was

being widely spoken about, 1:8; and having turned from idolatry they were now serving the true God and expecting Christ's Second Coming, 1:9, 10. It is for these new and enthusiastic believers that Paul now prays. The prayer asks for two great blessings for these Christians. First that they may abound in love toward each other and to the world, and then that their conduct will be characterised by holy living. What a model prayer this is for Christians in every age! Note Paul's words, 'may the Lord make you increase and abound in love' (v.12). This is not merely asking that these believers will love one another, but that their love will be full and overflowing.

Perhaps Paul is recalling that Jesus said the world would recognise His disciples by their love toward one another (John

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13:35). But this love, the essence of Christian experience, is not narrow or parochial. Paul prayed that their love would abound not only to each other but also 'to all men.' What a picture of what The Church should be. All of us who claim to be followers of Christ should be known by our love for one another and for the world for which He died.

Then comes the second request in the prayer, that their hearts will be 'established unblameable in holiness.' (v.13). The word translated 'established' means to be fixed, to be settled, indicating constant character. In this world no Christian can be faultless, but by His grace and mercy we are called to be blameless. In the prayer Paul brings together the condition of our hearts – overflowing in love, and the quality of our conduct – steadfast in holy living. What a combination of holy love, a reflection of what Jesus was! One other aspect of this prayer is worth noting. When Paul prays that the love of these Christians will abound to each other, he adds that this is how he feels about them; 'as we do to you' (v.12). Likewise, in 2:10 Paul says the Thessalonians are witnesses of His holy, righteous and blameless conduct among them.

The love and holiness for which Paul prays for these believers can be seen in his own life and work. Surely the most pressing need in the world is that all of us, as Christ's disciples, will consistently bear witness to His love controlling our hearts and our conduct.

September has been a challenging month, with the continuing conflict in Gaza/Israel now taking in other countries, the murder of the conservative Christian, Charlie Kirk, and the shocking responses to his death over social media. With the amount of anger being generated both online and in the country, it can be hard to think in terms of praying to be filled to overflowing with God's love, so that we can love our neighbours or our enemies with all our hearts, minds and soul. But these are the times and the circumstances when we need God's love most. So let us all pray: May the Lord make our love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else. Amen.

Autumn Glades

We stroll through leafy autumn glades,
An amber carpet 'neath our shoes;
As Nature's summer beauty fades
She clothes herself in golden hues.

The stillness of October days,
The chillness of a frosty dawn,
Yet autumn sunshine's slanting rays
Caress us with their glowing warmth.

They also warm the southern breeze,
Which comes upon us, as it may,
Releasing crispy, ochre leaves
To gently patter on our way.

Soon, soon comes winter's icy grip,
Of freezing wind and driving snow,
But, just for now, we'll gladly slip
Through gentle autumn's golden glow.

By Nigel Beeton

St Peter's Church Quiz & Chips Dates for 2025-26

2025
18th October
15th November
2026
17th January
21st February
18th April
16th May
20th June

Contact quiz@stpeters-didcot.org.uk, or Hugh on
01235 811465.

Although there were fewer teams at this month's quiz, due to illness and holidays, everyone who attended agreed it was a good quiz—thanks to Katherine (who was doing her first one!).

The scores were close, with two tie-breaks needed to settle the first place! But the Choir got the points, to head up the leader board for the season, closely followed by Gangreen.

Everyone agreed that the wider range of beers at the bar was a great addition, and the guest beers sold out—there will be more next month.

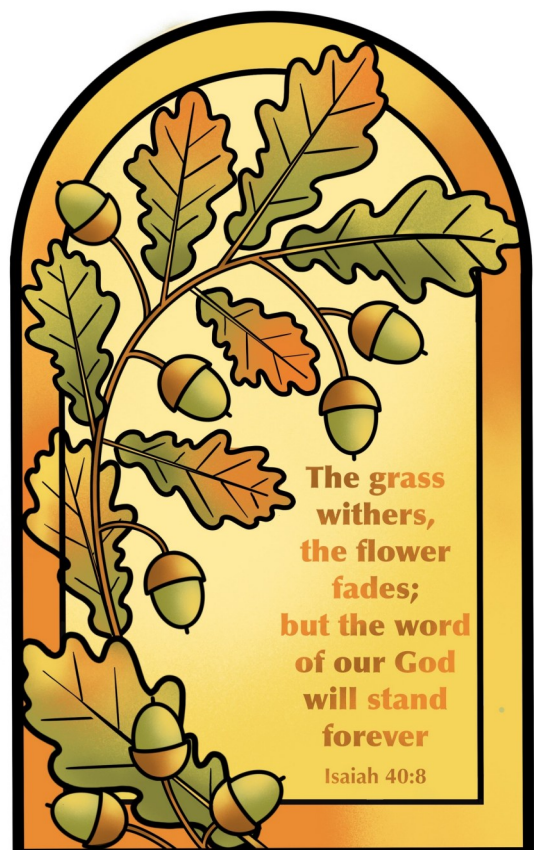
Do get in touch if you'd like to join a team for October.



September's charity was Footsteps Foundation, which many people were not aware of, but the representative spoke movingly of the amazing work they do, providing physiotherapy for severely disabled children with neurological disorders.

Having identified the lack of NHS provision, the charity provides packages of care, and supports parents with grants for bespoke intensive physiotherapy treatment at their Footsteps Centre.. They have supported nearly 300 children.

The charity raffle raised £302.50, which was a magnificent total, given the low numbers attending.



Prayer Intentions: October 2025

<p>1st: Remigius Readings: Psalm 34; Wisdom 7: 15-8: 4; Mark 11: 27-end.</p> <p>Bishop of Reims. Baptised Clovis I, King of the Franks on 24th December 496, leading to the conversion of the Frankish nation.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Edwin Road; Elder Close. Wednesday Church and those who work with people with learning disabilities.</p>	<p>2nd: Readings: Psalm 37; Wisdom 8: 5-18; Mark 12: 1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cockcroft Road, Mowbray Road. The work of the Mothers' union around the world.</p>	<p>3rd: George Bell Readings: Psalm 31; Wisdom 8: 21-end of 9; Mark 12: 13-17.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barnes Road, Barnes Close. Our Director of Music and choir.</p>	<p>4th: Francis of Assisi Readings: Pss 41, 42, 43; Wisdom 10: 15-11: 10; Mark 12: 18-27.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Loyd Road; Bradbury Gardens. For Farmers, animal rescue centres and vets.</p>
<p>5th: Trinity XVI/Harvest Readings: Pss 141; Isaiah 49:13-23; Luke 12:1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Green Road; Green Close. Sunday School and its leaders.</p>	<p>6th: William Tyndale Readings: Psalms 44; Wisdom 11: 21-12:2; Mark 12: 28-34.</p> <p>Bible translator and martyr during the early Reformation.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Royal Berkshire Close Our retired clergy.</p>	<p>7th: Readings: Psalms 48, 52; Wisdom 12: 12-21; Mark 12: 35-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Queensway, Hardings Strings. Didcot Food Bank, its clientele, and all those who volunteer there.</p>	<p>8th: Readings: Ps 119: 57-80; Wisdom 13: 1-9; Mark 13: 1-13.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Tavistock Avenue; Bowness Avenue. Those moving into Didcot's new housing.</p>
<p>9th: Denys Readings: Psalms 56, 57; Wisdom 16: 15-17: 1; Mark 13: 14-23.</p> <p>Better known as Dionysius, St Denys was beheaded in 250 as part of the Decian persecution of Christians.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Warner Crescent; South Park Avenue. The persecuted church.</p>	<p>10th: Paulinus Readings: Psalms 51, 54; Wisdom 18: 6-19; Mark 13: 24-31.</p> <p>A companion of St Augustine on his mission to England. He began the building of a cathedral in York.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Newlands Avenue; Downs Road. Archbishop Stephen Cottrell and the Province of York.</p>	<p>11th: Ethelburga Readings: Psalm 68; Wisdom 19; Mark 13: 32-end.</p> <p>Ethelburga left her native Kent when she married Edwin of Northumbria and began the Christianisation of the North of England.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Larch Drive; Morse Road. The communities at Wantage and Cuddesdon, and former Alton Abbey.</p>	<p>12th: Trinity XII Readings: Psalm 143; Isaiah 50: 4-10; Luke 13: 22-30.</p> <p>Bishop of Northumbria. He fell out with several kings and was exiled to the South, where he established monasteries and churches.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Glebe Rd; Lynmouth Rd. Those who read the scriptures in church.</p>
<p>13th: Edward Confessor Readings: Psalms 71; 2 Chronicles 9: 1-12; Mark 14: 1-11.</p> <p>Called Confessor as he lived a Godly life, but was not martyred. He died in January 1066.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Craven Way; Hillary Dr; Lockinge Close. Pebbles, church for parents and carers for babies toddlers.</p>	<p>14th: Readings: Psalms 73; 2 Chronicles 10: 1-11: 4; Mark 14: 12-25.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cullen Place; Bernard Barlow Close, Hanover Court. Those who speak truth to power and hold those in authority to account.</p>	<p>15th: Teresa of Avila Readings: Psalms 77; 2 Chronicles 12; Mark 14: 26-42.</p> <p>A Carmelite nun, mystic and visionary. She wrote <i>The Interior Castle</i>, describing a form of silent, internal prayer.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Clarence Pl; Frideswide's Court. The Ministry Team.</p>	<p>16th: Ridley & Latimer Readings: Psalm 78: 1-39; 2 Chronicles 13: 1-14: 1; Mark 14: 43-52.</p> <p>Two of the three Oxford Martyrs, burned at the stake on what is now Broad Street, charged with Heresy, under Queen Mary.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wantage Road; Colbourne Road Affirming Catholicism and groups working towards Anglo-catholic evangelism</p>

Prayer Intentions: October 2025

<p>17th: Ignatius Readings: Psalm 55; 2 Chronicles 14: 2-end; Mark 14: 53-65</p> <p>A follower of John the Apostle. Ignatius, on the way to his martyrdom in Rome, he wrote a series of letters to Christians, which are considered great works of early theology.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Barleyfields; Elbourne. Those who support St Peter's with prayer.</p>	<p>18th: Luke Readings: Psalm 145, 146; Isaiah 55; Luke 1:1-4.</p> <p>A companion of Paul on his travels and author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Drake Avenue; Collingwood Avenue. The Quiz n Chips team, those who raise funds for the ministry of St Peter's.</p>	<p>19th: Isaiah XVIII Readings: Psalms 147; Isaiah 54:1-14; Luke 13:31-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Park Road; Park Close. Our families and our Church family.</p>	<p>20th: Readings: Psalm 80, 82; 2 Chronicles 17: 1-12; Mark 15: 1-15.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Garden Close; Rutherford Place. Those who put together the Church magazine and weekly news-sheets.</p>
<p>21st: Reads: Pss 87, 89: 1-18; 2 Chronicles 18: 1-27; Mark 15: 16-32.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Norreys Road; Norreys Close. Our partners in ministry in Didcot.</p>	<p>22nd: Readings: Ps 119: 105-128; 2 Chronicles 18: 28-end of 19; Mark 15: 33-41.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Meadow Way; Brunel Road The police in Didcot and our PCSOs.</p>	<p>23rd: Readings: Psalms 90, 92; 2 Chronicles 20: 1-23; Mark 15: 42-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Portway; Wheatfields. Those who care for the Church linens and furnishings.</p>	<p>24th: Readings: Psalms 88; 2 Chrons 22: 10-end of 23; Mark 16: 1-8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Cromwell Drive; St Ann's Court. St Peter's Outreach to the community.</p>
<p>25: Crispin, Crispinian Readings: Pss 96, 97, 100; 2 Chronicles 24: 1-22; Mark 16: 9-end.</p> <p>Twin brothers preached the Gospel in Gaul. Martyred by beheading in 286.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Hilda's Close; St Hugh's Rise. For peace and an end to conflict worldwide.</p>	<p>26th: Last after Trinity Readings: Psalm 65; Isaiah 59:9-20; Luke 14:1-14.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Campion Hall Drive; Pebble Drive. Our team of welcomers and the assistance they give.</p>	<p>27th: Rdgs: Pss 98, 99, 101; 2 Chronicles 26: 1-21; John 13: 1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Stonesfield; Mansfield Gardens. Our schools, Willowcroft, Aureus, Northbourne and St Birinus.</p>	<p>28th: Simon and Jude Readings: Ps 116, 117; Wisdom 5: 1-16; Luke 6:12-16.</p> <p>Simon the Zealot and Jude were martyred in Syria around 65AD. Jude is the patron saint of the Armenian Church. It is believed that the Wedding at Cana was Simon's wedding.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Linacre Close; Balliol Drive. Didcot Citizens' Advice Bureau.</p>
<p>29th: James Hannington Readings: Pss 110-112; 2 Chronicles 29: 1-19; John 13: 21-30.</p> <p>An Anglican missionary whose murder was ordered by King Mwanga of Uganda—one of many Christians martyred in mid-19th Century Uganda.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Sycamore Way; Willow End. Missioners and evangelists.</p>	<p>30th: Readings: Psalm 113, 115; 2 Chronicles 29: 20-end; John 13: 31-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Buckingham Close; Balmoral Road. Those who need support from carers, district nurses, health visitors and social services.</p>	<p>31st: Martin Luther Readings: Psalm 139; 2 Chronicles 30; John 14: 1-14.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: The Old Catholic Church, The Lutheran Church. Those providing children with alternatives to Halloween celebrations.</p>	



If you have recently **retired or a semi retired individual** living in or around Didcot and looking for new interests and making new friends, then look no further and consider joining the **Didcot & District U3A** to **‘Learn, Laugh, Live!’**

With over **30 Interest Groups**, such as learning a new language, delving into your family history, enjoy walking with friends, learning to play an instrument, and many more (full details can be found on **Didcot.u3a site.uk**)!

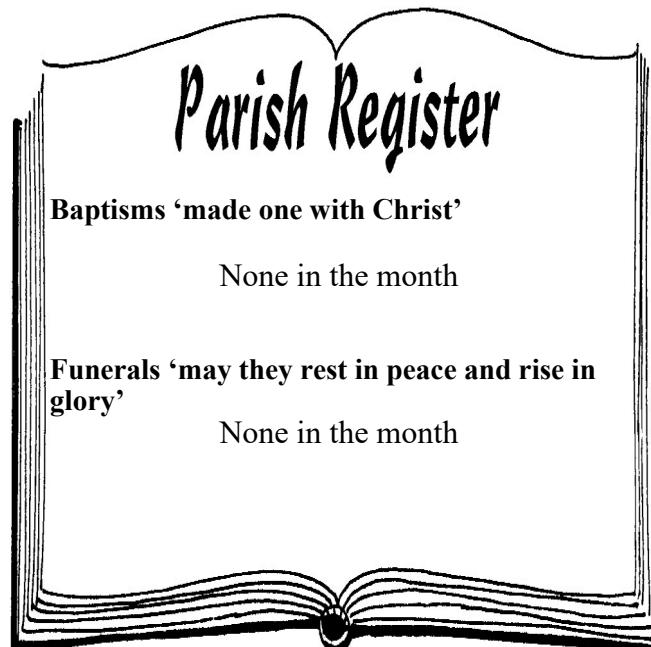
New members are always warmly welcomed to join (first visit is ‘free to see’) and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings held on the **third Tuesday of every month** for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation in the **Didcot Civic Hall, meetings start 2 : 30 pm.**

Meetings for the Autumn months will include;

September 16th - *Coleshill* - the secret WW2 HQ for the British Resistance hidden deep in Oxfordshire - the by Gillian Cane

October 21st - All about Swans - from author Dan Keel

November 18th - ‘Good Hare Days!’ by photographer David Bailey
For further information concerning matters u3a and wishing to **‘Learn, Laugh, Live’ . . . then go to the NEW WEBSITE: didcot.u3asite.uk**

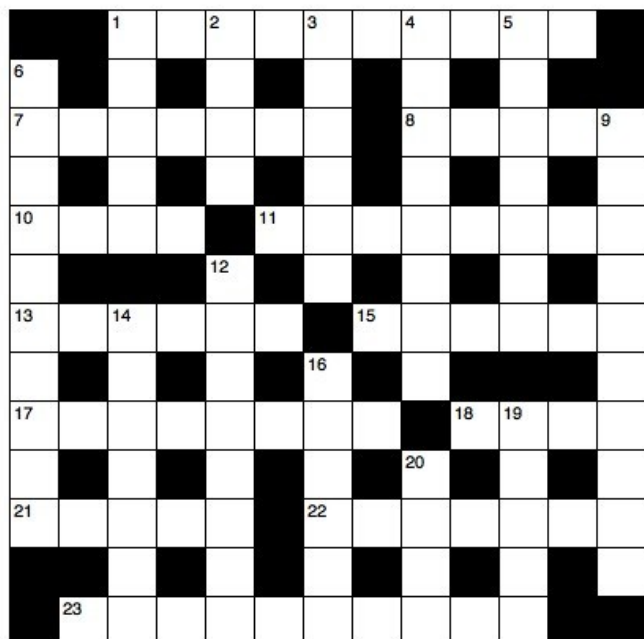


Year’s Mind for October

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Harriet Mobley | George Barrow |
| | Charles Goodenough | David Arthur |
| | Robert Walker | Blackburn |
| | Sidney Williams | 18 Thomas Houghton |
| | James Scott | Ronald Stevenson |
| 2 | Leonard Hiscocks | Maureen Howell |
| 3 | Norah Talbot | 19 |
| | Helen Jones | 20 Evelyn Rouse |
| | Barbara Mayhew | Gladys Wright |
| 4 | Elizabeth | George Ritchie |
| | Buckingham | 21 Peter Newman |
| | Herbert Crisford | Margaret Morgan |
| | Daphne Haxton | 22 Thomas Adams |
| | Adam Baxter | Kenneth Smith |
| | Jean Jones | Aileen Tyler |
| | Luke Crook | 23 Maurice Hartwell |
| | Ronald Spratt | Lilian Buckner |
| 5 | Mabel | Samuel Boyle |
| | Hannaford-Hill | Ellen Stevenson |
| | Roger Jones | 24 Claud Cooper |
| 6 | Iris Tubb | 25 Winifred Smith |
| | Stuart Daynes | Samuel Berry |
| 7 | Maggie Griffiths | Susan Scott |
| 8 | Edith Fleming | 26 Philip Baker |
| | Elsie Pryor | Ford Davis-Porter |
| | Kevin Tallett | 27 Gillian Barney |
| | Flora Hatt | 28 Sidney Pope |
| | Ellis Murray | Wallace Belcher |
| | William Gore | Roy Bentham |
| | Alfred Holt | 29 Gladys Bennett |
| 9 | | 30 Robert Keynan |
| 10 | Joy Edith Anne Carter | Marjorie Churchman |
| | (priest) | John Frederiksen |
| 11 | Kenneth Elias | 31 Iain Murray |
| | Raymond Hopkins | |
| | James King | |
| 12 | Walter Talbot | |
| 13 | Frederick Ruddle | |
| 14 | Margarite Bennell | |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | Gloria Onions | |
| 17 | Violet Brewerton | |

Have gone back to a crossword this month, but please let me know if you like the puzzles, and which you prefer

Answers to September Sudoku



7	4	2	8	9	1	3	6	5
5	9	6	4	3	7	2	8	1
1	8	3	6	5	2	9	4	7
4	2	7	9	8	3	5	1	6
6	3	1	7	4	5	8	9	2
9	5	8	1	2	6	4	7	3
2	7	4	3	6	9	1	5	8
3	1	9	5	7	8	6	2	4
8	6	5	2	1	4	7	3	9

Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
 8 Relieved (5)
 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
 13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
 18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her —' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)

- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
 20 See 18 Across

If you would like to write an occasional front page article for the St Peter's Magazine, please talk to Revd Hannah.

Next issue

Wednesday 22 October 2025 is the next magazine deadline. Please email the editor with any articles—
 Se.scane@ntlworld.com

Church Calendar for October 2025

SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

Wednesday 1

10.00AM-Wednesday Church

Thursday 2

9.30AM—Said Mass

Saturday 4

7:00PM Harvest Bring and Share meal

Sunday 5 *Harvest Festival*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Thursday 9 *Denys*

9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 12 *Trinity XVII*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Monday 13

9:15AM- Pebbles Baby Church

Thursday 16 *Ridley and Latimer*

9.30AM—Said Mass

Saturday 18

7.30PM—Quiz 'n' Chips

Sunday 19 *Trinity XVIII*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Thursday 23

9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 26 *Last after Trinity*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Thursday 30

9.30AM—Said Mass



Vicar

The Revd. Hannah Reynolds
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Didcot
01235 812114

Email:

hclairereynolds@gmail.com

Associate Minister



The Revd. Fran Childs
01235 816166

Safeguarding Officers

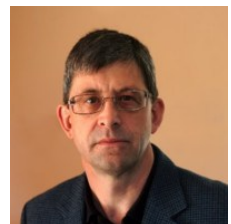


Gail & Paul Hedley
07775 675401

Church Wardens



Alan Wilson
07817 061752



Tim Scane
07785 308160

ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS MONTH

Monday - Thursday & Saturday
9.00AM Morning Prayer

Sunday
10.00AM - Parish Mass—live streamed
from church