

St Olave's Church, Gatcombe

November 2025



**DON'T
FORGET TO**



November is a pause between the year so far and the preparation and waiting for Christmas, inviting reflection on the year passed. November is also a season of remembrance, with many churches marking All Souls Day, remembering those no-longer with us, Remembrance Sunday, 9th November, reflecting on the sacrifice made by so many whilst holding into the hope for peace, and Christ the King, when the church remembers Jesus as the King of Kings. Remembering is calling to mind in thankful-

ness and reflection, thinking about all that has happened as well as looking forward, creating a bridge between past and future whilst grounding us in the present.

2025 will have brought different challenges, changes and emotions for each of us. For some a year of celebration, for others year of transition, for some a year of healing and restoration and for others unexpected pain. For me, 2025 a year of transition and change, in getting married, ordained and moving to the island, lots to remember and to be grateful to God for.

Remembrance is not only about us. There is a deeper truth, God remembers us too. A truth woven throughout the Bible from beginning to the end. God's remembrance is active, faithful, loving and compassionate. To be remembered by God is to never be forgotten. In grief; joy; waiting; knowing; pain; celebration each of us are remembered by God and always will be. God never forgets us.

God's remembrance of us is steadfast and holds us in his loving arms and says, "You are known, loved and accepted by Me."

Life rushes on around us easy to get caught up in it all, and Christmas will be here before we know it. Yet in the midst, November offers each of us a gift, to pause, reflect and remember.

May I encourage you to accept November's invitation, it doesn't need to be grand, sometimes the quietest moments speak loudest to us. An invitation to look back with thankfulness and love, acknowledging all that has been and happened, whilst looking forward to with all that we have learnt, holding onto the knowledge that God remembers each of us this year and in all the years to come.

Abbie (Rev Abbie Lynch, Curate)

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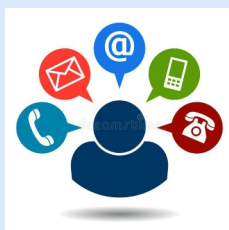
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In Your Prayers...

Lord,
In this month of remembrance we pray for the souls of all the departed, for those who gave their lives for our freedom and for peace in the world, we pray their ultimate sacrifice will not be in vain.

We also pray for those grieving the loss of loved ones that one day they will be reunited in Christ. **Amen**

Donna Dempsey



Lest We Forget

We have been given some beautiful felt handmade poppies, with a secure pin on the back, to have in the church for a donation to The Royal British Legion.

Please do help yourself and all donations will be added to our collection on Remembrance Day that goes to the British Legion.



Final Reminder for our
Merry Christmas Craft Market in the church on
Saturday 1st November
from 10am till 2.30pm.

Services at St Olave's in November

Sunday 2 November	11am	All Saints' Day Holy Communion
Sunday 9 November	10.55am	Remembrance Day (Please note earlier starting time in order to observe the two minutes silence)
Sunday 16 November	6.30pm	Evensong
Sunday 23 November	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 November	11am	Holy Communion

All Souls Day

There will be an All Souls Service on Sunday 2nd November at 4pm in The Minster.

If you would like the name of a loved one read out at this service, please write it in the book at the back of St Olave's church.



Church Business

From the Minutes of the October PCC Meeting, concerns regarding movement in the church's East Elevation, which in turn have caused movement in the William Morris East Window continue. The advice received at this point is to consult the Diocesan Buildings and Fabric Advisor to agree a strategy to manage both issues. Time would appear to be on our side though as the movement has taken since 1864, but weather extremes do speed up the process.

Following concerns raised about the surface of the graveyard extension quotes are being sought to rectify the issues.

No further updates on the break-in of the church in May had been received. Items stolen will be replaced under the terms of the insurance policy however.

Following a low-key period of fund-raising, the 2026 events calendar is already filling. Recent events have raised for St Olave's and all who have worked hard are thanked for helping to contribute to a small profit reported in the latest quarterly accounts.



Harvest Festival

St Olave's was able to donate a very large offering to the Food Bank thanks to the enormous generosity of the congregation at Harvest Festival (with thanks to the donor of three large bags of goods left outside the main door). Numbers at the Service were swelled by a large contingent from Seaview with a couple amongst their number intending to get married in the church next year.

Lay Reader, Richard Smout, led the Morning Prayer Service which naturally included traditional harvest hymns, readings, prayers and one of Richard's, as always, thought provoking talks.

The happy ambience continued after the Service when most people stayed for coffee and cake, giving them also the opportunity to further admire the beautiful flower arrangements decorating the windows.

Thank you to all those who made the church look so festive.

Hilary Jones



COMING EVENTS!!



St Olave's is running the **Chillerton Village Quiz** at the **Gallybagger Inn** on **Friday 14th November** at **7pm**. The bar will be open and there will be a raffle. Do make up a team and join us. £3 per person to enter.

We are running the **Coffee Morning** at **Chillerton Village Hall** on **Saturday 6th December** from **10am until noon**. Please join us for more homemade cake. Meet friends for a chat or make some lovely new ones!!

Funds raised from these events will help to support St Olave's Church

Gatcombe Grape Harvest 2025

Last weekend marked a special milestone for Gatcombe Estate, as around twenty of us gathered to bring in this year's grape harvest. Under largely clear autumn skies, we picked our way through the young vines, filling crate after crate until we had gathered an impressive 1.7 tonnes of fruit. For a vineyard still in its early years, this yield was a heartening sign of promise and progress. The day was filled with laughter, teamwork, and the rhythm of shared effort — the kind of harvest atmosphere that reminds us why these vines have been planted.

Once the last crates were brought in, everyone lent a hand tossing the grapes into the crusher, watching as the fruit that had been nurtured all season was transformed into the beginnings of something new. With the combined expertise of wine maker, Adam Lawson and estate manager, George Watts, the grape must begins its slow journey toward becoming our still rosé and pinot noir. The harvest may be over, but the story of this vintage is just beginning — and it's one we'll all remember as a step forward for Gatcombe Estate.

Leonie Terry

