

News – October 2025

The season has definitely turned and it all feels very autumnal. This means of course that there is lots to do in the garden, not least the constant clearing of the leaves from the drive. A couple of times this week I've seen people out in their gardens planting bulbs. I think autumn bulb planting is one of the most positively optimistic of garden tasks. As we head into the darker days of winter, it reminds us that no matter how dark or wet or cold it gets, spring will always come. The dull, uninspiring bulb placed into the cold and damp winter ground will lie dormant until the temperatures gradually start to rise, and it springs forth with life. We all know the joy of the first snowdrop or daffodil in the spring, breaking forth from the ground and giving us hope for better days to come. Bulb planting is also a long-term project. Barring disaster or hungry squirrels, the bulb planted today won't bring forth life for several months. This is an exercise in patience and trust.

In our lives it can often feel like we are heading into the dark days of winter, either through personal circumstances and challenges, or in all that is going on in the world, either nationally or internationally. It might feel that winter has already come and that there are long days ahead. Sometimes it can seem overwhelming but as Christians the death and resurrection of Jesus gives us hope. From the darkness of the tomb, Jesus burst forth with life and hope for us all. The reminder that life, those glimpses of spring, can be seen in the darkest of days through others and through God's steadfastness and love.

We are also reminded of the future hope that faith brings to us, a longer-term view than just this moment. A hope beyond all that is earthly and which points towards heaven. The hope that the greatest glories of spring are yet to come. We wait in patience and trust for that wonderful day when all is fully revealed and the darkness is banished once and for all.

Blessings

Helen

October services

Every Tuesday 6pm - Evening Prayer on Zoom - No service 21st October https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86377365482

Every Wednesday – No service 22nd October

11:00am Eucharist, All Saints, Winkleigh

Sunday 5th October

9:30am Harvest Eucharist, All Saints, Winkleigh

3:00pm Confirmation Service, with Rt Revd Mike Harrison, Bishop of Exeter, St James, Ashreigney

Sunday 12th October

9:30am Morning Prayer, All Saints, Winkleigh

11:00am Eucharist, St James Ashreigney

4:00pm Harvest Eucharist, St Mary the Virgin, Brushford

Sunday 19th October

9:30am Eucharist, All Saints, Winkleigh

11:00am Harvest Festival, All Hallows, Broadwoodkelly

Sunday 26th October

9:30am Eucharist, All Saints, Winkleigh

11:00am Eucharist, St James, Ashreigney

Sunday 2nd November

9:30am Eucharist, All Saints, Winkleigh

11:00am All-Age, St James Ashreigney

6:00pm All Souls Commemoration Service, All Saints, Winkleigh

Looking forward

8th November – 10:45am Winkleigh Airfield Memorial, Remembrance Service

9th November – 10:45am Eucharist with Act of Remembrance – St James,

Ashreigney

9th November – 3:00pm Act of Remembrance, All Saints, Winkleigh

30th November – 3:00pm Advent carols, St Mary the Virgin, Brushford

Pray during October for....

- Our local Doctor's surgeries
- Peace between nations
- All who are lonely
- Local support groups
- New parents

Prayer for October

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Harvest Services

If you are able to, please bring donations for the local foodbanks. Non-perishable items only. There is also a box for donations in All Saints, Winkleigh and St James, Ashreigney.

All Souls Commemoration Service

There will be a service of Commemoration to remember those we love but see no longer on Sunday 2nd November at 6pm, All Saints, Winkleigh. It will be a service of prayers, hymns and a chance to remember a loved one. Please come along and encourage those in our community who might find it helpful.

Old & Foreign coins

All Saints, Winkleigh are collecting old and foreign coins to raise funds. Any coins will do! Please bring them along to church and place them in the collecting tin.

Advent Course

This year we will be exploring the themes of each Sunday of Advent – The Prophets, The Patriarchs, Mary and John the Baptist. 2pm on Tuesday 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December and 16th December. Venue and further details TBC.

'Autumn'

The leaves fall, fall as from far, Like distant gardens withered in the heavens; They fall with slow and lingering descent.

And in the nights the heavy Earth, too, falls From out the stars into the Solitude.

Thus all doth fall. This hand of mine must fall And lo! the other one:—it is the law.
But there is One who holds this falling Infinitely softly in His hands.

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875 –1926)

Contacts

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Churchwardens

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