

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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Funeral Ministry and Planning By Rev'd Hannah Reynolds

November is when we remember the dead (All Saints and Remembrance Sunday). But what about your own funeral? One of the great privileges of being a member of the clergy is Funeral Ministry. We are welcomed into a family's life at a time of great vulnerability and have the chance to help them to collect all that was good about having that person in their life and to say goodbye in a meaningful way. Sometimes, the family is fortunate enough that the person who has died gave some thought to what they wanted included in their funeral.

Most funerals in England are Christian, though the officially recorded number of Church of England funerals tends to be limited to those which are conducted by parish clergy and Readers. The minister at others may be retired, or a hospital or military Chaplain. A few funeral events are led by nominees of the British Humanist Association or the National Secular Society. A growing number are conducted by civil celebrants, who tend to devise a format concentrating on the story of the person who has died, with God as an afterthought, though Christian prayers or texts from other religions may be incorporated.

The trend in funerals at the moment is to make them a celebration of the life of the deceased person. Although



your wish – and that of your family – may be to make your funeral a joyful occasion, it does no one any good to suppress grief. A Christian service should make room for sadness as well as gratitude. It is also an act of worship, in which reverence should be paid to God, the source and goal of life. His judgment, generosity and mercy and the Christian hope in resurrection through Jesus Christ is important to the message of a funeral service. A sensitive funeral service will also help mourners to contemplate the most fundamental issues of our existence. The Christian hope can be an unexpected encouragement, not least when people claim to have little faith of their own.

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You can talk all this over with one of the Ministry Team in confidence. You don't have to be terminally ill to do so! We know you are precious to God and will be able to explain the options and share some ideas.

Now for some practical considerations:

First of all, if you are an organ donor, where can your consent form be found?

(Find out more from <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk>)

Do tell your Executor and next of kin where your Will is kept. Details of your funeral wishes can be kept with it or in a more accessible place. It is useful to maintain a list of family, friends, neighbours, acquaintances and former colleagues who should be notified of your death and the funeral arrangement. Good Funeral Directors offer a chance to pay into a funeral plan before your death – the main Directors in the area that we have most to do with all have pre-payment funeral plans:

Ridgeway Funeral Service (the new service owned by Michael Didcock);

The Co-operative Funeral Service;

M & J Didcock (under the ownership of the Carter family); and

Howard Chadwick (based in Wallingford).

There are other Funeral Directors in the towns around Didcot.

Below is a checklist you might like to use for your funeral planning:

Who is your Executor?

Which funeral director?

Cremation or burial?

If cremation, what do you want done with your ashes?

If burial, where? Will it require re-opening an existing grave?

Do you want a headstone? *Note: churchyard memorials must respect diocesan regulations.*

Funeral Service: in church or crematorium, or both?

What sort of coffin? Wood, or an eco-friendly one (eg cardboard, bamboo, wicker)?

Do you want flowers, or donations to a

(named) charity, or both?

Who should conduct the service?

Do you want someone else to give a tribute?

Would you like some of your favourite music played before and after the service?

What hymns and readings do you want?

Is there anyone who needs to know that you have forgiven them?

Do you owe an apology to anyone?

What happens to you after death?

Whether your body is buried or cremated, the remains degenerate and go back into the earth. That's where they belong, for our bodies are composed of the earth's elements. Your body expressed the real 'you' during your lifetime, but once it has done its job, that is not the finish! When Christians say these words in the Creed, "I believe in... the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting", it means that we await the new destiny which God has opened for us, with a transformed body suited for its new environment.

St Paul thought at length on the subject. If you read the whole of 1 Corinthians 15 you will see how he couples our bodily resurrection with the Resurrection of Christ. Resurrection was central to the apostles' preaching and teaching. Our life before and beyond the grave belongs to Christ. He is the pioneer who charted the course through death; He accompanies us on our journey; He is our advocate at the Last Judgment; He is worshipped in heaven, and He alone is the Saviour who bore the brunt of human sin and gave His life to overcome its consequences. Trust him!

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

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

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

The 2025/26 Quiz season got off to a good start in September for the Choir (pictured here), who narrowly beat Gangreen on a tie break.



The Charity we were supporting this month was Footsteps Foundation, and their representative Claire (pictured right) spoke about their amazing work enabling disabled children to attend intensive physiotherapy sessions at their Footsteps Centre. We raised £302.50 for them.

November is a time for looking back, a time for remembrance.

On All Saints Day and All Souls Day we remember the Christian saints and martyrs down the centuries who gave their lives for Christ. And Remembrance Day itself is of course a time to remember with gratitude the supreme sacrifices that our armed forces made during World War 1, World War 2 and other more recent conflicts.

November also brings us The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP), which reminds us that conflict is far from over: 380 million Christians worldwide live under persecution today.

But November also brings us the final Sunday in the church calendar: the Sunday of Christ the King. And Revelation 21 promises that one day God will wipe every tear from our eye, and death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things will have passed away.

So, this month is not only a time for Remembrance, but a time for looking forward to the world to come, when 'Thy Kingdom Come' will no longer be a prayer of hope, but an eternal glorious reality.

By the Editors of 'The Parish Pump'



Prayer Intentions: November 2025

<p>1st: All Saints Day Rdgs: Pss 111, 112, 117; Wisdom 5:1-16; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12.</p> <p>Kingdom season starts today, when we look forward to the coming of the Kingdom of God.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Church Street, East Street. All those who mourn.</p>	<p>2nd: 4 before Advent Rdnngs: Psalms 87; Isaiah 35; Luke 9: 18-27.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: High Street, Bourne Street . Our friends at All Saints Church, as we join them for their Patronal Festival.</p>	<p>3rd: Richard Hooker Readings: Pss 2, 146; Daniel 1; Revelation 1.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Northbourne Court, Pease Place. Those who are housebound and feel isolated.</p>	<p>4th: Rdgs: Pss 5, 147: 1-12; Daniel 2: 1-24; Revelation 2: 1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Ridgeway Road. Churches Together in Didcot and District.</p>
<p>5th: Rds: Pss 9, 147: 13-end; Daniel 2: 25-end; Revelation 2: 12-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Sinodun Road, Bridge Close Wednesday Church, and their families and carers.</p>	<p>6th: Leonard Readings: Psalm 11, 15; Daniel 3: 1-18; Revelation 3: 1-13.</p> <p>Leonard the Hermit had a particular mission to minister to and secure the release of prisoners.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Kynaston Road. Didcot TRAIN.</p>	<p>7th: Willibrord Readings: Psalm 16, 149; Daniel 3: 19-end; Revelation 3: 14-end.</p> <p>A Northumbrian Benedictine with a mission to the Frisians. The first Bishop of Utrecht.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Broadway, Vicarage Road Our Director of Music and the choir.</p>	<p>8th: English Martyrs Readings: Ps 18: 31-end; Daniel 4: 1-18; Revelation 4.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St Andrew's Road, St Peter's Road. Those who keep the Church clean and tidy.</p>
<p>9th: Remembrance Day Readings: Ps 20, 90; Isaiah 2: 1-5; James 3: 13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Wessex Road. For peace between nations.</p>	<p>10: Leo the Great Readings: Psalm 19, 20; Daniel 4: 19-end; Revelation 5.</p> <p>Pope in the 5th Century, he persuaded Attila the Hun to turn away from invading Italy.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Lower Broadway, Roebuck Court. Pebbles Baby Church, new parents.</p>	<p>11th: St Martin Readings: Psalm 21, 24; Daniel 5: 1-12; Revelation 6.</p> <p>Martin, a 4th Century Christian in the Roman army declared himself a soldier of Christ and was released from service.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Hagbourne Road, Vauxhall Barracks. Those who serve their country at home & abroad</p>	<p>12th: Readings: Psalm 23, 25; Daniel 5: 13-end; Revelation 7: 1-4, 9-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Ernest Road, Edmund's Court. The work of the Mothers' Union throughout the world.</p>
<p>13th: Charles Simeon Readings: Psalm 26, 27; Daniel 6; Revelation 8.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Fairacres Road, Marlborough Court. Young people's uniformed organisations.</p>	<p>14th: Samuel Seabury Readings: Psalm 28, 32; Daniel 7: 15-end; Revelation 9: 1-12.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Oatland Road, Samor Way. Those who maintain the Church grounds and gardens.</p>	<p>15th: Readings: Psalm 33; Daniel 7: 15-end; Revelation 9: 13-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Mereland Road, Laburnum Grove The Quiz and Chips team.</p>	<p>16th: 2 Before Advent Readings: Psalm 132; 1 Samuel 16: 1-13; Matthew 13: 44-52.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Abbott Road, Abbott Close. Our Sunday School and its leaders.</p>

Prayer Intentions: November 2025

<p>17th: Hugh Readings: Pss 46, 47; Daniel 8: 1-14; Revelation 10</p> <p>A French nobleman who was a Benedictine and Bishop of Lincoln under Henry II.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Richmere Road, The Croft. The Anglican Communion worldwide.</p>	<p>18th: Elizabeth Readings: Psalm 48, 52; Daniel 8: 15-end; Revelation 11: 1-14.</p> <p>Married at 14, widowed at 20, she used her dowry to found a hospital where she herself served.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Marsh Cottages, Jubilee Way, Regent Gardens. Our Treasurer, Finance team and PCC.</p>	<p>19th: Hilda Readings: Psalms 56, 57; Daniel 9: 1-19; Revelation 11: 15-end.</p> <p>Instrumental in deciding the calculation of the date for Easter, founded the Abbey at Whitby, for both men and women, where she was Abbess.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Saxon's Way, Viking Drive. The communities at Wantage Convent and Cuddesdon</p>	<p>20th: Edmund Reads: Psalm 61, 62; Daniel 9: 20-end; Revelation 12.</p> <p>King of E Anglia, had a great care for the poor. When attacked by the Danes he refused to renounce his Christianity.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Oriell Court, Lincoln Gardens. The Archbishop of Canterbury Elect, Sarah Mullally</p>
<p>21st: Readings: Pss 63, 65; Daniel 10: 1-11: 1; Revelation 13: 1-10.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Beaufort Close, Worcester Drive. Northbourne School, and the other schools in Didcot, all who work and learn in them.</p>	<p>22nd: Cecilia Readings: Pss 78: 1-39; Daniel 12; Revelation 13: 11-end.</p> <p>Believed to have been martyred around 230AD.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Exeter Court, Magdalene Court Eucharistic Ministers and those receiving Home Communion.</p>	<p>23rd: Christ the King Readings: Psalms 29, 110; Zechariah 6: 9-end; John 18: 33-37.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Merton Close, Somerville. We pray that we will see Christ's Kingdom come.</p>	<p>24th: Readings: Pss 92, 96; Isaiah 40: 1-11; Revelation 14: 1-13.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Nuffield Close, Dirac Place. Bishop Steven and his staff.</p>
<p>25th: Catherine Readings: Pss 97, 98; Isaiah 40: 12-26; Revln 14:14-end of 15.</p> <p>Martyred in Alexandria in the 4th Century.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Fleet Way, Kibble Close. St Peter's outreach to the community.</p>	<p>26th: Readings: Pss 110-112; Isaiah 40: 27-41: 7; Revelation 16: 1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: St John's Close, Ruskin Close. Didcot Community Hospital.</p>	<p>27th: Readings: Psalms 125-128; Isaiah 41: 8-20; Revelation 16: 12-end.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Shannon Road, Severn Road. Didcot Police Station, our PCSOs.</p>	<p>28th: Readings: Psalm 139; Isaiah 41: 21-42:9; Revelation 17.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Kennet Place, Thames Court. The flower arrangers.</p>
<p>29th: Day of Prayer for the Missionary Work of the Church Readings: Psalm 145; Isaiah 42: 10-17; Revelation 18.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Medway Grove, Tyne Square. The Church's mission throughout the world, and particularly in Didcot. Diocesan advisers on Mission and Parish Development.</p>			<p>30th: Advent I Readings: Psalm 44; Micah 4: 1-7; 1 Thess 5: 1-11.</p> <p>Prayer intentions: Western Avenue All those who provide refreshments after services and at events.</p>



“ If you have recently **retired or a semi retired individual** living in Didcot or surrounding area and looking for new interests whilst making new friendships, 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 are 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.**

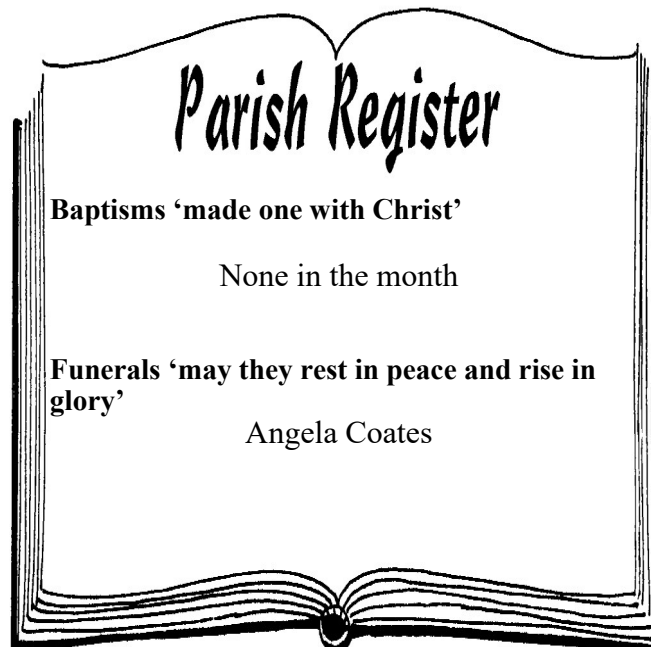
Meetings for the coming months will include;

November 18th - ‘Good Hare Days!’ by nature photographer David Bailey

December 16th - Christmas Party at the Barn (a ticket event) - Jon Woodhouse - former Military Bandsman with selection of Christmas Music!

For further information concerning matters u3a and wishing to ‘**Learn, Laugh, Live!**’ . . . then go to the **NEW WEBSITE:** didcot.u3asite.uk

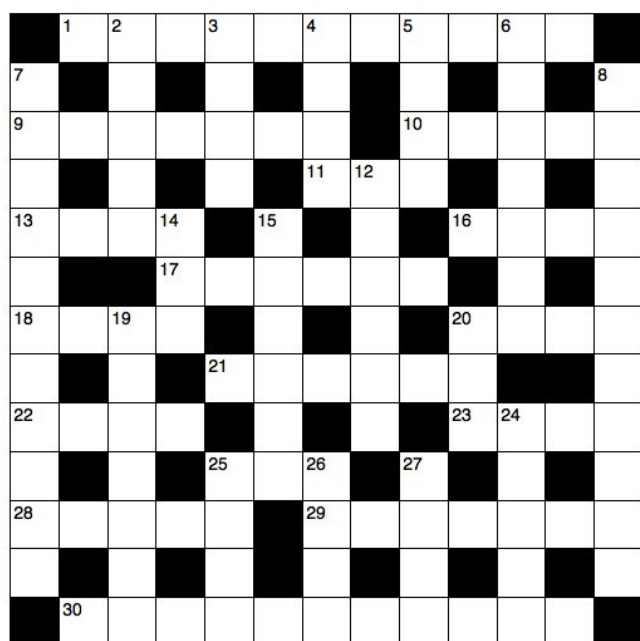
‘Learn, Laugh, Live!’



Year’s Mind for November

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Harry Leach | 18 Ronald |
| Reginald Church | Wakefield-Smith |
| Leslie Cook | 19 Irene Simpson |
| Ted Web | Frederick Bennett |
| 2 Jason Naylor | Dimitri Mshar |
| William Pitt | Bryan Varney |
| Violet Hooper | 20 Dora Elias |
| 3 | 21 Frederick Beaven |
| 4 Annie Wells | 22 Alfred Bennett |
| Henry Freeland | Ernest Frank |
| 5 Albert Bird | Joyce Giles |
| Edward Avann | 23 Albert Grimes |
| 6 Dennis Betteridge | Florence Hann |
| Jack Ireson | 24 |
| 7 Cecil Bennett | 25 Anne Saunders |
| Margaret Martha Pratt | John Berry |
| 8 Andrew Jeremenko | 26 George Buckingham |
| Lisha Gayle | Norman Johnson |
| James Shepherd | Constance Davis |
| 9 Gertrude Mee | 27 Douglas Shaw |
| Ethel Loveless | 28 Kerry Bennell |
| Archie Greenaway | Winifred Chandler |
| 10 Edward Pearson | 29 Victoria Prescott |
| Arthur Slater | John Brocklehurst |
| Bernard Paine | John Rees |
| 11 Barbara Shugar | Joan Williams |
| Kathleen Blakeley | Albert Fisher |
| Mollie Griffiths | 30 Sylvia Dunn |
| 12 Douglas Neale | |
| 13 Esther Fletcher | |
| Andrew Heath | |
| Kenneth Brown | |
| Phyllis Evans | |
| 14 | |
| 15 Ernest Crisford | |
| Nellie Bentham | |
| 16 Alice McClean | |
| Jean Stockwell | |
| Raymond Yates | |
| Dorothy May | |
| Lovelock | |
| 17 Edward Stephens | |
| Roger Childs | |
| Patrick Saunders | |
| Sheila Warr | |

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



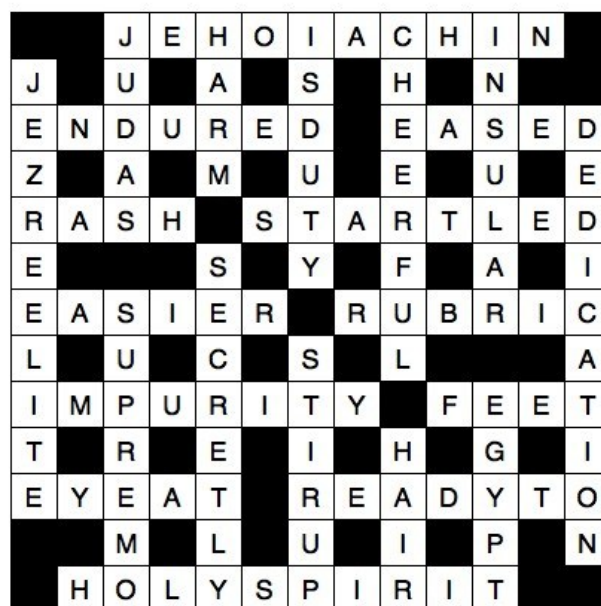
Across

- 1 The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)
- 9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — — ' (Matthew 6:13) (4,3)
- 10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)
- 11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)
- 13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)
- 16 Metallic element (4)
- 17 At line (anag.) (6)
- 18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)
- 20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)
- 21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)
- 23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)
- 25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)
- 28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)
- 29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1 Corinthians 10:17) (7)
- 30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

Down

- 2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made — ' (1 Corinthians 15:22) (5)
- 3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)

Answers to October Crossword



- 4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)
- 5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)
- 6 I veto me (anag.) (7)
- 7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)
- 8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)
- 12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)
- 14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)
- 15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the — , something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)
- 19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)
- 20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under — , but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)
- 24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)
- 25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)
- 26 Heroic tale (4)
- 27 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you — ' (John 8:32) (4)

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 26 November 2025 is the next magazine deadline. Please email the editor with any articles—
Se.scane@ntlworld.com

Church Calendar for November 2025

SERVICES IN CHURCH THIS MONTH

Sunday 2

10.00AM All Saints Patronal Festival —AT All Saints Church

Wednesday 5

10.00AM-Wednesday Church

Thursday 6 *Leonard*

9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 9 *Remembrance*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Monday 10

9:15AM- Pebbles Baby Church

Thursday 13

9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 16 *2 before advent*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

Thursday 20 *Edmund*

9.30AM—Said Mass

Saturday 22

7.30PM—Quiz ‘n’ Chips

Sunday 23 *Christ the King*

10.00AM—Parish Mass and Baptism

Thursday 27

9.30AM—Said Mass

Sunday 30 *Advent I*

10.00AM—Parish Mass

5:00PM—Advent Carols



Vicar

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Associate Minister



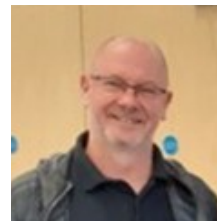
The Revd. Fran Childs
01235 816166

Safeguarding Officers

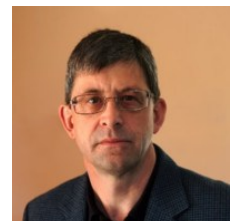


Gail & Paul Hedley
07775 675401

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