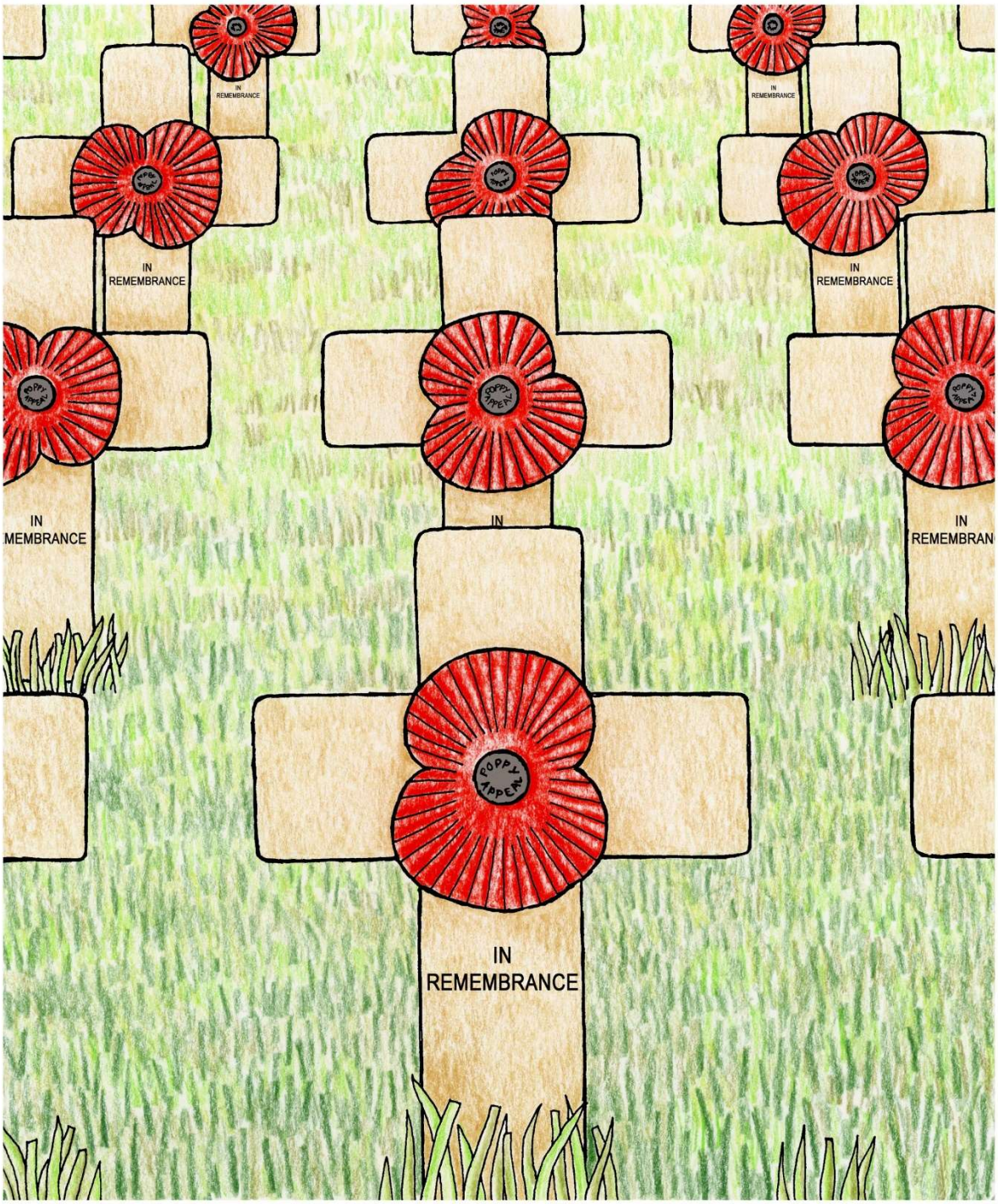
PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. GEORGE, KENDAL
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, GRAYRIGG

www.beaconteam.org.uk



November 2026 Free - donations welcome

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Readings for November

All Saints Day — **November 1, 2026**

1st Reading Revelation 7:9-end — Psalm 34:1-10
2nd Reading 1 John 3:1-3 — Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

Remembrance Sunday — **November 8, 2026**

1st Reading Isaiah 25:1-9 *or* Amos 5:18-24 — Psalm 70
2nd Reading 1 Thess.4:13-end — Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Second Sunday before Advent — **November 15, 2026**

1st Reading Zephaniah 1:7,12-end — Psalm 98
2nd Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 — Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

Christ the King — **November 22, 2026**

1st Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 — Psalm 95:1-7
2nd Reading Ephesians 1:15-end — Gospel Matthew 25:31-end

First Sunday of Advent — **November 29, 2026**

1st Reading Isaiah 64:1-9 — Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20
2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 — Gospel Mark 13:24-end

Advent Sermon Series

This year we are offering an Advent Sermon series across the Beacon Team as an alternative to the Advent courses that we have run in the past. There will be a sermon for each week of Advent based upon ideas sparked by the Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2026 "Walking with the Angels" by Eleanor Sanderson. If you wish to read the book alongside the sermon series, copies of the book can be ordered in advance from Lynne in the Beacon Team office for £11 each. Please email admin@beaconteam.org.uk to place your order as soon as possible. Each sermon will stand alone, but reading the book each week will help your own reflection during the Advent season. The themes for each week are;

Advent 1 – 29th November – *"Do not be afraid: the Lord is with you."*
Advent 2 – 6th December – *"Holy holy holy, Lord God Almighty."*
Advent 3 – 13th December – *"Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth."*
Advent 4 – 20th December – *" Come Lord Jesus, come! Your kingdom will never end"*

We hope that this will provide some time and space for meaningful reflection during the Advent season and amidst the rush of preparing for Christmas in this busy world.

Michelle

Letter from Revd. Michelle, Priest-in-Charge of the Beacon Team Churches

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to live life to the full? We might think of happiness, family and friendships, good health, meaningful work or the freedom to pursue our hopes and dreams. All these things can contribute to a good life, but are they, in themselves, enough?

I have been thinking a lot lately about what Jesus meant when he said, *"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full"*. It is part of the vision statement of one of our church schools within the Beacon Team and we have been exploring together what that means in Collective Worship during this last half term. I'm about to start a new chapter in my own life too when I marry John on 7th November and these words of Jesus certainly resonate with where I am in my own journey of life and faith. These words of Jesus invite all of us to consider what it means to flourish as a human being.

Jesus' words are not simply a promise of happiness, success, or life without difficulty. In John 10, he describes himself as the Good Shepherd, drawing on the Old Testament image of God guiding and caring for his people. *"I know my sheep and my sheep know me,"* he says (John 10:14) The fullness of life that Jesus offers is rooted in relationship: knowing that we are loved, discovering meaning and belonging, and learning to live in relationship with God and one another. Life is not measured simply by what we own, achieve or how happy we feel. We can achieve much and still feel lonely, while a life marked by difficulty can remain rich in love, courage, faithfulness and joy.

We discover life through giving and receiving love, caring for others and helping people to know that they belong. This challenges us to consider how our words and actions affect those around us. Do we listen well, notice those who are

overlooked, and make room for those who are struggling? Small acts of kindness can make a profound difference and reflect what it means to love our neighbour. We may hold different beliefs, but we can all play a part in building a community where kindness, compassion and generosity help others feel valued and included. May Jesus' words encourage us to look beyond the usual measures of success, recognize the worth of those around us and nurture a community where everyone can find belonging, purpose and hope. Fullness of life is not simply about having more. It is about becoming more fully alive to God, to one another and to the love that gives life its deepest meaning.

Jesus said, *"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

May this be true in your life. Michelle

A wedding, and a change of name!

On 7th November at 1pm at St John's Church, Skelsmergh, Rev. Michelle Woodcock and John Thompson will be getting married. We're sorry that we can't invite everyone to share in all of our celebrations, but we would love to welcome you at the service in church if you are free that day and wish to come along to share this special next step with us.
So, from 8th November Skelsmergh Vicarage will have a new resident and I will be using my new married name which will be Rev. Michelle Thompson. It's an exciting time as we make a new start and journey on together. We hope to hold an open house early in the New Year once John has had time to settle in and all will be welcome to call in and share a cuppa.

Confirmation Service in the Beacon Team

This is advance notice that the Beacon Team will be hosting a Confirmation Service at St. Oswald's Burneside at 4pm on Sunday 17th January 2027 with Bishop Michael. If you or anyone you know is interested in exploring confirmation, then please get in touch with Rev Michelle and she will discuss it with you. 07468535387 or rev.michelle@beaconteam.org.uk

Sunday Services in the Beacon Team in November

St John the Evangelist, Grayrigg

Sunday 1st November - Holy Communion BCP 9.30am
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service **10.15am**
Sunday 15th November - Holy Communion CW 9.30am
Sunday 22nd November - Evensong 4pm

St George, Kendal

Sunday 1st November - Holy Communion 11.00am (All Saints/All Souls)
Sunday 8th Nov. - Remembrance Service **10.45am** (short Holy Communion)
Sunday 15th November - Morning Worship 11.00am
Sunday 22nd November - Holy Communion 9.30am

St Oswald, Burneside

Sunday 1st November - *No service - feel free to join another church*
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service **10.45am**
Sunday 15th November - Holy Communion 11.00am
Sunday 22nd November - Holy Communion 11.00am Christingle 4pm

St Thomas, Selside

Sunday 1st November - Morning Worship 9.30am
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service **10.45am**
Sunday 15th November - Evening Worship (BCP) 4pm
Sunday 22nd November - Morning Worship 11.00am
Sunday 29th November - Joint Team Service 11am

St John the Baptist, Skelsmergh.

Sunday 1st November - Morning Worship 11.00am
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service **10.45am**
Sunday 15th November - Holy Communion 11.00am
Sunday 22nd November - *Join a service at another church*

St Mary's Longsleddale

Sunday 1st November - Abbey Service 10.30am
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service **10.45am**

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Every Tuesday 6.00pm Short Evening Prayer
at St. Oswald's Church, Burneside
Every Wednesday 9.30am: BCP Holy Communion
at St. Oswald's Church, Burneside

Online Worship is available throughout the week via Zoom
Please contact Revd Jean Radley for details of how to join in
Regular weekday Zoom services include :

* **Mondays** 8.30pm : Compline
* **Fridays** 8.30pm : Celtic Evening Prayer

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Revd Michelle: *"Now that I live next door to St John's Church, Skelsmergh, I have decided to say my daily office in the church itself on **Tuesday** and **Thursday mornings**. I'll be there at **9 am** for around 15-20 minutes. It would be really lovely if you felt able to join me there.*

Perhaps you might pop in once in a while, or maybe it's something you would appreciate being part of more regularly. There will be no expectation for you to do anything other than just come and enjoy a quiet 20 minutes at the start of a busy day " **Revd Michelle**

Sunday 29th November – Joint Team Service
First Sunday of Advent

On a fifth Sunday in a month, we come together for worship as a team. This month we will be gathering together at St Thomas' Church, Selside. The service starts at 11am.

It's not often that we have a high spec. powerful motorbike parked at the entrance to St George's! This bike was being ridden by Colin Kendal, who came to talk to our September meeting about the work of the North West Blood Bikes charity, which provides a free emergency out of hours courier service to the NHS by transporting vital medical supplies to hospitals within the Lancashire & Lakes region.

Blood bike riders transport not only blood but also medical samples, patient records and donor breast milk for premature babies in neo natal units. Colin is a rider for the service. He was joined at the meeting by Sue Park, one of the fundraisers, and by Sandra Wood, another rider. North West Blood Bikes covers all of the northwest of England from Burnley to Southport, Blackpool and South Lakes. There are similar organisations covering the whole of the UK. All are staffed entirely by volunteers. They receive no government funding. Their entire income is raised by public donations and corporate sponsorships, and all are registered charities.

Colin explained that as a rider he must be accredited. He has an advanced motorcycle rider qualification which must be renewed every three years. Volunteers commit to giving a minimum of two shifts per month although many do more than this. In his time with the service, he has done over 300 shifts. The service is available 365 days a year, specifically covering weekends and evening and nighttime hours. Colin said it is rare not to get a call out when doing a shift. Some bikes are specially adapted and belong to the charity, not the individual rider. Other volunteer roles include controllers who coordinate operations – responding to requests for deliveries and allocating riders. This can include deliveries from one end of the country to the other via a relay system of riders. A further group of volunteers are involved in fundraising activities. In 2016 North West Blood Bikes received the Queens Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of its outstanding contribution. The service first began in 2012 and since then has responded to almost 180,000 call outs.
Members found Colin's talk very interesting and had lots of questions for him. He gave us a real insight into the invaluable support given by Blood Bikes to the NHS.

On Saturday 10th October members from Kendal Deanery joined together at St Oswald's church Burneside for a Songs of Praise service. It was led by Rev Michelle, including the prayers and the blessing. All the hymns had been chosen by a member of the eight branches, with the reason for their choice being read out before we sang the hymn. *'A New Commandment I give unto you'* was chosen by Audrey Benson for our Beacon Team. This was a lovely service attended by over forty members. A Jacob's Join lunch followed, enjoyed by everyone. It was so lovely to catch up with friends and meet new ones. A huge 'thank you' to all our own branch members for helping in any way. Ann Wodeman also sent her thanks to our members.

Future dates:
14th November: Christmas Fair at St George's. MU Cake Stall, **10am**
Monday 30th November: Deanery MU Carol Service at Kendal Parish Church **2pm**
We are looking forward to meeting together at 2pm on **Wednesday 25th November** when Ann Wodeman will speak about *"My role as president".*

Mary Atkinson (Branch Leader)

Everyone is welcome to the

KENDAL TEA SERVICE
BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Anna Chaplaincy for older people Cumbria

A short service with a Bible reading,
3 traditional hymns and prayers
Followed by Tea and Cake

Thursday 19th November 2.30 pm at Kendal Parish Church
For more information about the Tea Service or Anna Chaplaincy in Kendal please contact Beverley Moore 07507 749238 or bevmoore.annachaplaincy@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS IN GRAYRIGG

31st October Soupa Saturday - 11.30am - 1.30pm
in Grayrigg Coronation Hall Proceeds for Church Funds

28th November Christmas Fayre - Grayrigg Coronation Hall
10am – 1pm Proceeds for Church Funds

4th December Pub night with food - in Grayrigg Coronation Hall
7.30pm onwards

Regular Meetings in Grayrigg

Grayrigg Table Tennis Club - holds matches in the Coronation Hall from September to May. Anyone who would like to play in a team please contact Kevin Hunter on 07813 133507

Pickleball – every Thursday evening 6-8pm in the Coronation Hall £3

Grayrigg Young Farmers - meet every Tuesday for meetings and social events. If you are interested in joining, come along or phone 07780 996498 for more information.

Grayrigg Rainfall

The rainfall in September 2026 was 120.5mm or 4.75 inches
The rainfall in September 2025 was 244.4mm or 9.62 inches
The average September rainfall over the last 3 years is 130.4mm or 5.14 inches.

Howgill and Firbank WI

Thursday 5th November - Firbank Church Hall at 7.30pm
We will be printing Christmas Cards with the artist Zoe Baker
The competition is for a homemade gift tag.

The Grayrigg Good Neighbours

Join us every second Tuesday of the month in the Coronation Hall at **7.30pm** for a get-together and talks or craft activities. All welcome.

Nov.10th The Kendal Woman with staff from the Environment Agency

Dec. 9th The Lost Buildings of Kendal with Richard Pealing

There will be 9 monthly meetings: Annual Membership £12

GRAYRIGG YOUNG FARMERS' REPORT

Members have helped with putting up at Grayrigg Show and the Westmorland County Show and a special thank you to John Handley for manning the YFC stand on Grayrigg Show Day.

To kick off the winter competitions, we travelled to Sedbergh to the White Hart Sports and Social Club for the Southern District Pool, Darts and Dominos Competition. We had over 20 members taking part which is a great start to the new year: Grayrigg A team came 3rd, Paris and Lucy came 2nd in Dominos and Ben came 3rd in Connect 4. We've entered 3 junior and 3 senior teams in the Quizzes, with members going between Sedbergh, Grayrigg, Colby, and Soulby. I'm sure that some of the teams will go through to the next round although some of the questions have been rather tricky. Ben, Connor, Morgan and Jacob then took on the challenging 'Just a Minute Competition', a valiant effort from these 4 lads and Elizabeth, Emily, John and Elisha were competing in the Senior competition where they came 2nd so they will go through to the next round. We have 2 teams entered into the Junior Public Speaking competition which takes place early November and 2 teams for the Junior Reading, so everyone is trying something new.

Our Club Meetings have involved going to the Kendal Dry Ski Club for a fun night of Tubing; it was great that the Ski Club members volunteered their time so over 30 members could hit the slopes. We've had a talk from CADAS on Smoking and Vaping, a Fun Roadshow where everyone enjoyed games and challenges welcoming new junior members. We were early with the pumpkin carving and then we've been stock judging at Sunny Bank, Grayrigg by kind permission of David, Carol and Craig Galbraith with David Barton being Master Judge for the evening. Thank you to all involved.

Ice Skating with other clubs within the Southern District is taking place soon and then we are holding our Annual Bonfire Night on **Tuesday 3rd November** by kind permission of the Ellis Family at Moss Head Farm, New Hutton, LA8 0AL, Everyone welcome; food and drinks available to purchase and it's £4 entry (cash only).
Finally, a reminder for your diaries that our Annual Christmas Domino Drive will be held on **Tuesday 15th December** in Grayrigg Coronation Hall 7.30 pm start with great prizes to be won. Hope to see you there.

GRAYRIGG YOUNG FARMERS

Harry Harper Chairman: 07780996498 Hannah Dodgson Secretary: 07975816126

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St George's Church

Chatter and Natter

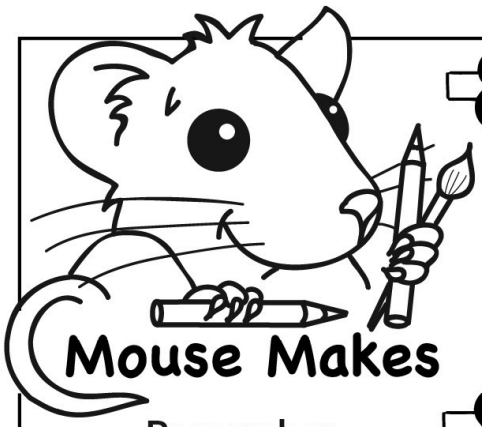


Friday 27th November
From 10am to 11.30 am

All are welcome to join us on the last Friday of every month in the Radley Room for Tea/coffee, cake and meet up with friends.

For further information ring Sue Whittaker 07866341554


CHRISTMAS
FAIR
Sat 14th Nov
10am - 1pm
St George's Church,
Castle Street, Kendal
Christmas Stalls, Cakes,
Soup lunch, Raffle
Live Performance from
Dance Atikk at 11am
Admission £2 inc drink + mince pie



Mouse Makes

Remember
the words Jesus said:
"It is more blessed to give than to receive."
Colossians 3:25

Remembrance Sunday is the day we remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives so that we could live in peace, it mirrors what Christ did for us when he gave his life so that we could live in peace with God.

Jesus said:
"No one can have greater love than to give his life for his friends."
John 15:13

O P R O T E C T
S R E S P E C T U N
B R A V E R Y H E F
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REMEMBRANCE • PROTECT • DEFEND • SACRIFICE • SELFLESS • SERVICE
BRAVERY • VALOUR • HONOUR • COURAGE • HEROISM • LOYAL • REGARD
RESPECT • THANKFUL • MEMORIAL • TRIBUTE • COMMEND • ARMISTICE • PEACE

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From The Registers

Wedding:

10th October - St John the Evangelist, Grayrigg -
Katie Armitage & Peter Thompson

Interment of Ashes:

23rd October - St John's Selside - Cicely Anne Holland



Saturday 21st November
10am - 12

in Skelsmergh Community Hall

Proceeds in aid of St John the Baptist Church, Skelsmergh



We have had to move from Publisher and this month's magazine is in a different format. Please accept my apologies for the smaller than usual print size. This will be rectified for the next edition.

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