Sunday 1 November 2026 All Saints' Day

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son
Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your
blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those
inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who
truly love you;
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.

FIRST READING Revelation 7:9-end

A reading from the book of Revelation.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

PSALM Psalm 34:1-10

R *Those who trust in him will understand truth*
[and the faithful will abide with him in love].

I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
I will glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and rejoice.
Proclaim with me the greatness of
the Lord;
let us exalt his name together. R

I sought the Lord and he answered
me
and delivered me out of all my terror.
Look upon him and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.
I called in my affliction and the Lord
heard me
and saved me from all my troubles. R

The angel of the Lord
encompasses those who fear him,
and he will deliver them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him! R

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing.
The young lions lack and suffer
hunger,
but those who seek the Lord
lack nothing that is good. R

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

POST COMMUNION

God, the source of all holiness
and giver of all good things:
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here
on earth
be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of
your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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November 1st 2026 – All Saints Day ~ Parish of the Harwich Peninsula

A Christmas Carol: we are delighted to announce that there will be a dramatised reading with musical accompaniment at St Nicholas, Monday 30th November, 7.30-9.15pm with an interval. Colchester Arts Centre Director Anthony Roberts brings his traditional rendition of the Dickens classic to St Nicholas Church, with musical accompaniment by Jamie Cunliffe. This is guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit!
All money raised will go back to the church. Sponsored by Essex Rocks Creative CIC. Booking: https://www.tickettailor.com/events/harwichfestival/2465631 £9 for adults, £6 children under 16.
All Saints School: please remember the school in the process of appointing a new Head Teacher. Please especially hold Sarah Abbott in your prayers as the Vice Chair of the Governing Body. We hope to announce the name of the new Head Teacher as soon as possible.
Harvest Collections: we will announce the amounts collected soon for the Bridgeway charity in Colchester. Lots of food went the Salvation Army Foodbank for which they were very grateful.
Notice and Readings sheets: please think about taking the sheets home after the service to read again the Bible passages and recall the sermon. It may be a real help or challenge through the coming week.
Jess Vining: Ian and a few others from the church and town have met Jess Vining the Historic Buildings Officer for the diocese of Chelmsford at the end of the month. Jess has some exciting and challenging ideas for a big bid for grants to help us consider. Your prayers are appreciated as we discern what might be appropriate for the parish and peninsula.
Bible Study: Our last Bible study for this year will be Wednesday November 25th, 7pm at All Saints and will be studying Isaiah 's vision of the throne room and his calling as a prophet. We will return in the Spring.
Coffee Morning: Saturday 14th November, 10am-12pm in the Millennium Room with cake, raffle and gift stall. Any donations of new/unused gifts welcome. Unsold donations will be returned to donor if requested or sent on to the Salvation Army Christmas appeal.
Craft Fair: run by the Friends of the Esplanade Hall, Saturday 14th November 10-2 in the hall.
All Saints Christmas Fair: Saturday 21st November 10 till 12 with Raffle, Homemade cakes, Craft/ White elephant stall, Books/ Jigsaws stall. All donations gratefully received. Offers of help on the day much appreciated. Contact Maureen 07871643339. Everybody welcome, please come and show your support.
Christmas Bingo: Friday 27th November, 2pm in the Millennium Room. Raffle and refreshments included.
Lime Court: the service will be on the 2nd November, Monday, this month and Don Thomson on the 3rd Tuesday – both 11am. Support is always welcome at the short services which include singing and a short message.
Remembrance Sunday: is next week. Please note that because of the outdoor service at the War Memorial in Dovercourt, which starts at 10.45am, there is no service in All Saints beforehand. Main Road is very busy then. There are services at St Michael's and St Nicholas as normal and again at 3pm at St Nicholas.

Baptised in November/December: Faith Betty Thompson Cooper
Married in November/December: Trevor Mills and Izabella Joo; Gary Potten and Lisa Parker
Departed in October/November: Jeffrey Rex Eaton; Maurice Barker

SAFEGUARDING: if you have any concerns about safeguarding or wish to report anything please speak to our Parish Safeguarding Officer Claire Cooper. Email: clc1507@outlook.com or call 0771151814 this is for safeguarding only.

St Michael's worship 9am each Sunday (Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays)
All Saints worship 10.30am each Sunday (Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays)
St Nicholas worship 10.30am each Sunday (Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays)

You should be able to access the hearing loop in each building – please let us know if you cannot

1st Sunday of every month: Prayer Book Evensong at St Nicholas at 5pm
2nd Sunday of the month: Pop Up church at St Michael's at 3pm
3rd Sunday of every month: Prayer and Praise at St Michael's at 5pm
4th Sunday of every month (except December): Worship and the Word at All Saints at 5pm (except December)
4th Saturday of every month (except August and December): Messy Church in the Esplanade Hall from 2-4pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
1st Tuesday of every month: Hymns and Service at Don Thomson Residential Home at 11am – *support welcome*
2nd Monday of every month: Hymns and Service at Lime Court Residential Home at 11am – *support welcome*

For more information, please visit our social media: www.harwichparish.co.uk or www.achurchnearyou.com or our Facebook pages https://www.facebook.com/ Harwich Peninsula Parish CofE. All Saints, St Michaels & St Nicholas or Messy Church at the Esplanade Hall