The Parish Church of

St John the Baptist

Serving the communities of Bodicote, Cherwell Heights and Longford Park

Our Parish Prayer Ever living God, give us the courage to be your church in the community and for the community, and teach us new ways to share your love with all those around us. Amen.

Sunday 25 October
Bible Sunday

Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading:
Nehemiah 8: 1-4a, 8-12

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah,

Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Second Reading:
Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading:
Matthew 24: 30-35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the
hungry with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly
grace, and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living
bread
who is alive and reigns,
now and forever.
Amen.

Notices

We will be celebrating the feasts of All Saints and All Souls next Sunday, including our annual service for the **Commemoration of the Departed at 6pm** that evening. This is an opportunity to remember our loved ones who have died, and to seek comfort in the promises of God. During the service we will read out the names of those who have died and had funerals with us in the last year, as well as anyone that you wish to be remembered. You can add names to the list available in church or email the vicar with the words 'All Souls' in the subject. All are welcome at the service.

A huge **thank you**, once again, to all those who donated to our hymn book appeal. It is wonderful to have the new hymn books for use in church. If you would still like to dedicate a hymn book it's not too late! You are welcome to get in touch any time and we can arrange this.

We are always looking for new **volunteers** to help out at services, whether welcoming, reading, praying or serving refreshments after the service. If you might be willing to join the team, please get in touch with Joanna at jumbo1961@hotmail.co.uk.

The **Annual Service of Remembrance** will take place in church at 3pm on Sunday 8th November. There will also be a short commemoration service at the site of the Wellington Bomber crash at 10.45am that same day. On Armistace Day, Wednesday, 11th November, at 10.45 there will be a brief service of remembrance round the War Memorial in the churchyard.

Our **Christams bazaar** takes place in Church House on Saturday 14th November at 2pm. There will be all the usual stalls and we are now asking for donetions towards theses stalls - bottles of any ddescription, unwanted gifts and raffle prizes. Cakes will also be much appreciated and can be brough along on the day.

This week we pray for all who live or work in Homestead Road and Wheatley Close.

Diary for this week
All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 25 October
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion with Sunday Club

Monday 26 October
8am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

Tuesday 27 October
9.30am Fabric and Finance Committee meet in Dillon House

Thursday 29 October
Vicar's day off

Sunday 1 November
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
6pm Service for the Commemoration of the Departed (All Souls)

Readings for 1 November
Revelation 7: 9-end, 1 John 3: 1-3
Matthew 5: 1-12

*ask wardens for link

Contact us

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