# “The Newsletter”

For MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL

Sunday 8 November 2026







November is a busy month in the Benefice of Martlesham with Brightwell. Last week we had the service for the Dearly Departed and this weekend we will hold our Act of Remembrance starting at 10.50 am in St. Mary’s churchyard around the War Memorial, with members of Martlesham Brass. This will be followed by a service in church to which everyone is welcome.

Next week the two PCCs will meet with the Rural Dean to finalise the Parish Profile, which explains to a prospective vicar the type of benefice we are and what we are looking for in our new incumbent. It was encouraging to see that the comments written on the white boards, from the congregation, were the same as those put forward by the members of the PCCs. When we sat down and analysed what happens in the benefice, it was amazing how much we do and the number of volunteers who give of their time to make it all happen. As Paul says in his letter to the Romans, “For just as in a single human body there are many limbs and organs, all with different functions, so all of us, united with Christ, form one body, serving individually as limbs and organs to one another.” Having said that, it is always good to welcome new volunteers in whatever roll you would be willing to serve.

Finally, at the end of the month we have the Benefice work mornings, where we will tidy up the grounds around the churches before the winter sets in. (See the notice in this newsletter)

Whatever gifts God has given us, we can all pray for the churches and each other, to continue God’s work during our vacancy.

**Roger**

**Sunday 8 Nov**
- **10:00 am - Remembrance Service - St Michael's**
- **10:50 am - Remembrance Service - St Mary's**
- **3:00 pm - Evensong - St John's**

**Monday 9 Nov**
- **8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

**Wednesday 11 Nov**
- **10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**

**Sunday 15 Nov**
- **10:00 am - Morning Worship - St Michael's**
- **11:00 am - Holy Communion - St Mary's**

**Monday 16 Nov**
- **8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

**Sunday 22 Nov**
- **10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**
- **3:00 pm - Evensong - St John's**

**Monday 23 Nov**
- **8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

**Wednesday 25 Nov**
- **10:00 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**

**Sunday 29 Nov**
- **10:30 am - Holy Communion - St Michael's**

**Monday 30 Nov**
- **8:30 am - Morning Prayer - St Mary's**

Note the new ‘winter’ time for Evensong and the slightly earlier time at St Mary’s for Remembrance Sunday

Also note the change of time on Sunday 29th November

We are supporting **Operation Christmas Child** by making shoeboxes filled with gifts for children again this year. Leaflets are available with all the details or go to www.samaritans-purse.org.uk to find out more. If you would prefer to donate some gifts to be made into a shoebox that is also very welcome. Small toys, stationery, hygiene items and gloves or woolly hats are excellent gifts. Sadly, toothpaste, liquids, or edible gifts are not allowed. **There is a crate in the Runway where gifts can be left**. The last day for bringing shoeboxes or gifts is **Saturday 14th November in the Runway or Sunday 15th November in church**. Please talk to Marga or Christine if you have any questions.

**Christine**

## Church Building Work Mornings

It's getting to that time of year where all the Churches need a bit of care and attention as such, in November we have planned a work morning at each of our Churches. From 9:30am - 12:30am all volunteers are welcomed to come and trim bushes, sweep paths and do a bit of general maintenance. We have limited equipment but please do bring along your own if you can.

St Michael's - **21st November**
St Mary's - **28th November**
St John's - **30th November**
**Rob**

As you know Rob and Emma are leaving us in December and so we are organising a collection to thank them for all they've done for the benefice. If you would like to contribute, please could you give donations either to Chris Howard or to Roger if that's easier.

**Christine**

## Prayer Diary



Please include the following in your daily prayers and pray daily for peace.

### November

9 Interfaith week: for understanding between people of all faiths
10 those suffering from addictions
11 for the residents of Roma Avenue
12 for everyone at Toddler Group today
13 for those who empty our bins and clean our streets
14 for St Elizabeth hospice staff and those they care for
15 Safeguarding Sunday: may we offer care, protection and love to all
16 that we may protect and care about our local environment
17 for new residents of Brightwell Lakes
18 for the residents of Saddlers Place
19 all caring for loved ones at home
20 those working on Martlesham industrial and retail area
21 all worried about heating their homes
22 Christ the King: may we help build his kingdom on earth
23 for our home groups
24 for all working outside in cold weather
25 for the residents of Sandy Lane
26 for people we find difficult to forgive
27 those struggling with debt
28 give thanks for God's overwhelmingly generous love
29 Advent Sunday: Prepare the way of the Lord!
30 St Andrew's Day: that we may bring others to Je

Another prayer from: The Valley of Vision - A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions

## Christ is All

O LOVER TO THE UTTERMOST,
May I read the meltings of thy heart to me
in the manger of thy birth
in the garden of thy agony,
in the cross of thy suffering,
in the tomb of thy resurrection,
in the heaven of thy intercession.
Bold in this thought I defy my adversary,
tread down his temptations,
resist his schemings,
renounce the world,
am valiant for truth.
Deepen in me a sense of my holy relationship to thee,
as spiritual bridegroom,
as Jehovah's fellow,
as sinners' friend.
I think of thy glory and my vileness,
thy majesty and my meanness,
thy beauty and my deformity,
thy purity and my filth,

**continued in next column**

thy righteousness and my iniquity.
Thou hast loved me everlastingly, unchangeably,
may I love thee as I am loved;
Thou hast given thyself for me,
may I give myself to thee;
Thou hast died for me,
may I live to thee,
in every moment of my time,
in every movement of my mind,
in every pulse of my heart.
May I never dally with the world and its allurements,
but walk by thy side,
listen to thy voice,
be clothed with thy graces,
and adorned with thy righteousness.

*Excerpted from The Valley of Vision, edited by Arthur Bennett.*
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**PARISH MINISTER**: In vacancy
**All queries should be directed to Christine or Rob, below**

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