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 8 November
## Remembrance Sunday

**Collect**

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds
of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart
by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just
and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

**First Reading:**
**Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16**

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

**Second Reading:**
**1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 1-13**

The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

**Post Communion Prayer**

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ
proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken
to wholeness of life:
look with compassion
on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power make
whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ.
Amen.

**Offertory Hymn**

Hope for the world's despair
We feel the nations' pain
Can anything repair
This broken earth again
For this we pray
In every place
A spark of grace
To light the way

Wisdom for all who bear
The future in their hand
Entrusted with the care
Of this and every land
When comes the hour
O Lord, we pray
Inspire the way
We spend our power

Honour for all who've paid
War's painful, bitter price
When duty called they made
The greatest sacrifice
Their memory
Will never cease
To cry for peace
And harmony

Ease for the troubled mind
In endless conflict caught
Each soul that cannot find
The peace beyond all thought
May they be blessed
With healing balm
For inner calm
And perfect rest

Love for the human heart
When hate grows from our fears
And inwardly we start
To turn our ploughs to spears
Help us to sow
Love's precious seed
In word and deed
That peace may grow

Ally Barrett

# Notices

The **Annual Service of Remembrance** will take place in church at 3pm this afternoon (Sunday 8th November). 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 **Christmas 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 donations towards these stalls - bottles of any description, unwanted gifts and raffle prizes. Cakes will also be much appreciated and can be brought along on the day.

As a late addition, we are adding a craft stall, so if any of you crafters have

any items you are willing to donate, we would much appreciate them, as well as any unwanted craft supplies. Please price your items beforehand.

We are pleased to support **Operation Christmas Child** this year. Leaflets giving you more details and ideas of what to pack and other information are available from the church. Please bring your filled shoeboxes into the church between Sunday 1st November and Sunday 15th November so they can be taken to the local collection point on Monday 16th November.

**Thank you.** Lynne Philpot writes: I was touched and grateful for the many prayers, calls, messages, cards, gifts and visits that I have received since my knee operation at the end of September. I am so thankful that I am part of such a supportive church community.

**This week we pray** for all who live or work in Avocet Way and Chatsworth Drive.

**Diary for this week**
*All in church unless otherwise stated*

**Sunday 8 November**
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
3pm Annual Service of Remembrance

**Monday 9 November**
8am **NO** Morning Prayer on Zoom - restarts 23rd November

**Wednesday 11 November**
10.45am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the churchyard
2.30pm Mothers' Union meet in Church House

**Saturday 14 November**
2pm Christmas bazaar in Church House

**Sunday 15 November**
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion

**Readings for 15 November**
Zephaniah 1: 7,12-end,
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11,
Matthew 25: 14-30

# Contact us

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