The Church of Saint Paul

Burton upon Trent



November 2026 Newsletter

CLERGY DETAILS

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OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 516714
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Hall Booking enquiries	John Woolley Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 532748 Tel: 01283 516714

SERVICES

St Paul's	Sundays	10.45am	Sung Mass
	Thursdays	12 noon	Holy Communion
St John	Sundays	9.15am	Sung Mass
the Divine	Wednesdays	9.30am	Holy Communion

ST PAUL'S CHURCH IS OPEN 10.30am – 4.00pm MOST DAYS

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the clergy

Fr Simon's day off is Friday

https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4195/
Donations for St Paul's Church will be gratefully accepted

Lloyds Bank
P C C St Paul's Burton Sort code 30-91-47 Account number 01542702
Contactless card reader situated near the south door

November 2026 for St Paul's Newsletter



November, already?! I surely can't be the only one wondering what happened to September, which seemed to pass by in a flash, somehow. Having had the blessing of a fortnight's leave in the Lake District in October, along with a couple of days in Wales with my clergy cell group – a mutual support group of people who trained for ordination together – I can appreciate why that particular month seemed to go by quickly.

Now the clocks have gone back and the post-Trinity season of Ordinary Time has ended. So we move into the autumnal season that involves our remembering.

As I write, I am preparing for two funerals on successive days of beloved people who meant a great deal not only to their families and friends but also to one of the churches of our benefice.

Almost immediately we'll be celebrating All Saints – remembering the great saints of the Church - and All Souls, recalling the 'saints' we have known, perhaps in our own families or friendship circles, who have given us a glimpse of the love of God by their lives.

And poppies are now being worn ahead of Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, when we again recall the costs of war, while conflicts continue to rage in our world.

In both of our benefice churches we have now begun to celebrate All Saints (which falls on 1st November), and All Souls, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (on 2nd November) in one service. It was not an easy decision to make to do so, as they are distinct points in the calendar, not only in terms of the

days on which they fall, but also in the spiritual and emotional freight that they carry.

Still, as is the case in so many churches across the country, with declining numbers and ageing worshippers, it had evidently become too much to ask people to turn out for separate services on successive days. Particularly if it meant coming out when the darker nights had arrived, amid concerns around personal safety or because of the time demands on working or busily-retired folk.

However, it is important that in marking All Saints and All Souls in one service, we don't fall into the mistake of mixing up the two. That would take one of the triumphant feasts of the church year, All Saints, and make it more like a funeral. It's a difficult balance to try to achieve.

The joy of All Saints is that it is *not* a funeral. It is a celebration of the heroic faith of people who have gone before us convinced of the love of God, and the promise of eternal life, and lived out their lives as a testimony to that promise.

Is there, though, a tendency to 'airbrush' the picture of the great Saints, so that we portray their lives as one long uninterrupted act of heroic courage? Or do we confine them to the stained glass images of our churches?

Rather than continuous heroism, I think there was a good deal of everyday 'stuff' and even grind for the saints. I doubt St George was constantly fighting one long battle against dragon after dragon. There would have been other things to do – maintain his armour so it wouldn't seize up; tend to his horse and tack – and even clean up after the horse, too. He still needed to get in supplies, pay the bills.

This is not to downplay the quality and bravery of their lives. Yet the great saints we recall lived in such a way that every step they took was offered to God in some way, so that their lives became a living testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

Perhaps that is what is really at the heart of sainthood — the will and determination to keep going, to persevere. And that's not a will that emerged

all of its own accord, or by our own making, but a will shaped and forged by the daily, patient work of prayer, service and sacrament. It's the everyday work of letting our will and our hope be made in the shape of Jesus Christ's. It is, as our Rule of Life encourages, that we work through our Believing, Exploring, Engaging and Responding each day.

That's not to say that at some great, demanding, world-altering moment, you or I may not be called to an iconic, literal kind of sainthood.

However, it is more likely that it is in the gentle living of our average lives that we will find ourselves, having first given over ourselves for love's sake.

It is in that very mundanity, the everyday grind and perseverance, that sainthood is truly made, as it will have been done by both the great saints and by those souls closer to home for us, who touched the lives of others by their love, care, courage, generosity and selflessness.

As we celebrate All Saints and All Souls, may we honour the distinctiveness of each. And as we honour those who have gone before us, may we recognise that at the heart of all their lives were everyday, 'pedestrian' choices. That is how they, and we, all come to 'run the race set out before us', all the way to the finish line and beyond, as disciples, as learners and followers, of Christ.

Fr Simon

PARISH NOTES

YMCA SLEEPOUT at Pirelli Stadium- 7th November. Isaac will be taking part – and he would appreciate sponsors please.	Standing Committee meeting on Thursday 12th November at 12.45pm
Don't forget to put the date of our Carols by Candlelight in your diary. 17th December at 7.30pm.	The course **PILGRIM** continues on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month at Red Lion House at 9.00am.
PCC meeting – Thursday 3rd December at 12.45pm.	Deanery Synod – Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm.
We are averaging approximately 700 hits on our website. Great that so many people are interested in the parish. It would be lovely to hear from some of the people to have their comments.	**Book Group**: our monthly Book Group will meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 7pm at Burton Vicarage, Rangemore Street. All are welcome. We will be reading '**Being Christian**' by Rowan Williams.

Crafts, Knit & Natter

Our group met on Tuesday 27th October when members painted "houses" while others brought their own knitting and crocheting and somejust nattered. Our next get together is on 24th November – the activity will be Christmas themed. All are welcome – just come for a coffee!



Many thanks to those who supported the **PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH** – a record of 40 people came. It was a fantastic morning, delicious food and good company. Grateful thanks to Colin for the catering and to the helpers doing coffee, washing up and the raffle.

Our next event will be a **COFFEE MORNING** on Tuesday 10th November at 10.00am. No doubt Colin will bake the usual delicious cakes and scones.

QUIZ NIGHT



What an enjoyable night we had at the Quiz Night. Nine teams took part – Universally Challenged, Donkey Doughnuts. Wet & Windy. Golden Geezers, Dizzy Dames, Orwell that ends well, 3S&M, Peanut & Quips.

There were eight rounds of ten questions – Dates in history; AKA; Sport; Watching the Detectives; TV and Radio; Loose Connections; Swinging Sixties; Africa. We were able to choose a joker round.

The Dizzy Dames won with a fantastic score of 125; Orwell that ends well took second place with 119 and Golden Geezers were third with 113.

Thanks go to quizmaster Dave Hook who compiled the quiz and to all who supported the event.

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CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL



At St Paul's you are all cordially invited to participate in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2026, where, in partnership with the Teams4U registered charity we endeavour to bring a little festive cheer to some of the world's poorest children/families by sending a few basic necessities which will be particularly appreciated due to the poverty stricken and often war-torn environment in which these unfortunate children/families have to live.



If you take a shoe-box and a leaflet (available in the Church Hall) it will list the basic items required for both boys and girls and also a 'Home Box' which can be shared by families.

The boxes will be blessed at the 10.45am Mass on Sunday Advent Sunday 29th November. They will then make their way to Moldova.

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To all at St Paul's Church

Many thanks for your recent donations to the foodbank – we really appreciate your continued support.

Every blessing this Harvest Season.

Julia, Foodbank Co-ordina

PRAYER DIARY NOVEMBER 2026

1	**ALL SAINTS** St Gwenfyl	Setting a good example
2	**ALL SOULS** St Eve	the faithful departed
3	Richard Hooker, priest 1600 St Winefred	The situation in the Middle East
4	Charles Borromeo, Bp of Milan	Work of Christian Aid
5		safety for Firework Parties
6	S Bertille, abbess 707	Carers
7	St Englebert	The YMCA sleepout
8	**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** **3rd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT** St Gernad	Those who gave their lives for their country
9	St Benignus	Emergency Services
10	St Cummian St Justus	The situation in Ukraine
11	St Martin	Our organists
12		Reconnect in Burton
13	S Christian & St Malcolm	our Government
14	St Dubricius	Those people who have been affected by the recent storms
15	**2nd SUNDAY BEF ADVENT** St Maclovis	The homeless
16	S Margaret, Queen of Scotland	The Christmas Shoe Box appeal
17	St Hugh, bishop of Lincoln	Doctors
18	St Fergus	Ambulance Service
19	St Hilda, abbess of Whitby	Orphans
20	S Edmund, King and Martyr	The police
21	St Albert	the deaf
22	**SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT** Cecilia, Martyr of Rome	Musicians

23	St Alexander	patients & staff at St Giles Hospice
24	St Firmina	outcasts
25	St Catherine	scientists
26	St Innocent	People affected by war in Sudan
27	St Facundus	Church leaders
28	St Patrician	Those suffering from Ebola
29	**ADVENT SUNDAY – YEAR B** St Blasius	those who have had their homes re-possessed
30	St Francis Xavier St Andrew	The cost of living crisis

From our anniversary of death book we remember Pamela Carter, Anne Osborne, Ronald Anderson, Lily Welch, Sarah Rutter, Dorothy Lenton, Anthony Sewell, George Keates, Annie Lenton, Gladys Pickering, Terry Bailey & Chris Shepard	*Almighty and eternal God,* *from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life:* *hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day;* *fulfil in them the purpose of your love;* *and bring us all, with them,* *to your eternal joy;* *through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR ALL SAINTS

Almighty God, we offer unto you most high praise and hearty thanks for the wonderful graces and virtues which you have manifested in all your saints and in all other holy persons upon earth, who by their lives and labours have shined forth as lights in the world, whom we remember with honour and commemorate with joy. For these and for all your other servants who have departed this life with the seal of faith, we praise and magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From the Scottish Liturgy (1560) taken from The Lion Book Collection
compiled by Mary Batchelor



Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

We remember the following :

Chris Hill, Terence Dawson, Fiodor Antonov, Chris Shepard, Janet Mear, Maria Senkova, Norma Totty, James & Phyllis Riley, Tamara Bartkevich, Margaret McKernan, Audrey & Roy Smith, Andrey Voronov, Stanley Monkhouse, Elizabeth & Harry Haynes, Vasiliy Talanav, Hugh Monkhouse, Peter & Betty Haynes, Lidia Talanova, William Burrell Woolley [priest], The Euridge Family, Evdokia Andreeva, Mary Woolley, Bert Smith, Tamara Rutkovskaya, Mell & Emmie Woolley, Reg Sweeney, Katia Rutkovskaya, Derek Ward, Bill & Ruth Gordon, Nikolay Rutkovskiy, Margaret & John Smith, Mildred & Frank Ward, Piotr Talanov, Alicia Woolley, Violet & Thomas Ottey, Parfiriy Andreev, Julian Mason, Florence Nerteley Nettey, Valentina Nikolaeva, David Hazlehurst, Charles Tetteh Nettey, Irina Voronova, Peter & Brenda Smith, Edmund Kwade Tagoe, Tatiana Voronova, Anna Catherine Fitzgerald, Florence Armah, Mihail Voronov, Billy Fitzgerald, Esther Lende Tagoe, Glenda Elks, Mike Thompson, A Gregory, Jelena Kovalova, Yvonne Eaton, Ronnie Morris, Sid Keen, Vera Amelia Jefferies, Kosha Rudek, Michael Johnson, Francis Jefferies, Matei Augustin, John Donlon, John Hazel Parry White, Janet Paynter, Charlotte, Violet Gwendoline White, Duncan Ross [priest], Frederick James Morris, Peter & Louise Evanson, James Foster [senior], Maureen Morris, Peter Duff, James Foster [junior], Timothy Foster, Barbara & Keith Gooding, Patricia Wootton, David Colley, Julie Alexander, Anne Moore, Ken Bunting, Arthur Lawton, Rosemary Chilton, Kosha Rudek, Bernard Anthony Colaluca, Christopher Foster, Kenneth & Mavis Ann Smith, Annie Colaluca, Jean Burke, Des Skivington, Elizabeth Day, Peter Cammack, Annie Mary Foster, Andrew Cammack, Gary Merrick, Peter & Betty Poynton, Marija Matvejeva, Doris Sharpe, Ivan Matvejev, Edith Dolby, Vaslily Senkov, Charles & Edna Dawson, Lubov Senkova, Bill Welch, Lily Welch, Laura Jane Welch, Fred Kingston, Ellen Kingston, Frank Kingston, Graham Canner, Rev Les Rees, Joan Rees

Why we wear poppies on Remembrance Day

The poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance of the First World War. It is strongly linked with Armistice Day (11 November), but the poppy's origin as a popular symbol of remembrance lies in the landscapes of the First World War.

Poppies were a common sight, especially on the Western Front. They flourished in the soil churned up by the fighting and shelling. The flower provided Canadian doctor John McCrae with inspiration for his poem 'In Flanders Fields', which he wrote whilst serving in Ypres in 1915. It was first published in Punch, having been rejected by The Spectator. In 1918, in response to McCrae's poem, American humanitarian Moina Michael wrote 'And now the Torch and Poppy Red, we wear in honour of our dead…'. She campaigned to make the poppy a symbol of remembrance of those who had died in the war.

Artificial poppies were first sold in Britain in 1921 to raise money for the Earl Haig Fund in support of ex-servicemen and the families of those who had died in the conflict. They were supplied by Anna Guérin, who had been manufacturing the flowers in France to raise money for war orphans. Selling poppies proved so popular that in 1922 the British Legion founded a factory - staffed by disabled ex-servicemen - to produce its own. It continues to do so today.

Other charities sell poppies in different colours, each with their own meaning but all to commemorate the losses of war. White poppies, for example, symbolise peace without violence and purple poppies are worn to honour animals killed in conflict.

The poppy continues to be sold worldwide to raise money and to remember those who lost their lives in the First World War and in subsequent conflicts.

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Remember Me

(The voice of the dead)

A poem for Armistice Day

Remember me
Duty called and I went to war
Though I'd never fired a gun before
I paid the price for your new day
As all my dreams were blown away

Remember me
We all stood true as whistles blew
And faced the shell and stench of Hell
Now battle's done, there is no sound
Our bones decay beneath the ground
We cannot see, or smell, or hear
There is no death, or hope or fear

Remember me
Once we, like you, would laugh and talk
And run and walk and do the things that you all do
But now we lie in rows so neat
Beneath the soil, beneath your feet

Remember me
In mud and gore and the blood of war
We fought and fell and move no more
Remember me, I am not dead
I'm just a voice within your head

David Page under the pen name Harry Riley

A prayer of commemoration for the fallen



Father of all, remember your holy promise,
and look with love on all your people, living and departed.
On this day we especially ask that you would hold forever
all who have suffered during war,
those who returned scarred by warfare,
those who waited anxiously at home,
and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned;
those who mourned,
and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss.
Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion,
those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades,
and those who in the aftermath of war,
worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world.
And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord;
grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom.
This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

COFFEE MORNING **Tuesday 10th November** **10.00am – 12 noon**	**CRAFTS, KNIT & NATTER** **Tuesday 24th November** **& 1st December** **10.00am in the Church Hall** **All welcome**
CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING **Tuesday 8th December** **10.00am**	**Advance notice** **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT** **with the Tutbury Band** **Thursday 17th December at 7.30pm**

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Cecilia (3rd Century)

Almost nothing is known for certain about her life. Her great popularity is largely due to the late 15th century Legend.

According to this, she was a young Christian patrician, betrothed to a pagan called Valerian. But she had already vowed her virginity to God, and refused to consummate the marriage. Both her husband and his brother, Tiburtius, became Christians, were arrested and martyred.

Soon afterwards Cecilia buried the two martyrs, and was brought before the prefect. She refused to sacrifice, converted her persecutors and was sentenced to be suffocated in her bathroom. The plan failed and a soldier was sent to behead her. Three blows failed to kill her and she survived half-dead for three days.

Later Pope Urban dedicated her house as a church.

Unfortunately this story is unsupported by any near-contemporary evidence.

Many similar Legends embellish the memory of some historic person, but in the case of Cecilia a church in the Trastevere, Rome, founded by a certain Roman matron called Cecilia, is at the base of the story.

It does seem, however, that the martyrs associated with Cecilia were indeed historical persons.

She is the patron saint of music, and English readers through the narrative of the Second Nun's tale in Geoffrey Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales' know one version of her story.

Her feast day is 22nd November.

P.L.

Puzzle time

Trivia quiz about November: (answers will be given next month)

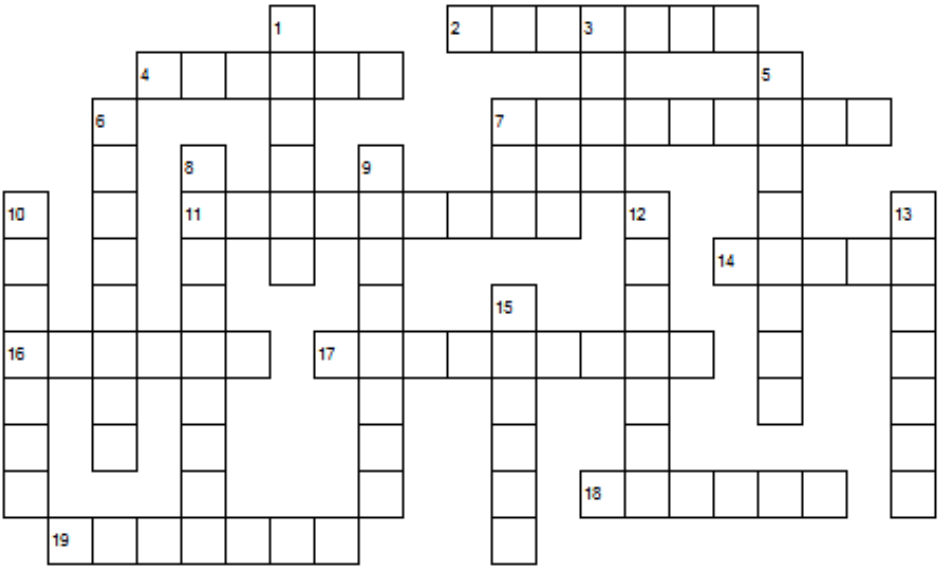
1. What is the November birth flower?
2. Which star sign are you if you are born 20th November?
3. What is the French word for November?
4. Which famous actor born in November is known for his roles in 'Titanic', 'The Wolf of Wall Street' and ''The Revenant?
5. What is the name of the day after Thanksgiving in the USA?
6. Who became King of England on November 6th 1429?
7. Emma Stone was born in November 1988. Which Disney character did she play in 2021?
8. Who was declared head of the Church of England in November 1534?
9. The author of Gone with the wind was born in November 1795. Who was she?
10. Who organized the Gunpowder Plot in November 1605?
11. Dracula's author was born on November 8th, 1847. Who was he?
12. Marie Curie was born on November 7th, 1867. In which country?

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Answers to the October trivia quiz:

1. The eight month
2. Tourmaline and Opal
3. Marigold and cosmos
4. Libra and Scorpio
5. Noodles – it's National Noodles Day
6. The Draconids and the Orionids
7. Wine month
8. Hunter's moon
9. Oktoberfest
10. The owl
11. Diwali

MISSING VOWEL NOVEMBER SAINTS CROSSWORD

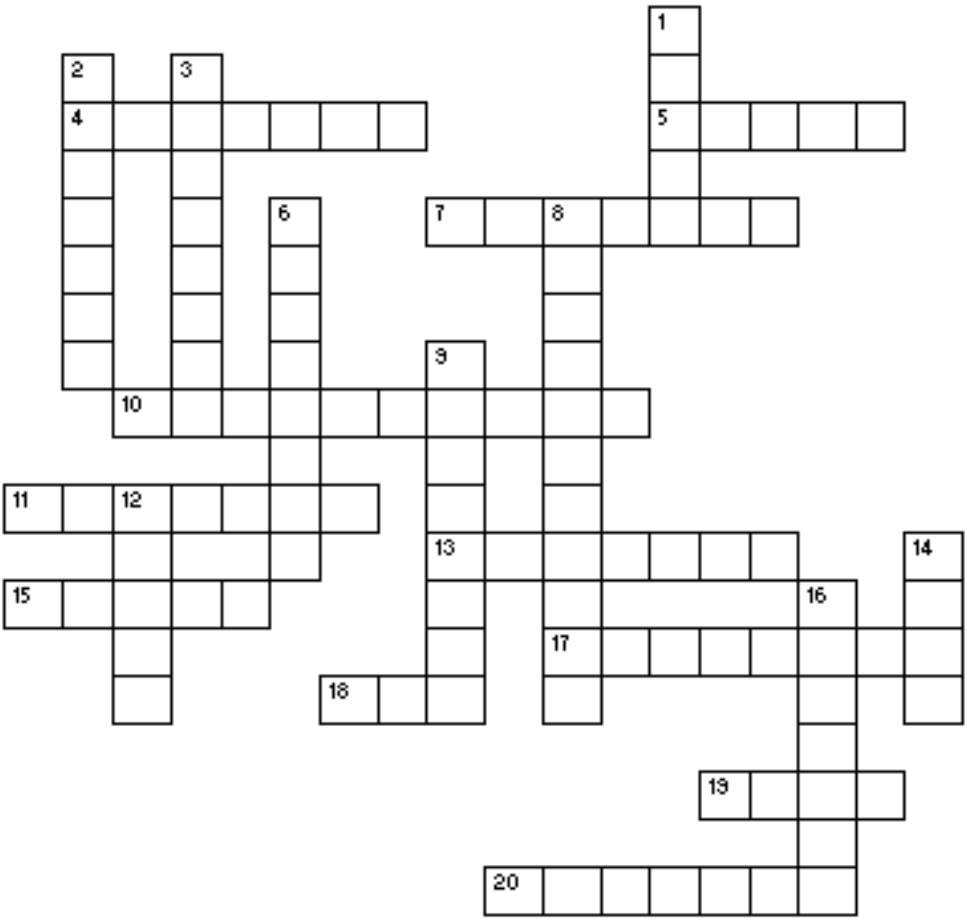


ACROSS
2 RCHRD
4 GRND
7 NGLBRT
11 LXNDR
14 HLD
16 MRTN
17 CTHRN
18 LBRT
19 FRNCS

DOWN
1 NDRW
3 HGH
5 BRTILL
6 WNFRD
7 V
8 PTRCN
9 MRGRT
10 CMMN
12 GWNFYL
13 MLCLM
15 FRGS

SANCTUARY CROSSWORD

All the answers are connected to the Sanctuary. Answers next month.



Across

4	saints galore on the wall
5	emblem of Christianity
7	book stand
10	house or tent
11	cup
13	painting or decoration at the back
15	plate
17	covered cup
18	contains sanctified wafers
19	covering for the house
20	place to sit

Down

1	recess for a saint
2	decorative textile
3	shelf or step
6	south side table
8	light holder
9	contains breads
12	surface for sacrifice
14	white or red for the reserved sacrament
16	washbasin

READERS ETC FOR NOVEMBER 2026

		Reader	Prayers	Offertory
1st Nov All Saints & All Souls	Revelation 7.9-17 Psalm 34.1-10 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5.1-12	Tom Foster	Clergy	Rose Jefferies
8th Nov 3rd Sunday before Advent	Wisdom of Solomon 6.12-16 *Canticle:* Wisdom of Solomon 6.17-20 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 Matthew 25.1-13	Susan Monkhouse	Colin Dawson	Sue Sweeney & Valerie Cammack
15th Nov 2nd Sunday before Advent	Zephaniah 1.7,12-18 Psalm 90.1-8[9-11]12 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11 Matthew 25.14-30	Sue Ganley	Mike Mear	Olwen & Alan Sharpe
22nd Nov CHRIST THE KING	Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24 Psalm 95.1-7 Ephesians 1.15-23 Matthew 25.31-46	Valerie Cammack	Maureen Woolley	Lilian Keen
29th Nov ADVENT YEAR B	Isaiah 64.1-9 Psalm 80.1-8,18-20 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-37	Mike Mear	John Woolley	Alfredo
6th Dec ADVENT 2	Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.1-2,8-13* 2 Peter 3.8-15a Mark 1.1-8	John Woolley	Clergy	Svetlana