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 22 November
Safeguarding Sunday

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call
of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.
Amen.

First Reading: Psalm 91: 1-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.” For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know

my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

Second Reading:
1 Corintians 13: 1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ff I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Reading: Luke 10: 25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?”

Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii,

gave them to the innkeeper, and said, “Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing
forth the fruit of good works,
may by you
be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Notices

On Friday 11th December, we will be holding an **Advent Quiet Day** in church, 10am to 12.30pm, to which all are welcome. This will take the form of a series of short reflections on the seven traditional images of of the coming Christ, found in that wonderful Advent carol: ‘O come, O come, Emmanuel’. There will be prayer activities, music for reflection, and space for your own time of quiet. You do not need to sign up in order to come but if you are intending to join us, an email to the vicar would help to gauge numbers. Many thanks!

We are always looking for **volunteers** to help at services as sidespeople, readers and leaders of the intercessions as well as people to prepare and serve coffee after the 9.45am service. We are coming

up to a very busy time, with all the extra services over Christmas. Maybe this would be a good time to test the waters and offer your help to cover this period, with absolutely no obligation to continue afterwards! If you would like to know more of what is involved, please speak to those on duty. Joanna would love to hear from you as she prepares the December and January rota: jumbo1961@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you to all who helped with the **Christmas bazaar** in any way, those who donated to the stalls and came along to support us.

Our Advent and Christmas Services for your diary:
Sunday 29th November 6pm Advent Carol Service
Sunday 6th December 3pm Christingle
Sunday 13th December 6pm Christmas Carol Service
Sunday 20th December 4pm Longest Night service
Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service, 11pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 8am (BCP) and 9.45am All-age Holy Communion

Diary for this week
All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 22 November - Safeguarding Sunday
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion

Monday 23 November
8am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

Thursday 26 November
Vicar's day off

Sunday 29 November
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
6pm Advent Carol Service

* ask churchwardens for the link

Readings for 29 November
Isaiah 64: 1-9, 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Mark 13: 24 - end

This week we pray for all who live or work in Kingfisher Drive and Sanderling Walk.

Contact us

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