



CROSSWAYS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR ST PAUL'S AND WHITWORTH

Remembering Together

By Revd Canon Matt Tarling

AT this time of year we do a fair bit of remembering, and we do it together. At All Souls time we remember that generations of people have gone through life before us. As we remember those who have died in the recent or more distant past we do so with thanksgiving and a desire to go forward well. Similarly Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day give us an opportunity to remember those fallen during war. We remember with the intention of moving into the future having learned the lessons of the past and with a renewed desire for peace. As Christians we remember as a habit. Although it is not the only thing we do during Holy Communion, as we

share in bread and wine we remember Jesus Christ's death and resurrection for us. Not only that but we are to maintain the practice of remembering all of God's deeds in the past, his presence now and his promises for the future. When we do all these sorts of remembering we take a personal look at the past and present, and make personal commitments for the future. However, we also crucially remember together. Why is that important? Remembering together helps us look back well and move forward well. The life of faith involves plenty of remembering but we don't just stop at that. Every day we seek to serve our God and we should want to do so well. Knowing stuff,



Silhouette soldiers to remember those who lost their lives in past wars and conflicts

whether it's things of the past or present realities, is helpful but it's not the be all and end of all of life! Christianity is active and so we're called to put what we know into action. However, remembering and then putting things that we know into action is quite difficult on our own. We benefit from having others around us who can spur us on. As the writer to the Hebrews says in his sermon-letter:

'Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching' (Hebrews 10:23-25). Holding 'unswervingly' to the hope we profess involves knowing the

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PARISH

CHURCH

SERVICES

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Sundays: 10.30am Holy Communion ('All Together' non-communion on first Sunday)
(live-streamed at www.facebook.com/stpaulsspennymoor)

Wednesdays: 9.30am Holy Communion

Fridays: 10am Play Church (term-time only)

WHITWORTH CHURCH

Sundays: 9am Holy Communion

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Remembering Together

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good news of Jesus and sticking to it. We stick to it because the one who promised that we would find forgiveness and new, eternal life in Jesus Christ is faithful, we can rely on our God. That is 'remembering' both who our God is and what the good news is. But as you can see, the writer says that we need to find ways to keep each other going, to keep each other remembering. And what's the point of doing that? So that we would be encouraged to keep loving and to keep doing good deeds. This is how we remember together and then learn and keep serving God together. To do this we need to keep meeting together to encourage one another. That's why coming to church on Sundays or midweek and being part of a homegroup are not mere activities. They're our life-line!

Shoebox Appeal

THANK YOU to everyone who has been returning shoeboxes filled with gifts for the Operation Christmas Child appeal over the past few weeks.



If you're planning to still fill a box, can you please return it to Whitworth or St Paul's by early November so we can prepare the boxes to be sent off to children around the world who may otherwise not receive a gift this Christmas.

Remembering loved ones



A SERVICE of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for All Souls will take place on Monday 3rd November at 7pm in St Paul's Church. During the service there will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones no longer with us and hear their name read out in a period of prayer and reflection.

Remembrance Sunday



REMEMBRANCE Sunday is the 9th November and our parishes will remember those who lost their lives in past conflicts with a two minutes' silence and the laying of a poppy wreath. Whitworth's act of remembrance takes place at their 9am service and during the 10.30am service at St Paul's, the congregation will fall silent at 11am as they join the nation in remembrance.

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Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally to become 106th Archbishop of Canterbury

HIS Majesty The King has approved the nomination of the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, as the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

The 106th Archbishop of Canterbury since Saint Augustine arrived in Kent from Rome in 597, Bishop Sarah will be the first woman to hold the office. She will be installed during a special service at Canterbury Cathedral in March 2026.

The most senior bishop in the Church of England, the Archbishop of Canterbury's ministry combines many

roles including serving as the Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, as well as primus inter pares – or first among equals – of the Primates of the global Anglican Communion, which consists of around 85 million people, across 165 countries.

Bishop Sarah said: "As I respond to the call of Christ to this new ministry, I do so in the same spirit of service to God and to others that has motivated me since I first came to faith as a teenager.

"At every stage of that journey, through my



nursing career and Christian ministry, I have learned to listen deeply – to people and to God's gentle prompting – to seek to bring people together to find hope and healing.

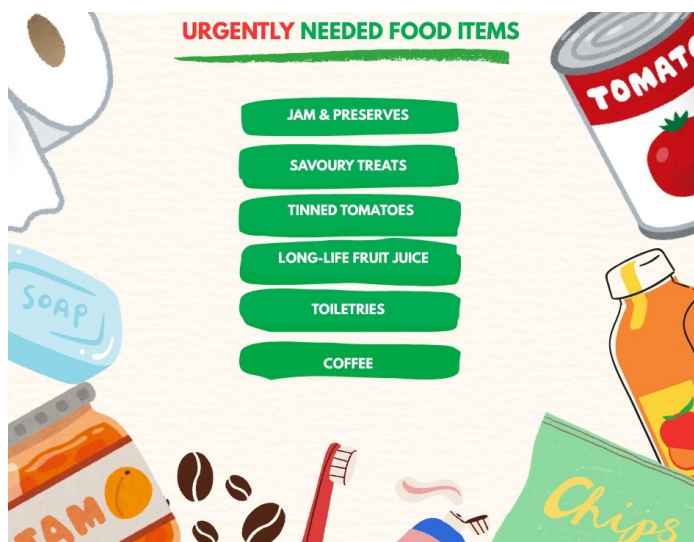
"I want, very simply, to encourage the Church to continue to grow in confidence in the Gospel, to speak of the love that we find in Jesus Christ and for it to shape our actions.

"And I look forward

to sharing this journey of faith with the millions of people serving God and their communities in parishes all over the country and across the global Anglican Communion.

"I know this is a huge responsibility but I approach it with a sense of peace and trust in God to carry me as He always has."

Words and picture supplied by the Church of England and Lambeth Palace.



Harvest foodbank offerings

THANK you to everyone who supported the harvest foodbank appeal at both churches - your donations will make a real difference to people's lives in our local community.

The organisation which runs the wider County Durham Foodbank has issued an appeal for urgent items and you can see in the list to the right the key items which are most in need. If you're able to add an extra item to your food shop, please consider donating as we approach Christmas. Donations can be taken to church, or left at the St Paul's Centre on weekday mornings.

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FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For members of His Majesty's armed forces stationed around the world.

For the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally as she is named the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

For all who live in work in our town and neighbouring villages.



PRAYER FOR NOVEMBER

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those people who have been injured or who have died in active service. As we honour their courage and cherish their memory, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life, peace and hope, now and forever. Amen

Source: The Church of England

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.*

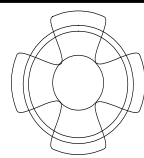
NEWS IN BRIEF

CROSSWAYS secretary Pauline Storey would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and support after her accident and during her time in hospital.

THANK you to Gordon from Binchester allotments who kindly donated flowers and produce which made up the harvest decorations at St Paul's church, and to the floral teams at both churches who worked to produce the displays.

THIS year's Mayor's Civic Service took place at St Paul's in October and was a tremendous occasion of thanksgiving, music and worship with Spennymoor Town Band and a massed choir. Thank you to everyone who helped with the service, and in particular Alan Leightell, who produced it. A highlights video is on the St Paul's Spennymoor Facebook and Instagram pages.

Parish Registers



HOLY BAPTISM

St Paul's

12th October	Olivia Lauder Walling
12th October	Matilda Mae Moore
26th October	Frankie Heaviside
26th October	Leia McLeod

HOLY MATRIMONY

St Paul's

4th October	Steven Goode and Danielle Hargreaves
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CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

Durham Crematorium

1st October	Neil Fenwick Jordison
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St Paul's

9th October	John Eric Richardson
22nd October	Thomas Tupling
24th October	Keith Halliday

LADIES AT ST PAUL'S

ALL WELCOME

WEDNESDAY
EVENINGS

7.30 - 9.30 PM

November 12th Seasonal Table Arrangement

We welcome you to come along for a session with our lovely flower ladies as they demonstrate how to do a small table arrangement using natural greenery in the run up to Christmas. You do not need anything, but if you have secateurs and decorations you wish to add please bring them along. It would be useful to know if you are attending so we can ensure we have enough resources available for the session.

Location:
St Paul's Church

Contact : ladies@stpaulsspennymoor.co.uk



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