

THE MAGAZINE OF

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH CHURCH

Creationtide and Remembrance 2026



**Serving the communities of
Bodicote, Cherwell Heights and Longford Park**

In this issue

Creationtide and Remembrance 2026

Sunday Services	2	Lourdes Pilgrimage	11
A Message from the Vicar	3	Ride and Stride Appeal for Organiser	13
Community Fête Thank You	4	Hymn Book Appeal Update	13
Christian Aid Collection Update	4	Churchyard Working Party	16
Children & Families	5	October Quiz	16
Mothers' Union, Bodicote Branch	6	Afternoon Teas	17
Silent Auction	7	Harvest Lunch	17
Flowers in Church	8	Want to Stay in Touch?	18
Weddings at St John's	8	Services for	
Bishop Loveday School News	9	Creationtide and Remembrance	19

Sunday Services

The church is open for private prayer, and to exchange books and jigsaws between **9.00am** and **4.00pm** daily except when there is a service.

8:00am Communion in Church
(Book of Common Prayer)

9:45am Parish Communion in Church

6:00pm Occasional services in Church
As advertised on our website and Facebook page



A Message from the Vicar

All things bright and beautiful

This is the season of God's creation. From the height of the summer sun to the vibrant colours of autumn we, as a church, are invited to reflect on our own growth in faith and our life together as God's people.

Creationtide will soon be upon us. It is a time when we give thanks for God's gifts to us, pray for creation in all its beauty and lament the harm done by human hands. We celebrate the harvest and our connection to the land, and even – with the feast day of St Francis of Assisi – give thanks for the animals with whom we share this world.

I look forward to celebrating with you at our upcoming services and events, as we remember to give thanks for all we have and to recognise God's gifts in our individual and communal life.

Much of the life and growth of the Church happens not through the great festivals alone, but through the faithful rhythms of worship, hospitality, pastoral care and service that sustain our common life week by week. It has been a

real encouragement to see those rhythms becoming more firmly established, and I am grateful to everyone who contributes to them in so many different ways. It was a particular joy to celebrate all who give so generously of their time, talents, and resources at our Thanksgiving Service in July.

As we enter these coming months, may God give us eyes to notice the gifts around us, thankful hearts to receive them, and generous hands to share them.

With every blessing,
Revd Emily

Cover Photo - Name

Community Fête Thank You

We would like to thank all the charity and community groups who took part in our community fête back in May.

Despite a rather chilly and rainy day, our community fête was a resounding success, both financially and in bringing the local community together.

We also need to say a very big “thank you” to the Bodicote Londis store who so kindly provided the cash prizes for our raffle, and all the other organisations and individuals who contributed prizes.

Thank you to all who came along and spent their money on the various stalls, took part in the treasure hunt, enjoyed the wonderful flower displays around the church building and took the opportunity to visit the bell tower.

If you are interested to find out more about the various groups involved, do get in touch and we can point you in the right direction!

Christian Aid Collection Update



Dear Parishioners, Thank you for fundraising for Christian Aid Week!

66
Bodicote St John the Baptist raised an amazing **£407.52** plus Gift Aid.

Bodicote St John the Baptist raised an amazing £407.52 plus Gift Aid.

This brings hope and lasting change to communities around the world helping families like Fridah's in Nairobi. After being widowed, she struggled to provide food for her grandchildren. But with seeds, tools and training from our partner, Beacon of Hope, she's now growing vegetables in a small city plot to feed her family and earn an income.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Gilly Taylor Allen

Children & Families



Sunday Club

Just a reminder that Sunday Club will be taking a summer break, but will return on Sunday 27th September.

We welcome any new members.

If you weren't already aware, it takes place in Church House during the 9.45am service and the activities are aimed at 4–10 year olds, although

younger children are welcome to come along with an adult.

Please do feel free to contact the office address (details on inner back page) for more information.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 5th August 2.30pm	Please note, there will be NO afternoon teas this week due to refurbishments in Church House
Saturday 3rd September 2pm	Autumn/harvest crafts
Sunday 4th September 9.45am	Harvest Festival followed by a lunch
Saturday 14th November 2pm	Christmas bazaar
Saturday 5th December 2pm	Christmas crafts

Mothers' Union, Bodicote Branch

Celebrating 150 years of Faith in Action.
Join in and Join us.

This summer, the Mothers' Union celebrated 150 years of Faith in Action.

The movement began in 1876 through the vision of Mary Sumner, a vicar's wife and a remarkable woman of faith. After raising her own family, she believed that women, regardless of class or status, could come together to support one another and strengthen family life within the Church.

Today, the Mothers' Union is a global movement of more than four million members across 84 countries. Men and women work together in faith and compassion to support families facing adversity and to address issues including poverty, illiteracy and gender-based violence.

The movement also speaks out for justice, advocating for stronger families and more compassionate communities around the world.

Anniversary celebrations have taken place worldwide. In our Diocese, a service of Evensong will be held at Christ Church Cathedral in August.

Our parish marked this special anniversary on Sunday on 21st June. Members of our Branch took all roles in the service including the Sermon slot. We

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Join us and join in!

All are welcome to come to any of our meetings or services. If you would like any further information about our Branch or the Mothers' Union then please contact either Lynne Philpot on 01295 256982 or Claire Roberts on 01295 254597.

“Today, the Mothers' Union is a global movement of more than four million members across 84 countries

were pleased to enrol our vicar Rev'd Emily Hockliffe-Essex into the Mother's Union at the Service.

We also welcomed Deb Lee, MU Worldwide Board Zonal Trustee for

York Province, during her cycle ride from York Minster to St Paul's Cathedral in London for the National 150 anniversary Service, which was also attended by one of our members. Deb's route included visits to many Mothers' Union branches. We were delighted that Bodicote was one of her stops and we were joined by members from Bloxham Branch and the two Bicester Branches to enjoy sharing afternoon tea and cake with Deb and her family. The following morning, Deb joined the 9.45am service before continuing her journey.

At other meetings we have had some very interesting and thoughtful speakers talking about their work and experience.

Rev'd Sue Cooke speaking on the theme 'Leading your Church into Growth'.

Rev'd Alice Jolley part of a Chaplaincy Team and working in Katherine house. Her theme 'Hospital Chaplaincy making tea at the end of the world'.

Rev'd Rev'd Sarah Cotterill – Curate at St Mary's Church Banbury gave a talk entitled 'Experiences of Franciscan Life today'.

At the end of June we had to say 'Goodbye' to Tricia Campbell, a long-standing member of our Branch and excellent Branch Treasurer; a committed and pro-active MU member; a Diocesan Office Holder for MU enterprises and a joint Diocesan President.

She will be greatly missed by many, but we all wish her every happiness in her new home in New Zealand with her husband and family.

Coming up:

9th September Branch Coffee morning at Wyatts Garden Centre

14th October Branch Harvest Communion in Church at 7.00pm followed by Supper in Church House.

**So, Join in and Join us –
you would be very welcome to come any of our services or meetings.**

Silent Auction

We have received a generous donation of three works of art by the late George Walker.

One is a cartoon, one is a print of Church Street, Bodicote and one is of Broughton Castle.

We shall hold a silent auction of these items, commencing on Sunday 23rd August and finishing on Sunday 20th September. These will be on display in Church House after the 9.45 am service for viewing and for anyone interested in making a bid. All proceeds will go to Church funds.



Flowers in Church

Each Sunday, our wonderful team of flower arrangers bring the beauty of God's creation into our church. Their elegant displays add so much to the church space and help us to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness".



It is with real gratitude that we recognise their contribution to our church space. In addition to their time and talents, flowers for each Sunday cost around £20 to source. If you would like to support the work of the flower arrangers, they are always grateful to receive donations towards the weekly cost.

Perhaps you might like to mark a special occasion, or choose a week to

remember a loved one. If you would like to dedicate the flowers one week for a celebration or cause, Rachel Whitrow (the head of our flower team) would be delighted to hear from you, and we will include the dedication in that week's newsletter and our prayers. At least two weeks' notice is helpful.

Rachel can be contacted on **07860 207321**.

Weddings at St John's

We are always delighted to celebrate weddings in church, and the summer is a popular time for many couples.

We are grateful to our flower arrangers as well as our bellringers, choir, and all who contribute to making those days so special for couples and their loved ones.

It is always a good time to celebrate God's gift of love, and it is a joy to bring couples together in church for God's blessing on their commitment to one another and the new chapter of their lives. Please pray for Lauren and Dale, Ricky

and Chloe, Natasha and Matt, and all their families and friends, that the love of God would strengthen and fill them, now and always.

If you would like to discuss getting married at St John the Baptist, Bodicote, we are always pleased to hear from you. You can contact the vicar directly at **revd.emily@gmail.com**

Bishop Loveday School News



This term, we have welcomed our new cohort of children and parents into our school community. It was lovely to meet everybody, and all of our children have enjoyed 'Move up Monday' meeting their new teachers and teaching assistants.

Towards the end of the school year, our year 6 children did a fantastic production of Superstan. All of our children had a chance to shine whether it was singing, dancing, acting or being part of the stage crew, lighting or sound. We were so proud!

We also enjoyed our community event, 'FOBLS Fest'. The attendance was amazing and the atmosphere was brilliant. Thank you to everybody who helped and supported with this event.

We then had our annual community event with Frank Wise. Every week, Frank Wise children come to join in with our learning with our year 3 children. The children performed handbell pieces together to the parents/carers from both schools. It was then time for both our communities to join in with a folk drumming workshop. We had so much fun!

We continue to strive with the sport that takes place at BLS, gaining the schools Games Platinum for another year. Our year 3/4 and 5/6 quad kids teams made it through to the North Oxfordshire Final and improved on their personal bests achieving lots of Gold

and Silver levels. Our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) has gone from strength to strength, and we have been awarded Platinum award for our provision.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our children, staff and parents as we come to the end of the academic year. We have had such an amazing year, and our staff have worked so incredibly hard, they really do go above and beyond for the children within our school community. We are so proud of what our children have achieved this year and the support from our parents has been so appreciated.

Dee Loader, Head of School

We continue to strive with the sport that takes place at BLS, gaining the schools Games Platinum for another year.

Need Advice?

We can help with Benefit advice, benefit forms, general advice, education course information and Career Advice. We are able to arrange Home Visits to fill in disability forms with DWP Visiting Team. We do not give debt advice but can issue Foodbank vouchers.

Our advice points are across Banbury. We help people living in Oxfordshire, South Northants and South Warwickshire and Buckinghamshire. The service is run by volunteers. Please feel free to make a donation to support the charity.

We are closed on Fridays and weekends. Appointments take place between 10.30am to 2pm.

Need advice on Power of Attorney and Wills?

We can arrange free initial advice.

Main Phone line 01295 279988 and leave a message.

We work by appointments only

Email is the quickest way to get a response. Email helpdeskbancp@yahoo.com

Banburyshire Advice Centre

Cherwell Business Village, Units F10-F11, Southam Road, Banbury, OX16 2SP
TEL: 01295 279988 and leave a message.

Phoenix Office

49C Castle Street, Banbury, OX16 5NU
TEL: 01295 257974 (only staffed on appointment days)

Website:

www.banburyshirecitizenproject.org.uk

We're a registered charity in England (no. 1170519)

Lourdes Pilgrimage

During May half-term, I had the privilege of volunteering on pilgrimage to Lourdes with my school as part of the Birmingham Diocese.

Throughout the week, we worked shifts supporting assisted pilgrims with everyday tasks such as serving meals, cleaning, and accompanying them to Mass and other services. It was a deeply rewarding experience, allowing me to serve those in need while strengthening my own faith and relationship with God.

The memory that has stayed with me the most was lighting candles at the Chapel of Light for my loved ones back home. In that quiet moment, I felt an overwhelming sense of peace and closeness to God. My friends and I stood together in silence, praying for those we love; it was one of the most moving moments of my

pilgrimage. Another unforgettable experience was being a part the Torchlight Procession led by our diocese. The lights illuminating the streets of Lourdes was incredibly



beautiful and it was such a joyful moment as I was reminded of the community of love that faith unites between people.

This pilgrimage was truly life-changing. It has shaped me as a young person, teaching me the importance of compassion, service, and gratitude. I would like to express my gratitude to Bodicote Church for helping to fund my pilgrimage and making this unforgettable experience possible.

Alice Tustian

Ride and Stride Appeal for Organiser



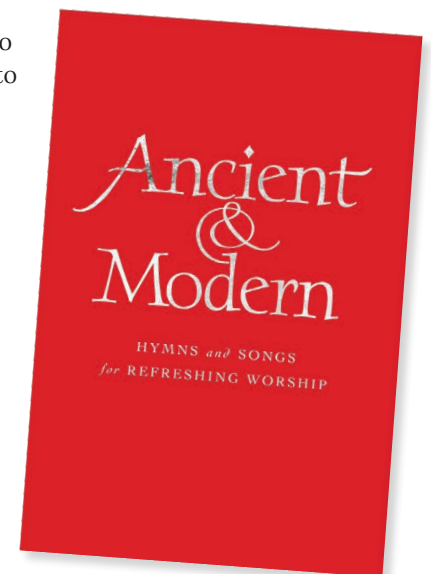
The annual Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride takes place on Saturday 12th September this year. After several years of organising the church's connection with this event, Marian and Rob have decided it's time to hand over the reins to someone new. Please get in touch if you might be willing

to work as a coordinator. They would be happy to explain what is involved to anyone interested. This is a very important role as our church receives half of the money back that we raise each year. And those taking part appreciate the warm welcome they get and a chance of a short break.

Hymn Book Appeal Update

We are so grateful for the wonderful response to our Hymn Book Appeal, which has enabled us to order new hymn books for the church. Music is such a valuable part of our worship at St John's and our old hymn books have served us well for many years; however, we look forward to the arrival of new copies of *Ancient & Modern: Hymns and songs for refreshing worship*, including words-only, large-print, melody, and full music editions. These will contain many of our favourites from across our current three hymn books as well as new possibilities for worship. A huge thank you to all who have made this possible.

It's not too late, if you wish to dedicate a hymn book: you can still use the tear-out form overleaf.





DANIELLE CROFT
Acupuncture



Fertility & Women's Health Acupuncture in Banbury

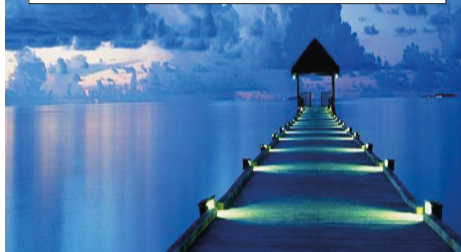
Gentle, personalised acupuncture and massage treatments with an experienced practitioner www.daniellecroft.com	✓ Fertility Specialist ✓ Women's Health & Hormones ✓ Pain Relief ✓ Stress and Wellbeing
--	--

Over 50's Yoga Class – South Bar, Banbury

Yoga exercises to build strength and flexibility, followed by relaxation.

Parking available and coffee afterwards.

9.30 – 11am Thursdays – David
07871 436456



Do you have a few hours to spare every 2 months?

Like a walk in the fresh air?

Would you be willing to help us with our magazine deliverers to cover sickness and holidays?

If so, please contact

office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com
for more details.

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour
Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains
call
GRIMEBUSTERS

01295 230886 01993 868924

www.grimebusters.co.uk

In memory of
John Baptist
1923-1970

Marking the 50th Anniversary
of the marriage of
George and Agnes Warriner
19th February 2022

Celebrating the birth of
David Goodwin Loveday
13th April 2024

St John's Bodicote Hymn Book Appeal

Please use the form below to sponsor a hymn book. This could be given in memory of a loved one; or to mark a special anniversary or event. Any hymn books you sponsor could be inscribed with a personal message.

I would like to sponsor ____ new hymn book(s) (min donation £15 per book)

I enclose cash / a cheque made payable to Bodicote PCC for £_____
OR

I have paid £_____ through the bank with the reference "hymn books" to Nat West Bank Sort code: 60-01-35 Account number: 81003412 Account name: Bodicote Parochial Church Council (PCC)



I am a UK taxpayer and want Bodicote PCC to treat this donation as Gift Aid. I understand I must pay enough UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax to cover the amount reclaimed.

I would like the following message inscribed in the book(s) I donate:

Line 1

Line 2

Line 3

Line 4

Please note, you may leave this blank and we will simply recognise your donation. If you are sponsoring multiple hymn books you are welcome to include other messages on a separate page.

My name:

Contact number/email:

I understand that any surplus arising from the Hymn Book Appeal will go into the PCC's general fund.

Please return your form to the church, 13 Sideleigh Road OX15 4AY or 30 Woodhall Drive OX16 9TY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION



We clean your oven... so you don't have to.

Call today to have your oven, hob, extractor or Aga professionally cleaned.

T. 01865 965085 E. andrewzemitis@ovenwizards.com

M. 07799 662220 W. www.ovenwizards.com

West Bar
VETERINARY HOSPITAL
24hr emergency service
01295 262332
• Banbury Vets
• Adderbury Vets
www.westbarvets.co.uk
19 West Bar, Banbury OX16 9SA

APHTS

ANTON'S PLUMBING, HEATING & TILING SERVICES

antoncosullivan@gmail.com 07946 670122

APHTS.COM 01295 267259



T: 07917 815826

danielgardner2005@gmail.com



YOUR LOCAL LOG SUPPLIER



THE LOG DOG

T: 01295 256436

E: INFO@THELOGDOG.CO.UK

WWW.THELOGDOG.CO.UK

EST. 1956

Iron and Wood Ltd
Stoves for the Future



Your Local Wood Burning Stove Centre

Visit our Showroom at
Beaumont Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire,
OX16 1RH (opposite Jewson)

T: 01295 253936

E: banbury@ironandwood.co.uk

www.ironandwood.co.uk



Churchyard Working Party



We are a small, friendly group who meet once a month on the **first Saturday of each month** (except January and February) from **9:30am to 11:30am**. Our

tasks include cutting back bushes where needed, weeding around the churchyard, and tidying the grounds. In the autumn, we also sweep up leaves, which can be quite a big job with the number of trees we have. At the end of each working party, we enjoy refreshments and snacks together, giving everyone a chance to relax and have a chat.

We are always happy to welcome new volunteers. Even if you can only spare 30 minutes, your help would be greatly appreciated. We often receive many compliments about how lovely the churchyard looks as people pass by, and we would love your help to keep it looking this way.

October Quiz

Our next afternoon quiz will take place on Saturday 17 October starting at 2pm. Tea and cakes will be served and proceeds will go to church funds. Teams of up to 6 people, £8 per person, with a discount for a table of 6 booked together – £40 instead of £48.

To book your place, contact Ann in the office at office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Early booking is advised. We hope to see you there!



Afternoon Teas

2:30pm - 3:30pm
The 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday
of each month.

Bodicote Church House
(adjacent to the church)



Fun Table Quiz. Donations towards the cost. All welcome

Harvest Lunch

All are welcome to join us for lunch after our All-Age Harvest Festival on Sunday 4 October. Lunch will be served in Church House from 12 noon, with coffee in church beforehand following the service. Lunch is free but we will be raising donations for charity – further details to follow. Sign-up sheets will be available in church in

September, or you can email the office with the subject 'Harvest Lunch sign-up'. If you have specific dietary requirements, please do let us know when you sign up so we can accommodate you. We hope many of you can join us for fellowship and fundraising



Want to Stay in Touch?

Check out service times, events and other information.

FACEBOOK

Why not 'like' our Facebook page?

www.facebook.com/BodicoteParishChurch

We keep this updated with news of services and what we are doing, as well as daily posts of prayers and perhaps a 'thought for the day,' relevant painting or sculpture, piece of music, words of a hymn and so on.

For those of you particularly interested in our fundraising and charitable giving, we have a dedicated Bodicote Church Fundraising group which you are welcome to join:

www.facebook.com/groups/255936438824026



WEBSITE

More detailed information about the church, its people, history, services and events, as well as links to the weekly newsletters can be found on our website:

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5406/



USEFUL CONTACTS

Vicar - Emily Hockliffe Essex
revd.emily@gmail.com 07979 931 889

Church Wardens
churchwardens.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Parish Administrator (for general enquiries)
office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Treasurer
treasurer.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Church Mobile Phone
07840 646 651

Church House Hire - Nicholas Hart
01295 253 747
ncahart@hotmail.co.uk

Baptism Bookings - Claire Roberts
claireroberts500@gmail.com

Weddings and Funerals
revd.emily@gmail.com

Magazine Advertising
treasurer.bodicotechurch@gmail.com



WANT TO MAKE A DONATION?

If you would like to donate, you can do so by using your smartphone, scanning the QR code (to the left) or typing in the link:

www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/bodicote-st-john-banbury



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH CHURCH

SERVICES FOR CREATIONTIDE AND REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 23rd August

Songs of Praise service followed by refreshments
6 pm

To request a favourite hymn email the Vicar with the subject: 'Songs of Praise'

Sunday 27th September

St Francis of Assisi Pet Service
4 pm

You are welcome to bring your pet to this service of celebration and blessing – please ensure dogs are secured on leads and other pets in carriers or similar, you will remain responsible for the safety of your animal and its hygiene! Equally, if it is easier to bring a representative of your pet, such as a toy or a photograph, you are welcome to do so.

Saturday 3rd October

Autumn/harvest crafts
2 pm

Sunday 4th October

All-Age Harvest Festival
9.45 am

Sunday 4th October

Harvest Lunch
12 noon
Sign up sheets for lunch will be available in church during September

Sunday 18th October

Sung Evensong
6 pm

Sunday 1st November

Service for the Commemoration of the Departed (All Souls)
6 pm

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday service (at the Wellington Bomber memorial)
11 am

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday service (beginning in Church)
3 pm(?)

Wednesday 11th November

Remembrance Day service (at the memorial in the churchyard)
10.45 am(?)

Saturday 14th November

Christmas bazaar
2 pm

Saturday 5th December

Christmas crafts
2 pm

www.achurchnearyou.com/chuch/5406

All welcome

Pumpkins and autumn leaves are illustrated in the top corners of the poster.

St. John the Baptist
Parish Church, Bodicote

Autumn Crafts

Saturday 3rd October
2-3.30pm

Bodicote Church House

All welcome - all children must be
accompanied by a responsible adult.

No charge, but donations towards costs are
welcomed.

Pumpkins and autumn leaves are illustrated in the bottom corners of the poster.