

St Gregory's Church Castlemorton WR13 6BQ

NEWSLETTER November 2026

Associate Priest	The Revd Anthea Elston	07398 741170 (Day Off – Friday)
Licensed Lay Minister	Michael Harper	01684 830133 / 07942 390194
Authorised Lay Minister	Jeremy Cox	01684 770657
Churchwarden	Sarah Musgrave	01684 310330 / 07715 562311
PCC Secretary	Christina Leake	01684 310409 / 07979 553074
Further information at	https://berrowlongdon.org.uk	

Dear Friends,

Advent is approaching…

Luke 1:32 He (Jesus) will be great and will be called the son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

We live in a strange culture, one bizarrely dominated by self-obsession. The unbelievable capabilities of technology are being continually channelled not so much into saving the world as into self-publicity and self-promotion. Stellar lifestyles are proffered on Facebook, astronomic careers on LinkedIn and superlative Michelin starred food relentlessly presented to the world via Instagram and Tiktok before possibly/actually being consumed. A waiter recently went up to a couple and asked:

'Is there something wrong with the food?'
'No', they replied, 'why?'
'It's just that you haven't taken any photos of it yet'.

People everywhere are presenting themselves to the world as 'great, famous, and wonderfully fulfilled'. To which this Advent verse is a complete cultural contradiction, a thunderclap of confliction. The proclamation isn't from Jesus, nor any human, but from Gabriel who reprovingly presented his ultimate authority to Zechariah with the words: ***'I stand in the presence of God and have been sent to speak to you'.***

Three other things stand out: Greatness, Identity, Fulfilment - ironically, the very things people seek to establish via social media.

Jesus will be great, God says so.
Jesus will derive his identity from being the Son of the Most High God.
Jesus will be a living fulfilment of all the prophecies concerning David his ancestor.

But His coming isn't some isolated incident, separate from humanity. God doesn't land on earth in a spaceship to save us. He comes through us. He comes through Mary in the most astonishingly intimate, unique and personal way he possibly could. He is literally born through her. And this, unbelievably, is the model for every one of us. That Jesus is born in and through us that He may be glorified. And through that reflected glory we may then find the true greatness, identity and fulfilment which God alone has determined for us.

But only if, like Mary, we accept the living Christ with the same humility, faith and obedience.

Jeremy Cox
Authorised Lay Minister

Diary Dates

Services across the Berrow and Longdon benefices

Sunday All Saints' Day	1 November	10.30am 5.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong Start The Week	Queenhill Hollybush Castlemorton
Remembrance Sunday	8 November	8.30am **10.45am** **10.45am** **10.45am**	BCP Holy Communion **Remembrance Service** **Remembrance Service** **Remembrance Service**	Bushley **Eldersfield** **Castlemorton** **Queenhill**
Wednesday	11 November	10.45am for 11am	Remembrance Service	Longdon War Memorial
2nd Sunday before Advent	15 November	10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	All Age Worship Family Communion Start The Week	Pendock Cross Castlemorton Castlemorton
Sunday next before Advent	22 November	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am 6.30pm	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Start The Week	Eldersfield Longdon Berrow Castlemorton
Advent Sunday	29 November	10.30am	Advent Communion	Bushley
Sunday Advent 2	6 December	10.30am 4.00pm 5.00pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion Carols, Candles and Cake Patronal Choral Evensong Start The Week	Longdon Eldersfield Queenhill Castlemorton
Sunday Advent 3	13 December	8.30am 10.30am 5.00pm 6.30pm	BCP Holy Communion Holy Communion Hollybush Christmas Kaleidoscope	Bushley Birtsmorton Hollybush Castlemorton
Tuesday	15 December	7.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	Bushley
Wednesday	16 December	7.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols	Castlemorton
Thursday	17 December	7.00pm	Carol Service	Queenhill
Sunday Advent 4	20 December	10.30am 4.00pm 6.30pm 6.30pm	Family Communion Carol Service Nine Lessons and Carols Start The Week	Castlemorton Longdon Berrow Castlemorton
Wednesday	23 December	4.00pm	Crib Service	Castlemorton
Thursday Christmas Eve	24 December	5.00pm 11.30pm	Crib and Christingle Midnight Mass	Eldersfield Hollybush
Friday Christmas Day	25 December	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Family Christmas Service Family Christmas Service Holy Communion	Bushley Castlemorton Berrow Queenhill
Sunday Christmas 1	27 December	10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Start The Week	Longdon Castlemorton
Refreshments are served after most services and all are very welcome.				

Other Events at Castlemorton and in the wider area

Saturday	7 November	10.00 - 11.30	CaCoffany – hymns for All Saints, Flames and Remembrance	Castlemorton
Tuesday	10 November	10.30 - 12.00	Bible Study	Tudor House, Fisher's Place, Pendock
Saturday	14 November	6.00pm	*Walking the Camino* Talk and film – see below	Queenhill Church
Friday	27 November	7.30 - 9.00pm	Bellringing practice	Castlemorton
Thursday	3 December	6.45 - 9.30pm	Christmas Quiz Night	Berrrow Village Hall
Saturday	5 December	10.00 - 12.00	CaCoffany - Christmas Special!	Castlemorton
Tuesday	8 December	10.30 - 12.00	Bible Study	Tudor House, Fisher's Place, Pendock
Wednesday	9 December	2.30 - 4.30pm	BCH Archive Christmas Tea Party	Castlemorton Parish Hall

CaCoffany!

St Gregory's Church, Castlemorton
WR13 6BQ

Saturdays

7 November,
5 December (Christmas Special)

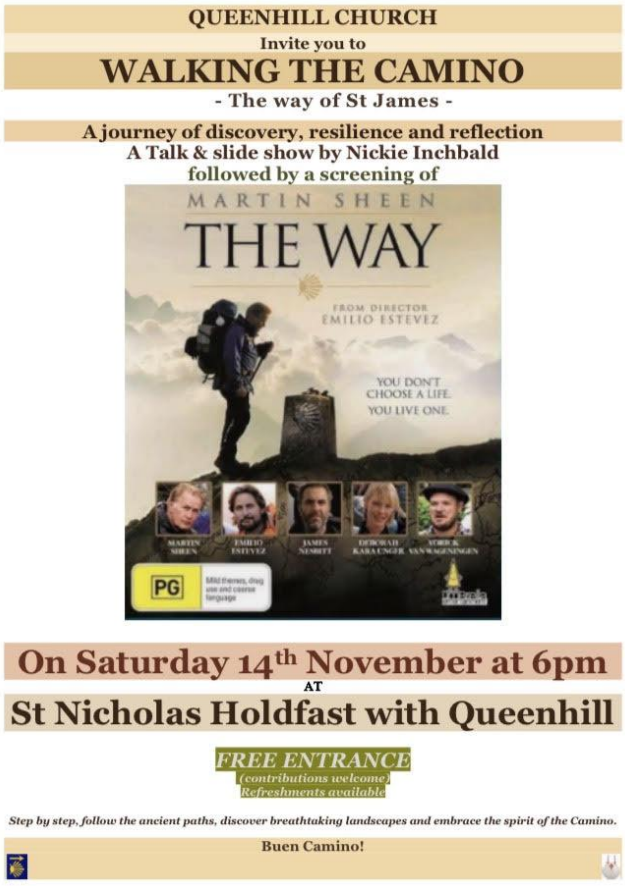
10.00 – 11.30am

A monthly coffee morning with the chance to sing uplifting hymns and listen to guest musicians



10.00 Singing favourite hymns
10.20 Guest musicians
10.30 Singing favourite hymns
10.50 Coffee, cake and chat

No admission charge
All welcome!



Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 8 November

There are several acts of worship which will be held on Remembrance Sunday across our two benefices to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we now enjoy. All are welcome to join us for any of the services listed.

Please note the later start time of 10.45 for the services at Castlemorton, Queenhill and Eldersfield which will allow us all to take part in the period of silence observed at 11.00 during the Act of Remembrance.

Parish News

We were saddened to learn that Martin Phillips died recently and hold the family in our thoughts and prayers as they prepare for the funeral.

Kaleidoscope



A lay-led, relaxed and informal service featuring a variety of worship music, bible readings, prayer and a short address.

Sunday 13 December at 6.30pm



This month we conclude our examination of The Lord's Prayer by considering the ending:

'For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory, for ever and ever Amen'

Do come along and join us –
the service will be followed by refreshments.

All are very welcome!

Operation Christmas Child

supported by
Castlemorton Primary School



Make a child's Christmas special by supporting Operation Christmas Child in collaboration with Castlemorton Primary School.

Fill a shoebox with gifts and take it to the school for collection by Friday 13 November.

For full details visit

https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child

The Bayeux Tapestry and Norman Heritage Trail

22 October 2026 to 11 July 2027



The story of 1066 and Norman England comes to life at Tewkesbury Abbey.

Experience a **full-scale 70-metre reproduction of the Bayeux Tapestry** and step inside the world it created, in the extraordinary setting of one of Britain's finest surviving Norman buildings.