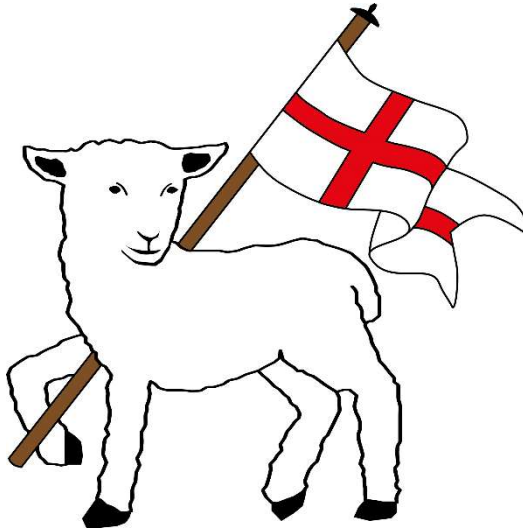


NOVEMBER 2025

**The Parish of Kidmore End
& Sonning Common**

The Lamb and Flag



The parish magazine of

**St John the Baptist Church, Kidmore End
and
Christ the King Church, Sonning Common**

70p

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The parish website can be found on <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/166>

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends - As I write, the trees are a riot of reds and yellow, and they have been illuminated periodically through the day by a sun high enough in the sky to radiate some very welcome warmth. I wonder if the memory of autumn days such as this can sustain us through the month of November, not known to be the most hospitable one in terms of weather.

November of course features an important event which, though not part of the Church's liturgical calendar as such, yet it has an important role in our culture. I am talking about Remembrance. We will be marking this with services beginning at both war memorials in the benefice (at St John's and at All Saints') at 10.45 on Remembrance Sunday, 9 November. (A Eucharist will be celebrated at Christ the King before this, at 09.30).

There are many aspects to Remembrance. One that seems particularly apposite at the moment is revivifying the active Christian commitment to peace. Open a newspaper (or, more likely, read the news on the internet) and one will probably come across material which implies, or even states directly, the inevitability of a wider European conflict in the medium term. From a geopolitical point of view, this may or may not be the case. But it would seem to me to be contrary to the Gospel of Christ to say that war is inevitable and unavoidable. Yes, there will always be conflict and disagreement, and we must be realists enough to admit this. But at the heart of the Christian proclamation is that in Christ all ultimate divisions between human groups are overcome. This is not to say that everyone is 'the same': indeed, the Church is supposed to exemplify a unity-in-diversity in which our differences complement each other and work together, rather like the instrumental parts in a symphony. But even if cultures, nations, languages, races, religions, and other groups are gloriously *different*, they are not, in Christ, *divided*. As St Paul wrote to the Ephesians, Christ 'is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition between us.'

If this is the case, then Christians need to be at the forefront of building bridges and encouraging dialogue and discussion. War is a situation in which far from being broken down, 'walls of partition' are built up and made higher. The 'other' - the other country, the other religion, the other group - becomes an 'enemy' to be vanquished in a zero-sum game. During war the real unity which Christ achieved becomes obscured. As the light shining in the darkness which, it has the appearance of fragility, even if we know that ultimately it cannot be extinguished by the darkness.

This Remembrance may we commit ourselves to a renewed trust in the unity in Christ of all humankind. And may this knowledge inspire us to pray and work for peace in the midst of a violent world.

God bless

James

PARISH SHARE 2025: '10X10'

Parish share is the annual sum we pay to the Diocese to cover ministerial and other expenses. This year, as part of the Henley Deanery Recovery Plan, put in place last year to help the Deanery move towards full payment of share, the amount for Kidmore End & Sonning Common Parish is £40,366. And because of the Recovery Plan, this represents a significant reduction of 13% of the amount we would normally have been expected to pay.

Nevertheless, it has been a challenging year for the parish financially. Christ the King was closed for eight months, and thus no income from hiring the hall was generated during this period. We also need to up our game in terms of regular planned giving, which has declined in recent years - the PCC is planning a Parish Stewardship Campaign for 2026, with help and input from the Diocese. Despite these challenges, we have managed to pay £35,002.11 of parish share to date. This leaves us £5363.89 to find before the end of the calendar year.

In the context of the Deanery Recovery Plan, it is important that we meet our share allocation in full. This is not only to help our brothers and sisters in the other parishes of the Deanery by doing our bit, but also to ensure future ministry provision in this benefice.

We believe these are exciting times for the parish and the benefice. Christ the King has been renovated and renewed, and we hope to make significant progress on St John's in the coming year. With our church buildings refreshed, we will be able to reach out and serve our local communities more effectively, as together with All Saints', we seek to proclaim the Good News of God's love in word and deed.

Can you help us get over the line by the end of the year? Meeting our share would be a really important achievement and give us a real spring in our step as we embark on Phase 1 of our exciting improvements to St John's. We shall each be giving £10 a week to the parish for the next 10 weeks. If 50 of us do this (and there are over 50

on the electoral roll), we will be within touching distance of paying our full share. Will you join us?

James, Sarah and Nick

MINUTES FROM THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF PCC CONCERNING PARISH SHARE

I have reproduced the following with permission of the PCC Vice Chair, Karen Broadbent, who took notes during the meeting with the Ven. David Tyler, Archdeacon of Dorchester, when he visited the PCC to discuss parish share with us on 14 October. Given the context and priority of this matter to our parish I felt it appropriate for readers to have the background on where we are at the present time.

The recently initiated '10 x 10' Campaign is in part a result of the meeting, and I thank those already participating in this challenge, whilst inviting others to join us if they can.

The Council met for an extraordinary meeting with, in attendance, Revd Canon David Tyler, Archdeacon of Dorchester, on 14 October 2025 at 7.30pm, Christ the King Hall.

PRESENT: Revd J Stickings (Chair), Revd Canon D Tyler (part 1 only), K Broadbent (Minutes), P Blake, F Brewitt-Taylor, F Cooper, J Denslow, G Edwards, D Foster, S L Jones, J Pound, N Room, Revd S van der Watt.

The meeting opened with prayer.

Revd Stickings welcomed Revd Canon David Tyler, Archdeacon of Dorchester, who had been invited to discuss the financial situation of the parish and what might be done to remedy the shortfall in parish share payments.

Revd Canon Tyler explained that, in consultation with Revd Jane Haslam (Associate Archdeacon), a number of parishes in the Archdeaconry had been identified as struggling to meet the parish share. He commented that he appreciates that the year's building works at CTK account for some reduction in income this year but further stated that the Diocese is willing to help if approached. He acknowledged, with thanks, the sum of £35k which has been contributed towards this year's parish share to date and stated that it is not only our parish, but a number of parishes across Henley Deanery with whom he is engaging. Revd Tyler urged

the Council to contact Joshua Townson, Generous Giving Adviser again, who can be involved with the Parish to offer advice and support to help generate giving. He further stated that it is important to let local communities know about what our churches are actually doing, in terms of offering services such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, as well as supporting care home residents, schools, food banks and more: it is this service to communities that makes a church a valuable community resource.

Revd Tyler explained how the parish share is calculated. In the first instance, the share is set by the Diocesan Synod and the amount is then allocated to the individual Deaneries. Each Deanery is then responsible for allocating an amount to each parish. Oxford Diocese is fortunate to be in a good financial position compared with others in the UK and is still in a position to appoint clergy to parishes, rather than having to cut clergy posts. However, some sensible financial decisions will inevitably need to be made, but generally not until a parish is in Vacancy (appointing a House for Duty post rather than a stipendiary post, for example).

There was discussion around the consequences of not paying the full parish share: Revd Tyler stated that this is where the model of ministry for a parish would be carefully considered, but only at the point of a Vacancy. Mr Edwards pointed out that the parish share is often too high to be met by the donations of those attending church. Revd Tyler suggested engaging with the Deanery to see if changes to parish share allocations need to be addressed. Mr Room attends Diocese financial consultations, which is a positive point for the parish, and we also have representatives on the Deanery Synod.

Further points raised/to be considered:

- How can our church buildings better serve the local communities?
- There is a limit to the amount of money that locals can be expected to donate, but it would be beneficial to engage with a stewardship campaign, such as is being piloted by Joshua Townson (Revd Stickings is intending us to do so next year).
- Revd Stickings stated that there is much hope of a growth in spiritual life in the community, especially with the renewed facilities at CTK which present genuine scope to engage with the local community.
- What would the community miss if the church was no longer there?

Revd Tyler concluded by thanking the Council for the many positive things that are happening and offered his prayers for positive engagement as we move forward and seek to grow our congregations. (This part of the meeting ended with The Grace at 8pm – Revd Canon Tyler left the meeting.)

Nick Room - Treasurer

THE RT REVD AND RT HON DAME SARAH MULLALLY DBE IS TO BE THE 106TH AND FIRST FEMALE 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, Downing Street announced on Friday 3 October. 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 in a service at Canterbury Cathedral on 25

March 2026.

Sarah Mullally has been the Bishop of London since 2018, the first woman to hold that role, and previously served as the Bishop of Crediton in the Diocese of Exeter. Prior to her ordination in 2001, she was the Government's Chief Nursing Officer for England – the youngest person ever to be appointed to that role at the age of 37 – having previously specialised as a cancer nurse. Bishop Sarah has described nursing as "an opportunity to reflect the love of God".

The Crown Nominations Commission (CNC) for Canterbury nominated Bishop Sarah following a process of public consultation and prayerful discernment that began in February this year. The Canterbury CNC was made up of representatives from across the Church of England, global Anglican Communion and the Diocese of Canterbury.

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 (first among equals) – of the Primates of the global Anglican Communion, which consists of around 85 million people, across 165 countries. In the House of Lords, the Archbishop of Canterbury is one of 26 bishops who comprise the Lords Spiritual.

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."

Lord Evans, Chair of the Crown Nominations Commission for Canterbury, said: "It has been a great privilege to have chaired the Crown Nominations Commission as it sought to discern who God is calling to lead the Church of England and Anglican Communion as Archbishop of Canterbury. That discernment began with the public consultation, which heard the voices of thousands of people as they expressed their hopes for this nomination, and continued all the way through to the Commission's final meeting. I would like to thank all those who took part in this process, particularly those who took time to share their views in the consultation and the members of the Commission who worked so diligently over several months, ably assisted by the Appointments Secretaries and by the Appointments and Vocations team at Lambeth Palace. I shall be praying for Bishop Sarah as she prepares to take up this new ministry in the coming months."

Bishop Anthony Poggio, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, said: "I welcome and commend the nomination of Bishop Sarah as the next Archbishop of Canterbury and invite the churches of the global Anglican Communion to pray for her as she prepares to take up this important ministry. May God grant her wisdom and discernment, as she seeks to listen to Member churches, encourage mutual

support, and foster unity. The Anglican Communion Office is fully committed to supporting her ministry as she works with other Provinces and the Instruments of the Anglican Communion. Let us pray that God will pour out His Spirit on the Anglican Communion to boldly share Christ's transformational love and the hope of the Gospel in today's world."

REACTION FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has welcomed the announcement that the Bishop of London, Dame Sarah Mullally will be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. He said, "On behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, I welcome the news of the appointment of Bishop Sarah Mullally as the next Archbishop of Canterbury. She will bring many personal gifts and experience to her new role. The challenges and opportunities facing the new Archbishop are many and significant. On behalf of our Catholic community, I assure her of our prayers. Together we will be responsive to the prayer of Jesus that we 'may all be one' (John 17:21) and seek to develop the bonds of friendship and shared mission between the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church."

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK WELCOMES THE NEW ARCHBISHOP DESIGNATE

"I am delighted that Bishop Sarah Mullally has been appointed as the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury and the very first female in the role. She is a person of huge courage, wisdom, integrity and experience. In the many challenges the Church of England faces at the moment we need the kind, godly, and stable leadership that Sarah will bring. It will be my great pleasure to serve alongside her, and I hope, that together, we can continue the work of helping the Church of England to be simpler, humbler, and bolder in the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ and in our service to the Nation."

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD'S RESPONSE

The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft said in a statement:

"This is an historic announcement for the Church of England and for the Anglican Communion. I warmly commend our Archbishop of Canterbury-designate Dame Sarah Mullally and her family to the prayers and affections of the Diocese of Oxford. Sarah will bring proven wisdom, love, dedication and vision to her new role. Please do pray for Bishop Sarah as she seeks to draw the nation, the Anglican Communion

and the Church of England into a deeper love of God and a stronger love of neighbour."

FORWARD IN FAITH'S RESPONSE

Forward in Faith congratulates the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally, the Bishop of London, on the announcement of her appointment as the next Archbishop of Canterbury. In line with the Church of England's Five Guiding Principles, we both recognise Bishop Sarah as the true and lawful holder of that office, once it is conferred on her, and also continue to support the mutual flourishing of different Anglican traditions.

The House of Bishops Declaration of 2014, and the Five Guiding Principles contained within it, were written with the possibility of a female Archbishop – of Canterbury or York – in mind, such that no amendment of the Declaration would be required in such a circumstance: provision for an assured sacramental ministry for traditional catholics would continue as before. As a result, and in the period since 2015, the consecration of Society bishops has been undertaken exclusively by other Society bishops, with – on each occasion – one Society bishop acting as the Principal Consecrator and two other Society bishops acting as Co-Consecrators. This will, we trust, continue to be the case.

Forward in Faith restates its commitment to witnessing within the Church of England to all the Church's sacraments as a gift from God and as an inheritance held in common with the great churches of the East and of the West. We pray that, as the Church of England prepares to receive a new Archbishop of Canterbury, that unbroken witness and tradition will continue to be upheld, not least as it touches on the sacraments of Holy Matrimony and the Reconciliation of a Penitent (Confession).

As traditional catholics, we feel called by God to witness to the historic Faith in this country's national church and, while this can bring with it challenges, we pray that, through the intercessions of Our Lady of Walsingham, Christianity may once more be at the centre of our national life. We pray too that Bishop Sarah will be an instrument of God's grace, in her new office, in recalling our nation to its foundational Christian character, noting with gratitude her significant contribution in resisting the Assisted Dying Bill now under consideration in the House of Lords.

WHERE TO JOIN A SERVICE IN NOVEMBER

Date	CTK	SJB	All Saints
2 November		18.00 Evensong with remembrance of the faithful departed	10.30 Benefice Eucharist
9 November	09.30 Eucharist	10.45 Remembrance Service	10.45 Remembrance Service
	17.00 Second Sundays		
16 November	09.30 Eucharist	11.15 Sung Eucharist	09.00 Holy Communion
			10.30 Peppard Praise
23 November	09.30 Benefice Eucharist		
30 November		11.15 Benefice Eucharist	18.30 Advent Service (candlelit)

Please check the weekly bulletins in case any of the planned arrangements are changed.

WHAT IS IN THE LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER?

As mentioned last month, the Church moved into Year A in the Common Worship Lectionary 3-year cycle and St Matthew is the featured gospel. Principal feasts are St Andrew the Apostle on 1 December (transferred from 30 November), Christmas Day on Thursday 25 December, Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr on 26 December, John, Apostle and Evangelist, on 27 December, and the Holy Innocents on 28 December, (unless transferred to 29 December).

Other feasts and commemorations include, John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher, c 749, on 4 December, Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c 326 on 6 December, The

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8 December, Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of ‘Save the Children’ 1928 on 17 December, Christmas Eve on Wednesday 24 December, and Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170 on 29 December. The Book of Common Prayer Lectionary marks the Feast of Thomas the Apostle on 22 December, (transferred from 21 December).

WHERE DID THE HYMN *O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST* COME FROM?

The Common Worship Lectionary reminds us that we can commemorate Isaac Watts, Hymnwriter, (1674 – 1748) on 25 November. And this hymn, which is Isaac Watts’ paraphrase of Psalm 90, is certainly one of his best-known compositions. Watts was born in Southampton where his father was a non-conformist minister. The possibly apocryphal story is that at a young age Isaac was fed up with what went for church music at the time – mostly psalms. Complaining to his father, he was said to have been told that if he thought he could do better, he should go away and do so. Fortunately, his father’s challenge prompted Isaac to write many hymns many of which, like this one, have stood the test of time. So much so that, with good reason, Isaac Watts is referred to as the father of hymnody.

Watts produced this hymn in several stanzas in 1714 and published it in 1719. By this time Isaac was suffering ill health following a spell as Pastor at Mark Lane, Independent Chapel from 1702. He went to live with Sir Thomas Abney in 1712 for health reasons for a week but, in fact, remained with the Abneys for the rest of his life. He died in Stoke Newington at the age of 74.

The tune which has now become inseparable from the lyrics is *St Anne* believed to have been composed by William Croft (1678 – 1727). Croft became a well-known organist and composer, his organist positions having been with St Anne’s Church, Soho, the Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey. The tune was intended by Croft to be a setting for Psalm 42. However, the celebrated musical editor of the first *Hymns Ancient and Modern* 1861, William Henry Monk, used *St Anne* as the setting for *O God, our help in ages past*. And the hymn, with this setting, continues to be sung far and wide especially on national occasions.

Allen Harris

PARISH SHARE AT ARCHDEACONRY LEVEL AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Archdeaconry	Amount paid	Outstanding	% Paid
Berkshire	£ 4,281,753	£ 1,633,430	72.4
Buckingham	£ 4,465,474	£ 2,361,380	65.4
Dorchester	£ 4,388,283	£ 1,837,500	70.5
Oxford	£ 1,178,799	£ 626,346	65.3
Totals	£14,314,309	£ 6,458,656	68.9

The summary table above shows how each of the four archdeaconries have contributed to their assigned parish share amounts at 30 September 2025. At this stage last year the aggregate contributions totalled £13,990,179. Henley Deanery has contributed £443,864 which is 65.0% of the assigned amount and there is £238,891 outstanding. By 30 September 2024 Henley Deanery had contributed 55.7% of the 2024 assignment.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING DISPLAYS

We are most grateful to Caroline McAslan for some lovely photos of the decorations at St John’s to celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving.

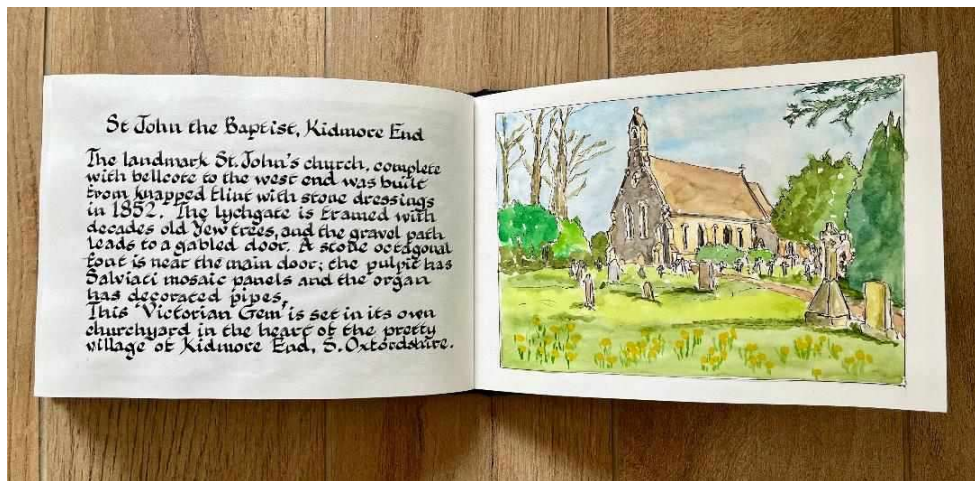






And, as always, our warmest thanks to the talented team that conceived and assembled these displays.

CAROLINE MCASLAN'S CONTRIBUTION TO HER ARTISTS GROUP CHALLENGE



Caroline produced this lovely pen and ink work for her Artists Group monthly challenge. The challenge was “Your local church.” So, Caroline set to work and placed the artwork in her sketch book. Caroline found the challenge both absorbing and fun and she was able to look more closely at and appreciate St John’s Church even more - our ‘Victorian gem.’ Caroline hopes that her work may prompt others to reflect on how they see the Church. We are very grateful to Caroline for her kindness in sharing this work with us.

OCTOBER EDITION – APOLOGY

Last month’s edition carried an article about the death of HRH The Duchess of Kent. The prayer that followed had an error in the heading. It should have read A prayer following the death of The Duchess of Kent. We apologise for the error.

A VERY IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

On Saturday 1 November (All Saints’ Day) our LLM-in-training, Karen Broadbent, will be licensed at a special service at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. The service is open to all, and you are therefore very welcome to attend the service to support Karen. The service starts at 11am, although the Cathedral asks those who attend to be in place not later than 10.45am. Later, at Christ the King, Sonning Common, there will be a celebratory reception between 15.00 and 16.00. All welcome.

DEANERY 'QUIET DAY' AT CHRIST THE KING

On Saturday 4 October, a Deanery Quiet Day was held at Christ the King for clergy and lay members of the Henley Deanery Synod.

The day started at 9.30am with Eucharist in the church, after which the group, consisting of fourteen people from several parishes around the Deanery, moved into the main hall. Following a brief introduction given by James about the structure of the day, the first session, led by Sarah, focused on Ignatian Contemplation.

Sarah introduced the session by explaining that Ignatian Contemplation is a form of imaginative prayer developed by St Ignatius of Loyola. It involves using the senses to place oneself within a scripture scene, such as one from the Gospels. This could lead to a personal encounter with Jesus and allows the Holy Spirit to make the Gospel story present in a meaningful and transformative manner, engaging the heart, mind, and emotions. Sarah then read a passage from Matthew's Gospel (Jesus walks on water - Matthew 14:22-33) and invited us to spend some time in silence to imagine ourselves present in the scene, after which we shared our thoughts, questions and experiences.

After a short break for coffee, during which we were encouraged to remain quiet, we reconvened for the second session of the day. James introduced us to the concept of Centering Prayer, a practice of contemplative, silent prayer developed in America in the 1970's. Centering Prayer involves sitting quietly and comfortably, then selecting a sacred word upon which to focus, gently returning to it when other thoughts arise. This practice fosters a deeper, prayerful relationship with God by consenting to His presence within. After having been guided through the process, we each practised the prayer method for fifteen minutes, after which time we slowly came together again to discuss our experiences. To finish off the day, we gathered in the coffee room to eat a light lunch of soup and bread together.

I think that I can speak for everyone when I say that I found the Quiet Day to be a wonderful occasion: those present were comfortable in each other's company and the whole experience felt deeply spiritual. One participant commented that the times spent in silent prayer and contemplation seemed to fly by! Quiet days provide time for spiritual refreshment, deeper connection with God; peace and clarity and a renewed sense of purpose, as well as space for prayer, reflection and community. We know that everyday life can be full of demands and noise; a quiet day provides time to 'simply be' and to discern God's presence and guidance. If this appeals to

you, and you think you would like to participate in a quiet day, do let the ministry team know and a quiet day can be organised for our benefice.

On a practical note, the newly refurbished church was an ideal space for hosting such an event, with room for worship, the main hall for gathering and being seated around a large table to eat together. Several were visiting the church for the first time and expressed their warm appreciation. I hope that those taking part in the quiet day, like me, left the event refreshed, peaceful and more connected to God.

Karen Broadbent

REMEMBRANCE DAY 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.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HAS A NEW NATIONAL CHAPLAIN – A 'NEW FACE' AT THE FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE ON 8 NOVEMBER

The Venerable Dr Giles Legood has been appointed to the role of RBL's National Chaplain. The National Chaplain provides spiritual and pastoral care and supports flagship remembrance events, including the Festival of Remembrance. Giles brings considerable experience from his career and pastoral role in the RAF. He was ordained into the Church of England in 1992. Having served as a curate in Hertfordshire, he was appointed Chaplain and Honorary Lecturer in the University



of London in 1995. While working at the university he was commissioned as a Reservist Chaplain, before joining the RAF as a Regular in 2007. Giles' career in the military follows in the footsteps of his father, who undertook National Service in Cyprus with the Grenadier Guards.

During his service with the RAF, Giles has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Falklands, Germany, Cyprus, Ascension Island, and Kenya. In the UK he has worked on flying,

training, and HQ units. For his work as chaplain to the UK Joint Force Medical Group, Afghanistan he was appointed MBE in the March 2014 Operational Honours List.

He became a Member of the Royal College of Defence Studies in London in 2021 and, in August 2022, on completion of the course, he was promoted to Air Vice-Marshal to become Chaplain-in-Chief. In 2018 he was appointed Honorary Chaplain to HM The Queen, and in 2022 to HM The King. In 2023 he was made a Fellow of King's College London.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IN THE BENEFICE

A reminder that the morning services in church at St John's and All Saints' will be preceded by Acts of Remembrance at the respective war memorials. Please assemble at either church by 10.45 in good time for the Act of Remembrance and wreaths laying.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED BUILDING WORKS AT SJB

Background

This update concerns Phase 1 of the proposed improvements for St John's. To recap, Phase 1 encompasses rewiring, new heating and lighting, and redecoration. It was also envisaged that we would carry out renovation of the Choir Vestry area, and the PCC have also agreed that we repair and refurbish many of the church's stained-glass windows where there are a number of issues highlighted by the architect's Quinquennial inspection.

Tender

Five potential contractors have now submitted their costs for Phase 1 - and all are too high. During October, we were involved in extensive discussions with the architects and the recommended contractor (who is also, happily, and without compromise, the architect's choice for winning the business). I have been liaising with James and the PCC to explain the situation.

We need to raise over £100,000 to meet the 2026 costs of Phase 1; this being on top of what we have at our disposal from our own resources - a combination of historic legacy, Oxford Historic Churches Grant, and the monies we have raised amongst ourselves with yellow giving envelopes and other private donations.

Timing

We also had a vision to begin works in November, but the financial position, plus the final sign off from the diocese which has taken longer than we anticipated, means that a start date early in the new year is now more likely - if we can get the money together.

Fundraising

We have employed a professional fund-raising team to go after every funding opportunity, and we look forward to their output, but this process can take some time. If all bids are successful, the fundraising team might cover the difference to enable us to start the work in January. However, we cannot proceed unless there is certainty in this regard, for obvious reasons. And some grants will not produce short term outcomes, if any at all. But we must try.

Negotiation

We have been analysing the costs and seeing if we can achieve savings that will not compromise our project. Some small savings could be forthcoming, but at time of writing these are not secured. But we know that if we remove the Choir Vestry refurbishment from the equation and put this work into Phase 2 (which is perfectly possible because there are no dependencies), we will bring the target down, and at this time that is a very prudent thing to do. I appreciate this will be disappointing, but it makes sense and, at the moment, we have to cut our cloth accordingly.

The price of the project has gone up because of market values against a quantity surveyor's report which is now two years old. We knew the windows (some £25,000 of work) would be added to the initial sum we had put before us, but internal scaffolding will facilitate that work and it is simply not efficient to have scaffolding erected twice (not least because this window work can happen alongside the other tasks at a time the church is closed). We are still hoping for a January start,

but this could slip if the numbers don't add up (or the diocese, for whatever reason stall our faculty permission).

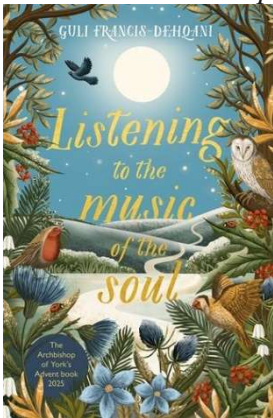
Decision time and further updates

December's Lamb & Flag will carry a further update. Meanwhile, pray for our hopefulness, and if you feel moved to give the church a donation towards our cavernous gap, this may be the time to do it as we approach the season of mellow fruitfulness. We must commit to contractors sooner rather than later if we are to reopen the church for weddings in May.

Nick Room - Churchwarden

BOOK REVIEW – LISTENING TO THE MUSIC OF THE SOUL BY THE RT REVD DR GULI FRANCIS-DEHQANI

This is the Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2025



When it comes to inhabiting life fully, Mary is surely one of our greatest role models. 'My soul magnifies the Lord,' she sings in the Magnificat. Her spirited response to the Angel Gabriel's announcement that she is to bear the Son of God is rich in nuance, contradiction and paradox. These very characteristics inspire Bishop Guli to make connections between the themes of Advent and her own experiences – and to invite us to do the same.

Bishop Guli's forced exile from her homeland has echoes of the flight into Egypt; the murder of her brother Bahram during the Iranian Revolution of the slaughter of the innocents. She writes intriguingly of how angels continue speaking to us today; how fear can prevent us from living well in the present; how pain and loss can be transformed by the power of beauty.

Deepening its resonance, each chapter is linked to a piece of music, prompting us to consider: what are the enduring melodies that sustain us as the vibrant stories of our lives unfold?

Listening to the music of the soul, Guli Francis-Dehqani, SPCK £10.99

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

This is a precis of the press release on the Church of England website.

The House of Bishops residential meeting in October reviewed detailed theological and legal advice¹ on outstanding matters following General Synod's 2023 vote leading to the introduction of Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF). The review enabled the Bishops to take some key decisions which will be confirmed in December.

Key decisions:

The Bishops took part in a series of votes on elements of a statement from the House which would summarise the LLF process and outcomes. They indicated that, on the basis of the advice received, in December they will:

- Confirm that the Prayers of Love and Faith, for use in regularly scheduled services, remain commended by the House of Bishops for use under Canon B5;²
- Agree bespoke services require maximum communal authorisation through the Canon B2 process of approval;
- Reflect further on the legal and theological advice and explore what formal legislative process – such as an amending canon and measure – would be required before clergy could be permitted to be in a same sex civil marriage. Until then the current guidelines would remain in place.

They also agreed they would provide pastoral reassurance through:

- A restatement that no-one is obliged to use the PLF against their conscience;
- Updating Pastoral Guidance for the Prayers of Love and Faith as currently commended;
- A commitment that diocesan decisions around allocating resources, placement of ordinands and curates, or appointments, should not be affected by views held on LLF matters; and
- Re-establishing a Pastoral Consultative Group to advise and support decision-making on such matters.

Given the decisions indicated above, the Bishops concluded that there was sufficient pastoral reassurance in the elements listed and did not propose to bring forward a code of practice at this time.

While there was a range of views expressed on questions of sexuality and marriage the decisions on most points were reached with near unanimity – spanning the breadth of theological tradition.

Bespoke services – the legal advice to the House of Bishops explains that legislation to authorise bespoke services under Canon B2 would require **two thirds majorities** in the three houses of Synod at final approval.

Clergy same sex marriage – the legal advice to the House of Bishops explains that legislation would be needed to change the current position. The legislation would need to include a Measure (made by Synod and Parliament) as well as an amending Canon, both of which would require **simple majorities** in the three houses of Synod at final approval. The exact timeframe for any legislative processes would depend on when any legislation was introduced.

¹ *Advice both from the Church of England's Legal Office and the Faith and Order to the Bishops will be published in due course.*

² *Canon B5 permits PLF to be used at the discretion of the Minister where appropriate in regularly scheduled services.*

Ed – the Bishops' decision that the introduction of bespoke LLF services would require two-thirds majorities from each of the three houses on General Synod would seem to postpone this development for the time being.

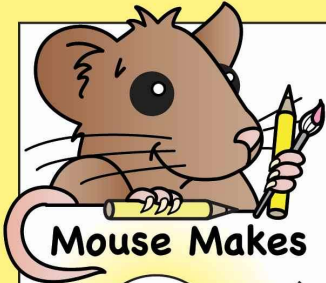
The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, chair of the LLF Programme Board, commented: "As we continue prayerfully to navigate this important work on behalf of the Church, we believe these are the right decisions following further legal and theological advice. However, we recognise that for some, they will be difficult and disappointing. I continue to pray for God's grace and gentleness for all as we continue to discern a way through these questions."

ADVENT

The Advent Season commences on Sunday 30 November. As the service information in this edition conveys, this is also a fifth Sunday. So, the benefice Eucharist service is to be hosted by St John's at 11.15.

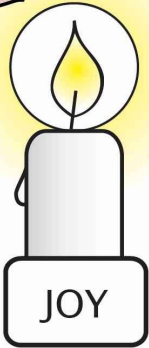
You'll see that All Saints' also has a candlelit Advent service at 18.30. This service provides a very good opportunity to hear Advent carols and readings as well as joining the singing of some traditional Advent hymns. If you haven't attended this service before why not join in this year? The service is a good way to contemplate the significance of Advent, its importance as preparation for Christmas and the anticipation of hope, joy, peace and love associated with Christmas.

CENTRE SPOT FOR YOUNGSTERS



Mouse Makes

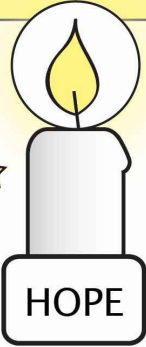
LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS
Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November.
ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



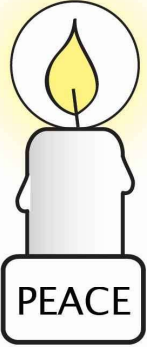
Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



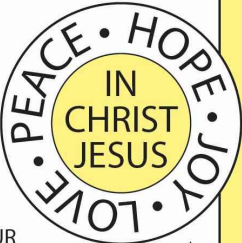
Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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S O K J Y A A R R I V A L W F
A D V E N T G O O D N E W S O
V P L S V L I R P S V P C A R
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CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?... I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



I need that bread!



Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,



'..would you give them a stone?



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'..would you give them a snake?



'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?



LAMB AND FLAG SUBSCRIPTIONS

Thank you to everyone who subscribes to the parish magazine. Regulars will no doubt have noticed we have not increased the cover price or the annual subscription since 2022. However, we have decided that for 2026 we must increase the single copy price to 90p, which means your annual subscription, for 12 copies of the magazine, will be £9.50. We hope you will agree this remains very good value for money and would be most grateful if you could renew your annual subscription. Your distributor will be happy to collect your subscription when delivering the magazine to you next month, or please make payment by your preferred method. A loose-leaf payment slip will be included in the December magazine.

Once more, we would like to thank subscribers for continuing to support the parish magazine and our advertisers whose contributions help to defray the magazine production costs.

Peter Blake – PCC Secretary

ALPHA YOUTH COURSE

Last month's magazine featured the Alpha Youth Course. This course lasting eight weeks will now commence in January and it will run at 5pm on Tuesdays at Christ the King, Sonning Common. All 11 – 18 year-olds are welcome!

A reminder that the Alpha Youth Course is a great opportunity to look at what you believe. A fun video is shown and is followed by group discussion. It's a space to wonder out loud, make friends and connect with your faith.

Please get in touch with Sarah, email, revsvdwatt@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2025 – 6 DECEMBER – SAVE THE DATE!

Once again, we will be holding a parish Christmas Fair, and this year we will be back in Christ the King, taking advantage of the enlarged space and excellent facilities. Please save the date now: Saturday 6 December from 12pm – 2pm (Christ the King Church hall, Sedgewell Road, Sonning Common).

There will be all sorts of stalls to browse: crafts and cakes; a Grand Raffle with a festive hamper to win; delicious homemade soup, rolls and mince pies and sausage rolls to enjoy. Try your luck on the bottle tombola and have a go at winning a bottle of champagne and a Christmas cake for your festive tea table. Come along and help us to raise some money for our parish funds and the St John's building project.

Look out for updates in both churches, including requests for donations, items for the hamper and for help on the day. Most importantly, please note the date in your diaries now and be sure to come along on the day to enjoy all the festive fun!

Karen Broadbent - karenbroadbent@hotmail.com

ST CECILIA (180 – 230) – PATRON SAINT OF MUSIC AND MUSCIANS

A reminder that the annual Festival of St Cecilia takes place at Westminster Abbey on Wednesday 19 November at 11am. But here is a reminder of the life of Cecilia.

Cecilia is one of the most famous of the Roman martyrs of the 2nd century. As far as is known, she was born a noble lady of Rome who, despite her vow of virginity, was forced to marry an older pagan nobleman named Valerian. During the wedding, as the musicians played, Cecilia sat apart singing to God in her heart, and for that she was later declared the saint of musicians.

When the time came for her marriage to be consummated, Cecilia told Valerian that watching over her was an angel of the Lord, who would punish him if he sexually violated her, but would love him if he respected her virginity.

Understandably startled by Cecilia's revelation, Valerian then asked to see the angel for himself. Cecilia replied that to do so, he must go to the third milestone on the Via Appia and be baptised by the Bishop of Rome. Valerian seems to have been a good-natured husband, because the story goes that he followed her suggestion, was baptised a Christian, and sure enough, saw the angel protecting his wife.

Being a Christian in those days was dangerous, and when the next wave of Roman persecutions began, Valerian and Cecilia were among those arrested. It is said that Valerian and his brother Tiburtius died at the hands of the Roman prefect, Turcius Almachius, perhaps in Sicily sometime between 176 and 180 AD. Cecilia was later martyred too.

One story goes that Cecilia was struck on the neck with a sword, and as she lay dying, asked that her house be converted into a church. Certainly, an early Roman Christian church, Santa Cecilia, was founded in the fourth century in the Trastevere section of Rome, reputedly on the site of the house in which she lived.

In the centuries since then, several musical compositions have been dedicated to her, and her feast day has become the occasion for many concerts and musical festivals.

CONCENTRATION SPAN?

Most of us can watch television for only about 15 minutes, or read a book for about 14 minutes, before we lose our concentration. Most of us blame our social media notifications as the reason.

A recent survey by *Perspectus Global for Lingo* by Abbott, found that Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp and message alerts were named as the main culprits.

Overall, it seems we can focus for only 11 minutes on a virtual work call, or 13 minutes in a face-to-face meeting, or 12 minutes writing a work email.

We even seem to lose concentration at family gatherings, after only 14 minutes. Overall, four in five of us say that we get distracted easily, and that we lose our focus around eight times each day.

BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE APPOINTED TO SELECT COMMITTEE FOR TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS (END OF LIFE) BILL



The Bishop of Newcastle, the Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, has been appointed to a House of Lords Select Committee set up to take evidence and report back on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Private Member's Bill. Bishop Helen-Ann joins the 13-member Committee, chaired by Lord Hope of Craighead, that will take evidence on the safeguards and procedures in the Bill. As agreed by the House of Lords, the Committee will take evidence from professional bodies, people with professional experience of coroners' services and Ministers. The Committee is mandated to report

back no later than 7 November with the Bill progressing to its next stage after the Committee has reported.

SULLIVAN – OF GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

125 years ago, on 22 November 1900, Arthur Sullivan, the British composer, died. Best known for his collaborations with the dramatist W S Gilbert on light operas including *HMS Pinafore* and *The Pirates of Penzance*, he also wrote the music for hymns, including, *Onward, Christian Soldiers* and *Angel voices, ever singing*.

Sullivan was born in 1832 in Lambeth. His Irish-born father Thomas was a military bandmaster, clarinettist and music teacher who, from 1845 to 1857 was based at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, where his son became proficient on many of the band's instruments and composed an anthem, *By the Waters of Babylon*, when he was eight.

Arthur was drawn to classical and spiritual music of various kinds, and his huge success with Gilbert was awkward for him, as he often felt – encouraged by certain reviewers and others – that he was “capable of higher art”. He was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1883, and the musical establishment felt this should end his involvement with comic opera.

Sullivan was inclined to agree, but he was also aware of the quality – and popularity – of his work with Gilbert. He had told an American reporter in 1879: “His ideas are as suggestive for music as they are quaint and laughable. His numbers . . . always give me musical ideas.” By 1885 the duo had completed *The Mikado*, their most successful work, which ran for 672 performances.

Sullivan never married, though he had close relationships with several women, including the American socialite and singer Fanny Ronalds. He was devoted to his mother and also to his nephews and nieces after his brother Fred died at an early age.

Persistent kidney disease often meant that Sullivan had to conduct sitting down. He died of heart failure following bronchitis. His *Te Deum Laudamus* was performed posthumously.

WONDER AND WORSHIP

An article by Dr Ruth Bancewicz of the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion at Cambridge

“I was travelling, and out early in the morning: at first there was a vast fog; but, by the time that I was seven or eight miles from home towards the coast, the sun broke out into a delicate warm day. We were then on a large heath or common, and I could discern, as the mist began to break away, great numbers of swallows (*hirundines rusticae*) clustering on the stunted shrubs and bushes, as if they had roosted there all night. As soon as the air became clear and pleasant they all were on the wing at once; and, by a placid and easy flight, proceeded on southward towards the sea.”

How many church leaders today have time to enjoy their surroundings? Gilbert White was a vicar who became famous for his observations about the flora and fauna of his parish. His letters about the local wildlife through the seasons were so beautifully written that they are still in print today, more than 200 years after they were first published as *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selbourne*.

White is a great example of someone who saw science and faith in harmony. He writes that he hopes his readers will be inspired to “pay a more ready attention to the wonders of the Creation”. His stories are often so vivid that he gets away with packing in quite a bit of scientific detail, painting a more accurate picture of the wonderful events he observed as he travelled around the countryside. White’s book is one of the classics of nature writing, and there’s even an apocryphal story online that this is one of the most printed books in the country, after the Bible and Shakespeare.

White may have been one of those people with a capacity for endless activity, or perhaps he took rather more care over natural history than his vocation. Either way, I do think that anyone – from the parish priest to the youngest member of the congregation – could learn from his appreciation of creation. It is well worth spending ten minutes every now and again staring into a bush, pond or tree – especially in winter when it’s easy to hurry indoors and put the kettle on. Experiencing wildlife first-hand is wonderful fuel for our worship of God and care for His creation. As Psalm 111 says, “*Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them*” (NIV).

**(White’s book can be downloaded for free at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1408>)*

TIME TO REMEMBER THE PERSECUTED CHURCH – 2 NOVEMBER

Around the world some 380 million Christians have anxiety about going to church with fear that they might be seen and reported to the authorities, because one in seven Christians worldwide live in countries with high levels of persecution. That includes one in five in Africa and one in seven in Asia. These Christians make up the Persecuted Church, and live with the threat of discrimination, violence, imprisonment, and even death.

To support these suffering Christians, The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) is held each year in November. It is a good month to choose, because November is the month of remembrance – not only of our armed forces on Remembrance Sunday, but also of all Christian saints and martyrs who have given their lives for Christ, on All Saints' Day and All Saints' Sunday. And so, on 2 November many Christians in churches across the UK will pray for the Persecuted Church worldwide. Some also send practical help through supporting well-established UK organisations such as *Open Doors*, *Release International* and *Christian Solidarity Worldwide*. These work to advocate for persecuted Christians in the UN and to advocate with national governments. They also distribute humanitarian aid to the affected communities around the world.

Open Doors, *Release International*, *Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW)*, and *International Christian Concern* offer digital resource packs containing prayer guides, information about specific regions of persecution, and materials for church services, home groups, and children's activities.

Meanwhile, here are some things to consider (figures from *Open Doors*):

- Worldwide, at least 4,476 Christians were killed last year for their faith. Nigeria alone accounted for 3,100 of them. Other countries in sub-Saharan Africa have seen rising numbers of Christian deaths.
- Worldwide, at least 4,744 Christians were detained. They were arrested and detained without trial. Some were then sentenced and imprisoned for following Jesus. In India alone, 1,629 Christians were detained without trial and another 547 were sentenced to prison. Believers were incarcerated for their faith in Eritrea, Bangladesh, Iran amongst others.

- Worldwide, at least 210,000 Christians were driven from their homes last year and forced into hiding. Again, almost half of these were in Nigeria, where militant Islamism is on the rise.

As for individual countries, in Algeria alone last year, *all* the Protestant churches were ordered to close, or were forced to stop regular services. In Mexico, where organised crime is rampant, any Christians who protest at the violence become themselves a target for abduction and murder. In Kyrgyzstan, violence against Christians is also on the rise, as the authoritarian government further represses religious freedom.

Parish Pump article

RENEWED CALL FOR NATIONAL CONVERSATION ON AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) AND THE FUTURE OF WORK

Church of England academics and policy advisers have renewed calls for a national conversation on the impact of artificial intelligence on the world of work, warning that rapid technological change raises profound questions.

In February 2024, General Synod passed a motion recognising the scale of the challenge posed by AI and the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The motion affirmed the value of purposeful work and called for guidance on how emerging technologies can serve the common good rather than deepen inequality.

A new series of articles published last month explores these issues in depth. They highlight the opportunities and risks of AI, drawing on biblical principles and Christian social teaching to ask what fair, purposeful and dignified work should look like in an age of intelligent machines.

The reflections consider how automation and algorithmic management are reshaping employment, from the rise of the gig economy to the spread of remote working and workplace surveillance. They examine the ethical questions raised by AI-driven decision-making and the growing influence of technology companies on the conditions of work.

The edition brings together leading voices from the Church's Faith and Public Life (FPL) team. Becky Plummer, Parliamentary Researcher to the Bishops of Lichfield and Newcastle, sets the scene with a theological and historical perspective on why

work matters and what is at stake in an AI-driven economy. Revd Dr Simon Cross, who specialises in AI and technology, offers a deep dive into the gig economy, exposing the realities of platform-based work and exploring how biblical principles of justice can inform practical responses. He said, “Technology is not value-neutral. The ways tools are invented, adopted and exploited are all shaped socially - and that includes the gig economy. If we want the gig economy to reflect the values of good and meaningful employment as the Bible helps us understand them, there is plenty of work still to do.”

Revd Dr Kathryn Pritchard, Co-Director of Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science, examines the impact of AI on the work of women, highlighting both risks of bias by lack of inclusion, and examples of women leading innovation in the tech sector.

The urgency of this conversation is echoed beyond the Church. Within days of his election, Pope Leo XIV described artificial intelligence as “one of the defining issues of our time”, warning that its rapid advance poses new challenges for the defence of human dignity, justice and labour.

The collection calls on churches, policymakers and the wider public to engage with these questions now, ensuring that innovation serves people rather than the other way around. The full set of articles appears in the latest edition of *Crucible*, edited by Will Fremont-Brown and Kathryn Pritchard, which offers theological reflection, practical insight and discussion questions to help churches and communities respond. Kathryn Pritchard, who co-edited the journal, said: “The way work and AI overlap is a subject of interest from kitchen tables to lecture halls. We cannot sit on the sidelines, but have a responsibility to engage, point to signs of hope, and do all we can to ensure that the fundamental dignity of every person is upheld. We hope this edition of *Crucible* will be interesting, informative and of practical use. If women’s contributions to work are absent from the datasets on which AI is built, those same technologies risk reproducing that invisibility. Passivity in the face of such rapid technological change is not theologically justifiable. The future of women’s work in an AI age is not yet written.”

Crucible is a Journal of Christian Social Ethics, with quarterly editions published on key themes of political, social, cultural or environmental significance. Hard copies or digital versions of this edition can be purchased.

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Kidmore End & Sonning Common Parochial Church Council is a registered charity. The Charity Commission registration number is 120977.

SERVICES AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE LECTIONARY

Date	St John's	Lessons	Christ the King
2 November – All Saints' Sunday		Ephesians 1. 1 – 11 Luke 6. 20 - 31	
	18.00 Evensong with remembrance of the faithful departed	Isaiah 65. 17 – end Hebrews 11.32 – 12.2	
9 November – Remembrance Sunday (Third Sunday before Advent)		2.Thessalonians 2. 1 – 5, & 13 – 17 Luke 20. 27 - 38	09.30 Eucharist
	10.45 Remembrance Service	Micah 4. 1 – 5 John 15. 12 - 17	17.00 Second Sundays
		Special lessons	
16 November – Second Sunday before Advent	11.15 Sung Eucharist	2 Thessalonians 3. 6 – 13 Luke 21. 5 - 19	09.30 Eucharist
23 November – Christ the King		Colossians 1. 11 – 20 Luke 23. 33 - 43	09.30 Benefice Eucharist
30 November - Advent Sunday	11.15 Benefice Eucharist	Isaiah 2. 1 – 5 Matthew 24. 36 - 44	

* In the Book of Common Prayer Lectionary, the Sundays after Trinity continue until the Sunday next before Advent (“Stir up Sunday”) on 23 November. Please check the weekly bulletin in case there is a need for any of the above arrangements to be varied at short notice.

The lessons are those recommended in the Common Worship Lectionary for the Sunday principal service, and in the case of the Evensong service, the lessons are those recommended in Common Worship Second service (Evening Prayer). Lessons may be varied for special services or at the discretion of the Minister.

Services at All Saints

2 November – 10.30 Patronal Festival Sung Eucharist (Benefice)

9 November – 10.45 Remembrance Sunday Service

16 November – 09.00 Holy Communion, 10.30 Peppard Praise

23 November – No services

30 November – 18.30 Advent Service (candlelit)