

Pontesbury & Stiperstones Family of Churches

Newsletter

6th November 2026

Dear friends,

This is the season of remembering the dead, whether our own loved ones on All Souls Day (November 2nd) or those who have fallen in war on Remembrance Sunday. It has struck me afresh this year, with autumn having descended on us quite suddenly, how glorious the dying of nature is. As you make your way through the Shropshire lanes, you will see every conceivable shade of brown and gold. Many like me think these colours are even more vibrant than the displays we see in the height of summer. Winter will remind us that death can be desperately cold, bare and empty, but the explosion of colour that autumn brings is a reminder that death may mean emptiness for those left behind, but glorious it is for those who have gone ahead.

Greg

Remembrance Sunday

Please note different start times for services this Sunday. The service at St George's will commence at 10.15 a.m. climaxing with the Act of Remembrance at 11 a.m. at the war memorial in the churchyard. The service in Minsterley will start at 10.50 a.m. with an Act of Remembrance at the village memorial followed by a service of Holy Communion in church

On the 11th of the 11th this Wednesday, there will be an Act of Remembrance at Bentlawnt at the war memorial.

Meditation Service

In view of the poor health of a number of our regular attendees, this month's service of meditation has been cancelled.

Snailbeach & District Village Hall Newsletter

The latest quarterly Newsletter has just been published. You can find it on the webpage of St Luke's Church, at *www.stiperstoneschurches.org.uk*.

The Chosen

"The Chosen" is the first ever multi-season TV series depicting the life of Jesus, with five series to date.

It gives each of the disciples a backstory and puts flesh on the bones of the episodes recorded in the Gospels. It uses creative imagination to develop the stories we have read there. About a third of the audience worldwide

have not been church members. It is Hebrew rather than American in feel. It is authentic without being dry. It was crowdfunded and became the most successful crowdfunded TV series in history. People have been able to watch it via Amazon Prime, Netflix, Youtube and Facebook.

We are continuing to show the series on Wednesday evenings at Holy Trinity Minsterley via the new screen and projector. Episodes vary in length from 55 minutes to 40 minutes.

Remaining episodes are:

- ➢ Indescribable Compassion
- ➢ Invitations
- ➢ I am He

Screening starts at 7 p.m. Entrance is free, with drinks offered for a donation. Feel free to bring your own snacks. We will be showing every Wednesday with a break for half-term. If you want any further information, please contact Greg Smith at rectorpontstip@gmail.com If you are not able to attend every episode, it's still fine to come along. The story still makes sense!

St George's Big Church Cleaning Day

Dusters at dawn!! Actually 9.30 – 12.00 on Saturday November 7th – do drop in for however long you can spare. Bring useful cleaning items. Refreshments and good fun guaranteed. If you can help, please inform Marianne 07944 333830 or Mary 01743 791069. Thank you.

Big thank you for the big tidy up
A huge thank you to everyone who turned up to Holy Trinity Minsterley on 31 October for the autumn tidy up. Everyone worked so hard and the results look amazing! I really appreciate the time and effort you all put in, thank you.

Walking for Breast Cancer Now - Carolyn Lewis

I would like to thank all those who supported me in my ambition to walk 200 miles in October, as part of the Breast Cancer Now initiative. I managed to complete the 200 miles on 31st October, and raised £1,100 in sponsorship. (Rising to £1,300 with gift aid added). But as good as raising all the money was, the support in other ways that I got from those who knew what I was attempting, from cups of tea, cake, and sweeties, to toots and waves as you passed by in cars, or out walking yourselves helped to spur me on. (Thank goodness the weather was kind most days.)
The money will help to make a tremendous difference to research and ongoing support for survivors. My toes and knees are now having a rest…..

Lost Brooch at St George's

A brooch has been found in St George's and has been put in safe keeping. Do speak to Greg or Carolyn.

Christian Aid

The churches of Minsterley are looking for a new Christian Aid coordinator in advance of next May's Christian Aid week. If interested in this role, please speak to Greg about it.

Stretching £5

Those who were given £5 earlier in the year as an investment should return the £5 plus any returns on the investment to Mary Worrall at your earliest convenience.

Domestic Abuse Training

Please be aware that it is now a requirement for all those working with children or vulnerable adults to undertake Domestic Abuse training. This may be done online. It may also be done face to face on Monday November 16th at Holy Trinity Minsterley from 10-1 p.m. Please contact June Cribb at safeguardingstg@btinternet.com for details as to how to access this or to investigate alternative means of completing the training.

Local History

The first meeting of the Pontesbury and District History Group takes place at the Pavilion on **Monday Nov 16th at 7 p.m**. Please come along if you're interested, or contact Rebecca or Greg. This group will help to shape Project George, but will also have a life of its own.

St George's Christmas Tree Festival

The St George's Christmas Tree Festival takes place this year on Friday 4th December to Sunday 6th December. If you would like to enter a tree, please contact Marianne on 07944 333830.

Make your own Christmas wreath!

Wreath-making workshop Monday 23rd November at St George's, 6.30pm. Refreshments available. Tickets £20 from Marianne mariannemccall.17@gmail.com or 07944 333830.

Recycling scheme for Against Breast Cancer

There is now a Bra Bank at The Flower Shop in Minsterley Organised by Bronwen Jones and her mum, Tracy Egby-Jones, through the charity Against Breast Cancer, the bra recycling scheme takes unwanted bras and raises vital funds for pioneering breast cancer research. For every tonne of bras collected, Against Breast Cancer receives £700 to fund their research.

You can take all donations of unwanted bras to Claire at The Flower Shop or drop them at Holy Trinity Minsterley and we'll let Claire or Bronwen have them

Ride & Stride

It was great to hear that across the Diocese the September Ride & Stride sponsored event raised getting on for £30,000 for churches across Herefordshire and Shropshire.

Readings for Nov 8th Remembrance Sunday

(Amos 5. 18-24)
1 Thessalonians 4. 13-end
Matthew 25. 1-13

Calendar

Fri 6th	Prayer at HTM at 9.30 a.m.
	Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon
Sat 7th	St George's Big Church Cleaning Day 9.30-12 noon
	Messy Church planning for HTM at 10.30 a.m.
Sun 8th	*Remembrance Sunday*
	Holy Communion at Hope at 9 a.m.
	Morning Worship at Pontesbury with Children's Church at 10.15 a.m.
	Holy Communion at Minsterley at 10.50 a.m. (meet at War Memorial)

	Remembrance Service at Snailbeach at 3pm
	Evensong at Habberley at 5 p.m.
Mon 9th	Youth Café at HTM at 3.30 p.m.
Tues 10th	Foodbank at HTM 10-12
	Little Dragons at St George's 10-11.30 a.m.
	Ichthus at Brookfield Waterwheel at 2.30pm
	Youth drop in at St George's at 7.30 p.m.
Weds 11th	Coffee Hub at HTM 10-12 noon
	Act of Remembrance at 11 a.m. at Bentlawnt
	Hope/Shelve PCC at 2 p.m. at Shelve church
	Tea Break at St George's 2-4 p.m.
	Messy Church at HTM at 3.30 p.m.
	The Chosen at HTM at 7 p.m.
Thurs 12th	Foodbank at St George's 10-12
	Trinity Tots at HTM from 10-11.30 a.m.
	Deanery Synod at 7 p.m. via zoom
Fri 13th	Prayer at HTM at 9.30 a.m.
	Coffee Stop at St George's 10-12 noon
Sat 14th	Soup & Roll Social at HTM from 12-2
Sun 15th	Morning Prayer at Shelve at 9 a.m.
	Minsterley Praise at Holy Trinity at 10.30 a.m.
	Holy Communion with Children's Church at Pontesbury at 10.30 a.m.