Thought for November 2021 By Revd. Claire Claxton

November is a month for remembering. On Sunday 7th November we will hold an All Souls service at 4 p.m. during which we remember loved ones and give thanks for them. We name them in our prayers and light a candle for them. The following week is Remembrance Sunday when we commemorate those in the Armed Forces who have given their lives for others. The Church will be decorated with lots of poppies, reminding us of the thousands of flowers that flourished in the middle of the chaos and destruction of Flanders fields – symbols of hope.

The word remember is a strange one: re-member. It literally means to put back together again and so when we remember we keep alive an incident or person in our mind. Remembrance Day started in 1919 to commemorate the Armistice agreement that ended the 1st World War at 11 a.m. on 11th November the previous year. We remember this event on Sunday 14th with a two-minute silence, a roll-call of names, the wearing of poppies and the laying of wreaths. Every Sunday in church we re-member another event too. At the last supper Jesus took the bread and the wine and he said, "do this in remembrance of me." And so we do – every service of Holy Communion is an opportunity to re-member Jesus and his sacrifice for us.

Re-membering is not always easy or joyful; sometimes it is painful, but it brings us closer to those we are remembering and, when people have given their life for us, then to be remembered is what they deserve. Just like we take time to remember soldiers and others we love, the bible calls us to remember God - 'I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old.' (Psalm 77:11) and we are reminded that God will always remember us 'I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.....' (Isaiah 49:15-16).

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REWSLETTER
ROYEMBER-2021

CONTACTS

Rector: Revd. Claire Claxton

Tel: 238815

e.mail:carillon@cwgsy.net

Licenced Lay Minister (LLM)

Mrs Margaret Boden-Heaume

Tel: 265370

e.mail: mbodenheaume@outlook.com

Peoples' Warden:

Mr Keith Bienvenu

Tel: 238838

e.mail: krbienvenu@cwgsy.net

Rector's Warden:

Mrs Linda Archard

Tel: 266135

e.mail: lmcc@cwgsy.net



Flowers in church in November

7th November Wendy Cornwell 14th November Wendy Cornwell 21st November Nancy smith 28th November Nancy smith

A Prayer for Today

Lord God of all, we pray for all who face difficulties in their personal lives – those who are sick, those with problems in their families, in their friendships, in their neighbourhoods or in their workplace. Help us all to be calm in times of uncertainty, patient with those around us and steadfast in the knowledge that you share each and every moment and emotion with us. We ask you to guide us so that we can give love, help and support to others around us who are in greater need than ourselves.

Church News

Revd. Claire will be commencing an Advent Group which will meet on three Tuesdays during Advent (30th Nov, 7th & 14th Dec) from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. for soup and discussion.

Forest Church will be joining in the big Round Table Christmas Fayre on Sunday 21st Nov. 10 - 4 p.m. at Beau Sejour.

This is one of our major fund raisers in the year and all the jams and chutneys are home made and sell really well.

We need lots of jars of chutney, jam etc. plus donations to make up the Christmas Hamper prize for the Treasure Hunt.

The church will also be having a name the Giant Teddy raffle. Please contact Liz Chamberlain 251363 (lehurel@iCloud.com) or Anne Roland (Lizroland@cwgsy.net) for any further information. Printed jam labels are available from Nancy Smith 263993 (milt@cwgsy.net)

Christmas Cards: The Parish and Methodist Churches will deliver a Christmas Card to each house in the parish. If you are willing to deliver a round or two (20 or so houses per round) in the first two weeks of December please will you let Claire know.

Future Dates:



Sunday 5th December Opening of the Christmas Tree Festival + Christingle.



Sunday 19th December 4.30p.m. Candlelight Christmas Carol Service

Friday 24th Dec 4 p.m. Crib Service; 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion



Christmas Gifts • Home Baking • Face Painting • Games & Fun · Christmas Cards · Gifts · Children's Lucky Dips · Home-made cakes Books Bric-a-Brac C ndars Mugs Bookmarks Canvas Prints • Tombolas • New Children's Books · Christmas Raffle • Pens Cookery Boy tle Stalls • Mince Pies • Toys • Teddy Bear Tombola • 1 Christmas Gifts • en's competitions Roll-a-Tenp Tea Towels · Face Tapestry Painting Aprons Pencils · Postcards · Christmas Tags 8 lamper · Christmas Goodies · Fairtr oft Toys · Puzzles · Jewellery · Toil lles · Chutneys Wine • Pet F · Coom Bags · Winter stmas-Meercat • Wrapping Wonderland Paper · Biscuit Decorating n's Games • Santa's Grotto

A letter from Revd. Claire

Dear friends,

You are probably aware that there is new guidance from the States of Guernsey following the increase of Covid cases in the island.

The advice is to wear masks in gatherings and so I ask people to wear a mask if possible. Anyone leading prayers or doing a reading can take their mask off at that point. Masks are available if you need one. We will continue to use hand sanitiser, list names and contact details of attendees, share the peace from a distance and I will intinct the wafers for Communion.

I have also decided that serving refreshments after the service is not advisable. I am sad to make that decision because it is an important part of our gathering but in our confined space at the back of church, we cannot keep our distance and consuming refreshments would mean masks need to be removed! People are welcome to stay and chat after the service.

I am sorry to have to implement these changes for now but they are the best way for us to comply with the Government guidance and keep everyone as safe and well as we can. Every blessing, Claire Claxton

Pews for Sale

Three pews are being removed to create a more user-friendly space for socialising at the back of the church. These Victorian pews will be auctioned to raise money for the creation of this social area. The pews have been in the church since 1891 and the wood is very adaptable but also robust as it has stood the test of over a hundred years. They are made from pitch pine (popular for boat building) which would allow for modification. They will be delivered to the highest bidder. There is no closing date so we will wait and see what is offered. Bids should be sent to Andrew Ozanne at aloz@cwgsy.net.



November Dates for your Diary

Knit and Natter

Wed November 3rd

in church 2pm - 4pm. come even if you only want to natter!

Advent Group

Tues 30th November Rev. Claire will be commencing an Advent Group which will meet on three Tuesdays during Advent (30th Nov, 7th & 14th Dec) from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. for soup and discussion.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday 10th November

Our next coffee morning will take place from 10.30am to 12 noon in church.

Do come and join us for a cuppa, some cake and a chat. All are welcome!

Solace

Thursday November 4th & 18th

A support group for bereaved friends who meet at St Martin's Community Centre from 10.30 - 12 noon .

Sunday 7th November

All Souls Service: This is a special service of thanksgiving and remembrance on Sunday 7th November at 4 p.m. at which we offer the opportunity to have loved ones included specifically by name in our prayers. If you would like us to mention someone you can write their name on a list which will be by the door as you enter the church. The service will last approximately 45 minutes and refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome.

Sunday November 14th

Remembrance Sunday begins at 10.50 and come to see the Unknown soldier in the pews with us.

Sunday 21st November Round Table Christmas Fayre at Beau Sejour 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. See info on Church News page 7

Welcome to Forest Parish Church Services in November

Sunday 7th November 11am Family Communion

Reader tba:

Prayers: Vivienne Rees

All Souls Service at 4pm in remembrance of loved ones who have died.

No Evensong

Sunday 14th November Remembrance Sunday Starting at 10.50am at the Lych Gate Memorial

11am Parish Communion,

Reader: Keith Bienvenu Daniel 12 v 1-3, Hebrews 10 v 11-14, 19-

25

Prayers: Margaret Boden Heaume

Sunday 21st November 9am Puppets and Praise

11am Parish Communion with Baptism of Elora Martel

Reader: Mark Freeman Daniel 9 v 9-10,13-14

Revelations 1 v4b-8

Prayers: Nancy Smith Evensong 6.30pm

Reader: Vivienne Rees Daniel 9 v9-10, 13, 14

Sunday 28th November 9am Traditional Communion

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Richard Heaume Jeremiah 33 v14-16,

1 Thessalonians 3 v 9-end

Prayers: Peter Gallienne

Sunday 5th December 11am Christingle and opening of the

Christmas Tree Festival

Morning Prayer

Every Monday and Thursday morning at 9am, a short service of Morning Prayer is said in church, a good way to start the day.