

St George's Church Newsletter

November 2026

Dear Church family,

This month brings us to the end of our Church Year. It has become, through two main events, a time of remembering, and two of the articles focus on these events. We begin the month with Halloween - All Saints Day and All Soul's Day. You'll find more information and a graphic about this, as well as an old recipe that you might like to use to create some Soul Cakes, a traditional food from the medieval period. If you do make some, why not bring them into church one Sunday for us to try.

The second event is our Remembrance service, on Sunday 8th November. This will be a formal service where we will have time to reflect as we read out the names of those who have died in the wars.

Finally, we will end the Month with Café Church, which begins the season of Advent leading up to Christmas.

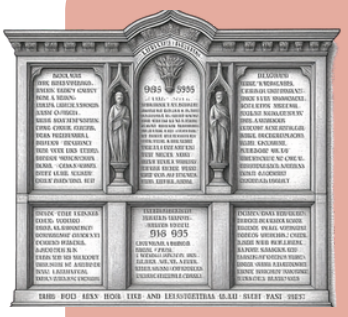
God bless,
Revd Andrew Walmsley



Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday, along with Good Friday, are two of the most poignant services of the church year. Whether you are young or old, there is something quite moving about a service that remembers those who have died in wars and conflicts around the world. When I was a boy, I remember hearing the names of the fallen from our local area read out in church. Over the years, the names became familiar as we stood in silence each year and remembered those young men. Young, because some of those who died were barely men, lost before they had even reached their prime. I remember several years ago watching the news as some people were calling for an end to the annual act of remembrance. They argued that now, a hundred years past the end of the First World War, it was time to stop. Those who were arguing failed to see the significance of this period of remembrance each year, and failed to see the importance of teaching the next generation of children the importance of remembering those who gave their lives. For just a few days each year, we can worship and remember together on Remembrance Sunday, and stand still and reflect on Remembrance Day itself.

As Christians, I believe it is important to keep remembering those who were prepared to sacrifice their lives for the freedoms we have today. I believe it is important to keep remembering the horrors of wars that happened in the past, but also to remember those wars that are still going on today. Remembering gives us a chance to reflect and, hopefully, pray for God's protection and help. I am reminded of the song 'Make me a channel of your peace,' which comes from the prayer of St. Francis. Let these words give you pause for thought this Remembrance week.



Remembrance Service

Join us at St George's Church at **10am on Sunday 8th November** for our Service of Remembrance. During the service we will have an opportunity to pause for a moments silence after we read out the names of those have died from our Parish.



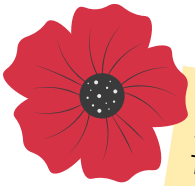
Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Sunday Themes During November

The month of November is the last month of the Church Year, and remembers two very different events. The first All Saints and All Souls, the second Remembrance day.

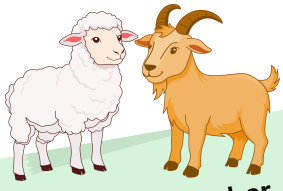
Sunday 1st November
All Age Service
Blessed are...
The theme this weeks is based upon the famous passage in Matthew 5:1-12, the Beatitudes.



Sunday 8th November
Remembrance Sunday
This week will be a more formal service as we spend time reflecting on and remembering those who have died in the wars.

Sunday 15th November
Safeguarding Sunday

This week we will be reflecting on the important topic of safeguarding.



Sunday 22nd November
The Sheep and the Goats
How does the separation determine our eternal destiny?



Sunday 29th November
Cafe Church
The focus of Advent
This Sunday is the end of November but is actually the first Sunday of Advent.

Did you know?



All Saints All Souls Halloween

In the UK many have begun to join in with the Halloween celebration each year, but this was not what we used to remember. Instead of being just one day, Halloween was part of a series of three days where people would remember those who had died.

All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) and All Souls' Day are interconnected Christian observances with historical roots in both pagan and religious traditions. All Hallows' Eve, traditionally known as the evening before All Saints' Day, marks the origin of Halloween. The holiday has ancient Celtic origins in the festival of Samhain, a magical time when Celts believed the barriers between the natural and supernatural worlds were broken, allowing the dead to walk among the living and potentially share future secrets.

As Christianity spread, the church established All Saints' Day on November 1 and All Souls' Day on November 2, incorporating many old pagan customs into these Christian holy days. All Saints' Day commemorates Christian martyrs and those who led exceptionally holy lives, particularly recognising saints who do not have a special day in the church year. All Souls' Day, observed on November 2, is a day of commemoration for all faithful departed, with the Catholic Church specifically praying for souls believed to be undergoing purgation. Various regional customs developed around these observances, such as in Wales, where people would place a white stone near a fire and believe their survival for another year depended on the stone's condition the next morning.

Over centuries, pagan and Christian traditions became blended. The custom of going door-to-door requesting food (Soul Cakes) in exchange for prayers for the deceased eventually evolved into trick-or-treating. Halloween reached North America with British colonists but gained widespread popularity only in the 19th century through large-scale European immigration.



LADIES' SOCIAL

Rag Wreath making



Saturday 28th November

10am – 1pm

St George's Church Hall

Join us for a relaxing morning of easy rag wreath making, drinks, snacks and time to chat.

£5 per person

Sign up on the sheet to book your place.
Please pay Helen Jones or Linda Hartles
by 21st November.

All materials provided

Fabric and ribbon donations are very welcome.
Please leave them in the box provided in church.
Bring your own favourite ribbons or fabric on the day if you'd like to personalise your wreath.

Any profits will support our Toy Service collection for The Salvation Army.

Giving to St. George's Church

Your generosity makes a difference

At St George's Church, we are blessed to have such a caring and supportive community. Through your kindness and generosity, we can continue to be a welcoming place of worship, friendship and support for people of all ages.

Every gift, no matter how big or small, helps towards the running and upkeep of our church, supporting our activities and reaching out to those in our local community.
Giving is not just about money; it is also about sharing our time, talents and kindness. Every contribution plays an important part in the life of St. George's.

If you feel able to support our church financially, whether though a one-off donation or regular giving, your generosity would be greatly appreciated.
Thank you for helping St George's Church continue to be a place where faith, friendship and community can flouish.

"God loves a cheerful giver"
- 2 Corinthians 9:7

Come along Saturday 7th Nov
Enjoy a delicious breakfast, friendly conversation and a warm welcome. Everyone is welcome!

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH
TAMWORTH
WORSHIP · GROW · SERVE

THIS SATURDAY
9am – 11am
FREE

COME ALONG FOR

- Cooked Breakfast
- Bacon Sandwich
- Sausage Sandwich
- Croissants
- Cereals
- Toast
- Juice
- Tea & Coffee



Good food, good company, and a warm welcome for everyone.

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL

Bamford Street
Pop in anytime between 9–11am
Last orders at 10.30am

Prayer Space



Our prayer group has begun to create some different displays in the window near the font. This space has been created so that you can pray before or after services. Do use the space for quiet prayer. If any words, phrases or images are given to you, then please let us know or write them down and post them in the red postbox.

PRAYER MINISTRY is also available after our services from our trained volunteers by the font.

Harvest Flowers







Thanks to the Flower Group and the Preschool for creating our Harvest Displays.

