

50 Pence



November 2017

The Trident




The Parish Magazine of



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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

8.00 AM SAID EUCHARIST (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME & NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)
10.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON
WEDNESDAY 2PM

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:

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From our Vicar

Dear Friends

In November we remember. We remember the fallen as a result of conflict and also those whom we have loved and lost.

The Feast of All Souls' comes the day after All Saints which makes theological and devotional sense, but does seem to have the feeling of one feast dominating the other. In the quest to ensure that we observe both we **place All Saints' on the Sunday after the last of Trinity and All Souls on its day (2nd November).** All this jiggery-pockery to the calendar is an attempt to **retain the integrity of both, and at St Thomas' I think we manage it, just.** Thus, we are reminded that the departed are also the saints, and that the saints also figure among the departed. This relationship is essential as we recall the one who conquers death and unites us to heaven, the Church and one-another.

Reflecting on saints it is always tempting to think only of the great heroes of **the faith, the St Pauls, Peters, Francis', Marys and so on, and forget that all** important fact that we too are saints. It is true we may never attain the heady heights of some of our illustrious forebears, but we can emulate them in our lives.

Much of the devotion aimed at those older saints comes from their example and accessibility. They are paradoxically distant yet close; they are like us, but show us what we can be; yet all of us are called to live lives worthy of that which has been done for us, so as we have been loved we too love.

This idea is at the heart of the Lord's Prayer which begins with a reference to God the Father being 'hallowed', a word which was adopted to refer to saints, i.e. the 'hallowed-ones'. Hence, Halloween was the eve of All Hallows i.e. All Saints'. Back to the Lord's Prayer, and living lives worthy of that which was done for us, is the phrase, 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us'. In the midst of the most famous prayer ever is an injunction to behave as a saint. Alexander Pope understood this when he said, 'to err is human, to forgive, divine'. Sainthood is then about a divine/human partnership, humanity reflecting the divine, be it forgiving trespasses or unconditionally loving.

Therefore, as we enter this season give thanks for all the saints who have **faithfully 'run the race' before us, but also remember our call to be saints** here and now. I doubt there will be little plaster statues made of many us, but there will be changed lives. So give thanks, yes, and live like a saint.

Your friend and priest
Fr. Robert



Parish News

On 1st November at the 50+ Group there is a 12.30 Bring n Share Lunch followed, at 1pm, by a talk by David Evans on ‘*Living through the Reformation*’. In this 500 anniversary year this is a great chance to engage with the impact of this history changing movement.

Our concert series continues with another organ recital given by the extremely talented Ben Comeau at 3pm on 26th November. For more details see: <https://encoremusicians.com/Ben-Comeau>. This is a free concert with a retiring collection. Please encourage as many people to come as possible.

Over the past few months and weeks the conversations surrounding the Parish Hall redevelopment have increased with a meeting to discuss likely funding streams with the Diocesan Funding Advisor. The next stage is to have a community survey on the future Hall usage which will form a vital part of the redevelopment plans. Further details will be included in the Christmas Addition with information about the survey included.

There are some key services in November particularly the Parish Requiem Mass on 2nd November at 7pm and the Remembrance Sunday Parade Requiem for the Fallen. Remembrance Sunday on 12th November at 10am is always an important service touching on the pain of past and present conflicts. Please remind people that this is a great time to come and remember, lest we forget.

I can now hear the groans, but Christmas will soon be upon us. Here are a few dates for the dairy:

25th November Christmas Fair 2-4pm, 8th **December Children’s Christmas Film** Night 7pm, 10th December Christingle 4pm, 17th December 9 Lessons and Carols 6.30pm and Midnight Mass 11.30pm. Full details will be in the Christmas Edition of The Trident, until then happy All Saintside!

Forgiveness

(Mt 18:35)

Unless you forgive, from your heart...

Forgiveness,
a gift, a setting free
for the one forgiven
and for me.

Forgiveness,
received and known,
enables heart grace

we can show, as shown.

A softened heart,
and Spirit-changed
extends that grace
to those estranged.

Heart forgiveness,
deep and true,
releasing, healing,
reflecting you
Lord Jesus.

St Thomas'

QUIZ!

St Thomas' Church Hall, Boston Road

Saturday November 11th 2017
7.30pm for a prompt 7.45pm start.

Come as a team, if you like,
or we can put you in a team.

Fish and chip supper included,
but please BYO drinks.

Tickets - £10 adults; £7 children
under 14



To book, please contact:
Sue 07850 889948 (sue.cunningham@mac.com)
or see Sarah or Sue on Sundays.



From the Editors

Please note the early copy dates for our December magazine. This will be the magazine that goes to every house in the parish, so if you want to put something in, please let us have it as soon as possible.

July & Sue

Copy Dates!

Copy date for the December magazine will be Sunday 5th November
Copy date for January 2018 will be Sunday 10th December

THE NUN'S PRAYER

Lord thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou nowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening coxsureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet: I do not want to be a Saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

AMEN

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP FROM THE TOTS GROUP

The Tots Group continues to flourish with regular attendances between 25 adults and 25 children to 40 of both. The sessions are great fun and certainly seem to meet a need in the area, however we now find ourselves in a situation where we need more help. Father Robert is there virtually every week, as am I. There are two other volunteers who tend to cover alternate weeks, although occasionally they are both there. **A third volunteer came to help last week and I'm hoping she will be able to** continue to come. However, we need more help as the two people who have been alternating are now unable to come as often due to personal circumstances. This puts quite a lot of pressure on Father Robert and I.

I arrive at 9.00 in order to start setting things up, primarily in the kitchen as we provide drinks, biscuits and fruit for the children and parents. Father Robert arrives at about 9.50 to get all the boxes of toys and equipment out of our storage area. The other volunteers then arrive between 9.45 and 10.00, to help to put chairs and tables out around the Hall. We all then put the equipment and toys out on carpets, tables or the floor as appropriate. We are then ready to open the doors at 10.30.

The Group meets each Wednesday morning during school term times, between 10.30 and 11.45 in the Church Hall. The group is part of our parish outreach work. There is no requirement for those who attend the group to be Anglicans or of any particular faith. Father Robert and the volunteers who help just try to create a relaxed atmosphere in which parents/grandparents and carers along with their children can enjoy some shared time with others. The children are free to move around the activities as they wish and their accompanying adults are in charge of them. The volunteers make drinks, chat to the adults and join in play with the children until 11.25. The parents and children then help us put the toys and equipment back into the containers. We then proceed to a very popular part of the session. Father Robert plays his guitar and the children choose hand puppets and soft toys to hold whilst we sing songs. Any birthdays are celebrated then we finish with a short prayer.

At the end of the session, the volunteers help father Robert put the toys, tables and chairs away in the storage area, clean the floors and fill the dishwasher.

Near the end of the last session before Christmas we invite parents and children to come into the Lady Chapel in the church, where Father Robert tells the Christmas story and involves the children. We then sing a Carol, a Christmas song and finish the session. Everyone seems to enjoy this and many look around the church. People usually comment that they enjoy this opportunity to come into church and share in the Christmas story.

Hopefully this gives a general idea of what goes on at the group also what volunteers are involved in during a session. We all really enjoy it and the time passes very quickly. It would be such a help if anyone reading this feels **moved and able to offer some help. It wouldn't necessarily need to be each** week but would certainly help Father Robert and I if we knew that I could at least get cover if we suddenly find that there are no volunteers available for a session. If you might be interested in helping or would like to know more about it please get in touch with me on 020 8840 0038.

Linda Williams

Brownie & Guide Harry Potter Fun Day

On Saturday 30th **September St Thomas' Church Hall was transformed into** Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

All the Guides and Brownies of the District were invited to come and spend the day doing a whole variety of fun crafts, games and other activities.

The day began with a dash through the wall of Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ and a ride on the Hogwarts Express. After that they all had the sorting hat tell them which house they were going to be in for the day.

During the day they were able to visit the Three Broomsticks for a drink **and some sweets, they could try on a selection of robes in Madame Malkin's** Robe shop.

In the morning they made and painted some wonderful wands in Mr **Ollivander's wand shop. They made pencil broomsticks, Hogwarts** chatterboxes, and did various colouring, drawing and puzzle sheets. There was a quiet area with Harry Potter books to look at and stories to listen to. For lunch we were lucky to be able to sit outside. This gave the leaders a chance to clear up from the morning session and set up the activities for the afternoon. They made boxes for their wands, pipe cleaner spiders, boxes for chocolate frogs, lollipop ghosts and most exciting of all there was a Potions Lesson for all groups, thanks to a science teacher from Elthorne Park High School

During the day house points were awarded for being kind and helpful and clearing up and generally following the expected standards of behaviour. Slitherin were by far and away the winning house (although their score was a little dubious!) Everyone went home with a bag full of goodies and memories of a day full of fun.

Many thanks must go to Carole Newstead – a Brownie & Guide Leader from Northolt who is somewhat an expert on Harry Potter and who provided all the activities and ideas. It was thanks to her dedication and hours of preparation that enabled us to hold such a fun event.

We would also like to thank our District Trefoil Guild who came along on the day to make sandwiches for everyone.

A great day was had by all!

Recently as my family and I were clearing my mother's house, we came across a poem that had been written on my grandfather's typewriter. My grandfather, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Shirley, possibly wrote the poem or it could have been composed by one of his men on the beach, as they waited to be rescued. The poem encapsulates that moment in British history and is a fitting tribute to those who died at Dunkirk.

Charlotte Carotenuto and Family

Dunkirk Beach

To the memory of the soldiers
who gave their lives on that
memorable
beach in France.

On Dunkirk Beach a soldier lay
Thinking of home so far away.
Wounded, footsore, tired and worn
One of the heroes British born.
He lay for hours on the golden sands
Which filtered slowly through his hands.
His thoughts were of the folks at home,
Of the English vales he used to roam.
When from the sky an Hienkel came,
Spitting death at this chap so lame.
He did not shout or cry aloud,
He was but one of a suffering crowd
Who on a blood bespattered shore

Thought of the friends they'd see no more.

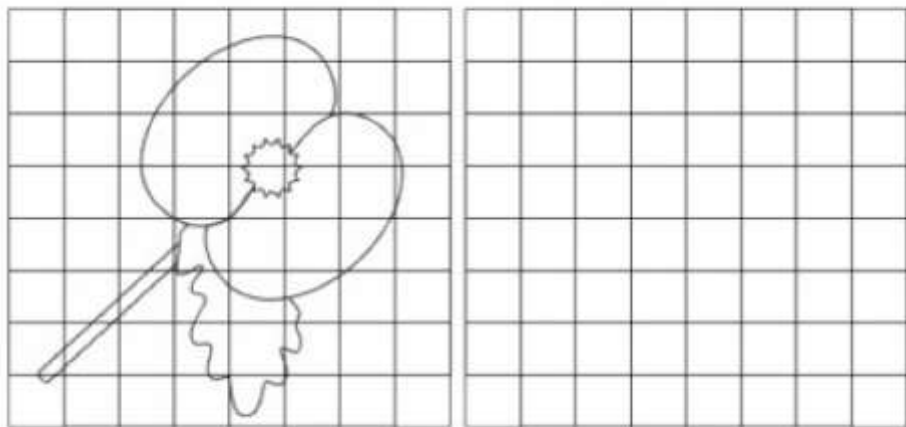
The daylight faded fast away
With it this hero sad to say
He was but young, just twenty one
But he died just like a British son.

So when this mighty struggle is oe'r

And Dunkirk Beach knows peace once more
Think my friends of the soldiers brave
Who died in France, Britain to save



Copy the Poppy



Copy the picture using the grid lines as a guide. You might find it easier to copy one square at a time. Count the squares carefully!



Remembrance Day Word Scramble

Unscramble the jumbled words below, all of which are used in Dr John McCrae's poem from 1915, "In Flanders Fields".

- leesp _ _ _ _ _
- oef _ _ _ _
- utesns _ _ _ _ _
- sppipoe _ _ _ _ _
- srcsoes _ _ _ _ _
- atift _ _ _ _ _
- vleod _ _ _ _ _
- nwad _ _ _ _ _
- igh _ _ _ _ _
- lkars _ _ _ _ _
- relaybv _ _ _ _ _
- itsefd _ _ _ _ _
- refalds _ _ _ _ _





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Thank you for your support. Please continue to give by providing any of these items in one of the green Foodbank collection boxes situated inside the church porches.

The revised list of items needed:

Soup - all flavours, macaroni cheese, vegetarian chilli and curry,
long-life sponge pudding, nuts - peanuts, walnuts, brazils etc, peanut
butter, dried milk, deodorant - male and female .

Thank you!

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Diary Dates



NOVEMBER

Sat 4th

Churches Together in Hanwell Prayer Meeting at St Mellitus Church

Sat 11th

St Thomas' Church Quiz - (see page 5)

Tues 28th

PCC 8pm

DECEMBER

Sat 2nd

Churches Together in Hanwell Prayer Meeting

at St Christopher's Church

Sun 10th

Christingle 4pm

Sun 17th

Nine Lessons and Carols 6:30pm

Sun 24th

Christmas Eve. Mass at 11:30pm

Mon 25th

Christmas Day. Mass at 10am

Tues 26th

St Stephen's Day

JANUARY 2018

4th - 6th

St Thomas' Pantomime!

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*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

NOVEMBER

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10th - tea, coffee and cakes
17th - tea, coffee and cakes
24th - tea, coffee and cakes

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