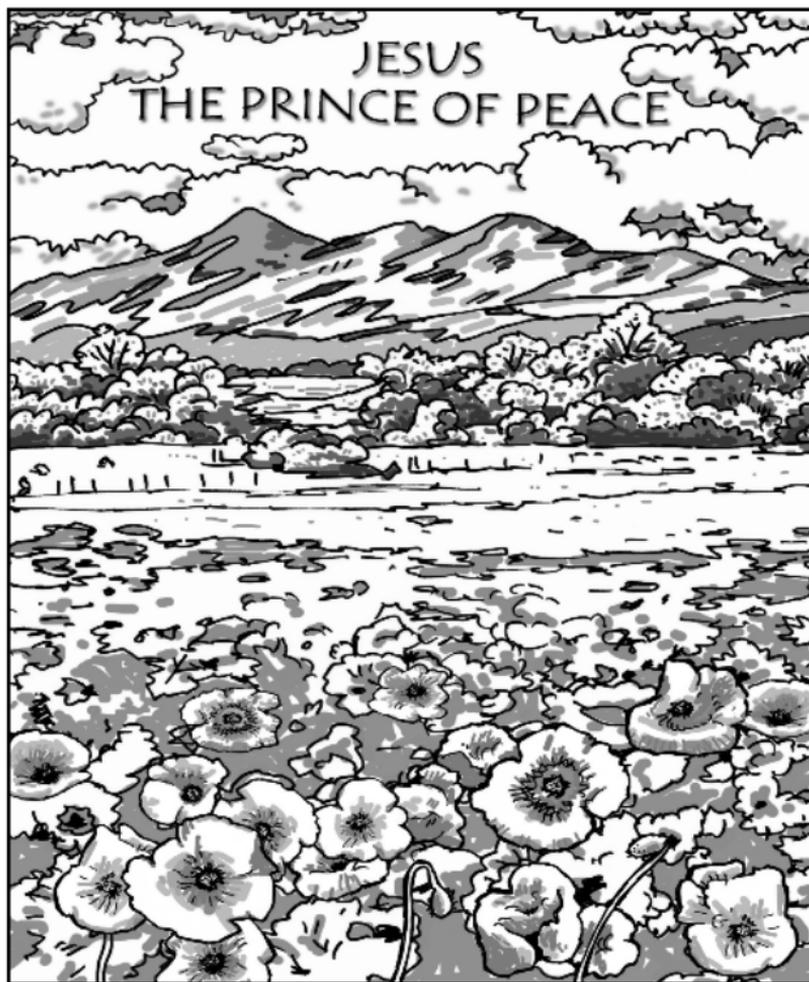


PEWTALK 50_P

November 2020



EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITs AnD PiECes

100 Club - The 100 Club winner was drawn by Revd. Michèle at the evening Holy Communion service on the first Sunday of October. The name drawn out was Joan Dighton. Joan has not been well enough to join us at St. Catherine's for some time. It was lovely to see her again. She was her usual bright chatty self and we had a laugh when I gave her the £10 prize. Her reply was "I'll come every week if I get a tenner". There is still time to join to qualify for the first £50 draw (in December).

Norman

Children's Society Boxes. - If you have a Children's Society collecting Box could you please bring it to church for me? I now deem it safe to proceed with opening the boxes. I only ask that you put it in to a plastic bag please? - Thank you

June Schroeder

Shoebox Sunday

The morning service on 1st November will be a family service to include the receiving and blessing of the shoeboxes which will be sent to children in need living abroad who may not receive any other gifts at Christmas. Again not everyone has been able to go shopping to buy items for the shoeboxes as they would have done in past years but there has been a great response from the parish in cash donations. At the time of writing we have enough cash to send 18 boxes from the parish. Pam England has again made hats and gloves and a number of boxes are being prepared. *Norman & Sheila*

The Thurrock foodbank are running their "reverse Advent" calendar again this year. The idea is that during the month of November you put aside one item of non-

perishable food each day and donate it to the foodbank at the beginning of December. The winter months are always a difficult time for families and the foodbank stocks often get very depleted and so this is a way to top them up in time for Christmas. For ideas of what you might give there is a handy calendar of suggestions on their website www.thurrock.foodbank.org.uk or via the link on the church website.

The London Tilbury Seafarers Centre are also looking to Christmas. Last year volunteers helped make up over 3,000 parcels to be distributed by their chaplains to the ships in port. In many ways this year is even more important since the COVID-19 restrictions have confined the seamen to their ships. Julie Hobby, who has spoken in St. Catherine's is looking for:-shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, flannels, razors and shaving foam. Also could you help by wrapping boxes in your own home? For more information or to offer help please contact the centre on 01375-840454.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICES - this year have to be very different. In the light of the COVID-19 regulations and just sensible precautions Thurrock Council and the local police have said that our usual public gatherings to mark remembrance are not allowed as there is no way to guarantee safety from viral transmission. This means that there will be **no service at the BATA memorial this year.** The Revd. Michèle has arranged a number of services at St. Catherine's which she outlines in her reflections. **Please note that** it is essential that you let her know which service you intend to attend as "social distancing" dictates how many can be at a service.

Reflections from The Rectory

All Saints' Day and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

All Saints Day on November 1st and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on November 2nd are special days in the churches year when we honour those we have known in life or in legend who have inspired our thought and our lives. From its earliest days, the Church has recognised as its foundation stones those heroes of the faith whose lives have excited others to holiness and created a link between the church on earth and the church in heaven. In Christ all the faithful, both living and departed, are bound together in a communion of prayer. On a Sunday morning when I am leading the service inside the church building I am very mindful of all those we have known and loved surrounding us in the churchyard. And in honour of those we have known and loved the Church of England sets in place churchyard regulations that help to maintain uniformity and respectfulness. A churchyard is a sacred space, hallowed (Holy) ground and it is important that we all remember that when we visit. I will speak further about the churchyard regulations we must all follow in a future edition of Pewtalk.



Ordinarily at this time of year to help us remember the faithful departed we would hold a Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving and people invited to attend. Because of the current Covid-19 regulations we cannot do this in 2020. But please be reassured that on your behalf during one of our services on All Saints' Day, I will read out the names of all those for whom I have conducted a funeral service since last September and the names on our parishes 'All Souls' list and light candles in their memory. The lighting of a candle is a symbol of the light and love that never fades.

They may rest in peace and rise in glory.

Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day

'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.'



Words I am sure that will be very familiar to anybody who has ever attended a Remembrance Service on or around the 11th November. Indeed they now form part of the Exhortation read out at remembrance services and lead us into the two minutes silence. The 'Ode of Remembrance' however, is just one verse from a much longer poem "For the Fallen" written by *Laurence Binyon*. It was first published in *The Times* in September 1914 and written to commemorate and honour the British war dead at that time. Now it is read as a tribute to all casualties of war since that time on.

As I have previously mentioned remembering and giving thanks is very much the theme in the church as we make our way through November. All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day, Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day all sit closely together. As we observe these special festivals and the moments of silence they offer we have an opportunity to remember, give thanks and look forward to a day when wars and conflict will cease. This year, however, our normal pattern of services in the season of remembrance will by necessity have to work in a different way. We are duty bound to follow the guidelines set in place by the Government and the Church of England in an attempt to keep everybody safe and well. Large numbers of people gathering, even for good reasons, cannot be done this year as we continue in our fight against the corona Virus.

So, with this in mind, the services and acts of remembrance that can take place are as follows.

On **Sunday 8th November (Remembrance Sunday)**, there will be a 'Service of Remembrance' at St Catherine's in East Tilbury at **10.30am**. However, please note there are a very limited number of seats and people must call me to book a place in advance. The service at the Bata Memorial WILL NOT be taking place this year. Later in the day at St Catherine's at **4.30pm** there will be a Service of Holy Communion with an Act of Remembrance for which again people must book their place.

On **Wednesday 11th November (Remembrance Day)**, there will be a short Service of Remembrance at St Catherine's in East Tilbury starting at **10.45am**. Once again there will be a very limited number of seats and people must call me in advance to book a place.

There will be a time for gathering together again when it is safe to do so. In the meantime...

'At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.'

(to book a place for the Services on the 8th or 11th November please call me on 01375 671754)

Stay safe and keep well,

Every Blessing,

Revd Michèle.

A prayer for all those affected by corona virus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

During lockdown my **dear friend** Carole Harris gave me a project to keep me occupied - to make a knitted Christmas tree! We hoped that, when finished, we would be able to raffle it on our craft stall at the Christmas bazaar. You are all probably aware that, because of the COVID restrictions there will be no bazaar this year. However we would still like to raffle it at £1 per ticket. The "tree" will be available for all to see on Wednesdays at St. Francis and at St. Catherine's; both after the communion service. Please buy a ticket either for yourself or friends and family. The draw will take place on 6th December in time for it to go on display as part of your Christmas decorations.



Pat Webb

Harvest Festival - 4th October

There were two services to celebrate the harvest festival. Being the first Sunday of the month the family service was in the morning, there were carrier bags full of harvest gifts, donations which have gone to the foodbank, there were also cash donations for the foodbank from those not able to do any shopping. This was a very happy service and although we are not able to have congregational singing Michelle led an enthusiastic song and we all joined in the arm actions.

The day finished with a service of Holy communion at 4.30pm, a lovely peaceful end to the afternoon.

Norman & Sheila

Linford and East Tilbury Boot Sale Trail

Sunday 27th September was the second of three Boot Sale Trails to be held in Linford and East Tilbury.

As it was decided that a Christmas Bazaar would not be safe due to Coronavirus, I set up a table top sale at St. Francis in Linford.

After a drizzly start, the day developed into a dry grey day.

We stocked our tables with books, jigsaw puzzles, handmade cards, hand crafted wooden items, jams, cake and bric-a-brac.

Jeannie joined me after the church service at St. Catherine's and we warmed our hands on a mug of coffee.

We enjoyed the conversations and support from our community and sold a variety of items throughout the morning.

I am pleased to say that we took £51.50 which was donated to church funds.

Kathy

William Temple: Archbishop of Canterbury

During the Second World War, Winston Churchill was Britain's Prime Minister. At the same time, William Temple was Archbishop of Canterbury. While Churchill led the country against Germany, Temple encouraged the British people to trust the Lord for their deliverance and strength. Like Churchill, Temple was a great leader, a gifted orator and a prolific writer. He was also a theologian and social activist.



Temple was born on 15th October 1881 in Exeter, Devon. He was educated at Rugby School and Balliol College, Oxford, from 1900 to 1904. He loved the music of Bach; the poetry of Browning and Shelley, and Shakespeare. He was an avid reader and possessed a near-photographic memory.

He became president of the Oxford Union and after graduation, was a lecturer in philosophy at Queen's College, Oxford. He was a member of the debating society and was a skilled and balanced debater. Following his ordination in 1909, and priesting in 1910, Temple was headmaster of Repton School for four years. He married Frances Anson in 1916. They were childless.

From 1921-29 Temple was Bishop of Manchester. During this time he was seen as a pioneer of the Ecumenical Movement and gradually became a national figure. In 1926 he urged the British government to seek a negotiated agreement to the General Strike.

Temple excelled as a moderator; a teacher and a preacher and his appointment as Archbishop of York (1929-40) was a popular one. His influence also led to the formation of the British Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. During the 2nd World War he jointly founded the Council of Christians and Jews to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice in Britain.

As Archbishop of Canterbury (1942-44) Temple became an outspoken advocate of social reform and became involved in the campaign against unemployment, poverty and poor housing. He believed in the rights of all people, whether rich or poor, and was a leading force for social justice. He was grounded in the problems of the working man and in his book *Christianity and Social Order* (1942) he shared his vision for all to have access to healthcare, education and decent housing. His radical thinking and activism played a foundational role in the formation of the British Welfare State.

Temple died aged 63 at Westgate-on-Sea, Kent on 26th October 1944. He was the first Primate of All England to be cremated and his ashes were buried in the cloister garden of Canterbury Cathedral. He is the last Archbishop of Canterbury to have died while in office.

80 years on, we still need courage and endurance - *The Revd John Crew*

This year is the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain – when the horrors of the Luftwaffe bombs were heavy over British skies. On this Remembrance Day we can only imagine the terror of living in Coventry, in Liverpool, in London during those months, 80 years ago. It must have seemed like the beginning of the end of the world.



It is a good time to stop and thank God that in the end, evil did *not* prevail. Hitler did not win the battle to dominate Europe. His expected 'rule of a 1000 years' lasted a mere 12 years (1933 to 1945). And we can thank God for the courage and endurance of our fathers and grandfathers, our mothers and grandmothers, in the midst of such towering darkness and destruction.

Sadly, 80 years on, the world is still at war. Man's greed, arrogance and desire for domination have not gone away. There are still battles to be fought for our land, major problems to be solved. Coronavirus, economic uncertainty, terrorism, climate warming... the threats are different from Hitler, but our need for courage, endurance and perseverance is the same.

It is a good time to pray for our nation and ourselves, to turn to God in repentance and in faith, to 'walk more nearly' and 'follow Him more clearly'. It is a good time to be ready to serve our God and serve our neighbour in whatever ways lie open before us.

The destruction of Coventry - by *Tim Lenton*

German Luftwaffe bombers virtually destroyed the city of Coventry – including its medieval cathedral – 80 years ago this month, on 14th November 1940.

Coventry was targeted by 'Operation Moonlight Sonata' as an industrial city, but more than 4300 homes were destroyed and about two-thirds of the city's buildings were damaged. There were many direct hits on the cathedral, and flames spread quickly. More than 550 people were killed and over 850 badly injured, with nearly 400 sustaining lesser injuries.

There would have been more casualties, but many citizens left at night to sleep in nearby towns or villages after earlier air raids. Rumours that Churchill knew of the raid in advance but declined to take precautions to prevent the Germans knowing their code had been broken were later shown to be misguided.

Joseph Goebbels later used the term *coventriert* ('coventried') to describe high levels of destruction in other towns.

The cathedral was left as a ruin, still standing today as a reminder of the bombing. A new cathedral was built close alongside in the 1950s, designed by the architect Basil Spence. The Queen laid its foundation stone in 1956. It was consecrated in 1962, and Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* was composed to mark the occasion.

FROM THE PARISH ANNUAL MEETINGS

This year the annual parish meetings could not take place in the Spring as would normally be the case because of the national "lock-down" occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic. For quite some time it was unclear when / whether there would be any meeting this year. Given that it is at the annual meetings that various parish officers are elected and the financial annual reports are formally adopted, they are important occasions. Eventually we were advised by the Diocese that parish annual meetings have to take place before the end of October one way or another. This being the case our meetings were held on Sunday 25th October as part of our morning worship.

There are in fact two meetings - both being attended by 19 parishioners.

The first the "Annual Meeting of Parishioners" is open to all parishioners and the main item of business is to elect two churchwardens. There were two nominations, Colin Strong and Kathy Bird and they were duly elected.

The second is the "Annual Parochial Church Meeting" and attendees need to be on the church's electoral roll. The main business of this meeting is:-

- * To receive the revised electoral roll which this year showed a net increase of 2 people with a total membership of 54.
- * To approve the annual report and financial accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019. Copies

of the reports are available on the church website.

- * To elect 2 representatives to the Deanery Synod for a period of 3 years. Kim and Chris Ford were the only nominations and were duly elected.
- * Normally elections of PCC members would take place but this year the current members will continue until the next APCM . The present members are Janice Fawsitt, Geraldine Riddles, Sheila King, Norman King, Pam Painter, Patricia Strong.
- * To appoint an Independent Examiner of Accounts and the meeting agreed to approach Mr. Peter Chandler to see if he was willing to continue in this role for another year.

In her Minister's remarks Revd. Michèle said how much she had enjoyed her first year as Priest in Charge of the parish although, particularly with the COVID situation it had been very demanding. She thanked all those who had made her so welcome and particularly those that had been the "core team" in the life of the church.

Before the meeting closed churchwarden Colin thanked Michèle for all her hard work and commitment and expressed the gratitude of the parishioners that she had chosen to minister here.



REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people would remember what God had done for them by building monuments made of stones and by holding festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.



READ Joshua 4:1-9 and Exodus 12:1-14

Today we too build monuments to remember and hold services of thanksgiving like **Harvest** and **Remembrance Sunday**.



Is there anything you would like to thank God for?



REMEMBRANCE • SACRIFICE • VICTORY • TRIUMPH • MONUMENT
ROCK • PILE • OBSERVE • TRIBUTE • COMMEMORATE • RECALL • OFFERING
HONOUR • CELEBRATE • PRAISE • REJOICE • THANKSGIVING • DAYS
FESTIVAL • EASTER • PENTECOST • HARVEST • CHRISTMAS



We are now open for public worship at both St. Catherine's and St. Francis. With COVID-19 we have procedures to ensure that the buildings are safe. Please take care to follow the directions when you arrive. The Wednesday "drop-in" will also restart in a COVID safe manner with "Table service" refreshments.

1 Nov	All Saints Day	
	"Shoebox" Family Service	10.00am
	Holy Communion and the remembering of loved ones.	4.30pm
4 Nov	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10.00am
	Community support "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.30am - noon
5 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
7 Nov	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
8 Nov	Remembrance Sunday	
	"Service of Remembrance" (Not at the Bata Memorial)	10.30am
	Coalhouse Fort historical society service of Remembrance	2.00pm
	Holy Communion and act of Remembrance	4.30pm
11 Nov	Service of Remembrance at St. Catherine's	10.45am
	Community support "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.00am - noon
12 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
14 Nov	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
15 Nov	3 rd Sunday before Advent	
	Parish Communion	10.00am
18 Nov	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10.00am
	Community support "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.30am - noon
19 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
21 Nov	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
22 Nov	Christ the King	
	Parish Communion	10.00am
25 Nov	Holy Communion (St Francis)	10.00am
	Community support "Drop In" at St. Francis	10.30am - noon
26 Nov	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
28 Nov	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
29 Nov	1 st Sunday of Advent	
	Parish Communion	10.00am

Occasional Offices during September

Baptisms

None

Weddings

None

Committal of ashes

4 Oct Barry Palmer

Funeral

8 Oct Derek Turner

A Soldier's prayer

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for –
But everything that I had hoped for,
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed.



This is the month we remember soldiers and war. So, here is a prayer written by an anonymous confederate soldier in the American Civil War. What he says applies to all of us fighting our own private battles in life.....Ed

The Parish

The Priest in charge

REVD. MICHÈLE MARSHALL

The Rectory

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Stanford-le-Hope

Essex, SS17 0QA.

Telephone: 01375 671754

email: mjmarshall@fastmail.co.uk

The Services

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service at St. Catherine's
Except 1st Sunday of the month when we have
"The Family Service"

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact the Priest in Charge.

The Churchwarden

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St. Francis Centre

The centre is available for hire for regular events when not used by the Church. To check availability please contact:

PATRICIA STRONG

patricia.a.strong@outlook.com

Copy Dates for Pewtalk

22nd November 2020

20th December 2020

24th January 2021