



# St Paul's Church

Dear all,

Having returned from my jaunt across the north of England I took the opportunity to dig up the remaining crop of potatoes from the garden. It must be said that they do taste so much better when home grown, although, sadly, there were not as many in the ground as I thought there might have been – perhaps the drought had something to do with that.

As I worked in the garden it was apparent that the season is gradually changing, and the cooler weather and shorter days are on their way. As things cool down, I am sure that our minds will turn to how long we leave it before turning the heating on, bearing in mind the increasing costs – for many this will be a time of great anxiety over this issue. As a result, the part that Foodbanks play in alleviating some of the burden of the cost of living is going to be even more crucial this coming winter and I am grateful to all who have contributed, across the community, to the Harvest donations that have been, and are still being, collected in our churches, in addition to the ongoing collections that take place.

***He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.***

***And what does the LORD require of you?***

***To act justly and to love mercy***

***and to walk humbly with your God.***

(From the Old Testament prophet MICAH 6:8)

As we move on beyond Harvest the next significant event that comes to mind is Remembrance Sunday on the 13<sup>th</sup> November. Please also note that on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November there will be a Commemoration Service in St Nicholas Church at 2.30pm – all are welcome to come as we remember loved ones that we have lost, and if you would like their name mentioned in that service, please let me know.

Blessings,

Rev Chris

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

***All services are in church, zoom is available for some services.***

**SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – TRINITY 17**

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Chris (Zoom)

**SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – TRINITY 18**

10 am Experimental Sunday – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER – TRINITY 19**

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

**SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER – TRINITY 20**

10 am Holy Communion – Rev Anthea (Zoom)

**SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER – TRINITY 21**

10 am Café Service – Gwyn

## **EVENTS**

### **SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

7:30 pm - Boxley Church 'An evening of superb jazz with Dr Jazz and Lyn Falvey'

Adults £10, Children £5 - Tickets from Gill Munson 01622 630231, Jackie Saunders 01622 677121 or on the door. Proceeds to 'The Friends of Boxley Church' - car parking available.

### **THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

12 noon for 12.30 pm - MOTHERS' UNION - Harvest Lunch @ 'The Bull'

### **THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

12.30 pm - FELLOWSHIP - Making gift boxes - *Sue Pamphlet*

### **FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

7-9 pm Craft Group – church

### **FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

St Paul's Baby & Toddler Group

## **FOOD BANK**

The next delivery will be on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

## **PRAYER RESOURCE**

### **Prayer Resource for Harvest 2022**

*'To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.'* (Ecclesiastes Ch 3)

We give thanks for:

- God's generosity: may we all celebrate it within our church's ministry and mission.
- Late flowering plants and berries brightening up our gardens at this time of the year.

Please pray for:

- The life of the world: that every nation may seek the way that leads to peace, that human rights and freedom may be respected and that the world's resources may be ungrudgingly shared among all.
- Syria, as climate change and conflict have led to a severe shortage of water and many reported cases of cholera; pray that there will be access to safe drinking water and that the cholera outbreak can be quickly contained.
- Pakistan, that the floodwaters and high level of disease due to stagnant water recedes and that aid agencies continue to provide emergency and essential supplies.
- The provision of food and water for communities in Ethiopia affected by the expected hunger crisis caused by another failing harvest.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Joan, Gilly, Hazel, Edith, Pat, Alice, Jill, Trevor, Tony, Maureen, Carol and Margaret; and for Ruth, Helen, Meaghan, Libby and Richard.
- As we start a new month, let us pray for God's blessing on our lives, our activities and work, on our relationships and as we rest.

**You may like to use this prayer during this Harvest time:**

***Gracious God, I pray for everyone in this world who is hungry or thirsty. Please show me ways, however small, in which I can join with you in your mission to end injustices such as hunger and thirst. Amen.***