



WELLOW & SHERFIELD ENGLISH Parish Newsletter November 2023



Letter from our Vicar, Rector and Area Dean

The Churches in the Deanery were beautifully decorated for Harvest Celebrations – I hope that you managed to see some of them! Lots of food was taken to Trussell Trust Foodbanks – thank you. November is a time for remembering... Each year it is often the custom to hold a service (near to All Souls' Day, 2nd November) at which we remember those who have died, particularly those who have died recently. For Remembrance Sunday (12th November), there will be a wide selection of events to help us remember – there is certain to be one near you.

Next month, it is Advent and Christmas! In Advent (starting 3rd December with a Service of Light in several churches across the Deanery) we prepare for Christmas (and our diaries fill up !), remembering the coming of God to earth as a vulnerable child. Next month our magazines and newsletters will be full of details for Advent and Christmas events and services. I hope that you will find time, and make time, in November, to remember and to prepare – perhaps with some times of quiet?

Your Area Dean, James

Revd James Pitkin - romseyareadean@gmail.com

Letters from Churchwardens

St Margaret's, East with West Wellow

November is a time for reflections, with All Souls quickly followed by Remembrance Sunday, but also for looking forward with Advent and the start of the new Church year coming soon after the turn of the month.

On Remembrance Sunday we will welcome the new Chairman of the Parish Council and other elected representatives, as well as the uniformed youth organisations plus trumpeters from Mountbatten School, to our annual Remembrance Service. I pay tribute to our Councillors for taking on what is often a thankless task, and also to the leaders of the youth organisations for their commitment to the young people in our village, not forgetting the teachers in the primary and secondary schools. All Souls could be an occasion to remember our own teachers, especially those who may have particularly helped us.

For the new Church year, the appointment of a House for Duty Priest is now "with the Bishop". Let us hope that early in 2024 we will have a priest living in the village again and present in the community.

On a personal note I am grateful for all the cards and gifts and expressions of goodwill received following Veronica's heart operation. She, poor girl, is now dependent on my nursing skills. Where is Florence Nightingale when you need her?

Roy Perry, St Margaret's Churchwarden

Message from Peter Castle [Methodist Local Lay Pastor, Landford, Wellow and Canada Common area] :

Last Thursday of the month "Reflections" services at the Methodist Chapel (Canada Common, West Wellow SO51 6DH – all at 1 p.m.) will continue to address the subject of "Incarnation".

30th November: "Incarnation the reality"

Contact pandcastle@hotmail.co.uk for further info.

St Leonard's, Sherfield English

The big news from October is that, on the 19th, we held an interview for the assistant priest role to work alongside our new incumbent Rector, the Reverend James Pitkin. It is too soon to give any certain news on the role as the matter is still in the hands of the Bishop, but hopefully we will know more in the next few weeks.

The next couple of months bring a few changes to our usual pattern. The service on 12th November will be a Remembrance Service starting at 10.45 a.m., rather than the usual 11 a.m. December diverts more from the usual – the service on 3rd December will be a family Christingle service rather than Communion, and the coffee morning will be a week later on 9th December. The carol service is on the 17th at 6 p.m. More in the next newsletter, as I am not a believer in starting to talk about Christmas TOO early. (No matter how necessary it seems to be these days!)

Since joining the Thorngate and Blackwater Benefice we now support a different charity every month. In November, because it is the month of Armistice, we will be supporting Blind Veterans UK (formerly called St Dunstan's). The charity, founded in 1915, supports visually-impaired ex-servicemen and women; combatting isolation and helping them to rebuild their lives. As an impressionable teenager in the mid-1990s I met a blind veteran called Stephen who, at the age of just 18, had lost his sight in the Battle of Goose Green during the Falklands conflict. I have never forgotten the matter-of-fact way he spoke about his disability and how the charity had helped him, and he remains an ambassador for the charity to this day. In December we will be supporting the *Christmas Complete* mission by SCRATCH (Southampton City and Region Action to Combat Hardship), accepting both financial and physical donations of toys, gifts, etc. If you would like to help in the support of either of these important causes then do please get in touch.

Clare Durham, St Leonard's Churchwarden

St Margaret's Services and Events

St Margaret's Services, Readers and Sidespersons for November 2023

November 2023		Reader 1	Reader 2	Sidesperson
Thur 2nd November	All Souls Service 7.00 p.m.	Celebrant Roy Perry		
5th	Holy Communion 9.15 a.m.	Carl Donnelly	Margery Thomas	Margery Thomas
12th	Remembrance 10.45 a.m. followed by Parade at War Memorial, Romsey Road	Special Service	Readers	John Parr
19th	Holy Communion 9.15 a.m.	Sue Amey	Brian Scott	Sheila Scott
26th	Holy Communion 8.15 a.m. Matins 9.15 a.m.	Paul Newby	Sue Forsey	Paul Newby
3rd December (Advent)	Holy Communion 9.15a.m.	To be advised		

22nd November: PCC Meeting

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER, CHRISTMAS MARKET IN WELLOW VILLAGE HALL, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Soups, teas and other light refreshments will be available. There will be the usual range of tables selling gifts, cakes, jewellery, chutneys, etc., etc., as well as raffles and draws for a variety of prizes.

TO CONTRIBUTE GOODS, PRIZES OR OFFERS OF HELP, PLEASE CONTACT LESLEY MACKAY (01794 322570)
who will guide you to the relevant table organiser or may still be able to take bookings for additional table(s).

Meanwhile, every week in the Church Rooms : (Transport can be arranged if needed)
Seasonal Lunch, Tuesday from 12 noon; Coffee and Chat, Thursday from 10.30 a.m.

Advance notice: Joint Churches' CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE in WELLOW VILLAGE HALL Sunday 10th December at 2.30 p.m.

St Leonard's Services and Events

5th November – Holy Communion (Revd James Pitkin)

12th November (10.45 a.m.) – Remembrance (Julia Noble/Clare Durham)

19th November – Family Service (Revd James Pitkin) **26th November** – Morning Prayer (Clare Durham)

3rd December – Christingle Family Service (Revd James Pitkin)

[All services in St Leonard's are at 11.00 a.m., except Remembrance at 10.45 a.m.]

The following events also take place in St Leonard's Church (10.30 a.m. to 12 noon):

Saturday 4th November – Coffee Morning Saturday 9th December – Coffee Morning

Also, 29th November at 7.00 p.m. : PCC Meeting

Lectionary Listings for use in both Churches

Date	Sunday	Old Testament Reading	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel Reading
2 Nov	All Souls (Thursday)	Wisdom 3.1-9	Psalm 23	Romans 6.3-9	John 6.37-40
5 Nov	4th before Advent	Micah 3.5-12	Psalm 43*	1 Thessalonians 2.9-13	Matthew 24.1-14
12 Nov	Remembrance	Amos 5.18-24	Psalm 70	1 Thessalonians 4.13-18	Matthew 25.1-13
19 Nov	2nd before Advent	Zephaniah 1.7,12-18	Psalm 90.1-8[9-11]12*	1 Thessalonians 5.1-11	Matthew 25.14-30
26 Nov	Christ the King	Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24	Psalm 95.1-7	Ephesians 1.15-23	Matthew 25.31-46
3 Dec	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

In case of ambiguity, Readers should not hesitate to consult the Celebrant to check which variant is required.

St Margaret's Church, East with West Wellow and St Leonard's Church, Sherfield English

<https://www.sherfieldenglish.org.uk/st-leonards-church>

<https://www.stmargaretswellow.co.uk/>

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