



Sunday 14th November – Remembrance Sunday

Dear Friends, welcome to this week's Newsletter for all our friends and neighbours of Burchetts Green Parish.



This Remembrance Sunday we have a Parish Communion service (BCP) at Stubbings at 8am, and traditional Services of Remembrance at each of our three churches incorporating a 2 minutes silence.

For the Services of Remembrance, you are asked to assemble in church (Littlewick Green and Hurley) or by the War Memorial (Stubbings) promptly at 10.45am. Please remember to sanitise your hands as you enter church.

Services for Remembrance Sunday 14th November:

8am	Stubbings	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.45am	Stubbings	Remembrance Sunday Service
10.45am	Littlewick Green	Remembrance Sunday Service
10.45am	Hurley	Remembrance Sunday Service

This Sunday we remember together those who gave their lives that we might live in peace and freedom, as well as those who have lived with the injuries and mental scars as a result of war. We honour their courage and mourn their sacrifice. We regret that it was necessary, but we are unendingly grateful to them. And we commit ourselves to work for the removal of warfare, terrorism and violence. We pray for the fallen. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

These men and women gave their lives to protect the life of our nation, our communities, and our families; they fought because they wanted their families, friends, children and generations yet unborn to be able to flourish, to know love and compassion, to be educated, cared for, and enjoy life. To defend us against cruel injustices and tyranny that squash our humanity and destroy community.

It seems to me, then, that the best way of honouring the sacrifice of these men and women is to make sure we don't squander the peace and freedom that they fought for and won for us. That we continually seek to build communities and a nation where all can flourish and none is marginalised. That no-one is deprived of the basics of life – a place to live, the food they need, healthcare provision, a good education, and meaningful work with fair remuneration. A nation that roots out discrimination and refuses to marginalise, a nation that cares for those in difficulty and the disadvantaged, a tolerant nation that lives by fairness and where justice is available to all. A nation that seeks to help in whatever way we can those who are driven out of their own homes elsewhere and made refugees by the threat of intolerance and violence. To work for these things, and to pray for them, is to build on the foundation of those whose sacrifice makes it all possible for us here, in this nation, today. It is to honour their sacrifice in the way that we live our lives, and the priorities

that we set. And it requires constant vigilance over our national life, our local communities, and our own hearts.

If we are to honour the memory of those who gave their lives in order that we might live in freedom, don't we owe it to them to use that freedom well and to ensure we have a flourishing nation (and planet, remembering COP26 and the threat of climate change) to pass on to future generations?

Advance Notice – Parish Administrator post. We will shortly be advertising for a permanent, part-time Parish Administrator based in The Soltau Centre, Stubbings, starting sometime in January. We anticipate 15-20 hours per week, preferably across 5 mornings but there is some flexibility for the right person. If you think you might be interested, do drop me an email revjohnainslie@gmail.com Our current administrator, Sue Wilkins, is unfortunately unable to continue longer term.

The **Covid Pandemic** has not gone away, but thankfully vaccination means this is much less likely to result in serious illness or fatality than when the pandemic first hit. We remain cautious and we ask that everyone who enters our church buildings, The Soltau Centre or the Priory Room please remembers to sanitise your hands on entering and exiting the building. If you come to a communion service you will be asked to wear a face covering (unless you are exempt) when coming forward to receive communion.

Parish Office. The Parish Office is open for visitors and phone calls three mornings a week – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9am to 12 noon. On other days, emails will be attended to on a daily basis. **I can usually be contacted** on revjohnainslie@gmail.com and 01628 629827 (do leave a message on the confidential answering machine if I don't answer).

Services next Sunday, 21st November:

9.15am	Littlewick Green	Family Eucharist
10.30am	Hurley	God in Quiet
11am	Stubbings	Holy Communion (BCP)



Our churches are open for private prayer this week:

- St John's Littlewick Green – open every day 11am – 4pm
- St Mary the Virgin Hurley – open every day 8am – 5pm
- St James-the-Less Stubbings – open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9am – 12 noon

For our prayers:

For the COP26 Climate Conference. That the momentum achieved over recent weeks will be maintained leading to bold and effective action. That the promises made will be honoured. That the financial arrangements needed to assist developing countries would be put in place, and that the developed nations would honour their pledges of financial assistance.

For peace with justice within and between nations. For the removal of violence, hatred and bitterness from all relationships between individuals and between nations and peoples. For the defeat of terrorism.

For our armed services, especially those on active service at this time. For those service men and women bearing the physical, mental and emotional scars of warfare. For Royal British Legion and other charities who work with injured and elderly ex-service men and women. For those who have died in the defence of freedom, and for their families.

For our national and local political life, for the defence of freedom, fairness and justice in our land, the removal of discrimination and marginalisation, and care of the disadvantaged, poor, weak and marginalised.

For those of our Parish in any kind of need, sickness, anxiety, fear or loneliness, and for those who help them. For the homeless and those on the margins of society, and those in financial hardship; for the work of Maidenhead Foodshare and those who are dependent upon it.

For the recently departed, especially Iris Egginton, and for all who mourn the death of a loved one at this time.

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen



If you are unable to join us in Church for whatever reason, there are many livestream and recorded services available online. I continue to recommend the daily and Sunday services from Canterbury Cathedral at <https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/worship/online-worship/>

Keep safe, be gentle on yourself, and remember that with God by your side you need never be alone.

With love and prayers,

Fr John Ainslie