



OUTLOOK



November
2025

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The Parish of St. Thomas, Mellor

Registered charity No. 1130414

Vicar: Revd Andrew Tawn, The Vicarage, 51 Church Road, Mellor

Email revandrewtawn@gmail.com Tel 0161 604 4993

Parish Office: The Mellor Centre, Church Road, Mellor, Stockport SK6 5LX

For all enquiries and bookings for the church & Mellor Centre please contact 0161 484 5079 or email office@mellorchurch.org. The office is open Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12.30pm

Parish Office Admin Val Wallace (Mon, Wed, & Thurs mornings)

Church Wardens Alex Eggeman 07772849657

Mary Heijbroek 0161 427 3241

PCC Treasurer Richard Elliott contact via Parish Office

Assistant Treasurers David Butterworth, Andrew Sanders

Gift Aid Secretary Karen Greenough

PCC Secretary Julie Elliott, 64 Ernocroft Road 0161 427 5981

Director of Music Tom Howling (email: t.howling@nhs.net)

Elected Members of PCC Ian Dayes, Julie Elliott, Richard Elliot, Rachel Howling, Sylvia Knight, Anthony Langford, Carol Langford, Angie Stanton, Emma Wilson (Safeguarding Officer), Sian Yeowell,

Deanery / Diocesan Mary Heijbroek/Rachel Howling/Judith Shiel

Churches Together in Helen Kennedy/Judith Shiel

Marple

Pastoral Care Grp Co-Ord Lesley Futchter 0161 449 0977

Editors of Outlook Magazine Julia Mann and Maggie Williams

We welcome articles for Outlook which should be submitted to the editors (preferably by email) to melloroutlooksubmissions@gmail.com - please note earlier deadline for the December issue is November 8th please.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2025

2 Sun All Saints Day & All Souls	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
	4.00 pm	All Souls service (no service at 6.30 pm)
5 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
8 Sat	7.30 pm	Choir concert - John Rutter's Requiem
9 Sun Remembrance Sunday	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
	12.15 pm	Act of Remembrance, Mellor War Memorial, Longhurst Lane
	3.00 pm	Messy Church
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)
12 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
14-16 Fri-Sat	weekend	Choir at Fort Belan
16 Sun 2nd Sunday before Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)
19 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
23 Sun Sunday next before Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	ExtraOrdinary Time Communion
	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (Parish Centre)
24 Mon	7.45 pm	PCC meeting
26 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Parish Centre)
30 Sun 1st Sunday of Advent	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Advent Carol Service

Prayer Group meets every Monday from 10.30am to 11am (Mellor Centre)
Women's Evening Fellowship meets on the second Wednesday at 2pm (Mellor Centre)
Toddler Group meets in term time on Thursday each week 10am—11.30am (Mellor Centre)
Knit and Natter meets on Thursday each week 10.30am –12 noon (Mellor Centre)
The choir practises each week on Friday at 6.30pm (church)



Vicar's Viewpoint

Gratitude

I have been reflecting on gratitude recently. It was the theme for our excellent weekend for young people at Edale; thank you to the leadership team for that! And it was also our theme for Harvest Thanksgiving at the beginning of October; and thank you to the flower arrangers and all who brought harvest gifts. The church looked - and smelled - amazing!

Gratitude is an act of politeness: we say thank you to those who have given us something or done something for us. Sometimes showing gratitude can be a mere formality, like the thank you note I wrote as a teenager to my great aunt for the hideous tie she gave me for Christmas. But when gratitude is meant and comes from the heart, it is also something we feel inside.

And we know from scientific studies, that feeling gratitude is very good for our health. It increases our sense of optimism, happiness and positive mood. It reduces stress. It makes us less materialistic (because you can't buy the things we are most grateful for - like love, friends, nature). It is linked with better physical health: better sleep, less fatigue, and more energy. It helps to develop greater resilience, patience, humility and wisdom. It strengthens relationships, increases the likelihood we will help others, and leads to a greater sense of fulfilment.

When someone we love gives us a gift, we feel a double gratitude: we appreciate the gift itself, and we treasure it all the more because it reminds us of the love of the one who gave it to us. I love being

here in Mellor; I often think I must be the luckiest vicar in the country. But I also believe that the chance to be here is a gift from God and for that I give thanks every day. When I look out over the beautiful view from the church door, I feel doubly thankful: for the beauty of the countryside and also for God who made this beautiful world. And this fits with research showing that people who are religious have higher levels of gratitude than the rest of the population.

We can actually increase our feelings of gratitude. Each evening, look over the day that is ending and think of three things to be grateful for and give thanks. When I do this, I often recall positive things I might otherwise have forgotten or taken for granted. If you make a habit of doing this, it can boost your wellbeing.

I hope the following quotations may inspire you to ‘count your blessings’:

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues. (Cicero)

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. (Melody Beattie)

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy - they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. (Marcel Proust)
When we focus on our gratitude, the tide of disappointment goes out and the tide of love rushes in. (Kristin Armstrong)

God bless you,

Andrew

All Souls Service

Sunday 2nd November 4pm

This is an annual service of remembrance of those we have loved who have died before us. There will be a chance to light a candle during the service. If you have any names of the departed you would like including, please let Revd Andrew know. Families for whom we have taken a funeral over the past year have been invited both to the service and tea and cake in the Mellor Centre afterwards. All are welcome—and offers of cakes will be very gratefully received!



Concert of Remembrance

Mellor Church Choir

Director - Tom Howling Organ - John LeGrove
Cello - Stephen Threlfall, Oboe - Zoe Glossop, Flute - Sylvia Knight
Soprano solos: Hannah Scott and Eleanor Rossier

Rutter Requiem

with other seasonal music

composed by Parry, Grieg, Arbo, Shephard, Ireland

7pm Saturday 8th November

St. Thomas' Church, Church Rd, Mellor, SK6 5LX
Retiring collection in support of St Thomas' Church, Mellor.



Alternative Advent

Once again, please bring to church on each Sunday in Advent a gift for Wellspring or Wood Street Mission as below.



- 30 November Chocolates
- 7 December Toiletries
- 14 December Underwear - medium and large
- 21 December Tinned meat for sandwiches, wrapped biscuits like KitKats or similar.

Many thanks to you all

Fair Trade & Eco Christmas Fair

The Fair will be held on Saturday November 15th in the Stockport Guildhall on Wellington Road, right opposite Stockport College. There are bus stops right outside, and parking behind the building. The event will run from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm and there will be lots of lovely and interesting (and ethical) goods and presents to buy. Hope to see some of you there.



Advent Calendars

I have ordered a box of Advent Calendars to be sold on a first-come-first-served basis. They contain Christmas story activity booklets and Fair Trade chocolates and cost £4.95 each. I will

put a list in church for people to order and can bring them to church or deliver to your door. If you don't want one for yourself, how about buying one for the Food Bank? I will deliver these.



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Mellor Birds



Emma sent me a photo of a pheasant walking around their lawn on Townscliffe, which they were very surprised to see.



There has been news on the

Mellor Green Team WhatsApp group that Alvin has been very busy making and putting up 25 bird boxes around the Meadows Farm. They are different sizes and shapes to suit different birds.



When I saw dippers opposite the Post Office, I had tied up Chloe the labrador puppy for the first time there. When I came out two ladies were talking to her. They had just had Afternoon Tea in the Norfolk Arms, which they had won as a raffle prize at the Church Fête. They said it was a fabulous tea. We then realised they had met a tiny Chloe two months previously when they picked up the raffle prize voucher at my home!

As there seems to be some interest in Chloe swallowing a sock, a follow on is.... that while I was hanging out the washing a couple of weeks ago, when I finished, I was a sock short. Then I turned around to see Chloe with the toe end of my husband's sock disappearing down her mouth. I was not going to worry, except that in 10 days time she was booked in to be spayed. So, she had the operation in the morning and in the afternoon she was sick and there was the sock. Yet again she showed no signs of being ill at all! I am trying to be super careful now.

Laughs with Lynda

I was on trial yesterday for stealing luggage.
It didn't take long, it was only a briefcase.

*Why do bees have sticky hair?
Because they use honeycombs.*

I used to play the piano by ear,
but now I use my hands.



Women's Evening Fellowship Event

(now meets at 2pm for winter)

Clarins Demonstration

Following hard on the heels of our most successful October meeting when, in addition to a talk and a fascinating cake decorating demonstration, thanks to the generosity of our speaker, we raised £85 for our charity, next comes our major fundraising event this month.

This takes the form of a **Clarins Demonstration** by Anu and her team on November 12th at 2pm in the Mellor Centre.

Tickets at £7 will include Prosecco or Buck's Fizz on arrival and coffee and tea and biscuits at the end.

There will also be Clarins goods on sale, a raffle and a Christmas stall.

All profits from ticket sales, the raffle and the Christmas stall will go to **Kinder Mountain Rescue.**

Feta and Spring Onion Bouikos Jill Baker

This is a recipe from Honey and Co. Makes excellent nibbles with drinks and freezes really well (I usually freeze uncooked, but I am sure cooked would be fine). Useful to have tucked away in the coming months. Feel free to double the mixture, I always do. The recipe makes 24.

Ingredients

- 50g cold butter cut into small cubes
- 40g mature cheddar cheese grated
- 40g feta crumbled
- 100g plain flour
- Pinch of salt
- 50 ml sour cream
- ½ tsp nigella seeds
- 2 spring onions chopped

Preheat the oven to 200C and line a baking sheet with parchment. Either by hand or in a stand mixer combine all the ingredients until they just hold together. Do not overwork. (I often freeze the dough at this stage.) Place the dough on a lightly floured surface and pat into a rough rectangle 2-3cm deep.

Cut the dough into triangles using a lightly floured knife. To do this cut the dough length ways then slice across three times, cut each rectangle diagonally to make triangles. Place on a baking tray and cook for 10 minutes. Turn the tray reduce the heat to 180C and bake for a further 6-8 minutes or until golden. Serve hot or warm. They are best eaten on the same day. *Ed MW, This is a very easy recipe to do and was well liked by my tasting testers*





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<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/mellorlta/Membership/Join>

Contact Lucy Greenaway for more information at
lucygreenaway@hotmail.co.uk

Mellor Sports Club. 215 Longhurst Lane. Mellor SK6 5PN

AS SEEN FROM COW CORNER

As autumn approaches, the cricket league administrators always decide that matches will commence an hour earlier than the usual 2.00pm start on Saturday afternoons. It is essential, therefore, to bat first, as in the descending gloom it can get very difficult to see the ball.



The less well-meaning captains always seem to contrive to bat first in these conditions, and coupled with the delaying tactics employed by the bowlers in retying their boot laces after every ball, and questioning the suitability of the ball at the end of each over, matters can get a little heated.

Fortunately, this year, the remaining fixtures have been played in near perfect conditions, when the last home match was against Heaton Mersey, who won the toss and elected to bat first. The opening batsmen made very slow progress against the steady and accurate Mellor bowling, as exemplified by one of the openers taking root, before being seventh out after scoring 32 runs. Inroads were eventually made into the defensive play and after using just four bowlers, Heaton Mersey were all out for 125 in 35 overs. Mellor's reply started disastrously, losing a wicket in the first over, followed by two more within the next four, and before the score had reached 20. The remaining opening batsman, however, showed considerable determination and ground out 40 runs and featured in a stand of over 50 in reaching the required total in the twenty-fourth for the loss of just four wickets.

And so, the final game of the season arrived, away at Cheadle Hulme. The Mellor captain, on winning the toss, and despite the prospect of gloomier conditions later in the afternoon, decided to field first. There was no luck for the Mellor bowlers, despite regular changes being made, in fact ten different bowlers were employed, excluding the wicketkeeper. Eventually the innings closed after 40 overs on a mammoth score of 243 for the loss of seven wickets, helped by a very forceful hundred by the number three batsman and by a lot of wides. Mellor were no match for the home side's bowlers and succumbed to 111 all out in the twentieth over, which included a dogged 34 from the opener, whilst just three others, and extras, got to double figures. So Mellor ended the season in the lower half of the league table, but the players will be back next year. Meanwhile the juniors enjoyed a better season than their senior counterparts, winning a knock out trophy and finishing in the top half of the division.

The club remains here to attract young people from diverse backgrounds and upbringing to the game of cricket, which can be enjoyable and where friendships can be made for life.

Silly Point

The Wandering Chorister

Carlisle Cathedral



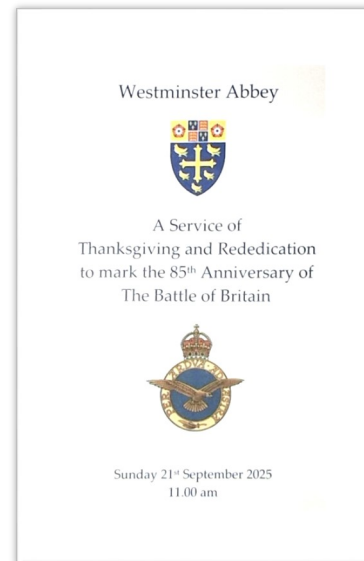
An Augustinian Priory, and a cathedral since 1133, Carlisle has two interior styles either side of the organ loft. Westward is solidly Norman, with only two bays left after border skirmishes. Eastwards the medieval choir stalls sit in a substantial nave with magnificent ceiling. My favourite feature is the board listing former organists. Playing here promotes a long life! Northern Cumbria is a joy. The people are lovely, there's a strong industrial and religious heritage, with a firm belief in education (one landowner founded The Queen's College Oxford), and travel. Cumbrians work all over the world.

I stayed at The University of Cumbria and crossed the city by streets of handsome Georgian and Victorian buildings, sampled the bars and eateries, and drank fantastic americanos at John Watts Coffee Roasters. The cathedral restaurant is modern and pleasant, well worth a visit. The choir room is adequate, if cosy, and we received a warm welcome from clergy and staff. I sang with The Harsnett Choir, who have been visiting cathedrals for over 20 years after their vicar decided their services were no longer required. A nice bunch, entry by audition.

A Special Service at Westminster Abbey

Maggie Williams

At the beginning of July I accepted an invitation from the ATAA (Air Transport Auxillary Association) to go to Westminster Abbey to mark the 85th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. My mother was in the ATA at Ringway during the war and organised pilots to fly aircraft from factories to the RAF airfields.



My husband's uncle, Dudley Williams DFC, flew in the Battle of Britain and survived the war.

I had not been to Westminster Abbey since my Godmother took me at age eight. I was really interested to see where all our ancient Kings and Queens are buried. My plan was to get the train down on Saturday, stay the night in Islington with Robert, Valeri and grandchildren and come back Sunday afternoon. Easy peasy?!

When I got to Marple Bridge Station at 7.45am on the Saturday morning it was

torrential rain and they had cancelled all trains to Manchester and had a bus replacement service. I was sent to the bus stop on the Pink Pakora side of the road but the bus came on the other side of the road. It took an hour, calling at all the train stations, to get to Manchester Picadilly. I was carrying my electric base guitar for my grandson, who was starting in a school band. Funnily enough when we were at Gorton Station, we were close to the pub where I used to play the guitar-in a punk band 50 years ago. The rest of the day went well, going to a nice music shop in the Barbican to get new guitar strap., and having Vodka Pizza to eat.

My son put an app on my phone called Citymapper, so I could see where I was walking. Then told me not to let people see I had a phone. Also beware that bikes in London take no notice of traffic lights, which is a big problem. Westminster Abbey only allows a small bag 30 by 40 by 25cm, in which I had my overnight things. As I left the house at 9am on Sunday, my generous daughter in law gave me a present for puppy Chloe of a Water Buffalo Horn. I spent the bus journey to Piccadilly Circus trying to stuff the buffalo horn into my small bag. Then I walked across Pall Mall and through St James's Park with pelicans. On arrival at Westminster Abbey at the Great West Door, there was metal fencing around a quadrangle for people to walk round. With a Lining party comprising of 34 men in uniform wearing lots of medals, standing to attention holding Standards.

Due to an administration error, I had not been sent a ticket. I knew I had to be seated by 10.30 am. They would not let me in until a Wing Commander had seen emails on my phone sent in July and proof of identity which was my driving licence,- then hidden in the water buffalo horn bag .By now it was well past 10.30 and the congregation were all seated. After giving my post code I was let in and an RAF Officer escorted me to my seat,which was up the central aisle, past the seats all looking towards the aisle. Past the Band of the RAF, under the 7 trumpeters, through the choir stalls and then just before the stairs to the altar, next to the pulpit we turned right. I

I think I sat about 3 rows back from where the Queen used to sit. I was then surprised to see, next to walk up the aisle, was Sir Keir Starmer, Kemi Badenoch, the Lord Mayor, Chief of Air Staff and Marshall of the Royal Air Force. who all sat opposite me in the choir stalls. The Abbey was completely filled up with RAF people. I have never seen so many medals.

(continued next page)

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Westminster Abbey continued...

At 11 o'clock the very moving service started. We stood while the Standard of No 29 Squadron of the RAF was borne through the church, presented and laid upon the High Altar. Later we stood for the Act of Remembrance.

The Battle of Britain Roll of Honour is borne from the Grave of the Unknown Warrior to the Sacrarium, led by a serving descendant from the Battle of Britain. We all sat for the address given by The Venerable Dr (Air Vice Marshall) Giles Legood Chaplain in Chief of the Royal Air Force. He was surprised there had been several Chinook helicopters flying over the Abbey during the service. He pointed out that The Battle of Britain pilots were not just from the UK. They came from all over the world and the RAF was much stronger for it.

Before we went outside to see the Lancaster bomber fly past, the Dean said,

“On this 85th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, let us rededicate ourselves to building a world in which there is justice and peace for all, and where each may live with human dignity.”

On the train back I sat among a school party from Bolton. The teenage girls were in their local air cadet corps and were trying to find out what the plane was they had seen flying over London. They were excited when I was able to confirm it was the Lancaster bomber and showed them the order of service which they photographed. As Churchill said

“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.”

Christmas (and other) Shopping *Judith Shiel*



Probably everyone except me has done most of their Christmas shopping by now, but just in case anyone is as dilatory as I am, here are a few ideas. It's a good idea to buy items which benefit not only the recipient but the person or group who made them as well. One way to do this is to shop on ethical and Fair Trade websites such as Fair Trader (<https://fairtrader.info>) which stocks homeware, bags, socks, things for children and goods produced by Zaytoun, a social enterprise which supports Palestinian communities via the Fair Trade system. Items include olive oil, dates, almonds in various forms, soaps and Zataar mix. Ethical Superstore (ethicalsuperstore.com) is another site well worth browsing. It stocks the most amazing variety of goods, from clothes and toys for children, cleaning products, home and garden accessories to lots of foods. Some are Fair Trade, all are ethically produced and you can search specifically for gluten or lactose free items. This is worth shopping from at any time, not just on special occasions. Some charities such as Embrace the Middle East (<https://embraceme.org>) sell a range of lovely gift items as well as alternative gifts – enabling Christian partner organisations working in Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Israel-Palestine and Syria to provide practical help, healthcare or training for teachers or nurses. Actual gift items include vibrant Palestinian ceramics and, poignantly, handmade glass tree decorations which are made by Muslim workers in Hebron and painted by Christian artisans in Bethlehem. The Leprosy Mission (leprosymission.org.uk) works to eradicate the disease and support people affected by it. They sell gloves and scarves, sweets, children's toys, jigsaw puzzles and lots more. The artisan gifts are made by people suffering from leprosy, or other disadvantaged groups, so they are being directly assisted. And if you want to shop locally do come to the Fair Trade and Eco Fair on Saturday 15th November from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm. It will be held at the Stockport Guildhall on Wellington Road (right opposite Stockport College) and there is parking behind the building. Lots of good things to browse.

Rose Queen Thea’s Cake Sales!



Crib Service Volunteers Needed



Can you help with the Crib services this year? We are looking particularly for help with costumes and wardrobe and would really appreciate help with preparing the costumes in early November, getting the costumes ready for the Dress rehearsal on 22nd December and in the Vestry on the day itself during both of the Christmas Eve services between 2pm – 6pm. If you can help either with costumes or with car park stewarding please contact julia.mann@uwclub.net. More information for children wishing to take part in next month’s *Outlook*. The Crib service Committee

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Report on September's PCC meeting

September's PCC meeting was a 'business' meeting, where we discuss issues around the running of the church rather than having a themed open discussion. There was a lot of business to cover, so I'll summarise the most significant : Firstly we had an update on the new Wifi arrangements for the church and Mellor Centre, and the fact these seem to be working satisfactorily. We also heard that Giselle Rusted, who has previously taken services and formed part of the ministry team at St Thomas', has been appointed as the new Vicar at Whaley Bridge. We thank her for all her service to our church, especially during the



A special thank you to **Libby's** for the wonderful harvest sheaf baked for our harvest service.

Interregnum, and congratulate her on her appointment. Given that Angie Stanton will also not be available for some weeks, Andrew will have less support available and so will not be able to take vestry groups unless someone else is available. Andrew reported that some items had inexplicably disappeared from inside the church. This included a cross from inside the Lady Chapel, and subsequently two green cloth hangings had gone missing from the lectern and the pulpit. It was decided that the church building should remain open, but the congregation should be asked whether they might know anything about this. Andrew informed the meeting that some disquiet had been expressed about the flying of flags from the steeple recently, and the fact that this may have been misread to have political connotations. When a Lacrosse team from the USA recently visited Mellor, the stars and stripes was flown as a goodwill gesture. This was unintentionally at the same time that President Trump visited the UK. Also, the St Georges cross was flown on VJ Day, but this now also has other political connotations. The Church of England actually has some quite strict rules on what flags can be flown when so it was agreed that there will be a list drawn up, of what flags may be flown when, and a notice displayed in the porch, for information. There was a discussion around the issue of allowing children and young people to begin taking Communion (Eucharist). Andrew has been consulting parents and members of the congregation, over a period, and preached a very helpful sermon on the issue. He reported that all the feedback he had received had been positive. Consequently the PCC held a vote and decided unanimously in favour of going ahead with including children in the receiving of Communion. Andrew will now inform the Bishop, and an Admission service will be planned, possibly for late November.

Julie Elliott. PCC Secretary



Bible Word Search

Apostles / Disciples



O	I	J	E	H	J	F	X	T	U	Q	R	H	T	B
S	W	I	B	M	A	A	V	Q	O	P	O	U	Q	S
T	J	W	E	L	U	A	M	L	B	N	H	B	G	Z
W	U	N	Q	B	J	Y	W	E	I	G	H	B	Z	E
E	D	B	F	H	U	Q	J	C	S	G	D	F	O	E
H	A	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	Q	C
T	S	L	T	I	S	B	H	H	S	W	O	W	C	U
T	H	Z	Q	A	Q	N	N	P	P	F	W	Z	G	B
A	G	A	M	G	O	K	U	H	X	J	E	S	P	F
M	B	O	D	M	P	J	J	R	Z	F	R	X	I	J
Y	H	R	I	D	F	H	R	J	N	H	D	F	L	C
T	C	S	S	V	A	E	R	V	A	M	N	P	I	Y
H	P	T	W	X	T	E	V	P	H	U	A	D	H	O
R	K	Z	C	E	K	A	U	J	A	M	E	S	P	R
G	E	F	P	E	W	T	B	S	M	B	Y	C	O	Z

Word list:

PETER
ANDREW
JAMES
JOHN
PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS
MATTHEW
JAMES
THADDAEUS
SIMON
JUDAS



Tibetan Guidance

I recently visited a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery in Scotland and the following passage was in the brochure and really made me think:

The Five Golden Rules for staying at the Monastery are:

- 1. To protect life and refrain from killing.*
- 2. To respect other's property and refrain from stealing.*
- 3. To speak truthfully and kindly and refrain from lying.*
- 4 To cultivate health and refrain from all intoxicants.*
- 5. To respect others and refrain from sexual misconduct.*

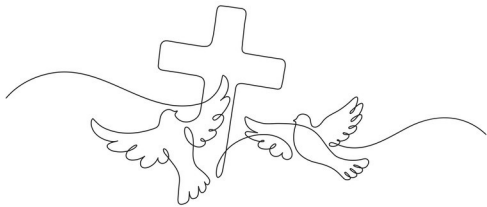
Wouldn't the world be a better place if everyone lived by those rules?

Alison Allcard

From The Registers
Christenings

We welcomed into God's family
Sophia Grace Bonni Davies 21st September

Iris Mae Sweeney 5th October



Thought for the Month

Jenny Johnson

We shall surely hear again the words of the fourth verse of Laurence Binyon’s poem, now so familiar but no less eloquent. It first appeared in *The London Times* in 1914. How pitiful and sad it is that a century later there are still many mothers, far and wide and near, mourning their lost ones. There is no glory in any war, just heartbreaking and senseless loss of life. Surely it is good to read the complete poem **For the Fallen** and to pray for peace and for healing in our broken world.

For the Fallen
by Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill; Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into imoortal spheres,
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.
They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow,
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted;
They fell with their faces to the foe.

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.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England’s foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

The London Times (1914)

Prayer for the Month

God, star kindler
kindle a flame of love within us
to light our paths in days of darkness.

O God, sun warmer
warm us with your love
to melt the frozen hand of guilt.

O God, moon burnisher
burnish the shield of faith
that we may seek justice
and follow the ways of peace.

(from *The Pattern of Our Days* edited by Kathy Galloway)



Stewards Rota

	8.30am	10.00am
Nov 2	J Butterworth	S McAllister and C Starling
Nov 9	P Cunningham	R and J Elliott
Nov 16	J Shiel	A Muller and P Long
Nov 23	J Butterworth	P and L Forbes
Nov 30	P Cunningham	M Lowe and J Mason
Dec 7	J Shiel	K Hargreaves and C Langford

Please arrange your own substitute. If this is not possible contact Mary Heijbroek 0161 427 3241.

Flower Rota

Nov 2	All Souls	Dec 7	Advent
Nov 9	Remembrance Sunday	Dec 14	Advent
Nov 16	Margaret Lowe	Dec 21	Christmas Flowers
Nov 23	Emma Houghton	Dec 30	Christmas Flowers
Nov 30	Advent		

If you wish to change a date, need a key or have any query, please contact Jill Baker (07881 902533 or jillbaker427@hotmail.com)

Holy Dusters

Nov 2	J Burrows & E Wilson
Nov 9	S McAllister & M Williams
Nov 16	M & R Leng
Nov 23	P Cunningham & I Morris.
Nov30	J & D Butterworth
Dec 7	H Kennedy M. Lowe

Please arrange your own substitute. Any problems contact Mary Heijbroek 427 3241

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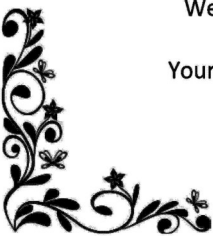
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