



November News

As we enter the month of November we celebrate the festivals of All Saints and All Souls and we bring to mind, as a nation, all those who have died in conflict. We remember the official saints of the church (All Saints) and all those known to us personally, (All Souls) family and friends who have walked alongside us on our path through life. On the 11th of November we remember all those men and women who have laid down their lives in various conflicts. So that today, we may enjoy the freedoms we take for granted in all areas of our daily life. As Christians we are a people of the resurrection. Death does not have the final word, it is not the end. Hebrews 12:1 tells us 'We are surrounded by a great cloud of witness'. Those in the past who have run the race with endurance, who saw Jesus, the supreme example of faith beckoning us on towards God's eternal Kingdom. The veil that separates us from those who have died is not permanent nor is it impenetrable. We run the race alongside them. During the service of All Souls we are invited to step forward and place a lighted candle on the alter in remembrance of those who have died. For hundreds of years Christians have placed these candles in our church. As we do so this year we join their prayers with ours. Surrounded by the cloud of witness and the eternal message of the resurrection, peace, healing and love of our eternal father who has conquered death.

Lynda

Regular events

Monday (term time only) Family Church 3.40pm in church – all welcome

First Wednesday of month Walking group 9.30 am at the Croft.
Church Poetry Group at 7pm.

Third Thursday of month 2pm Mothers' Union in the Croft

Upcoming Events

Sunday 3rd November Eucharist 9.00 am Orchard service (all age) 10.15am All Saints Day
All Souls Service 6pm

Sunday 10th November Eucharist 10.15am Remembrance Day

Sunday 17th November Eucharist 10.15am

Sunday 24th November Eucharist 10.15am Christ the King

Thursday morning 10.15am Eucharist at St Johns 7th, 21st St Michaels 14th, 28th.

Please note December 1st is Toy service. New, unwrapped, gifts for children in need please

Foundation Governor needed for St Michael's school - if you are interested, please speak to Rev Caroline or Paul Middleton or Stuart Durber

Christmas Fair - Donations wanted

Quality items **urgently** needed for the following stalls - tombola prizes; Christmas stall - handcrafted/new or preloved items; jewellery; books/jigsaws/board games and clean cuddly toys.

Donations can be left in the back of church from the 17th of November or alternatively from 9.00am on the morning of the fair. Home-made cakes and jams/chutneys/pickles/etc will be wanted on the day of the fair. Any queries phone Lesley on 0161 748 0819

St Michael's Church Christmas Fair

Saturday 30th November, 11.00 - 15.00, in the Croft and Church.

Refreshments, home-made cakes, raffle, tombola, pre-loved Christmas jumpers, crafted wooden items, Christmas stall, plus lots, lots more.

Join us for a Christmas sing-a-long with Marjorie and Michael from 14.15 - 15.00.

Be entertained by the Jolly Jingles school choir from 13.30 - 13.50.

Everybody welcome.

A book recommendation from Alison Pearse-Davis

Here is my recommendation - The Five People You Meet In Heaven by Mitch Albom. Not my usual choice as I tend towards the more gritty Scandi Noir. But this is a book I read as part of a book club I used to go to and it has left a lasting impression on me. It is about an elderly man who is killed in an amusement park accident. It starts on the day he dies and as the title suggests focuses on the first 5 people he meets in heaven. Fundamentally it is about how we are all connected to each other whether we realise it or not and how even the briefest encounter can have a huge impact on our lives. The only change I would make is to include animals as they can have as profound an impact on us as any human. There are definitely little Pugs in my heaven.

Walk for Wednesday 6th November

Meet at The Croft for 9:30.

We will catch the 10:00 am train from Flixton Station to Irlam Station.

From there, we will do the '3 Parks of Irlam' walk. This can be muddy but is mainly on paths. This takes approximately 1 and half to 2 hours.

The 12:12 train can then be taken back to Flixton.

Alternatively, you can stay for lunch at Irlam Station and take either 13:14 or 14:12 train back.

If preferred, you could meet us at Irlam Station at 10:05. There is limited parking at the station. However, there is plenty of free parking at Irlam Leisure Centre which is a 10/15 minutes walk away. (about 0.7 miles)

War Graves at St Michael's

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) has 1.7 million graves and memorials at 23,000 locations in 153 countries in every continent except Antarctica.

St Michael's Church has 24 war graves within the churchyard. There are 14 World War 1 graves and 10 World War 2 graves.

Not every churchyard in the UK has War graves, we are therefore grateful to be able to remember the soldiers, sailors and airmen from our local area who gave their lives so that we may live in peace.

The graves are spread throughout the churchyard and not always easy to find. We have been busy recently making the graves more visible and accessible. A pathway, with arrow signs to follow, has been made and a poppy placed on appropriate graves to make them easier to recognise.

With Remembrance Day fast approaching please feel free to wander and pay your respects at this remembrance time. If you would like a guided tour please speak with Janice or Bill either on Remembrance Sunday or on Monday 11th November.

It is recommended that you wear flat, sturdy shoes, and walk on the grass where possible.

Janice Ashton & Bill Pye

Gardeners extraordinaire

Poetry Group

For our next meeting, on November 6th, we are inviting people to bring a poem or two to share. Everyone welcome!

Please do consider writing something for this newsletter – the more contributors we have, the more interesting it will be!

Items for the next newsletter to be sent to : Revd Edith Disley edithdisley@hotmail.com by Nov. 22nd