

CHURCH ALIVE



St. John the Baptist
Midsomer Norton
November 2022
Price 50p

THE PARISH OF MIDSOMER NORTON WITH CLANDOWN

Vicar

The Revd: Guy Scott

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Radstock, BA3 3FS

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SERVICES

SUNDAY

8am Said Eucharist

10 a.m. Parish Eucharist

WEEKDAYS

Eucharist is celebrated on a Tuesday at 12 noon.

Baptisms, Weddings etc. by arrangement with the Vicar.

Communion at home for those unable to attend church it is easily arranged with the Vicar.

Safeguarding

Who should you talk to if you observe or are told about Safeguarding concerns?

Ann Munton, Parish Safeguarding Officer Tel: 07895038871

Email: midsomernortonsafeguarding@gmail.com

Diocesan safeguarding manager: Ben Goodhind, Tel: 07834 514842

Email: ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org



Church Alive
The Parish Magazine of
Midsomer Norton with Cladown
Volume 806 Number 11

GIFT DAY THANK YOU

The Gift Day held in September raised an amazing £3,500. Thank you to all who contributed to this figure.

Thank you again for your continued support to Parish life.



**Father Guy & St Johns Social Committee
invite you to**

**‘WELCOME TO ADVENT’
SUNDAY 27TH NOVEMBER AT 4PM
IN ST JOHNS CHURCH**

Advent, the time we prepare for the ‘COMING’ of our Saviours birth. Come along and sing or listen to some beautiful Advent Carols, Readings and Poetry.

Organist Mr David Moore, Soloist: Mr Geoff Miles.

Light refreshments will be served.

A lift can be arranged if needed phone Heather on 07882 734507

Some dates for November:

Tuesday 1st **All Saints’ day** - 12 noon Holy Eucharist &
7:30pm Sung Eucharist with incense.

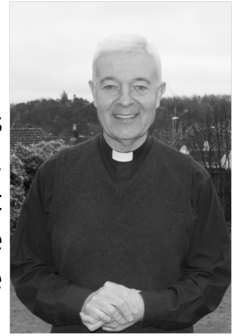
Wednesday 2nd **All Souls’ Day** - 12 noon Holy Eucharist
with Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Sunday 13th **Remembrance Sunday** 8am Holy Eucharist.
9:30am Parish Eucharist.

10:45am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial.

11:30am Remembrance Service in the Parish Church

Reflection from the Vicarage



Dear Friends,

There's no mistaking that autumn has arrived; nights are drawing in fast and winter approaches once again. As leaves fall from the trees and plants die back, it seems to fit the natural cycle that we spend time remembering and reflecting on all the bounty that we have enjoyed over the fruitful, 'growing' months.

November is, of course, a month for remembering. We begin as we mean to go on by remembering and giving thanks for all the saints, all those who have gone ahead of us in faith and whose stories cheer and inspire us, on All Saints' Day on the 1st. On the 2nd we will remember with love and gratitude the Faithful departed, recognising that we are all able to share worship of God, whether in this life or the next. We recall the deeds of Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators on the 5th, and give thanks that we live in more peaceful times in our country's history and that the flashes and bangs are fireworks to enjoy, rather than gunpowder. On the 11th we will observe with the whole nation a period of silent reflection to mark the signing of the Armistice Treaty to signal the beginning of the end of the First World War. On that occasion and again on Sunday 13th we will respectfully remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country, praying for their families, and pledging ourselves anew to the cause of peace. We will pray too for those serving in the Armed Forces, especially for those in combat, for those who support them, and those who watch and wait at home for their safe return.

All this remembering is, of course, in addition to the weekly act of remembrance in which we all share each and every communion service, when we commemorate the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, finding in our sharing of bread and wine encouragement and renewal on our own journeys of faith.

And in this season of remembering there is no harm in remembering our own baptism into the Christian faith, our own personal commitment to Christ, and our promise to encourage one another in the faith.

Don't forget, remembering can be a form of prayer.

Yours in Christ,
Guy

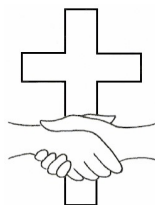


OCTOBER LADIES GROUP MEETING

In October Father Guy came to speak to Ladies Group. Rather than present to us, Father Guy suggested that we Have a question and answer session. This format worked Very well with everyone able to put questions. Father Guy Worked as a farm hand when he first left school and took some time to find his vocation as a parish priest. Over the course of his career he has worked in some quite different parishes - from the Isles of Scilly to Biggleswade. By the end of the evening we all felt that we knew Father Guy a little better.

Thank you Father Guy for a very interesting evening and thank you Lynn for hosting.

Our next meeting will be our AGM and will be held on Thursday 10th November at Ann Munton's house. If there is anything that you would like to see on the programme for next year please let a committee member know.



From The Registers

Christian Funeral

"May they rest in peace."

27th Sept	Richard Donald Wall
28th Sept	Caroline Susan Carter
29th Sept	Brian Henry Preston
5th Oct	Darren Ronald Cook
8th Oct	Paul Terry Brimble
8th Oct	Eilleen Barrett
14th Oct	Marc David Selway



ST JOHNS FRIENDSHIP GROUP

It was a really lovely pleasure to welcome Fr. Guy as our speaker at the October meeting. Visitors were welcomed. Margaret said prayers and Kathy did a reading.

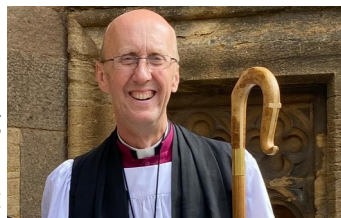
We remembered those members who were poorly and unable to join us. We gave thanks for the life of Mrs Margaret Austin who sadly died recently.

Fr. Guy said how pleased he was to be with us and thanked the group for inviting him. He said he wanted us to ask questions of him, which proved to be very interesting as it gave us the opportunity to be given, lots of very interesting information on Fr Guys life.

Margaret Wilton gave a vote of thanks to Fr Guy for giving us such an interesting and generous visit. Tea & biscuits were then shared.

On November 8th we have a meeting of 'Reminiscing'. Members are welcome to share memories from their life of just listen to others interesting stories. The meeting starts at 2:30pm in the Church Hall. Please feel free to come along.

A formal, and not so formal, Welcome



The final step of Bishop Michael becoming the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells will take place when he is installed at a service at Wells Cathedral on Saturday, 12 November.

While Bishop Michael legally became Bishop of Bath and Wells in June, and has already been out and about visiting parishes and deaneries, the service in November marks his formal welcome to the diocese.

People from across Bath and Wells, many of whom have been involved in the selection and interview process, will have a role in the service. They include school children and young people, people from church communities across Bath and Wells, community and charity representatives, and local leaders of other faiths.

On the morning of the service, which will take place at 3pm, Bishop Michael will attend morning prayer at Bath Abbey and travel back to Wells using a range of forms of transport, meeting and greeting the people of Bath and Wells along the way.

Bishop Michael says, "Before I was interviewed for the role of Bishop of Bath and Wells my wife Lizzie and I undertook a 60 mile walk around the diocese so it felt only fitting to undertake a similar pilgrimage on the morning of my installation. I hope to meet many people of Bath and Wells along the way as I travel by foot, electric bike, bus, tractor and lorry from Bath, through Peasedown St John, Chilcompton and back into Wells in time for the service."

The ticketed service will be livestreamed via the diocesan Facebook page so individuals and churches across the diocese and beyond can share in the occasion.

Walsingham 18th - 23rd SEPTEMBER 2022

It was with light hearts and great anticipation that 13 of us, including all 4 of our clergy and how blest we were to have them and 3 new pilgrims, Mary Grant and Jenny & Colin Chapman, set out after the 10am Mass from the car park. Our newcomers were Roman Catholics friends of Fr. Tony, who wanted to experience the Anglican Shrine. They proved to be excellent additions to our intrepid group and we were able to settle them into the routine of the pilgrimage quite quickly. The rest of us were old stagers for the most part, though Fr. Philip was a relative new boy of course having joined the Parish recently. Matthew Livsey by contrast, has made the Pilgrimage 31 times! We left just after 11:30am and apart from a desperately slow passage through Bath, made good time and reached Walsingham at 5:45pm, in time to tumble, in some cases quite literally, out of the mini bus having sung the Walsingham hymn for the last 15 minutes under the musical direction of Heather Hill. We gave Pete Winsley and Fr. Guy, our 2 brave drives, a resounding round of applause, before unloading and tottering off to our respective rooms to unpack, get a bit sorted out and get to supper by 6:30pm.

So much for the journey, now to the events of the week. We had our first visit to the Holy House at 8pm, the perfect start and thence by degrees to much needed bed. There is not any point in describing the daily routine. You will have to come with us next year to understand it all! Suffice to say that on each day Morning Prayers were at 8:30am followed by a hearty breakfast, Mass at 11am and an Evening service at 8:15pm every day. The services included a United Mass including all the Pilgrims from the many parish groups, some 200 of us in all, a Stations of the Cross service led by Fr. Guy, our own 11am services in the Shrine, a Healing Mass with sprinkling at the well in the Shrine, the evening procession lit by candles, all 200 of them, round the grounds and back to the Shrine for Benediction. We had free time to wander, shop, eat our lunches and walk the Holy Mile if we chose to.

On Wednesday we drove to Sheringham and spent time beside the sea. It was great fun and Fr. Guy braved the North Sea, or rather paddled in it. He said it was warm, I didn't believe him. His prize - the biggest ice-cream I have very seen. On Thursday we had a Lunch Party organised by Pat Clynes, Carol Moore and Heather Hill. It was a very happy gathering.

Perhaps I should mention the Bull, a pub just opposite the Shrine entrance. Religion is thirsty work! Some of us, in fact most of us, would return there after the evening service to chew the fat and enjoy the local beer or what else they had to offer.

On Friday we took an early breakfast and had our last service in the Holy House. We were very sad to leave and the return journey (with one or two diversions!) went well and we got back to St Johns about 5:45pm. We have already begun to plan for next year and we will keep you posted. It was a wonderful pilgrimage and will not be forgotten for a very long time.

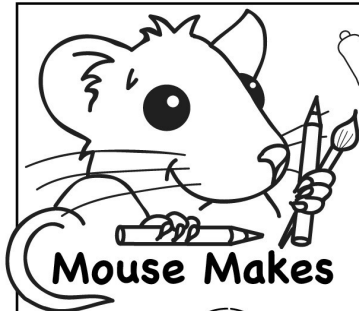
Extra special thanks go to Pat Clynes and Fr. Tony who did so much to make it all work.

Huw Pountney



Walsingham High Street looking towards the Shrine Shop and Village Pump.

Photo by Mary Gray.



THE COMING OF A KING

The birth of Jesus is fortold



God sent a messenger to Mary
What was the angel's name?

Luke 1:26-28



Mary was frightened,
what did the angel say?
Luke 1:30

What was Mary to
name her child?

Luke 1:31

What is her son
going to be?
Luke 1:32-33



READ
the story
in Luke
1:26-55

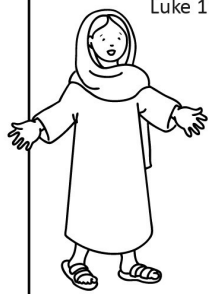


What does the angel
say about God?
Luke 1:37
(LEARN this verse)

What happened
to Elizabeth
when Mary
went to
visit her?
Luke 1:41



Mary praises God, what does
she say God has done?
Luke 1:46-55



Find the words
in the word
search and
the ___
words too.

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

ANGEL • MESSAGE • GOD • JOSEPH • MARY • BABY • SON • BORN
CHILD • THRONE • KING • REIGN • KINGDOM • HOLY SPIRIT • LORD
HOLY • WORD • ELIZABETH • BLESSED • SAVIOUR • REJOICE • PRAISE

HARVEST LUNCH

56 People joined together for a really enjoyable lunch. Fr Guy led us with a Grace to thank the Lord for all His love.

Thanks to Margaret Small, Sue Holley and Margaret Wilton, who along with members of the social committee made and donated delicious Apple Crumbles!

Many gifts of Harvest food were generously given, to be auctioned by Fr. Jim, who as usual, carried out the job of auctioneer in his own endearing way. Carol 'fed' Fr. Jim the food lots with which he quickly had people buying whether they really wanted them or not!

Thank you to everyone for your generosity, £245 was passed to the local Food Bank from which a very thankful letter has been received. £410 was raised for the Fabric Fund from the sale of tickets. Members of the social committee are very grateful to you all. Thank you.

ST. JOHNS CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER 10-12

I would be very grateful, if you think you could help with our Fayre in any way, please sign the list placed at the back of the Church. There are lots of jobs needed to make the Fayre a success.

-Someone who would be willing to Advertise the event

*People to organise and sell on a stall,

*People to organise & run a table game.

*A person to organise refreshments to sell, cakes etc. and people to serve them, or wash up.

We will be grateful for appropriate goods, needed on the stalls please. These can be placed in the boxes at the back of the Church: Raffle prizes.

Cakes for the Cake stall (on Friday afternoon on the 2nd or Saturday morning.

People to help prepare the Church for the Fayre on Friday 2nd December at 2pm and to help pack away at the end of the Fayre

PLEASE if you can help in any way. It is such a blessing to be able to welcome all visitors to their Church and let them know how welcome they are and how lovely it is to meet them.

Also, this year we are all aware of large price rises within our daily lives.

This also applies to our Church, especially on the subject of heating.

Thank you Heather 07882 734507

Called to walk the way of the cross



A message from the Rt Revd Michael Beasley,
Bishop of Bath and Wells

As I prepare to be installed as the 80th Bishop of Bath and Wells on the 12 November, I have been reading and re-reading the charge given to me by the Archbishop of Canterbury when I was legally confirmed as bishop back in June. The charge can be found on the diocesan website. Please do take a look at what it says.

The charge is terrifying. It calls me to walk the way of the cross. It urges me to rely not on my own strength, but on that provided by the Lord. The charge asks me to 'speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable' (Proverbs 3:18). It reminds me that I am to be the shepherd of the flock entrusted to me. It also includes calls to be committed to the highest standards of safeguarding and care of the environment.

Reading my charge makes me wonder whether I have been invited to impersonate the Archangel Gabriel! Thankfully it also includes words which act to make the whole thing possible. Chief among these is this phrase: I am called to 'build a church where each stone is valued'. Drawing on the writings of the First Letter of Peter (see Chapter 2), the charge calls me to remember that I'm not doing this all alone. We are doing it all together.

I've already been discovering this as I've travelled around Somerset attending worship in different churches and meeting new clergy colleagues. The installation will see people gather from across the county, committing together to our vision of 'Living and Telling the Story of Jesus'. Undertaking that task with authenticity and integrity is the greatest charge of all. It's one that I'm looking forward to sharing with you.

Every blessing
Bishop Michael

Date	Reader/Intercessions	Sides person
6th November	Heather Hill <i>Jim Ballistone Thicke</i>	K Gay, L Powell
13th November	Les Martindale <i>Carol Moore</i>	J Shears, M Small
20th November	Carol Moore <i>Ann Munton</i>	D Winter, J Winter
27th November	David Moore <i>Beth Davies</i>	N Barnett, P Clynes
If you have to swop or cannot do any of the dates, please can you let Beth or Hilary know. Thank you		



Coffee Rota	
6th November	Hilary Denning, John Shears
13th November	Pat Clynes, Pat Marriot
20th November	Lyn Powell
27th November	Lyn Hurst
If you swop or are unable to fulfil your rota, please can you let Margaret Small know. Thank you	



Magazine deadline for copy is the 14th of the month
 To: Mrs Linda Broadhurst, 43 Furlong Close, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PR
 Telephone: 01761 415562 Email: stjohismagazine@aol.com

Parish Directory

		Telephone
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs Angela Fitch	413636
Choir Leader	Mr Geoff Miles	
Church Cleaning	Mrs Pat Clynes	412928
Church Hall Bookings	Mrs Carolyn Wroe	07591 557578
Coffee Rota	Mrs Margaret Small	411474
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Flower Rota		
Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Head Server	Mr John Norman	
St John's School	Mrs Danielle West-Gaul	412019
Ladies Group Leader	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
Magazine Distribution	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	415562
M U Branch Leader		
Organist	Mrs Margaret Whatley	418072
PCC Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895
PCC Treasurer	Mr John Shears	479033
PCC Vice Chairperson	Mrs Beth Davies	418787
	Mrs Hilary Denning	07828 550006
Safeguarding Person	Mrs Ann Munton	07895 038871
Tower Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895

Church Organisations

The Choir practise on Fridays from 6:30 pm until 7:50 pm.

The Friendship Group: meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Group meets on the second Thursday of the month

The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham meets every 3rd Friday of the month at 11am for Said Mass and the Angelus. The Cell takes an annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham in September. Further details from Christine Plummer 01249712894 or 07870216479. A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend the service or join us on Pilgrimage.

**You can stay in touch with us on our website: www.stjohnschurchmsn.org.uk
Twitter: [@StJohnMSN](https://twitter.com/StJohnMSN), on Facebook: [@StJohnMSN](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnMSN)
and on YouTube: [St John's MSN channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).**



November 2022

Tuesday 1st	All Saints Day 10:30am - 11:45am 19:30	Coffee in Church Sung Eucharist
Wednesday 2nd	All Souls Day	12 noon Sung Eucharist
Sunday 6th	3rd Sunday Before Advent	
Tuesday 8th	10:30am - 11:45am 14:30	Coffee in Church St John's Friendship Group
Thursday 10th	19:30	Ladies Group AGM
Sunday 13th	Remembrance Sunday 09:30* 11:30	<i>Sung Eucharist</i> <i>Remembrance Service</i>
Monday 14th		<i>Magazine Copy Date</i>
Tuesday 15th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Sunday 20th	Christ the King	
Tuesday 22nd	10:30am - 11:45am	Coffee in Church
Sunday 27th	1st Sunday of Advent 16:00	Advent Thanksgiving
Tuesday 29th	10:30am - 11:45am 19:00	Coffee in Church PCC Meeting

***Please note change in time for this Sunday only**

This month's front cover was provided by the Parish Pump