

CHURCH ALIVE

October 2025



St. John the Baptist
Midsomer Norton
Price 50p

THE PARISH OF MIDSOMER NORTON WITH CLANDOWN

Vicar

The Revd: Guy Scott

The Vicarage, 42 Priory Close

Midsomer Norton, BA3 2HZ

Tel: 412904

Email: vicarmsnstjohns@gmail.com

Associate Priest

Revd: Philip Hopper

Tel: 07596 759 584

Email: frphiliphopper@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Liz Casson

Tel: 411216

Email: msnparishoffice@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Mrs Pat Clynes

Tel: 412928

37 Staddlestones

Email: patclynes@hotmail.co.uk

Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PP

Mrs Hilary Denning

Tel: 07828 550006

87 Nelson Ward Drive

Email: hilaryjohn87@gmail.com

Radstock, BA3 3FS

SERVICES

SUNDAY

8am Said Eucharist

10 a.m. Parish Eucharist

WEEKDAYS

The 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: 01749 588917

Email: <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/reporting-concerns-or-abuse>



Church Alive
The Parish Magazine of
Midsomer Norton with Clandown
Volume 809 Number 10

ALL SOULS' DAY 2025

All Souls' Day, on November 2nd, gives us all the opportunity to join in worship for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. A time to remember those we have loved but see no longer. A time to reflect on all who died, on all who mourn and to offer our prayers to God.

As All Souls' Day falls on a Sunday this year, a Remembrance Service will be held in church at 3pm on that day. During this service there will be the opportunity to remember those who have died by name.

If you would like your loved one/s to be remembered by name during this service please add their names to the list in church, which will be available from Sunday 12th October. Also, from 12th October 'Years Mind' forms will be available to complete, should you wish your loved ones to be remembered on the anniversary of their death during the calendar year 2026.

Safeguarding Sunday

The Church of England is supporting this year's Safeguarding Sunday, on 12th October, by encouraging local churches to use their regular Sunday service to think about what safer places look like.

"From our children's and young people's activities to clubs for the elderly and foodbanks, our churches are involved in every community. Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message.

"Safeguarding Sunday is all about creating an opportunity for churches to show their communities that they take this responsibility seriously."

Reflections from the Ministry Team

Dear friends,

As we celebrate and share in Harvest Thanksgivings at church and elsewhere in our community. It is vitally important that we take time, formally, once a year, to reflect on all God's goodness to us and to thank him for all his many blessings to us. We are so blessed in so many ways, and there is a real danger that we just take it all for granted.



Nowadays, even in a place like Midsomer Norton, most of us have lost the vitality of the link between Harvest and survival/prosperity in the year ahead. Maybe that is why we have also lost some of that sense of living gratitude for what we have. I well remember during my years in farming the feelings of exhaustion, relief and gratitude as we brought the Harvest home, knowing that its success or otherwise could make or break us the following year.

Farming, of course is never about the 'one-off' or short-termism. Planning, preparation and sheer hard-graft all have vital parts to play in maximising the potential for a good return. After that though we really do have to leave it to God, praying that he will take our planning, our preparation and our work and will multiply them and bless them, so that our harvest will yield plenty for us and for others.

Harvest is a time for each and every one of us, to be encouraged first to 'count our blessings', to give thanks for them, and then to think seriously and prayerfully about what our response as Christians, as followers of Christ, should be. How do we use the money, time and talents that have been given to us? Does our gratitude overflow and make us generous in our giving? How does what we give to God through the work of his church compare to other things we spend our money on? A loaf of bread, a pint of beer, a meal out, a weekend away? It is said that a quick look at our bank statements shows what we value and find important in life!

What would a stranger looking at ours conclude about our lives, our priorities and our beliefs? It's a question worth asking. There should be a clear match between what we say we value and believe and where our money goes!

Now I know as well as anyone that not everyone has limitless incomes and that times are hard. But we can be too cautious in our giving! Part of our calling as Christians **is** to give sacrificially, to make (sometimes hard) choices about where we spend our money. To go without something we'd like, so that others may have what they need. This is an important part of our calling to live in faith. Living in faith also encourages us not to be anxious about our lives. What we have and don't have can so easily take over our lives. Jesus tells us not to worry, to leave it to our heavenly Father who does and will provide generously for us.

God gives us everything we need in extravagant abundance. Let us give in the same way!

Yours in Christ, Guy

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

All are welcome to join us on **Sunday 5th October** in our **Family Service** to celebrate Harvest time. If you would like to, Please bring items that we can donate to the '**Food Bank**'-

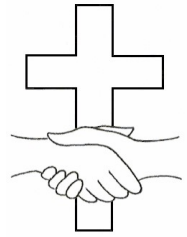
(for example: Instant mash, milk (long life), Pasta sauce, rice pudding (tinned), soup (tinned), custard (tinned), juice (long life), single toothbrushes and toothpaste.)

Our Harvest Lunch will be held on **Sunday 19th October**, due to work being carried out in the Church Hall.

Tickets for the Lunch will be available from Church.

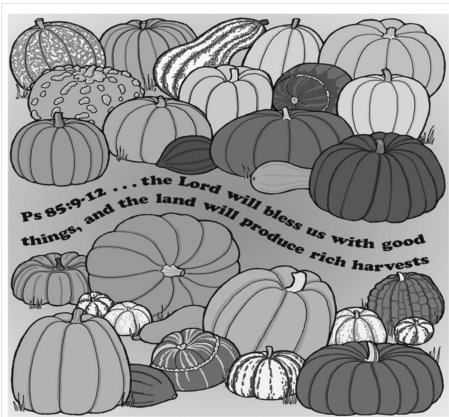
Ladies Group

The next Ladies Group meeting will be on Thursday 9th October at Sheila Dryburgh's house. We will be having a friendly quiz evening.



If you would like to find out more about Ladies Group, please speak to Kay Harvey or Ann Munton or pick up a programme from the back of church.

New members are always welcome.



Friendship Group

Just a reminder that the hall will be closing for a couple of weeks in October and our meeting has been cancelled.

For our meeting on 11th November, we are going to the Farrington Inn for a meal, sit down at 1pm. If you haven't already done so, please let me know if you wish to attend.

Thank you

Heather on: 07882 734507

A Collection for our 'brothers and sisters of Ukraine.

Just after our last LARGE collection on the 25th January, the organiser/driver, was told the garage she hired would not be available any longer.

This led to several months of small collections only taking place and stored in peoples houses. Amazingly and thankfully May saw an offer of another garage for storage.

As deliveries of badly needed goods have been delayed and with the blessing of Father Guy, I have decided to hold a collection on the **15th November** between 12 and 2pm in St Johns Church Hall.

Hopefully this will give us plenty of time to start sorting out clothes for MEN, LADIES, CHILDREN AND BABIES, Bedding, Toys, Books, Candles, Shoes, Blankets etc. They are desperate for Children's and babies clothes, equipment and toys.

Gaynor and her husband from Frome, who are my contact point for our collection, makes up Christmas gifts in old Sweet/Chocolate tins (like Roses etc.) including a soft or knitted toy, writing pad and pencils/crayons, picture book and a large packet of Haribo sweets. (This is nothing to do with the Shoe Boxes) Gaynor donates all her Christmas gifts! A very generous, caring and compassionate person. If unable to donate clothes etc. perhaps you would like to donate gifts to the Christmas tins!

Please uphold in Prayer, the people of Ukraine and all the volunteers who work hard to support them.

Thank you all for your consideration of donating what you are able, when the collection day comes.

Heather Hill
07882 734507

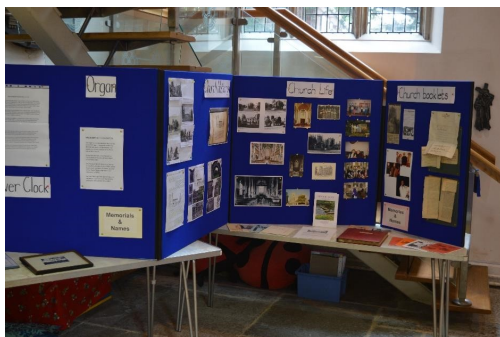
HERITAGE OPEN DAY

On Saturday 20th September we had a very successful Heritage Open Day. With lots of visitors from the local community as well as the Mayor.



Pat Marriott and her team put together a wonderful exhibition of **Monuments and Memories** pointing to some of the monuments in Church and who and how they were related.

At the back of Church there was a display of Church Life over time including some old 'Church Alive' Magazines! There was information on the Organ and the Tower Clock (which has recently been restored), along with Church connections to King Charles II.



There was a
'Timeline of Vicars', including photographs.



At the back of the Altar was a
display of vestibles.

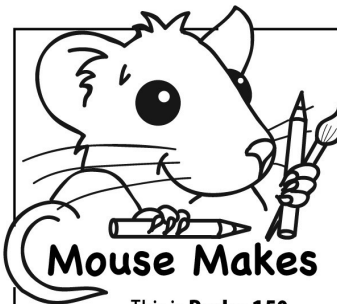
Scrumptious refreshments were available all afternoon and there was a quiz for the children to complete if they so wished.

Tower Tours were again available by popular demand.

50 fit people climbed to the top of the tower to look at Midsomer Norton from a different angle.

Thanks go to all involved in the organisation and preparation for the event and helping out in whatever capacity on the day.





Mouse Makes



This is **Psalm 150**,
a song of praise to God,
it tells us why and how
to worship God.
*How do you praise and
worship God?*



Praise God in His Temple,
Praise Him in His mighty heavens.
Praise Him for His acts of power,
Praise Him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise Him

with the sounding trumpet,

Praise Him

with the harp and lyre,

Praise Him

with tambourine and dancing,

Praise Him

with the clash of cymbals,

Praise Him

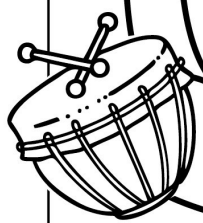
with the resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath

PRAISE THE LORD!



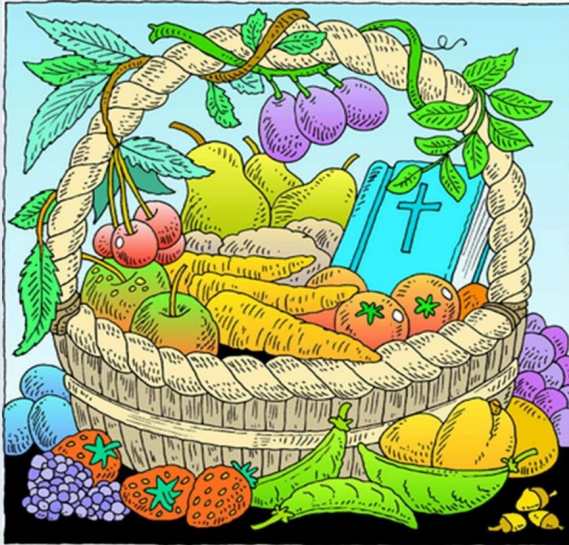
P	K	G	C	Y	M	B	A	L	S	A
O	L	R	H	E	A	V	E	N	S	B
W	T	E	M	P	L	E	T	U	A	R
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S	T	S	E	R	I	N	G	S	Y	R
O	Y	L	E	D	L	Y	R	E	Y	N



PRAISE • GOD • TEMPLE • HEAVENS • SANCTUARY • POWER • GREATNESS
TRUMPET • HORN • PIPE • FLUTE • HARP • LYRE • LUTE • STRINGS
TAMBOURINE • DANCING • CYMBALS • DRUMS • BREATH • LORD

10am Sunday 5th October at St John's Church.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



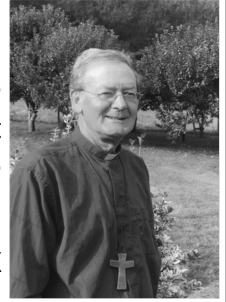
**Come and join us at our Family Service
as we give thanks for creation
and for the life-sustaining produce of the earth.**



All are welcome!

For or against: slavery and salvation

Much of our world operates around the challenge to be 'for' or 'against'. And generally, it is easier to be against things than for them! Look at the tendencies of the media, politics and religious disputes.



On October 18, Anti-Slavery Day, people across the UK will recommit themselves to the fight against modern slavery and human trafficking, one of the great evils of our time. Like William Wilberforce and what we now call historic slavery, we need to fight against the oppression and exploitation of our sisters and brothers today. Abolition is the proper aim of being anti or against.

And the challenge is growing with:

- More vulnerable people susceptible to false promises
- Increasingly flexible working arrangements which gives space for criminal agencies to provide goods and services based on exploitation and slave labour
- Police and prevention resources being ever overstretched
- And our own insatiable appetite for cheap products

There is much we need to learn to oppose and abolish.

But, in facing these almost overwhelming challenges we must not neglect what is primary for our Christian witness, the call to notice, reach out, rescue and restore. The call to love, to be for those who are hidden, neglected, hurting and ignored.

In Anti-Slavery Week, give time to thinking how you or your church or home group could better learn how to contribute to the fight against modern slavery. [The Clewer Initiative](#) has some amazing resources to help us open our eyes and assist the authorities and reach out towards victims.

But, alongside these prayers and practices, consider how you could go the extra mile in the way of the Good Samaritan. Going beyond the indifference of the priest and the Levite, too busy to stop, notice, reach out, rescue; rather how can we better contribute to establishing systems like the partnership between the Good Samaritan and the inn-keeper– systems to provide care and the basis of restoring proper health and opportunities to those whose cries represent the voice of Jesus for those willing to listen.

Be against modern slavery this October, but more, be for those who need our friendship and our partnership.

Bishop Alastair Redfern

Honorary Assistant Bishop

TRIO PARADIS
Jacquelyn Bevan - piano Ruth O'Shea - violin Linda Stocks - cello
Friendship through music

FRIDAY 1st AUGUST
Planes, Trains & Automobiles
For young people of all ages...

FRIDAY 5th SEPTEMBER
The Music of Trees
Handel, Massenet, Johann Strauss

FRIDAY 3rd OCTOBER
Myths & Magic
From Greek Gods to Ghosts

FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER
Bohemian Rhapsodies
Colourful East European nostalgia

FRIDAY 5th DECEMBER
By the Fireside
Warming seasonal music

**Monthly
Café
Concerts**

**First Friday of
each month
at 12.30pm**

ST JOHN'S CHURCH
Midsomer Norton BA3 2HX

Café serving home-made cakes open from 12 noon. Concerts last c45 min.
Entrance by donation, with a retiring collection

www.trioparadis.com Cafe Concerts CIO Registered Charity no.1213237

From The Registers

Christian Funeral

"May they rest in peace"

26th August Shirley Gardner



Holy Baptism

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

31st August Edison George Kevin Wride

21st September Dylan George Jones

Gracie Ann Jeanette Jones

BAPTISMS



FITSTEPS

WITH JANE PRICE

Fitsteps Charity Event

When: Friday 17th October 2025, 19:15-21:45
Where: Congyre Hall, Timsbury
£7 per ticket: Available to buy from me

Following the success of our Charity event in 2023, I'm excited to announce another Charity Fitsteps Event!

FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER 2025, 19:15-21:45

While the chosen charity is yet to be confirmed, rest assured that all proceeds will go directly to a worthy cause. Everyone is welcome—just come as you feel comfortable and enjoy an evening of fitness and fun.

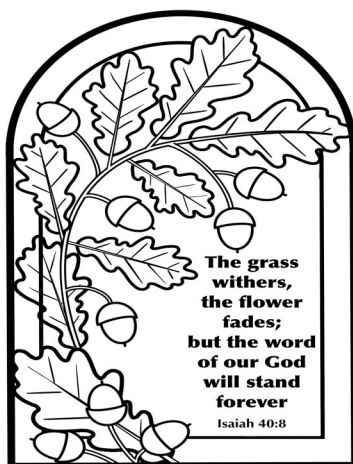
A bar will be available for refreshments, and there will be a raffle with fantastic prizes—**any donations for the raffle would be greatly appreciated!**

Tickets can be purchased directly from me, so don't miss out on this opportunity to support charity while having a great time.



Contact: 07961056700
Jane Price Fitsteps/Fab/Broadway

Date	Reader/<i>Intercessions</i>	Sides person
5th October	John Shears <i>Harvest Festival</i>	D Winter, J Winter
12th October	Margaret Small <i>Kay Harvey</i>	N Barnett, P Marriott
19th October	Linda Broadhurst <i>Sally Curtis</i>	A Broadhurst, L Broadhurst
26th October	Robert Broughton <i>Carol Moore</i>	R Broughton, S Broughton
If you have to swap or cannot do any of the dates, please can you let Pat or Hilary know. Thank you		



This month's front cover is from photo's taken at the Heritage Open Day

Magazine deadline for copy is the 14th of the month

To: Mrs Linda Broadhurst, 43 Furlong Close, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2PR
 Telephone: 07941 204179 Email: stjohnsmagazine@aol.com

Parish Directory

		Telephone
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs Angela Fitch	413636
Choir Leader	Mr Geoff Miles	
Church Cleaning	Mrs Pat Marriott.	01761752546
Church Hall Bookings	Mrs Caroline Thatcher	07591 557578
Coffee Rota	Mrs Margaret Small	411474
Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	07941 204179
Flower Rota	Mrs Carol Moore	412226
Gift Aid Secretary	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Head Server	Mr Matthew Livsey	07971231363
St John's School	Mrs Danielle West-Gaul	412019
Ladies Group Leader	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	07941 204179
Magazine Distribution	Mrs Linda Broadhurst	07941 204179
Organist	Mrs Margaret Whatley	418072
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Ann Munton	07895 038871
PCC Secretary	Mrs Margaret Marshall	413895
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Kay Harvey	416050
PCC Vice Chairperson	Mrs Hilary Denning	07828 550006
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. A warm welcome is extended to all who would like to attend the service or join us on Pilgrimage.

Further details can be obtained from a member of the Clergy.

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



October 2025

Friday 3rd	12:30	Trio Paradise Concert
Sunday 5th	Family Service & Harvest Celebration	
Tuesday 7th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Wednesday 8th		School Harvest
Thursday 11th	19:30	Ladies Group
Friday 10th	10 - 12noon	Gardening Group
Sunday 12th	17th After Trinity	Safeguarding Sunday
Tuesday 14th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
		<i>Magazine Copy Date</i>
Friday 17th	11:00	St Johns cell of Our Lady Of Walsingham - Eucharist
Sunday 19th	18th after Trinity	
		Harvest Lunch
Tuesday 21st	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church
Wednesday 22nd	12:30	Flute Quartet Concert
Friday 24th	10 - 12noon	Gardening Group
Sunday 26h	Bible Sunday	
Tuesday 28th	10:30 - 11:45	Coffee in Church