

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF CALNE & BLACKLAND

November 2023



*Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.
In Westminster Abbey*

**When you go home tell them
of us and say, for your tomorrow
we gave our today.**

Parish contact details:-

Team Rector:

The Reverend Caspar Bush

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Team Vicar:

The Reverend Teresa Michaux

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Parish Administration:

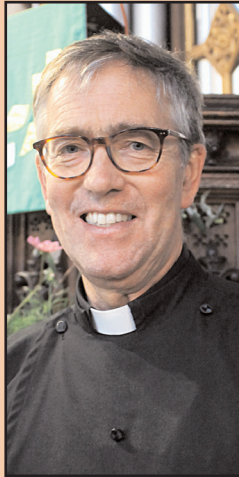
Church House,

30 Church Street, Calne,

SN11 0HU

Email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

Tel: 01249 816522



*Teresa is available on Tuesday to Friday mornings and Sunday
Church House is open 10am to 12noon Mondays,
Wednesdays and Fridays.*

Prayer for November

*O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory
we cherish, and those whose names we will never know.*

*Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.*

Amen

Gold letters around the Tomb of Unknown Warrior

Top: THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS,

**Sides: GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS UNKNOWN AND
YET WELL KNOWN, DYING AND BEHOLD WE LIVE,**

Base: IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE

Church addresses

Holy Trinity Church, Quemerford, Calne, London Rd, Wiltshire, SN11 0AR

St. Mary's Church, Church Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0HU

St. Peter's Church, Blackland, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8UQ

Website: www.parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk

Find us on facebook @stmaryschurchcalne

A Thought for November

There's nothing like the changing of our clocks to remind us that the year has changed, and with the arrival of November the season of remembering comes upon us again. All Soul's Day - the remembering of those we have loved, but lost. 'Remember, Remember the 5th of November' at bonfire night. Then Remembrance Sunday, as widely observed now as ever, though for most people more as an act of thanksgiving for the sacrifice of so many in the service of their country than as a moment for personal memories.

Georg Hegel famously said 'We learn from history that we do not learn from history'. But surely one of the most important things about Remembrance Day is that it serves to keep in our minds, year by year, the horror of war and wasted lives, in the hope we will work for peace to avoid it happening again. True, such war has been continuing at a lower level in various places in the world ever since the Second World War came to an end, (some count 32 conflicts in the world right now). But we can be thankful that nothing on the scale of the last world war has happened since.

Remembering is a central part of Christian faith as well. In the Old and New Testaments, people of

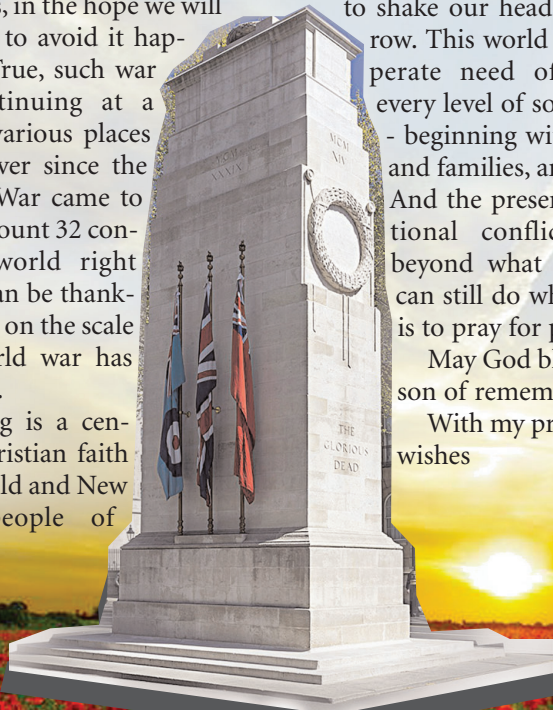
faith declare the story of God's salvation through the ages, to remind themselves of God's faithfulness. And then of course in Holy Communion, 'this is my body...this is my blood...do this in remembrance of me'. We 'do this' to remember the events of Jesus' passion, and as we do so we encounter him here in our present. We remember his death, and he fills us with his life! We remember his resurrection, and we look for those signs of new life in our own lives and in the communities in which he calls us to serve him.

Perhaps it's worth renewing our resolve - that this season of Remembrance can be more than simply a time to shake our heads in collective sorrow. This world is as much in desperate need of peacemakers at every level of society as it ever was - beginning with our own homes and families, and our own streets. And the present terrible international conflicts seem so far beyond what we can affect, we can still do what we can - which is to pray for peace.

May God bless you in this season of remembering.

With my prayers and very best wishes

*Revd Caspar Bush
(Team Rector)*



Caspar's Licensing and the Bell Rededication



The picture above is from 10th September when the Bishop of Ramsbury visited Calne St Mary to rededicate the bells, clock and tower to the Glory of God, following a major restoration and refurbishment project. Bellringers from far and near were present, as well as many local people, who all joined together to celebrate the completion of this major project. Of course, the bells were rung in a joyful manner.

On Sunday 24th September there was further celebration in the Marden Vale Benefice as Bishop Stephen Lake visited us for the 'Institution, Induction and Installation' of Revd Caspar Bush as Team Rector of the Benefice. We were delighted to be welcoming a new Team Rector after an interregnum of over a year. We were also pleased to have our first visit from the

new Bishop of Salisbury. St Mary's Church was packed out by people from the Marden Vale Benefice and also visitors from Caspar's old parish in Redruth. The service was quite formal, as the legalities have to be completed, however it was a joyful occasion with lovely hymns sung vigorously and a thought provoking address from the Bishop. We believe that Caspar and his wife, Alice, were well and truly greeted by the new 'flock' and we wish them much happiness and success in their new home. After the service there were refreshments in Church and much food was eaten, wine drunk and cups of tea consumed, no-one can have possibly gone home hungry or without a 'doggy bag' for later.

Jane Ridgwell



Update on St Mary's Building Improvements and Repairs

You have all heard about the plan to install glass doors in the North porch at St Mary's, to give a more welcoming entrance, however this project is now taking a second place to the need to repair the tower roof. There have been leaks in the roof for some years and the water ingress has caused damage to the underlying structure. The church architect has stated that some repairs need to be carried out as a matter of urgency. The church warden has asked for quotes for the

work to be done and the essential work will cost £64,000. If all recommended work is done the cost soars to over £100,000. Fund raising has begun for this work and fund raising will need to be done for any other projects, including the provision of a toilet in St Mary's. It will take time but, with determination and support, it will be done. Please pray for all those who have the care of our church buildings and for the future generations that will be able to enjoy and use the churches

The Stained Glass Window in St Mary's Sanctuary

The central panel highlights Christ in Majesty. Sitting enthroned on a red background he holds a cross in his left hand and his right hand is raised in blessing. He wears a red robe underneath an enveloping white cloak embroidered with gold. On his left and right are two small roundels containing faces of putti enclosed by gold wings.

In an architectural arch beneath, Archangel Michael stands with blue wings, wearing a knee length white tunic with yellow banded hose covering his legs and feet. He holds a shield on his left arm depicting a red cross and his right arm holds a red bladed downward pointing sword. He stands on a stylised dragon representing Satan. Above and behind him are two more archangels.

The bottom of the window depicts architectural arches containing panels showing (from left to right):

A kneeling Adam in the garden of Eden, in supplication to a winged angel

holding a gold staff.

With a blue background, two winged angels. The left hand one holds a shield on which is a scourge and the one on the right holds a shield depicting a pillar around which is a knotted rope.

Two further winged angels stand in the next panel on a red background. Holding a shield with spear crossed with a sponge on a stick on the left, the right angel holds a shield with three dice on it.

Against a further blue background the winged angel on the left holds a shield depicting three nails and the one on the right a shield depicting a lantern containing a radiating dove.

The final panel shows Eve with her right arm raised in greeting kneeling before Archangel Michael with a stylised apple tree in the background.

(Some of the information gleaned from NADFAS Record of Church Furnishing)

Serena and Charles Boase



Mothers' Union

At the Mothers' Union meeting on 10th October we were hoping to welcome Rev Neil Robinson, the Chaplain to the deaf, but unfortunately he was not able to attend as the interpreter could not make it. He will be invited some time next year. Instead we looked at an article in the National MU magazine Connected about

Children's literature and Disney stories and this led to an interesting discussion about gender stereotyping. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13th November at 2pm and there will be a talk about the British Legion. All are welcome to MU meetings.

Jenny Colby

Dates for your diary

1st November - All Saints Day

4th - **Concert at Holy Trinity Church** by Supernova in aid of FOHTC- 7pm

8th - PCC at Church House. 7.30pm

10th - **Schools' Remembrance Service.** St Mary's, 10.15.

12th - **Remembrance Day service and ceremonies.** St.Mary's, 10.00.

16th - The Feast day of St. Edmund of Abingdon

14th - 2pm, Mothers' Union Meeting. Church House

17th - Cameo. 2-4pm in Church House

18th - **Friends of St Mary's Coffee Morning** 9.30-12noon Church House

26th - **Deanery Service** at Royal Wootton Bassett. 3pm

Focus for Prayer

Please remember to pray for ...

- Teresa, Caspar and the benefice team who prepare to move the life of Parish and Benefice forward into the future.
 - For children and young people throughout the world who are unable to attend school because of war or poverty. We especially pray for the girls of Afghanistan who are not permitted to attend school
 - The work of food banks, especially Calne Food Bank and all who struggle to pay for basic food and amenities.
 - All affected by war and conflict, natural disasters, earthquakes, floods or climate change
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Editorial Team:-

Sue Twyman, Jane Ridgwell and Jack Robinson.

Illustration, Graphic Design and Layout:- Alex Grenfell.

And finally...

If you organise any groups or events in the parish and would like them to be included in this newsletter then get in touch with the editors.

We would also love to have articles about the different groups in the parish to spread the word more widely and encourage people to come along.

Please Email or give copies of items to us in plenty of time for the next newsletter, the deadline is 10th of the preceding month.

email: cbp.news.editor@gmail.com



Regular Activities in the Parish

Day	Time	Place	Activity
Sunday	8.00am	St. Mary's	Holy Communion
	9.30am	St. Peter's	Holy Communion (BCP) - 4th Sunday of the month.
	10.00am	St. Mary's	Parish Eucharist,(4th Sunday of the month; Morning Prayers)
	10.00am	Holy Trinity	Family service (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month).
	10.45am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion (4th Sunday of the month)
	3.00pm	Holy Trinity	Family Service (5th Sunday of the Month)
Tuesday	10.00am	Church House	SMUF'S parent and toddler group.Only during term times.
	Various	Various or Zoom	Parish Prayers-Please check notices for relevant information.
Wednesday	10.00am	St. Mary's	Holy Communion (Mothers' Union corporate Service 1st Wednesday of the month).
	3.30-5.30pm	Church House	Wednesday Club for 4-11s.Only during term times.
Thursday	6.30-7.00pm	St. Mary's	Christian Meditation..
Friday	2.00 to 4.00 pm	Church House. (Downstairs)	Cameo-Come And Meet Each Other.3rd Friday of the month only. <i>You'll be welcomed with a cup of tea...plus board games & time to chat.</i>
	7.00pm	St. Mary's	Choir Practice.
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing	Please contact Jane Ridgwell for further information.

If you wish to make a donation to the Parish of Calne and Blackland you can use this QR code

