

ALL SAINTS FLOODLIGHTS

- 1 November With happy memories of Maureen Barringer on her birthday
 1 November Liberty Rose Templeman 6.4.1993-1.11.2008. Remembering our Granddaughter with love and affection. "Our Bright Star" - Grandma and Pops.
 7 November In memory of Will and Mary Pannell
 22 November In memory of Sarah Goodenough on her birthday
 22 November Jack Annis
 24 November In loving memory of Joseph Smith - 30th Anniversary
 26 November Remembering with love George Petersen on his birthday

All light bookings must be made in writing with the fee - £8.00

Details need to be received by 6th of the previous month for inclusion in the monthly list

Cheques should be made payable to:

"The Friends of All Saints' Church, Brightlingsea" please and sent to:

St James' Church Office, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea CO7 0AB

You can also book by telephone (302378) and confirm by letter with the fee.

Those who are ill for whom we have been asked to pray are: Ruth Askew; Peter Ball; Simon and Karen Birnie; Sonia Bones; Mylie Brooker; Emily Cannon; Arthur Cole; Brenda Collins; Bonnie Day; Tom Dale; Becky Dines; Alfie Taylor Fenwick; Willie Gant; Johnnie Russell; Jeff Scott; Rita Smith; Nicola Springett; Karen Talmey; Christopher Williams; Amy, Lily and Poppy Wright.

CRADLE ROLL: Henry Jack Holland, Lucy Rose Pentney, George Christopher Gooch, Reggie Arthur Barber, Zachary Colin Alexander Weatherley, Emily Louise Herbert.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast Club - Next Breakfasts: 18th November - No breakfast club in December. Dates for 2018 will be announced soon.

Quiz Night - Saturday, 25th November, at St James' Church - hot supper - £8 per person.

Christmas Bazaar - moved to Saturday, 2nd December, in the afternoon, joining in with the Street Fair. It's not too early to make things to sell!

Mothers' Union - The meeting on the 1st November at 2 o'clock. in St James' will be welcoming Rev Canon Edward Carter as the speaker who will talk about "Windsor Castle - my four years". This meeting is OPEN to everyone, members, visitors, friends, family, congregation of St James'. Please come and show your welcome to our guest. Tea and biscuits will be provided.

Number of women in ordained ministry at record high, new figures show

The number of people entering training to become priests in the Church of England is at the highest level for a decade with women making up more than half the total, according to new figures released today.

A total of 544 men and women began training for ordained ministry this autumn (known as ordinands), an increase of 14% on last year and the highest figure for 10 years, according to statistics from the Ministry Division of the Church of England.

Women make up more than half of those entering training, or 274 ordinands, the biggest intake of female ordinands for a decade, and an increase of 19% compared to last year. At the same time, the number of younger ordinands, in the under 32 age group, rose by nearly two fifths, and now accounts for 28% of the total.

The figures, covering the period from 2008 to 2017, are published alongside Ministry Statistics for 2016 showing the number of women serving in ordained ministry in the Church of England rose by 7% from 5,310 in 2013, to a record high of 5,690 last year.

However women still make up less than a third, or 29%, of the total number of active clergy.

The figures have been released as the Church of England steps up efforts to increase the number of candidates for ordination by 50% by 2020 as part of the Renewal and Reform programme, with an emphasis on increasing the number of women and the youthfulness and ethnic diversity of candidates for ordination.

Sunday worship - usual service times - look out for notices showing changes

ALL SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH (IN THE TOWN) UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

8.00 am Holy Communion at All Saints' on the third Sunday each month
 10.00 am Parish Eucharist at All Saints' on the third Sunday each month
 Wednesdays 10.00 am Eucharist at St James' church

Saints' Days services as announced in the Parish Diary.

Baptism enquiries to Shirley Raynes (305190) or Jennifer Gallant (305060)

Wedding enquiries to Linda Salmon (306365)

Funeral enquiries to Church Office or Vicar (302378)

If you wish to seek confidential advice, request prayer for the sick or infirm, or receive the sacraments, please contact the Church Office

The benefice is vacant from 1st Nov 2017

Contacts

Church Office Telephone 302378 (out of hours answering machine)

e-mail: brightlingseaparish@btconnect.com

Churchwardens Carole Warren 825027 cawarren825@gmail.com

Bob Goodenough 303749 bob.m.goodenough@gmail.com

PCC Secretary/PCC Treasurer Church Office, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea CO7 0AB

Parish website: www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk

NOVEMBER DIARY (please check pewsheet for any discrepancies)

1	Wednesday	All Saints Day	10.00 am	Eucharist
			2.00 pm	Mothers' Union
2	Thursday	All Souls Day	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
3	Friday		10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
5	FEAST OF ALL SAINTS'		8.00 am	Morning Prayer
			10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
6	Monday		2.00 pm	Bereavement Coffee
7	Tuesday		9.00 am	Parish Prayers
			7.00 pm	PCC
8	Wednesday		10.00 am	Eucharist
9	Thursday		8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
10	Friday		10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
12	REMEMBRANCE		8.00 am	Holy Communion
			10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
			2.45 pm	The Royal British Legion Remembrance Service
14	Tuesday		9.00 am	Parish Prayers
			10.30 am	Open House at 38 High Street
15	Wednesday		10.00 am	Eucharist
			2.15 pm	Brightlingsea Bears
16	Thursday		8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
17	Friday		10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
19	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT		8.00 am	Holy Communion at All Saints'
			10.00 am	Parish Eucharist with Baptism at All Saints'
			6.30 pm	Laying up Service at St James'
21	Tuesday		9.00 am	Parish Prayers
22	Wednesday		10.00 am	Eucharist
23	Thursday		8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting
24	Friday		10.30 am	Prayers for the Sick
26	CHRIST THE KING		8.00 am	Holy Communion
			10.00 am	Parish Eucharist
28	Tuesday		9.00 am	Parish Prayers
29	Wednesday		10.00 am	Eucharist
30	Thursday	St Andrew	8.15 am	CTB Prayer Meeting

Parish of All Saints' with St James', Brightlingsea

Monthly Parish News



Issue 41

November 2017

Dear Friends, I share again the Harvest Sermon:

"Our reading from the Old Testament is from the Book of Deuteronomy and it begins, "For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land..."

Your aspirations and dreams for All Saints' with St James' began many years ago, and through prayer, hard work, and determination we are here in our transformed space. This bright flexible space is primarily for worship, and it is appreciated outside and inside the church. There is a wonderful vicarage ready for the next incumbent to enjoy, and the Lord has certainly answered prayer as the Psalmist proclaims. All Saints' with St James' is a good land indeed! This morning let us take heed of the words from Deuteronomy; "You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you" Hard work and endeavour are wonderful qualities, but we should always thank God, and not ourselves, for His generosity toward us. Church life - indeed all life - should be built always on the foundation of prayer and worship, thankfulness, generosity and kindness.

Deuteronomy explains that if this way of being continues to be the bedrock of life, and the life of this church here in Brightlingsea, then you will continue to flourish. Therefore let me urge you to continue to be people of prayer and worship, thankfulness, generosity and kindness, as you walk into a new phase in the life of this church. You have a rich harvest in each other and in the fabric of your shared life. Over the years you have learned to give generously of yourselves, and of your material wealth.

In this morning's Epistle, St Paul encourages the growing church in Corinth to continue to be generous both in times of abundance and in adversity. It is very easy to forget the generosity and kindness of God when we feel under pressure, when we worry, or when we feel that we are lacking in some way.

St Paul says: "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully... God loves a cheerful giver.."

Giving is in our nature, for we are made in the image and likeness of God - we give our time, talents and wealth to God - for Him to use and multiply with his Love. Let us always sow bountifully with open and generous and joy-filled hearts.

As a church you are in a very strong position as you approach another Interregnum. You have very committed Churchwardens, Leadership Team and PCC. You may feel that there is much to "worry" and fret about, perhaps a time to shrink back a little. No, on the contrary, it's a time to step up.

Remember the words of St Paul: "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully... God loves a cheerful giver.."

However, God does understand the cost of sowing bountifully - he gave up his only Son for our sake.

God is gracious and compassionate, it is no surprise to God that we have a tendency to worry - in fact the Bible continually exhorts us not to fear, not to be afraid, not to worry..

In our Gospel reading Jesus talks on this very subject with his disciples. He says in our gospel reading *'Do not worry about your life..life is more than food, and the body more than clothing..think of the ravens, they neither sow or reap...yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than birds!'*

In fact, I would imagine that he says the following with a wry grin-

'I know how much you worry, but really, do you think that you can add just one extra hour to your life by worrying?

God knows exactly what you need.'

In our culture, peace – and by peace I don't necessarily mean silence – is a scarce commodity.

I think our society could be described more as a 'worry culture'

And the medical profession tell us that 'worry out of control' can have a very negative impact on our wellbeing. It causes us to withdraw and shrink away.

In the long run, excess worry can be deeply destructive.

In order to see how anxious we are as a nation, we just need to look at advertising. Advertising is a useful mirror in which to see ourselves. The selling pitch often revolves around worry in some form. I'm sure you will recognise some of these?

Worry about ageing – buy the cream

Worry about not being accepted or looking cool – buy the clothes

Accident – buy the insurance

Ageing – buy more insurance

Too fat – buy the diet products

No money – easy borrowing terms

Feel left behind – buy the latest technology to stay in touch

Feel alone – log on to our dating site - first 3 months free!

These ads are very successful and feed into our deep-seated insecurities. This promotion of worry is very cost effective for the advertiser.

But at what cost to us, the consumer?

What sort of harvest does this mind-set deliver?

What kind of harvest does it produce if it remains unchecked?

Pope Benedict talks of the dangers of being assimilated into current secular culture, where the only person to trust is yourself, and the idea of a loving Heavenly Father is the stuff of fairy tales.

But we are not here this morning because we believe in fairy tales. We are here because our Heavenly Father loves us with astonishing and amazing detail.

Today we celebrate Harvest; we give thanks for all good gifts around us, lavished upon us - God's children. This morning, we give thanks for the gift of creation and all the spiritual and material wealth that we enjoy. And as part of our Harvest Thanksgiving we have an opportunity to give more, and our offering will go to Tools with a Mission TWAM.....

Finally then, as we look to the future, let me urge you to continue to be people of prayer and worship, thankfulness, generosity and kindness.

"the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully

And may you reap a harvest of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Lord *"For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land..." AMEN"*

Rev'd Anne

To make you smile ...

Those amazing Children of Israel - In Sunday School one morning young Joseph raised his hand and proceeded to ask a question that had perplexed him for some time. 'There's something I can't figure out. According to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?' 'Right,' said his teacher.

'And the Children of Israel beat up the Egyptians, right?' 'Er, right.'

'And the Children of Israel fought the Philistines and then the Moabites and lots of other tribes, and built the Temple, and were always doing something important, right?' 'All that is right, too,' agreed the teacher. 'So, what's your question, Joseph?'

'Well what were all the grown-ups doing all that time?'

Mouse Makes

"To those who are made holy in Christ Jesus, and called to be **saints**, with all those in every place who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours".
from 1 Corinthians 1:2

The Bible tells us that a SAINT is not just a Christian that we think of as special but *anyone* who believes in Jesus.

All of God's people are saints ...

... we are all members of the world-wide communion of saints!

Can you find these saints names in the word search above?
GEORGE • ANDREW • DAVID • PATRICK • MARY • JOSEPH • MATTHEW • MARK • LUKE
JOHN • PETER • THOMAS • JAMES • JUDE • BARTHOLOMEW • PAUL
TIMOTHY • PHILIP • STEPHEN • NICHOLAS • MICHAEL • ANNE • ALL SAINTS

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Brightlingsea Community Toy Library for children aged 0 to 5 meets on Monday mornings during term time at 4Youth, 160 Tower Street.

BRIGHTLINGSEA BEARS

for children of pre-school age and their parent(s)/carer(s)
meet on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month
at St James Church from 2.15 to 3.15 pm
Refreshments provided



If you wish to receive the "Monthly Parish News" by post, please provide stamped, addressed envelopes to:

St James' Church Office, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea, Essex CO7 0AQ
marked "for the attention of Janet Russell"

Copy date for the next issue of the "Monthly Parish News" is Sunday, 12th November, reports, articles and/or advertisements for events should be sent to janetrussell38@uwclub.net (please use this address) before then or put through the door of 38 High Street.

Thank you.

DEANERY PRAYER DIARY - Each week we are asked to pray for one of the parishes in our Deanery. In November these are:

- 5th All Saints, Great Holland
- 12th St Bartholomew's, Holland-on-Sea
- 19th St Michael's, Kirby-le-Soken
- 26th St James', Little Clacton

The next **Churches Together Simple Lunch** will be on Friday, 3rd November, at 12.30 pm., at St James' Church: Soup, a roll, cheese and butter, followed by a hot drink. All welcome. All for a minimum donation of £2.00 which goes to Christian Aid or CAFOD. The November Simple Lunch will be on Friday, 3rd November.



Churches Together in Brightlingsea's CAROLS OUTSIDE on Monday, 18th December, outside The Brewers Arms, Victoria Place, Brightlingsea. Come and make a joyful noise to the Lord with people from other churches and from none.

THE PERFECT MINISTER

When looking for a new minister, it may be helpful to bear the following in mind: The Perfect Minister preaches exactly 10 minutes. He condemns sin roundly, but never hurts anyone's feelings. He works from 8 a.m. until midnight, and is also the church handyman.

The Perfect Minister lives on a very small salary, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates £30 a week to the church. He is 29 years old and has 40 years' worth of experience. Above all, he is handsome.

The Perfect Minister has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and he spends most of his time with the senior citizens. He smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humour that keeps him seriously dedicated to his church. He makes 15 home visits a day and is always in his office to be handy when needed.

The Perfect Minister always has time for church meetings and all of its committees, never missing the meeting of any church organisation. And he is always busy evangelising the unchurched. He also spends hours preparing couples for their weddings, hours preparing parents for their baby's baptism, and hours visiting the bereaved. But his life is dedicated to solitude, prayer and meditation.

The Perfect Minister is always in the next town over! So if you think that our minister does not measure up, it has been suggested that we simply send this notice to six other churches that are tired of their minister. The idea is that we bundle up our minister and send him to the church at the top of our list. If everyone cooperates, in one week we will receive 1,643 new ministers. One of them should be perfect. Have faith in this plan. One church broke the chain and got its old minister back in less than three months.

Two Minutes Silence - *In the month, when we think about those who have given their lives in war, the two minutes silence is a familiar act of remembrance. We can use the silence to reflect on those who have suffered in war or on what it means to work for a peaceful world. Or do we end up thinking about lunch or panic that we haven't switched our phone off? Victor Frankl, a victim of Auschwitz, suggested that the most intolerable of all human conditions is not imprisonment or hunger, but lack of meaning. The two minutes silence enables us to connect with Jesus' message, which offers true meaning to our lives and world. He spoke of giving ourselves in love for each other and the world, 'Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you' (Matthew 5:44). He also demonstrated such love in sacrificing His own life, 'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13). In observing the silence, let's use it to reflect on this sacrificial love, as we remember all those who have experienced pain and conflict.*

Of course, we should be serious about silence and stillness in the whole of our lives, not just for two minutes at an act of Remembrance. In busy lives where so much is clamouring for our attention, silence enables us to reassess our priorities and rediscover true meaning in our lives. Jesus made a habit of withdrawing to experience silence. He did this before choosing his disciples, after He heard of John's beheading, after feeding the 5000, after healing a leper, at the Transfiguration and to prepare for His death. 'The seeking out of solitary places was a regular practice for Jesus. So it should be for us.' (Richard Foster).