



St. John's Newsletter

Charity No 1162162

www.stjohnschurchbroadstone.org.uk

November 2025



Letter from the Vicar

Dear friends,

There is an exciting project happening locally I want to tell you about. Just recently St Nicholas' Church in Corfe Mullen was identified within the Diocese of Salisbury as a 'Mission Hub Church' and was successful in its bid to secure some national funding for a Community Lead post. A Mission Hub is a church which has the ability to help train, resource and encourage other churches in the work they are doing, and in partnering churches together.



I have been involved in the appointment of this new Community Lead, taking part in her interviews recently. Rachel Stevens, who we were delighted to appoint, began her work in October, and because the Vicar at Corfe Mullen, Revd Jane Burgess, has just retired and they are now in vacancy, I have agreed to give Rachel some mentoring support until her new vicar is appointed, and will be meeting with her every couple of months.

So what is the connection to St John's? It is recognised that traditionally churches work within their own parishes, and we all usually do our own thing, never crossing the parish boundary. Rare is it for any joint missional initiatives to take place where parishes are working together on something. However, if that can be achieved, then sharing of resources becomes possible, with a cross-fertilisation of best practice learning and establishing of joint ministries.

It is with this possibility in mind that the Community Lead post has been created. Rachel's remit is to work with other willing local churches as we help to enable each other in our community work. She hopes to create partnerships with local churches, help resource them, help them to work together rather than duplicating work in each church. She hopes to build connections between local churches and the wider community with whom we have the potential to partner, be it schools, charities or community groups. This directly taps into one of our own named objectives this year, to seek creative partnerships and develop network possibilities.



I invited Rachel to come to our last Churches Together in Broadstone meeting to explain all this to the CTiB group, and she was met with a warm reception. All our churches consider this an exciting development and look forward to seeing how we might work with Rachel and also support and enable Rachel's work.

It coincides with a new development at the URC Church, as they start a project, a Mission House, for students to come and train and work with them. Taylor Hawkins has just taken on this role, and provides another resource. It seems that collaboration could well and truly be alive across Broadstone and Corfe Mullen!

With love,

Helen

Come & See! Family Work at St John's!



Our November **Café**
Breakfast Church
combines with **Muddy**
Church to make our wonderful



Breakfast

Church

Christmas wreath-making workshop, on **Saturday 15th**
November, at the slightly later and longer time
of 10.30am - 12 noon. Do join us - and you get
breakfast too!



You will need to book in for this as it is so popular,
and sign-up sheets are at the back of church. At
the moment I have released 20 places for those in
our congregation, but there is a reserve list to sign
up if that is filled up, and I would hope to get many of you into it.



If you have any children or grandchildren, there are also all sorts of exciting
Christmas crafts for them. We shall be making pine cone Christmas trees
and dolly peg nativity characters, and angels for our Christmas tree festival.



Christmas Tree Festival 6-7th Dec We need your entries! Please help us to



make this year's Christmas Tree Festival our biggest yet!
Entry forms are available at the back of church. All you
need to do is to decorate a tree, which must not be more
than 1 metre high. You can choose a theme – be as wild as
you wish! All lights must be battery operated – see the
entry form for details. We need entry forms filled in and
handed into the office by Friday 21st November so we can
include your tree in the festival programme. You do not
need to decorate your tree and bring it in until 5th
December.

The Christmas tree festival is very important for St John's. It is one of our biggest engagements with
the local community, when we get over 400 people through the door, partly because it coincides
with the Broadstone Christmas Parade. We need to keep up our reputation and make this a fantastic
event in which to meet us at St John's! Do help us to achieve that! *Revd Helen*

The Changing Seasons and the Sundays' Themes

Autumn seems to have come so quickly! Here we are at November already, a season which, liturgically, has always been about memory, Remembrance and also God's Kingdom. It seems to me there is a strong emotion to it all, a sense of longing and loss, into which God pours his comfort and his peace. The whole of November is usually what we call 'Kingdom Season', and the readings reflect this, as they summon the most apocalyptic parts of our Bible (those passages that seem to signal 'end times'), which may actually not be about the end of the world per se, but the end of 'the world as they knew it' i.e. seismic shifts that were going on in and just after Jesus' day.



Within this season, we have four distinct Sundays (it doesn't always map directly onto November as sometimes this season starts right at the end of October, depending when the Sunday falls). The first is All Saints and All Souls. In the morning we celebrate the lives of saints and the great cloud of witnesses of the saints who surround us and have gone

before. We remember too, that we are God's saints, here on earth, even on the days we don't feel like we are! Then in the afternoon, we turn to All Souls, and our memorial service for those we have loved and lost. Not an easy service, but moving, powerful and, I think, necessary for our remembering and healing.



The second is Remembrance Sunday, when we remember those who lost their lives in war – not just the two World Wars, but all wars since. The importance of remembering is crucial. We not only honour those who died but we keep alive the memory of the destruction war brings and how we must do all we can to work for peace.

Our third Sunday in this season is Kingdom 3 (because the previous two Sundays are also Kingdom 1 and 2, even though they go by other names). We see our own earthly lives in the context of the Kingdom Of God, of how we bring the values of that kingdom into our lives today, and how we also retain our hope that God's Kingdom will one day come on earth, as it is in heaven.

Our final Sunday is also our final Sunday of the Church Year: seasonally it is the 'New Years' Eve' of the church calendar of Sundays. And while it is Kingdom 4, its main name is the Festival of Christ the King. This is the reminder that Christ ascended as a King, and it references to the idea of the second coming, that Christ will come again as King and his rule will be over all. We celebrate Christ's triumph over all the sadness and memories and loss that we might have experienced during this month, even during this year, and recognise all is held safe in his arms. One day, all shall be put right.



How wonderful that we end the Church Year on a high note, Christ the King, the one who will come again in power and might. That ushers us into the start of the Church New Year with the season of Advent, as we anticipate Christ's first coming as a baby, with all that growing into his kingship he will do. And so the cycle of the seasons – and the year - begins again. Begins with the baby, who began it all.

I do pray you find this season rich with meaning, and in the midst of whatever sadness or difficulty there may be for you now, the promise of the hope that is coming. *Revd Helen*

St John's Church

Christmas Fayre

Macaulay Rd & Dunyeats Rd

Sat 22nd Nov 10am-1pm



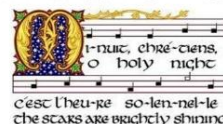
Free entry!!

Return of our special Christmas craft stalls. Further stalls, grand raffle, games, children's crafts, refreshments & cakes.



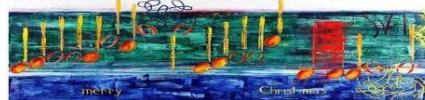
Santa Claus is coming at 11am and looks forward to seeing the children!

Advent Carol Service



Sunday 30th November 5pm - A beautiful service with candlelit procession, Advent Carols and readings.

St John's Church, Macaulay Rd – ALL WELCOME!



Advent tea & cakes served in the Parish Hall at 4pm before the service.

St John's Church Magical Christmas Tree Festival, Macaulay Rd & Dunyeats Rd

Sat 6th Dec 10am-4pm * Drinks & cakes in the parish hall. Also open Sun 7th Dec 2-4pm.

FREE ENTRY Programme £1 entitles to free drink Sat only. SANTA CLAUS will be here 3.15-4pm Sat only.

Christmas at St John's Church, Broadstone

Come and join us for some or all of our Christmas services!

Saturday 13th Dec 10.30am-12pm Muddy Church Christmas Christingle party with Christingle-making and service!

Sunday 14th Dec 6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with the Community Band A traditional Christmas Carol Service to help you enter the heart of Christmas. Come and join us!

Sun 21st Dec 6pm Longest Night Service A quiet service for those who find Christmas a difficult or uneasy time. The church will be open from 5pm to light candles if you prefer not to attend the service.

Christmas Eve 11am Community sing-a-long carols in churchyard (indoors if weather bad).
3pm Crib service: Journey to Bethlehem: children - come dressed as your favourite nativity

character! Angels, shepherds, wise men, Mary, Joseph, the star! Help us tell the Christmas story. There will be **two live donkeys coming**, with petting / photo opportunities! This service no longer has Christingles – see our 13th Dec event.

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass: A traditional service as we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Day 8am Eucharist; 10am Sung Eucharist with carols and surprises! Celebrate Christmas morning with us!



Have a very Merry Christmas!

From the St John's Eco Gang...



ECO TIPS FOR HELPING HEDGEHOGS

We have hedgehogs using our churchyard – hooray! Hedgehog numbers are in decline in the countryside. The good news is that they can thrive in gardens (and churchyards) so we can all help them out. Here are some hedgehog tips from Eco Church organisers A Rocha UK:

- Put a pile of hay, straw, or leaves under a dry shed, log pile or thick hedge in the garden for a safe place to hibernate. Alternatively you can buy or make a hedgehog house.
- Leave wild areas for foraging.
- Avoid using slug pellets and pesticides.
- Don't interfere with nests and be especially careful when working in the garden and strimming.
- Make small holes in walls or fences allowing hedgehogs to move freely between gardens (they need about 15 gardens to forage).
- Where there are ponds, ensure there is a safe way to climb out. Hedgehogs are great swimmers, but they struggle to climb out of steep-sided ponds.
- If you want to feed them, leave out pet food, not milk. Lactose upsets hedgehogs' digestion.

If you see a hedgehog or evidence of one, you can record it online at irecord.org.uk and we'd love to know too. THE ECO GANG

Occasional Offices from October

Funerals

14th October

Elaine Hahessy (St John's)



Service Readings in November

Date	Sunday	OT	Psalm	NT	Gospel
Sun 2 nd November	All Saints	Daniel 7. 1-3, 15-18	Psalm 149	Ephesians 1.11-end	Luke 6.20-31
Sun 9 th November	Kingdom 2 / Remembrance Sunday	Job 19.23-27a	Psalm 17.1-9	2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-end	Luke 20.27-38
Sun 16 th November	Kingdom 3	Malachi 4.1-2a	Psalm 98	2 Thessalonians 3.6-13	Luke 21.5-19
Sun 23 rd November	Christ the King	Jeremiah 23.1-6	Psalm 46	Colossians 1.11-20	Luke 23. 33-43
Sun 30 th November	Advent 1 Year A begins	Isaiah 2.1-5	Psalm 122	Romans 13.11-end	Matthew 24. 36-44

Diary Round-up: Events at St John's in November

Sat 1st Nov

9.30am Parish Hall Store Tidy Up

Sun 2nd Nov

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Parish Eucharist

3pm Memorial Service for All Souls

Tues 4th Nov

7.30pm Events Committee Meeting in Parish Hall

Wed 5 th Nov	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 6 th Nov	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 7pm Standing Committee Meeting
Fri 7 th Nov	10.30am LPA meeting in the Vicarage
Sun 9 th Nov	8am Eucharist 9.30am Remembrance Sunday service with the Royal British Legion present (NOT a Eucharist)
Wed 12 th Nov	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 13 th Nov	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 7.30pm St John's Fellowship
Fri 14 th Nov	10am Children's work meeting at the vicarage
Sat 15 th Nov	10.30am – 12 noon Café Breakfast & Muddy Church Wreath Making
Sun 16 th Nov	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist and FAIRTRADE STALL
Wed 19 th Nov	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 20 th Nov	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 7.30pm PCC Meeting in Parish Hall
Fri 21 st Nov	1pm – 4pm Decorating Church for Christmas 6.30pm – 8pm Setting up Christmas Fayre
Sat 22 nd Nov	10am – 1pm St John's Christmas Fayre
Sun 23 rd Nov	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist Remedy Oak Lunch 4pm Broadstone Music Series – see flyers/poster in Church
Wed 26 th Nov	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 27 th Nov	6pm Griffin Funeral Care Memorial Service 8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning
Fri 28 th Nov	9.30am - 1pm First Aid Training (Parish Office Closed)
Sun 30 th Nov	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist 12 noon Baptism 4pm Advent Tea with Advent Carol Service at 5pm

St John's News from the Pews

A more detailed look at what is happening in and around the church...

NEW HARVEST DELIVERED The photo shows Roots 2 Roots' delight in receiving all our lovely Harvest gifts this year! Thanks to Janet Green for arranging to take them down to the centre.



PARISH HALL - STORE CUPBOARDS TIDY UP Saturday 1st November from 9.30am – 11.30am. Please help out if you can! Refreshments will be provided.

MEMORIAL SERVICE This takes place Sun 2 Nov at 3pm. All welcome.

GARDENING DAY 8TH NOVEMBER The Gardening Group are having another gardening tidy up around the grounds of the Church. Everyone is welcome! We will be based in Northreach, 9.30am - 12 noon. Refreshments will be available in Northreach during the morning. If you could let me know if you can come that would help me allocate jobs and organise catering. Thanks Ken Pearce

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ARRANGEMENTS AND CHANGES SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER These have changed from previous years. This year the ONLY EUCHARIST we are holding is the 8am. Our 10am moves to a start time of 9.30am, but this year is NON EUCHARISTIC, as it is our main Remembrance service with the RBL. Please join us as usual at this, our main service of the day. After this service, tea and coffee will be served as usual, and then anyone who wants to watch the parade gathers outside. The parade will set off from the War Memorial Hall on Tudor Rd at 10.45am, with our Act of Remembrance taking place at 11am at the War Memorial in the Recreation Ground. At 11am Eric will also lead an Act of Remembrance in church for anyone who can't make it to the war memorial. After this, the parade will march back via St John's, but our services for the day are complete. There is NO 11.30am. Thank you. *Revd Helen*



FIR BRANCHES AND LAUREL AND GREENERY Required for November 15th Christmas wreath-making event. If you have any greenery you can save for us, please cut it as close as possible to the 15th November, so it stays green, and drop it off at the parish office on 14th November. Please let Revd Helen know you will be doing so, so she knows she has enough greenery coming in! Many thanks! Revd Helen

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP November 15th, 10.30am - 12 noon. This is our very popular Cafe Breakfast and Muddy Church wreath making workshop with Christmas decorations for the children to make. Places are limited to 20 initially as the rest are for Muddy Church families and wider community members. Please sign up on the sheets at the back of church and tick to say whether you can bring last year's wreath ring, or whether you shall need a new one this year. Breakfast is included in this one! There is also a reserve list sheet in case we can open it up to more of you. Revd Helen

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE takes place on Saturday 22nd November 10am to 1pm. Do join us for this fabulous event! Santa will be with us at 11am.



REMEDY OAK SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23rd There are menus in church and office. Sign up list is in Church on a Sunday but otherwise in the office. Give your menus and money to the Office before 14 Nov. Cheques payable to St John the Baptist PCC.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 6-7th Dec We need your Christmas tree entries! Please help us to make this year's Christmas Tree Festival our biggest yet! Entry forms are available at the back of church. All you need to do is to decorate a tree, which must not be more than 1 metre high. You can choose a theme – be as wild as you wish! All lights must be battery operated – see the entry form for details. We need entry forms filled in and handed into the office by Friday 21st November. Trees to be decorated by Fri 5th December.

CHARITY VOTINGS We asked the congregation to nominate charities we might support, and are grateful for some excellent suggestions. They fall into three categories of charities: local, UK wide & international, and eco-friendly. We will support at least one charity from each category and if you are a member of St Johns's (i.e. on our electoral roll) we now invite you to use your three votes: one for each category. Voting slips and details of the charities have been sent to each member for whom we have an email address. There will also be a ballot box and some paper copies of the slip at the back of church for members not on email. The closing date for votes is **16th November** but you don't have to wait till then!

HELP WITH TABLES REQUIRED Is anyone able to help Roger Leach transport our new tables to church from his home? Sat 1st Nov at 9am. They come in packs of two, and weigh about

23 kilos so fairly heavy. Reasonable sized hatch backs or estate cars will manage them fine. Let Roger know if you can help. It would be great to have a few volunteers to (literally) share the load.

OFFERTORY LIST if you would like to take up the offertory on a particular date please let one of the sidespeople know to sign up on the list.

THE LEPROSY MISSION A huge thank you from Gabby North. An incredible £3062 was donated by St John's Church.

NEW BOTTLE BOTTOMS Thank you to all of you who sent them in together with the Methodist Church (so far we have painted and wired to the telephone exchange fence 450 poppies). Thanks for helping with the painting - Gloria and Joan from the Methodist Church and Joy from St John's. *Anne B & Terri M*

SHAPE COURSE The SHAPE course will provide you with the opportunity to explore your own gifts, talents, interests, and abilities, helping you understand where God might be calling you to His service. The course will consist of three 2-hour sessions, combining Bible readings, opportunities to discuss various topics, and, above all, offering an enjoyable time of reflection and exploration. A sign-up sheet will be available at the back of the church starting this Sunday. If you are interested in the course, please select the dates and times that suit you to attend. At this stage, we aim to assess interest and determine the most suitable time for the largest number of people. Ticking the date and time is not committing you to anything at the moment, as I will look to find the most popular combination. The sessions are either on Fridays between 10 and 12 or Sundays between 3 and 5. If you want to know more about the course please speak to me at any time. *Rev Gary*

POOLE-WAU PARTNERSHIP is looking for one or two people to join their committee, perhaps becoming Trustees, preferably from churches in Poole Deanery which are not already represented on the committee. The main qualification is interest in and commitment to the charity's partnership with the diocese of Wau in South Sudan. The committee meets 4 or 5 times a year and you can find out more about PWP's aims and activities on their website, www.poolewaupartnership.com. If you might be interested or have any questions about what is involved, please email Mark Rathbone at mark.rathbone@phonecoop.coop.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR NEXT OF KIN Recently we have needed to contact relatives of congregation members due to a medical incident or similar reason. It would be helpful to have a contact name of your next of kin, with phone number and email address for them. This needs both your and their permission and would not be used except in an urgent matter. It would be helpful for us to have your own date of birth, as this is asked for when clergy phone hospitals to see if someone is still in the ward they were on. We can't be given details by receptionists without this. This is your choice, but Caroline has prepared a sheet to fill in and return if you would like this. See weekly news email sent 12th October for the attachment, ask the office for a copy or collect a copy from the back of Church. Due to GDPR, it needs to be signed by both you and your named next of kin, so we can keep / safely store those details. *Revd Helen*

CRAFT AND CHAT is taking a break and will **not run** September through to December.

SERVERS REQUIRED. We are looking for new servers to recruit (those who carry candles and the cross during services, among other things). Please let the vicar or Keith Manston know asap if you would like to know more about this role. **ALSO VERGERS NEEDED** to be a verger at funerals and weddings at St John's. If interested, have a word with Revd Helen.

PARKING AT THE PARISH HALL A reminder that if there is room, you are allowed to park but **ONLY** on church business - no other reason. You must only park in a way that uses a genuine space and **MUST NOT** block anyone in nor prevent emergency access to the hall by a vehicle from

the gate. Please ensure all cars are removed by 12 noon on Wednesdays if you have parked by the fence nearest to church / outside parish hall itself. Thank you. *Revd Helen*

STRICTLY NO ACCESS TO PARISH HALL ITSELF MON TO FRI 7.30am - 6.25pm A reminder there is strictly no access to the building for any reason whatsoever Mon to Fri 7.30am to 6.25pm. Many thanks - I appreciate your co-operation with this. *Revd Helen*

RAISE MONEY FOR ST JOHNS WITH TRUST130 For every new home insurance policy taken out with Ecclesiastical, they'll donate £130 to an Anglican church of the policy holder's choice. For info, contact Caroline in the office or call Ecclesiastical on **0800 7830 130**.

CORFE MULLEN FOOD BANKS Food donations can be left in the Church Porch Mon - Fri 10am-1pm & Sun 11.30am – 12.15pm. All given to St Nicholas' Church Corfe Mullen FoodBank who provide food for Broadstone individuals & families, and vouchers to Broadstone/ Hillbourne Schools. They are grateful for what we bring but currently are short of: **washing up liquid, shampoo and individual desserts**. Visit parishofcorfemullen.church/foodbank to make cash donation or contact Sheila & Ken.



HOLY GROUNDS COFFEE MORNING Free tea & coffee every Thursday morning, 10am – 12noon. Come and enjoy a drink and a chat with old friends and new.

Further Afield

SING AT ST NIC'S Singing for fun, open to all regardless of singing ability. £3 per session. 10.30-11.45am at St Nicholas Church on 25th Nov.

LUNCH BUNCH at Broadstone Baptist Church is back on 27 Nov & 18 Dec. 11am – 2.30pm. 2 course hot lunch for £5. To book contact Dave Turner on 07773 082092

BOURNEMOUTH WILLIAM TEMPLE ASSOCIATION Mon 3 Nov, Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth. Starts 7.40pm but an optional dinner at 6.30pm beforehand.

ODDMENTS THEATRE PERFORMANCE OF 'AMAZING GRACE' taking place at Christ Church, Creekmoor on 15th November, 7 - 9pm (doors open at 6.30pm). Tickets are £12 adult/£10 12-18 year old. Book at <https://www.christchurchcreekmoor.org/>

CHITTER CHATTER CLUB Every Wednesday, 2.30pm – 4pm at Cafe Gardenia.

TUESDAY CLUB AT BROADSTONE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH We are open 10.30 am till 2pm. Please contact Ann on 01202 849136 for more information.

And Finally...

St John's was asked to sing and record a verse of a Christmas Carol for the Diocesan website at Christmas! As ever, St John's played along, and all came in their Christmas jumpers. The video will be on the website nearer Christmas!



DEADLINE FOR DEC/JAN JOINT EDITION SUBMISSIONS FRI 21st Nov.

Please email all items to admin@stjohnschurchbroadstone.org.uk,
AND a copy to Revd Helen at revdhelenbailey@gmail.com