

Reflection for Remembrance Sunday

With the situation in the world as it is at present, Remembrance Sunday offers a particularly powerful and meaningful time to reflect, honour and give thanks for all who have given their lives that we may live in peace - and to pray for peace.

Poetry can express things in ways that go beyond the sum of the words themselves. This poem, by **Malcolm Guite**, is entitled 'Remembrance Sunday'.

November pierces with its bleak remembrance
Of all the bitterness and waste of war.
Our silence tries but fails to make a semblance
Of that lost peace they thought worth fighting for.
Our silence seethes instead with wraiths and
whispers,
And all the restless rumour of new wars,
The shells are falling all around our vespers,
No moment is unscarred, there is no pause,
In every instant bloodied innocence
Falls to the weary earth, and whilst we stand
Quiescence ends again in acquiescence,
And Abel's blood still cries in every land
One silence only might redeem that blood
Only the silence of a dying God.

Revd Alison

**** WINTER MARKET ****

Saturday 18th November

We are having a table in the Hall to sell baking, jam, chutney etc. Donations would be wonderful. We will also be selling coffee and tea in the Hall. Volunteers to help in any way would be appreciated.

NEXT SUNDAY 12.11.2023 2nd before Advent
10.30 in the Church

READINGS: OT Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18
NT 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-30



CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Revd Sarah Cumming Assistant Priest 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Revd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Revd Mike Clark Associate Priest
mike.clark@exeter.anglican.org

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07536459096 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

12th November 2023

Remembrance Sunday

**10.50am at the war Memorial then into Church
for Holy Communion**

Today

10.50am at the War Memorial then into
Church

Hymn Numbers

366 O God, our help in ages past
328 Make me a channel of your peace
139 For the healing of the nations
177 National Anthem

Tuesday 14th November

7.30pm House Group. Phone Helen on
410400 for details.

Wednesday 15th November

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 16th November

9.30—11am St Thomas Tots
10.30am-12noon Knit & Natter, 19 Maple Rd
Details from Jenny on 01392 498725

Friday 17th November

9.30am Morning Prayer
10am Staff Meeting



Collect

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, 'then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Post Communion

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

NOTICES

The **Warm Space** is starting on 23rd November. Thanks you to all who volunteered to help.

Community Larder There will be a collection box in church on Sundays for food donations. The need remains great so please be mindful of our wider community.

House Group will run a weekly Advent Course beginning on 28th November and finishing on 19th December. More information to follow. Meetings will be held at Perridge Close at 7.30pm. Please ring Helen on 410400 for details.

Saturday 11th November, 2.30-5.30pm, at The Forum, Exeter University. Join the Archbishop of Canterbury for an afternoon of reflective conversation about bereavement, grief and finding hope. Tickets are available through the Diocesan website. If you are unable to access the website, please see one of the Staff team.

Thank you to Aga and her team for the **Inter-cultural celebration of All Souls** which was a wonderfully vibrant occasion. There may be some pictures to follow.

We will be moving into the Hall sometime after Remembrance Sunday. If you have any comments or thoughts please contact the Staff team.

Choosing an Architect. Members of the PCC will have met the two short-listed Architect practices on Friday the 10th November. Watch this space for further news.

The Standing Committee meet on Wednesday 15th November at 5.30pm via Zoom. The Standing Committee is made up of the Clergy team, Churchwarden, Treasurer and Secretary and meet every two months in between the PCC meetings to set the agenda and deal with any important matters that may occur.

