

St John the Evangelist

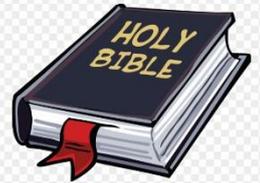
Bible Sunday

Signpost Weekly

27th October 2019

Dear Friends,

Today is bible Sunday. Our ordinand, Neil Biddiscombe, will be preaching at our 9.30 service (sorry 8am congregation - you've got me again!). It is wonderful to have a member of our parish training for ordained ministry and bringing the learning they are experiencing to the life of the parish. I am looking forward to all Neil will share. God's word is one of the ways our Lord continues to reveal himself to his people, but he can only do so if we read it! It is not merely a historical account of the activity of God (though the Old Testament is full of significant history) but as we read in Hebrews 4.12 – *'the word of God is alive and active...sharper than any double-edged sword.'* The bible is more than just another book sitting on our shelf – it holds the truth about God, the Word incarnate - Jesus - and it acts as a mirror against our thinking and action. Bible Sunday reminds us of its power and importance. *Rev Dan*



Journeying together

I was on the train today and a South Western Railway poster caught my eye. The headline was 'Our Promise to You'. It then said: 'We are passionate about delivering a great service for you and are here to make travelling easier.' It went on to spell out what that meant in these words:

- Be visible and available to you when you need us
- Offer information and answer questions you may have
- Make announcements about the destination and its calling point
- Keep you informed should things be delayed during your journey

Obviously this was talking about trains, but it got me thinking as some of those things could also be applied to my role as Bishop. My role, and that of Bishop Ruth, the archdeacons, our other colleagues and the central support staff in the Old Deanery is to support the work of mission and ministry which takes place across the parishes, chaplaincies and schools of the diocese. And we are all passionate about doing the best we can to support you and to 'make your travelling easier'.

And by 'travelling' we mean the walk that we have with Jesus as his followers and his disciples.

One way we seek to support you by being visible and available. Bishop Ruth and I like nothing better than getting out and about across the length and breadth of the diocese, meeting people and hearing all that you are doing to live and tell the story of Jesus. Every month we meet hundreds of new people and we try, as and when we can, to answer questions and let people know what is going on.

These parish magazine articles are another way in which we try to keep in touch and share what we are up to. The diocesan website, our e-newsletter, Connect, Manna magazine and our social media feeds on Facebook and Twitter are other places you can catch up with what we are doing, but more importantly to hear and read about what God is doing among us and within the communities we serve.

The train poster ended with the words 'Let us know how we are doing'. And that is another important reason why we love to get round the diocese so that we can hear what else we can do to support you and to share with you in living and telling others about the love of God.

With my prayers and very best wishes

The Right Revd Peter Hancock

Bishop of Bath and Wells

COLLECTS AND READINGS

27th October Bible Sunday **Isaiah 45.22-end; Romans 15.1-6; Luke 4. 16-24**

Collect: Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

3rd November All Saints **Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1.11-end; Luke 6.20-31**

Collect: God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Liz in the office know by Sam on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage

Couples preparing for marriage, and those recently married.

Baptisms:

We pray for all parents and godparents

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Betty Player, Christine Marston, Val & George Crawford Maureen & Ian Thompson, Gloria and Ken Vivash, Pete, Brenda,

For those who have died:

We pray for those who have recently died and their loved ones who grieve their loss.

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Baby Keela Dolan, Ann Cross, David Robertson



PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Take a moment to pause today and thank God for the gift of the bible. You might like to remind yourself of a favourite passage

Monday:

For those who are struggling at this time

Tuesday:

For anyone on your heart today

Wednesday:

For local businesses seeking to serve our community

Thursday:

*For unity in our land despite our differences as the deadline for Brexit passes**

Friday:

For all the saints who have gone before us, especially those who helped shape our faith

Saturday:

For all with leadership responsibility during the vacancy

****correct at time of writing!***

Please remember the parish office will be closed for half-term from 12.30pm on Friday 25th October reopening on Wednesday 6th November at 9.30am

At our 9.30am service on Sunday November 3rd we will be joined by Rev Dr Graham Dodds – Bishops' Chaplain - who will be preaching on the theme of All Saints.

FOODBANK

Our local foodbank continues to need our support.

They are particularly in need of the following items

Tins of Meat, Toilet Rolls, Dog Food, Nappies

ALL SOULS SERVICE

Sunday November 3rd

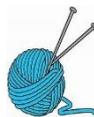
5pm

All are welcome to join us for this simple and reflective service.

If you would like a loved one/loved ones to be remembered then there is a list at the back of St John's for you to add their name. **Please write clearly.**

You can also contact Rev Dan directly (revdancrouch@gmail.com or 01278 325194) to add a name to the list to be remembered in the service.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS



It's time to get those knitting needles out again as the pattern for this year's knitted gift is now available in Church or from the parish office



Advance Notice

On Sunday 17th November there will be one service at 3pm.
There will not be a 9am service.

HELP NEEDED PLEASE

After the All Souls service we like to offer tea, cake and fellowship to the families who have come to remember their loved ones.

If you can help in any way by baking a cake, serving tea or just being there to have a chat then please do let the office or Rev Dan know.

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Vacant

Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194

Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

OCTOBER

Sun 27th	Bible Sunday	8am Communion 9.30am Communion
Tues 29 th	10am	NO Toddlers in church hall (half term break)
Wed 30 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
Thurs 31 st	10.30am	NO Little Angels in church hall (half term break)

NOVEMBER

Sun 3rd	Fourth Sunday before Advent	8am Communion 9.30am Communion 5pm All Souls Service
Tues 5 th	10am	NO Toddlers in church hall (half term break)
Wed 6 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
Thurs 7 th	10.30am	Little Angels in church hall

Sun 10th	Remembrance Sunday	8am Communion 9.30am Family Communion 3pm Remembrance service
Mon 11 th	11am	Act of Remembrance at Southwell Gardens
Tues 12 th	10am	Toddlers in church hall
Wed 13 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
Thurs 14 th	10.30am	Little Angels in church hall

Sun 17th	Second Sunday before Advent	NO 9am 3pm Communion & Tea
Tues 19 th	10am	Toddlers in church hall
Wed 20 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
Thurs 21 st	10.30am	Little Angels in church hall
Sat 23 rd	2.30pm	Wedding

Sun 24th	Christ the King	8am Communion 9.30am Communion
Tues 26 th	10am	Toddlers in church hall
Wed 27 th	9.30am	Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall
	7.30pm	PCC meeting in church hall – Outlook focus
Thurs 24 th	10.30am	Little Angels in church hall
Sat 30 th	10am – 12noon	Christmas fair

To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail:

stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com or leave a message on 01278 780633 by 8am on Thursday

Parish office opening hours

Wednesday 9.30am – 2.30pm, Thursday 12 noon – 2.30pm, Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Term time only

Please ring in advance