

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**  
**Last Sunday after Trinity**  
**All Saints Day**

**Readings for 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Revelation chapter 7 verses 9-17

1 John chapter 3 verses 1-3

Matthew chapter 5 verses 1-12



**Prayers:- From Churches Together in Hitchin** - Boxes of Remembrance have been sent to those who've been bereaved and have had connections with **Tilehouse Street Baptist Church** in the last two years. The boxes will be opened during a pre-recorded service on YouTube today. Pray that all would know God's comfort and peace in this very different Memorial Service.

**From St Mark's Prayer Cycle** – we pray for the bishops, clergy and staff of the Diocese of St Albans. We also pray for the Lister Hospital, staff, patients and chaplains.

**This week we pray for the residents of Westbury Close, Friday Furlong and Lower Innings.**

**Prayer Requests** – Please send any prayer requests for the whole church to pray for to Andrew, who will then pass them on to the group leaders. Do contact your own group to ask for prayer too.

**ONLINE & LIVE CHURCH DIARY** – links and details will be sent at 9.30am on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – 10am All Age Service on Zoom

4pm – Memorial Service & Dedication of plaques – this is by invitation only.

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – Morning Prayer Reading and reflection with John on Youtube.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – Morning Prayer in St Mark's Church at 9.15am will be led by Tricia. Online Morning Prayer led by Andrew and Frances will be on Zoom at 9.15am.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November** – Morning Prayer Reading and reflection with Andrew on Youtube.

**Next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November** will be our Remembrance Service at 10am in church and will be led by Rev Fizz Gibbs. *This service is now fully booked, but if you would like to be on a reserve list in case anyone cancels please let Maggie know.*

**Nick's Licensing & Installation Service 15<sup>th</sup> November** – we intend to have the service live on Zoom so all can watch, and will be sending out an electronic version of the Order of Service so that you can follow the service on Zoom, or on Youtube later.

*If you would prefer a hard copy of the Order of Service please let Maggie know by Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November.*

**Services up until Christmas**

Here are the services we have planned for the next couple of months. Please note that these may be subject to change, due to Covid 19 regulations or revised plans.

**8<sup>th</sup> November**                    **10am Remembrance Service & Holy Communion** in church, led by Rev Fizz Gibbs

**15<sup>th</sup> November**                **10am Zoom All Age & Family Service**  
**4pm Licensing & Installation Service** in church

<b>22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> in church
<b>29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> in church
<b>6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10am Zoom All Age &amp; Family Service</b> <b>11.15am Holy Communion</b> in church
<b>13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> in church
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10am Zoom All Age &amp; Family service</b> <b>11.15am Holy Communion</b> in church

The services in November and December will be led by Nick! We will let you know our Christmas services soon.

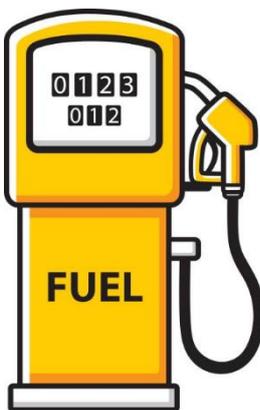
Please continue to let Maggie know if you would like to attend a service in church, especially for Nick's first services. We know that everyone will be very keen to meet him but please bear in mind that we can only have 30 people in church at a time, so we will need to take turns!

**Zoom Coffee Hosts required** Sadly we are still unable to have coffee together after church as it would be breaking the Rule of 6 (worship services are permitted but not social gatherings). So we plan to continue having our Zoom coffee at 10.45 – 11.45 each Sunday as long as there are people who wish to join us, and provided we can get some more hosts. We would be very grateful for any offers to host this occasionally – if you don't have a paid-for Zoom account you can use one of ours. Please contact Maggie if you can help – even once between now and Christmas would be a help.



*This week our friends without computers will receive a hard copy of the reading and reflection given by John Richardson on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October*

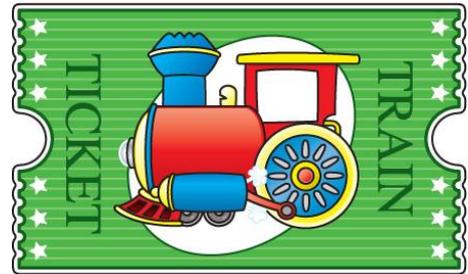
## CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS & UPDATES



### Generosity in Christ

St Mark's church family is a generous and loving family, and so it is with a heavy heart that we ask you to consider extending your generosity even further, if you are able. Whilst many have and continue to suffer extraordinary hardship because of the pandemic, some of us are blessed to have reduced our travel costs through not using our cars as much, nor routinely using public transport. If you have saved on travel costs, please would you consider donating the cost of a tank of fuel or a monthly travel pass, to help St Mark's? We have lost £5,500 income this year through loss of income from the hall rent, and although we are now hiring the hall out again the income is still much lower than before lockdown.

If you have not been travelling as much during the pandemic and are able to donate the value of a tank of fuel, or train ticket, it would help to meet the shortfall, and help us to meet our Parish Share. If you normally give by standing order, you can make an extra payment using the same account details. Or you can donate on the St Mark's website [www.stmarks-hitchin.org](http://www.stmarks-hitchin.org) using the "Donate" button. If you prefer to write a cheque to "St Mark's Hitchin" it can be posted to Maggie.



### **Peace Poppies for Remembrance**

In recent years, Kathleen Tuck of Christchurch has ordered white Peace Poppies from the Peace Pledge Union for Remembrance. She reports that, as it has not been possible to promote them satisfactorily this year, she has not ordered any new ones but has some left over from previous years. If you would like to purchase one, ring her on 01462 452432 and she will arrange for it to be delivered. She reminds us that, though we have had 75 years of peace in this country, sadly this is not the case everywhere and the work of peace-making still needs to be addressed.

**Traidcraft** – you may be starting to think about Christmas, which is going to be very different this year for many of us. Traidcraft are selling charity Christmas cards which support Traidcraft Exchange; SCIAF; CAFOD and Christian Aid. A selection of their designs can be found [here](#). They also have Real Advent calendars (Fairtrade chocolate and an activity book telling the Christmas story) and a range of Fairtrade products and ethical gifts, foodstuffs and other items. Their online shop is at [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk). You can either order directly – orders over £50 have free p&p - or via Maggie.

### **Safeguarding Training – a gentle reminder**

Churches are open places, and we encourage people to belong and to befriend and care for one another. But because of that openness, church communities are vulnerable to those who seek to harm others. Ensuring a safe environment for everyone is part of our Christian duty to love our neighbour as ourselves.

This is a gentle reminder to all that have been sent an email if you hold a particular office at St Marks that requires you to do Safeguarding Training. This training is renewed every three years. It is only a short time commitment, but really important for understanding the issues and making sure you can respond confidently and well if a concern is raised.

There are various levels of training depending on your role in church – please see last week's notices for details.

If you have any problems accessing the safeguarding courses or you're not sure if you are due to renew or have not had an email then please contact me.

Please let me know the date that you are booked onto a course and on completion forward me a copy of your certificate for my files.

Thank you to all who have updated or have dates booked in the future for training.

Pauline Banks – Safeguarding Officer

### **Christchurch - Youth & Children's Worker**

Christchurch Hitchin wishes to appoint a Youth and Children's Worker as part of its ministry team. The person will build authentic relationships, equip young people to grow through their own faith journeys, share their passion for Jesus in creative and innovative ways and make a positive difference in this community. Salary: £24,000, full-time. For information and application pack please visit the website: [www.christchurchhitchin.org.uk](http://www.christchurchhitchin.org.uk) Closing date for applications 1st November 2020.



**Missing holidays** There's no doubt about it I have sorely missed going on my usual two trips to Italy each year. Mainland in the North to see my Nephew then Sicily to visit my pal Pats. I don't relish flying but tolerate it as the means to an end. Another friend's Father (yes I have more than one friend) is absolutely terrified of flying and refuses to even contemplate the thought of it. His fear started when he heard the "Terminal" building was where you departed from!!!! he has even been known to pass out while waiting for someone at the arrivals gate!! The last time I landed in Bergamo airport, while waiting to disembark, I phoned my Nephew, as requested, to let him know we had just landed. He answered his phone and I said "Hi Jack " BIG MISTAKE !!! Joy x

*Please let us know what you would like to see in the notices, and send in any ideas, messages, photographs, poems or prayers (not too long please!)*

*If you would like to have a notice included please email*

*[notices@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk](mailto:notices@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk)*

*Please send notices by 7pm on the preceding Wednesday.*