



Dear friends – there is a lot in this news sheet! We are making plans for a very special Advent season this year, so please do take a few minutes to read the info below and respond as is right for you. God bless you, Kate

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00am All-Age Zoom Service – NB we will enjoy a particularly all-age service this week**

11.30am Zoom personal prayer with members of our prayer ministry team

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6792975230> or meeting ID 679 297 5230

If you do not know the password please contact Judith, Kate or Dan.

Or you can join on your landline or mobile phone by dialling 0208 080 6591 (London number – national rate applies). Enter the conference ID (679 297 5230) and password when requested.

### **Advent for families in Studley – help needed please respond soon if this is to go ahead**

We would like to provide an online advent calendar for families in Studley church and village to enjoy. The idea is that each day there would be a photo and a clue to a place in the village where a wooden angel is hidden. Children would try to find an angel, decorate it and bring it to the Christmas Eve event at church. **We need volunteers to think of a hiding place (or two), photograph it in the next couple of weeks, and hide an angel (provided) the night before the allocated date (or early that morning).** If you would like to help, or find out more detail, please contact Keith Johnson on 01527544830 or email [johnson\\_hunt\\_end@hotmail.com](mailto:johnson_hunt_end@hotmail.com). We think this will help to make our church, and the Christmas message, more visible during this challenging time. Thanks. Keith

**Thank you Sue:** Sue Ludlow has decided that due to her health issues it is time to step down from her roles with Centrepont and Celebration Praise, and to lay down the leadership of Messy Church (but to continue to be involved). She has given so much in all these roles over so many years and leaves some very big holes to be filled in due course. A HUGE thank-you Sue for all that you have contributed, and our prayers for God's blessing for you.

### **National call to prayer**

Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell have called us all to a month of prayer through November. They encourage us to pause and pray at 6pm each day. You should have received a 'prayer for the nation' leaflet via email or with this news sheet – if not let us know, or find it and other resources on our Facebook page/group.

We will use some of the national resources in our daily prayer:

**Weekday Prayer:** 9.30am Morning Prayer & 9.30pm Night Prayer on our public Facebook page

The Archbishops have called the clergy to prayer and fasting on Thursdays during lockdown – I plan to skip lunch on Thursdays and have a bit of extra prayer instead – feel free to join me if you are drawn to that. Kate

### **Churches open for individual personal prayer**

We cannot gather for public worship this month but we can open the churches for private prayer. Here is what we are offering:

**Thursdays 11am-1pm Studley Church** will be open (with supervision). There will be songs and images on the screens and also silences to help your prayer. Call in for a few minutes or longer as you wish.

**Oldberrow Church** is open for prayer at any time.

The vestry project building work at Mappleborough Church is going well. There is some dust being created at the moment, so we will not open the church for prayer at this time.

### **Advent Gift Weekend and 24 hours of prayer 28-29 November**

We have a lovely tradition of making a special thank-offering financial gift to our church over the weekend which marks the start of a new church year as we embark on the season of Advent once again. We invite you to consider making a gift

this year – details of how to give are shown below. Your gift will be much valued this year as our income has been reduced by the lack of collections at services, fewer weddings and less fundraising.

We also have a tradition of praying into the ministry and mission of our church into the year ahead. This year we will hold a **continuous chain of prayer from 9am Saturday to 9am Sunday**. Please consider committing to pray for an hour either at home or in Studley Church. As has been noted previously, praying in the middle of the night is a very special thing to do. We will be looking for a rota of people able to provide supervision of the building. More info to follow.

### **Worship in the Waiting – our Advent focus**

Beginning on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November (when we celebrate Christ the King) and through December ‘Worship in the Waiting’ will be the theme of our all age **Sunday Zoom worship**, using materials produced by ‘Engage Worship’.

You are invited to use their **Daily Devotions** booklet to supplement the theme of each Sunday for you to use at home. This will be used in our weekday Morning Prayer on Facebook. **The booklets are available as a pdf download to use on your device or as a paper booklet. The cost for either is about £4.00, but please pay what you can afford. Order your copy from Administrator Judith McLelland, and make your payment as indicated in our giving section below (to Studley Parish Church for convenience).**

On **Thursdays at 8pm** from 26<sup>th</sup> November join us for an hour on Zoom to explore the themes together and for some prayer and conversation.

### **The wildflower meadow**

The wildflower meadow at Mappleborough Green has now reached the end of the first stage. Many thanks to those who prepared the ground, particularly John Styler and Lee Bennett, and those who came along on an impossibly wet afternoon when all work had to be suspended. However, I did manage to get the yellow rattle seeds sown last week. Thanks also to those who donated towards the costs. Erica

### **Safeguarding training**

Over the last few weeks Judith has been sending out some emails for me asking for some of you to re-do your safeguarding training which needs to be done every three years. If you haven’t spotted an email please check your spam/junk emails to see if you have missed it. We would really like to take advantage of this ‘furlough’ time to get everyone’s training up to date. Kate

**Online retreat for Advent** led by Bishop John Saturday 28 November or Wednesday 2 December

<https://www.coventry.anglican.org/news/online-retreat-for-advent.php>

### **For your prayers**

*Contact Judith McLelland to add the names of people in urgent and critical need of prayer (with their permission). People remain on the list for 4 weeks (contact Judith if they need to remain after this).*

We pray for people in particular need including: **Tony Drake, Linda Moffat, Jean Burbage, Melissa Lammas, Val Greathead and Sue Ludlow**

We commend to God all who have died recently and pray for their families, including : **Paul Abbot, Oliver Prewitt, Roger Franklin and Ann Hurford**

We remember those for whom the anniversary of their death falls at this time: **None this week**

### **Prayer for the nation**

Loving Father God be with us in our distress:

with our families, friends and neighbours,  
our country and our world.

Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful,  
and comfort to the mourners.

Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers,  
insight to our government and patience to us all;

Overcome disease with the power of your new life,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen

**Making a donation to our churches**

Although we cannot give on Sundays in our usual way, we can still make a thank-offering on a Sunday or at any time.

You can make a donation using a bank card by phoning Dan Corlett, or by electronic bank transfer (please include your name as the reference for Gift Aid purposes)

	Sort Code	Account
Studley Parish Church	40-43-54	61000861
Mappleborough Green DCC	40-43-54	00558532
Morton Bagot PCC	40-43-54	60600547
Oldberrow PCC	40-43-19	61173928

To give by cheque, use the church name as in this table, and send the cheque to The Vicarage or pass it directly to the treasurer. Cash donations may be taken to The Vicarage.

**Contact details:**

**Rector: Revd Kate Mier**

3 Manor Mews, Studley B80 7PR rector@ardenmarches.co.uk 01527 852830 *Rest Day: Friday*

**Curate: Revd Dan Corlett**

curate@ardenmarches.co.uk 07543 370637 *Rest day: Monday*

**For safeguarding concerns:**

**Parish Safeguarding Officer, Kay Middleton** 07867492938

Diocesan safeguarding Team (24hrs) 024 7652 1345

**Church Administrator: Judith McLelland**

Available 2.00pm-4.30pm Monday to Thursday parish@ardenmarches.co.uk 01527 850130

*News sheet deadline 2pm Thursday*

Our website is [www.ardenmarches.co.uk](http://www.ardenmarches.co.uk)

You can find us on Facebook as Arden Marches Churches or join Arden Marches Church Family