

PRAYERS

Today we remember all those who fought for this country during both world wars and the conflicts since. We pay tribute to those who gave their lives for our safety and give thanks for those who returned. We also think of all their loved ones who waited for them. May they all know peace and feel our unwavering gratitude for their sacrifices.

We remember all who ask for our prayers and those who are unwell. We particularly remember **Graham Webster, Nick Ward, Jennifer Morshead, Eileen, Sally Calvert, Nicky, Sandy, Ron Backhouse, Beryl, Mary Clarke, Douglas James, Win, Betty, Clare, Joan Finlay Relf**, and all who are still very vulnerable and continuing to shield, including Zofia Golebiowska.

We pray for those who have died recently, particularly **Joan Probert** and **Christian Schembri**. May their families know God's comfort. We also remember all those who are mourning the anniversary of a loved one's death.

Christmas Hampers: Lists of items for donation are now at the back of Capel church. Please mark your name beside those items you feel you can give, but don't bring your donations to church until the beginning of December. Sue Partridge and Leigh de Souza are very kindly organising the packing and delivering the hampers in Capel this year.

A call to Prayer for the Nation: You will see that Revd. Liz has talked about the Archbishops call to pray daily from 9 November at 6pm on the opposite page. The links to the online resources are here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/PftN%20Booklet%20spreads.pdf>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation#na>

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The Parish of Capel & Ockley

Sunday 8th November 2020

Third Sunday before Advent



TODAY
SUNDAY 8TH
10.45am
3pm

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Service of Remembrance outside at Ockley
Service of Remembrance by the War memorial at Capel

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun in the morning
We will remember them.

It feels such a poignant time in which we begin our second lockdown. This Remembrance Sunday is certainly different to previous years but thankfully we are allowed and able to hold outdoor scaled down acts of worship and remembrance to mark the day. There have been preparations for this special day and now different preparations, as the gun will not be firing, people are encouraged to keep a distance or stay at home, and there is an online Remembrance Service for the people of Ockley filmed at St Margaret's. Our Archbishops are calling us to a month of prayer for the nation and asking us each day to pause at 6pm to light a candle or torch if we wish as a prayer prompt, set our mobile phone, or an alarm clock to remind us to pray a short prayer or as long as you wish!! More details elsewhere. But this sense of preparation for any event is important in any area of life but today's Scripture readings reflect on what it means to make spiritual preparation. The first reading from the Wisdom of Solomon wonderfully describes Wisdom in the feminine who seeks those who love her. There are many benefits in seeking her, one of which is that she, Wisdom, will meet them in every thought. The alternative reading from the prophet Amos warns those in his time who sought the day of the Lord that for them it will be a day of darkness, not of light. God is fed up of their festivals and offerings and looks instead for justice and righteousness. Moving to the New Testament, our second reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians assures us that we need not be concerned about those who have already died because they will be the ones who will be the first to rise. This passage is the one Bishop Jo preaches on this week and is attached for you to read. Finally the Gospel today is taken from Matthew and retells the parable of the ten bridesmaids which is a tale about taking the right preparation and keeping awake - keeping awake to our spiritual life is always a good thing and never more so than at the moment as we pause each day at 6pm! Do join in, take photos of your light and we can be together in all of this. Do take care, keep safe and please do contact one of us if you need any assistance, especially if you or others are struggling.

For all Services & Events

<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/events-calendar/>