



The Buzz

November 2020



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Monthly information for the Parish of Ifield

Thought for the Month



Autumn time with its colours and abundance of fruits has its own way of reminding us to be thankful for both the harvest of the land and sea, but also for all those who have risked so much for our freedoms.

On 4 August 1918 King George V, the Queen's grandfather, met to pray with members of the Houses of Parliament as part of a National Day of Prayer. One hundred days later, the war ended on 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.

Sadly, war has been a feature of human history since records began. World War 1 was supposed to be'the war to end all wars...'. I found the statistic that since 3600 BC the world has only known 292 years of peace. There have been 14,351 wars since then and as the book I found this in was published about 14 years ago... that figure is still increasing.

What shines through the darkness of statistics like this are the stories of courage and the example of those who are willing to bring the light of Christ into seemingly hopeless situations. It is in hearing these stories that we can remember them with thankful hearts, but also to strengthen our resolve to work and to pray for peace for future generations.

Since 1918, this quotation ... *'Love one another as Jesus first loved us. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.'*... from John 15: verses 12 & 13 began to appear on war memorials, commemorating those who had died. Many had indeed given their lives in battle in the hope that others might be saved.

Over a century on, these verses can be reclaimed so that we too might be able to live out Jesus' words... but in peace, rather than in war. That instead of dying in battle for others, we might live our lives in service that emulates Christ's life. Our call is to live a life of love, loving one another as Christ first loved us and to pray for lasting peace.

Our annual church Remembrance service will, hopefully, be on Sunday 8th November. It will of course have to be very different this year due to the need to social distance and restrictions of numbers able to attend. But there is still be a need to honour and reflect on the love and sacrifice that has been made by so many and if you are unable to attend I hope you will keep the two minute silence at home.

'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

What will that look like for you and for me?

With every blessing

Revd Christine

SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

In the current circumstances the only services held in church will be on Sundays at 11.00 am. These will be recorded and posted on-line as soon as practical.

1 st Sunday	First Sunday Non-Eucharistic Service
2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Sundays	Holy Communion (said)

On-line services will be as follows:

1 st Sunday	First Sunday Service (except 1st November when the service in church will be recorded and can be watched later)
2 nd Sunday	FIISH for young families
4 th Sunday	ReFresh

Weekly activities for children will be posted on the parish website.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the church toilet is not currently available for use.

KAREN KELSO R.I.P



It was with great sadness that we heard the news of Karen's death, and we extend our love and prayers to her husband, David, daughters Jenny and Rachel, her mother Hazel and her wider family.

Since joining our church community a few years ago, Karen has, in her quiet way, made a huge impact. She was the first to respond when our previous Rector, Simon, asked newcomers to the church to let him have their first impressions of the welcome they received. Karen's letter was considered and thoughtful, and as a result she was invited to put together the welcome sheet we still have in place today.

As soon as she heard about the church's involvement in cooking meals for residents and staff at Crawley Open House, Karen volunteered her services, and it wasn't long before she had taken over the organisation of the "Dinner Ladies". She joined, and subsequently chaired, the parish Mission Committee, forging links with our CMS Mission Partners, running The Big Breakfast for Christian Aid, heading up our Lent Lunches and planning fund-raising Harvest Suppers. She joined the PCC, became a much loved and respected member of a house group, and took part in the activities of SMILE.

In September 2018 Karen was one of seven members of St. Margaret's congregation to take part in the new Diocesan course Living Faith, at the end of which she elected to progress towards becoming an Authorised Lay Minister with a focus on fostering links with our local community. On 11th January 2020, in a service at Chichester Cathedral, Karen's ministry was duly authorised by Bishop Martin. When COVID-19 struck, Karen was on the receiving end of telephone calls and emails to St. Margaret's Community Helpline, responding in her customary gentle but efficient way to the practical needs that arose. Sadly, it was not long after this that her health began to deteriorate.

Karen will be remembered with affection by all who were fortunate enough to come into contact with her. May she rest in peace.



Supporting Our Local Community – Can You Help?

How we can better connect and serve our community, live our faith and show the love that Jesus has for everyone?
We're building partnerships with local voluntary organisations to support people who need it most.



FOOD DONATIONS

Food poverty is on the rise in Crawley and with unemployment expected to increase, more people are going to need help.

We are supporting the Crawley Food Bank Partnership who distribute food and basic essentials to people in crisis all over Crawley



Items Required:

Coffee, Sugar, UHT milk, Meat and Fish, Vegetables, Fruit, Beans, Bottles of Squash, Soup, Cereals, Pasta, Cooking Sauces, Desserts, Tea/Coffee and Biscuits but, of course, all donations are welcome.



We set-up a collection system across Ifield & Langley Green, so there is no need for you to deliver it yourselves, Sue Gilbert is co-ordinating collections.

Contact Sue Gilbert directly or via
The Parish office – office@ifieldparish.org / 01293 537578



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TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING

Even before the Coronavirus pandemic, 1 in 5 people in the UK were often or always feeling lonely. Prescription Plus Befriender Volunteers are helping to reduce social isolation by offering a weekly telephone call to people who are shielding at home.

If you have a couple of hours to spare each week, an up to date DBS and enjoy chatting to people we would love to have you on board as a Telephone Befriender.

To find out more please speak to Sue Edgson or contact via the Parish Office
office@ifieldparish.org or Tel: 01293 537578.

Sue will get in touch to discuss the role further



ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER



November is traditionally a time of remembering, when we would normally gather in church to think about those we have loved but see no longer.

This year, we will be doing things differently, but although it's different, it doesn't mean that we won't still be remembering them. It might mean you need to take time at home to stop and think, rather than being in the church building.

Here at St. Margaret's we'll still be offering the following to help you with this:

- A service in church at 11.00 am. We'll be reading out the names of people whose funerals we have taken in the last three years, and of those whom members of the congregation have asked to be remembered.
- Please remember to wear a face mask in church, and maintain social distancing.
- This service will be recorded and can be watched later in the day. Please see the parish website www.ifield.parish.org for details.
- If you wish to attend the service in person, please book in via the parish website or telephone Mave in the Parish Office (01293 537578).
- Light a candle at home. We will be lighting candles in church at about 11.20.
- Drop into the church any day between 8.30 am and 6.00 pm when it will be open for individual private prayer.
- Visit churchofengland.org/prayers-for-the-moment to help you pray and remember those who you knew and loved but have lost, either recently or long ago.

We hope you can join us in one of these ways and experience the love and peace of God at this special time of year.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER



This is the day when we think particularly of those who have died or been injured in active service.

As with All Saints/All Souls, we will be doing things differently this year.

- An outdoor service by the War Memorial, beginning at 10.55 am. There will be seating in church for those who find standing for a long time difficult.
- Please remember to wear a face mask both inside the church and outside, and maintain social distancing at all times.
- This service will be recorded and can be watched later in the day. Please see the parish website www.ifield.parish.org for details.
- If you wish to attend the service in person, please book in via the parish website or telephone Mave in the Parish Office (01293 537578).
- Visit churchofengland.org/prayers-for-remembrance to help you pray and remember the fallen from your home, or wherever you'd like to sit quietly.
- Mark the time of silence at 11 o'clock on November 11th on your doorstep.

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER TOY SERVICE PLUS

As usual, we be collecting toys, gifts for teenagers and toiletries for adults to be distributed by Becky, Crawley's Family Support Work practitioner, to local families.

Please bring your donations to church on Sunday 6th December, or leave them in the Lady Chapel any time during the preceding week (from 1st December onwards). If you would prefer to give a cash donation, FSW envelopes will be available.

ADVENT WINDOWS



This Advent is going to be different! Whatever happens with COVID 19, it's unlikely to mean business as usual. We've become used to doing things from our own homes, so how about celebrating Advent in a similar way, with a trail of Advent Windows leading up to a grand finale outside St. Margaret's church on Christmas Eve?

To make this work, we will need 24 volunteers to set up a window in their home or place of work on each of the 24 days from 30th November (the Monday after Advent Sunday) until 23rd December.

Occupants will be free to be as creative as they wish, each setting up their window on a particular day and leaving their creation in place to enable people to admire it at their leisure. Windows will need to be visible from the road or pavement, with no social mixing involved.

This year's theme will be Christmas Carols. There will be a list of suggestions in church, and a list of dates. To participate in this exciting venture, all you need to do is to sign up with your name and address against your chosen date, choose your carol, and get creating. You can even do more than one if you wish. Don't worry about overlaps – two or more people may choose the same carol, but their interpretation is bound to be different.

Please think about signing up as early as possible, so that there is plenty of time for us to produce a map and schedule of windows. If you are not comfortable about visiting the church at the moment, please contact Jill Bell on 521699 or email to reserve your slot.

Together we can offer the people of our parish a reminder of the true meaning of Advent as we prepare to receive again the good news of our Saviour's birth.

WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Team Rector	Revd. Christine Spencer	07498 211198	rector@ifieldparish.org
Curate	Revd. Jamie Gater	852763	curate@ifieldparish.org
Retired Clergy	Revd. Daphne Goodwin	886896	dapheter@aol.com
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	reader@ifieldparish.org
Parish Wardens	Rob Pudney	437038	rob@ifieldparish.org
	Chris Bell	521699	chris@ifieldparish.org
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	treasurer@ifieldparish.org
Safeguarding	Andy Cottee	202167	
			safeguarding@ifieldparish.org
Finance Officer	Claire Budd	534783	finance.stmargarets@ifieldparish.org
Youth and Children	Naomi Gater	852763	ycofficer@ifieldparish.org
Lychgate Bookings	Lisa Hull	532337	lmhull@virginmedia.com

PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

www.ifieldparish.org

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to
Carl Peirce carl@ifieldparish.org

Follow us:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1765334500346387/>

IFIELD PARISH OFFICE

Mondays-Thursdays 9.00 am – 12 noon

1 Lychgate Cottage, Ifield Street, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0NN

Parish Administrator: Mave Eshun Tel: 537578 Email: office@ifieldparish.org

PLEASE SEND ANY UPDATES FOR THE DECEMBER 2020 ISSUE TO JILL BELL

reader@ifieldparish.org by 23RD NOVEMBER