

Church Notices for Trinity 17, HARVEST and Trinity 19

(26th September, 3rd and 10th October 2021)



Hello Everyone,

This is a bumper edition which will cover the next 3 weekends as I'm off on retreat next week and then taking some annual leave. I'll be back on duty on 13th October.

The second weekend of our 'Northfield Revealed' events was blessed by sunshine and the bishop! Lots more people enjoyed Stuart's guided tour of the church and the 'pop-up drama' around Northfield. We brought the latter into church for the service with Bishop on Saturday and if you still have not seen it, you've one more chance..... this Saturday afternoon from 2pm. No need to book.

So this weekend we have.....

- **Saturday** Mrs History leads a 'drop-in' Family Community Day from 1-4pm. Open for people of any age and the pop-up drama will be back at 2pm and 3pm. There will also be activities linked to the Great Green Week in the churchyard including a new trail about birds.
- **Sunday** 4pm "Edith Holden's Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady in Song" in church £10 adults £5 children Tickets now on sale via Eventbrite, in church or phone Canon Janet (0121 477 3111) – we don't plan to fill the church too full for this but we would like a good number of people to be there! <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/160723382965> until 30mins before the event or available in church on Sunday morning and possibly on the door.
- The amazing **Tapestry Arch** is on display this weekend in church. We will then cover it or put it away until the building work is finished but if you can't get to have a look, then view this lovely video and see who you can spot spotting their handiwork!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tkxli_rXm68 There are also free booklets which tells the inspiration behind each mini masterpiece.

Great Big Green Week concludes this weekend. ! There are lots of events happening in our area – see the Growing Up Green website for family friendly fun, including:

- **Story-telling and den building** with Northfield Arts Forum, until 26th September, 10am - 4pm, at Northfield Community Garden, (opposite Sainsbury's). No need to book, just go along, it's free!
- Ecobirmingham's **group bike ride** (and scooters, trailers...) which includes a visit to St Laurence Churchyard, on 25th September, 10-11.30am

<https://www.growingup.green/whats-on>

Also coming up Ollie, from Northfield Arts Forum (NAF), has suggested some things that our churches can be involved with around climate change.

- Thursday 14th October 4-7pm, NAF's Community Café (at the Baptist Church), Protest banner making and Climate conversations. This will be a family friendly event.
- Sunday 17th October (afternoon), Faith for Climate day, NAF can support an afternoon of climate activities for Churches Together. This could be at the churches or on Prices Square.
- Saturday 6th November, Climate March and Protest in the city centre. There will be a faith contingent that we could join.

It has been good to hear our Prime Minister speaking, this week, about the need to take more action to counter Climate Change. Our **GREEN HEART TREE** demonstrating our commitment to this is flourishing but still space for more leaves. Please return yours to church this weekend as we will be presenting the tree at a meeting with Northfield MP Gary on Friday 1st October at 7.30pm at the Quaker

Meeting House. Revd Theresa and Elaine Clements have offered to be our representatives but it would be lovely to have two more. Please let Revd Theresa know if you would like to attend.

Eco Tip: We know it's better to pop leftovers in the fridge to use up rather than throwing in the bin, but covering with cling film isn't the most eco-friendly choice. It's usually made of plastic which isn't naturally biodegradable, meaning it sits in landfill releasing harmful chemicals for decades. Which? consumer magazine tested different types of eco-wraps for food (including compostable cling film and recycled foil), and **beeswax wraps** came out on top. They're cost-effective, malleable, durable, keep food fresher for longer, and, after many re-uses, compostable.

The Nations' Climate Service held in Glasgow Cathedral on 5th September is now available to view.

<https://www.climatesunday.org/nationsclimatesundayservice> It is 1 hour 46 mins.

Don't forget that we are celebrating **HARVEST** in church on Sunday 3rd October – look out for the amazing gourds which have been grown at the Rectory! Please bring donations of tinned, bottled or dried foods for local foodbanks or cheque/electronic donations which will go to support our link Dioceses in Malawi. Please write 'Malawi' on the back of cheques and use 'Malawi' as the reference for Bank transfers. A/c: St Laurence PCC, Sort-code 40-52-40, Number 00095606

We're also holding a short Harvest service at the Masefield Community Garden on Wednesday 20th October at 11.30am. Sally and her team at the Garden are always very welcoming and hospitable so do come along It is an outside service.

The PCC met again this week. We don't plan to make any changes to the way we worship for at least another month so **you no longer need to book for the 9.30am service** – just turn up – and similarly on Wednesdays at 10am. We continue to encourage the wearing of masks and we will still be receiving bread (only) at Holy Communion. Please keep a quiet, worshipful atmosphere in church prior to the service but we are more relaxed about chatting afterwards, especially outside. If you need to strictly social distance please let the wardens know on arrival. We do have additional copies of the service booklet and the collects and readings available at the door but please bring yours from home if you've got them.

However, one more step forward is that churchwarden Sandra has offered to host '**After Church Coffee**' in the Concert Hall of the Pastoral Centre on Sunday 3rd October as a one-off for starters. The hall will be set out with well-spaced out tables and chairs.

Please note that the 9.30am service will be on Zoom this Sunday but on 3rd and 10th October there will be **NO ZOOM service** due to lack of volunteers. We do hope to put the sermons on YouTube and the phone-line.

We are gradually rebuilding our team of volunteers so we can keep '**Saturday Morning Open Church**' going. Could you help, maybe once a month, from 9.45 for 2 hours please? Sign-up sheet in the porch or contact Rowena.

Stay and Play is back on Monday mornings for babies and pre-school children with their carers; 9.30-11am in the Pastoral Centre.

Last Sunday we welcomed Amber and Millie Timms into the family of the church in **Holy Baptism** and on Sunday 10th October it will be the turn of Louisa Dodsworth. At the moment we are holding baptisms at 12noon on Sundays but we look forward to the return of some, especially for families who are communicants, within the main service.

Larry's after-school club continues to grow as members bring along their friends. It is great to see the enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers helping to run it (Roy, Hilda, Julie, Kathy, Peter) alongside Revd Theresa and Youth Worker Rosie. Some more would be lovely – especially if you enjoy playing table football or running a Tuck Shop!

100 Club draw number 9 took place Tuesday 21st September at the coffee morning at Rowheath. Jeff Carr has notified the winners. First prize Denise Carr £20 number 33; second prize Miriam Chapman £15 number 98; third prize Sandra Reynolds £10 number 38.

General updates about the 100 Club can be seen by clicking the link :-

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nhoqjvek80fr7dp/AABLhEOGohljG0lVOnstZNzEa?dl=0>

There are a lot of hard issues in the news at the moment. Every refugee, every modern-day slave, every recipient of racism, every person affected by Covid or the growing NHS waiting-lists is a much loved child of God. It can feel overwhelming at times.

Church of England Birmingham is offering a variety of information events, ways to take action and services to lament and bring hope. I've put them together in a section below 'Connecting with World Issues - Church Events happening locally' so you know what is available. We can't all do it all, we may be able to do one thing (I've signed up for the Modern Slavery event) or we may not be able to do any of it but please hold them in your prayers and take hope from the fact that these things are happening.

Blessings

Can Jan

For your Prayers

Those who are ill

Barbara Finch: now in Moseley Hall Hospital Ward 5 with mobility issues

Peter Valentine: father of one of our recent brides currently in hospital

Margaret Scrimshaw: now home

Roger Morton: Revd Theresa's husband is now home following his recent fall and hip surgery but sorting out his care package is proving challenging, not least because they live on the border of Worcestershire and Birmingham

Linda Powell: we give thanks that Linda has recovered well from throat surgery and was back in church last Sunday.

Those who have died

Roger Pickering: Funeral Friday 24th September at Lodge Hill

Christine Bisseker: wife of Alan who is the 'lollipop man' at the top of Church Road and a congregant. Funeral Wednesday 6th October at Lodge Hill

Connecting with World Issues - Church Events happening locally.

Have you spotted any slaves recently? Probably not but they can be **'Hidden in Plain Sight!'** Bishop Anne is hosting an online Zoom event on 13 October, 6.00pm – 8.00pm to tell us more including what is happening locally as **Modern Slavery** is present in every major town and city of the UK. We all have a part to play in learning to recognise the signs and how to respond in a safe way. As followers of Jesus we can and must play our part and this event is an opportunity to explore further how we can recognise, respond, reflect and pray. [Register for this event here](#)

'Songs of Lament and Restoration' is an opportunity to discover and learn new (simple) music and prayers, all held within a framework of prayer and worship on Sat 2nd October at Holy Cross Billesley, 2.00pm – 4.30pm. It is free. It offers the opportunity to reflect on the many losses of the past year as we approach the 'Remembrance Season' and also to acknowledge the effects of racism and the climate emergency within our prayer and worship.

RSVP to Alison Vining, RSCM Area Secretary alison@vining.eu / Tel: 07971 265702

October is **Black History Month** and there will be a service to mark this at St Martin-in-the-Bull-Ring on Saturday 16th October from 4 – 5.30pm.

Jeremy Thompson, Manager at Restore, a project of Birmingham Churches Together supporting refugees says,

"It's been so encouraging to see the outpouring of compassion towards **Afghan refugees**. Providing safety for all refugees and asylum seekers is a global challenge and we all need to play our part. At Restore, our volunteer befrienders offer welcome, assist with conversational English and help them to understand a new city and culture. But integration is a long-term process for all refugees and our befrienders are there for the long haul, if needed.

To find out more about befriending or to sign up for our October training course please go to our website, www.restore-uk.org

We recognise that Restore is only a small piece in the jigsaw of refugee support work and we're delighted to work in partnership with many other organisations including Refugee Action, St Chad's Sanctuary, Refugee and Migrant Centre, Birmingham City of Sanctuary and Birmingham City Council. Together, we can achieve our vision of a society into which all refugees and asylum seekers are welcomed, valued and integrated. Please join us!"

Community News

The **Community Hotline** continues via Northfield Community Partnership ...

0121 411 2157 (10am – 3pm Monday – Friday)

for help including shopping and picking up medication as well as advice or if you'd just like a friendly phone-call. Also call for face to face appointments or to use a computer in their Hub, 693-695 Bristol Road South, Northfield.

Huge congratulations to Rebecca Debenham, CEO of Northfield Community Partnership, for her **nomination for a Heart of England Community Heroes Award** for the work she has done in Northfield. Very well deserved Rebecca, and thanks to the whole team for their tireless work for our community. <https://www.northfieldcommunity.org/>

Birmingham City Council's **Mobile Household Recycling Centres** (MHRC) make it easier for residents to get rid of surplus items without visiting recycling centres. Items collected include excess black bag rubbish, recycling, bulky items, garden waste and even items suitable for charity resale. The MHRC can not take building materials (rubble, bricks etc), white goods or hazardous materials.

The MHRC will be visiting our area from 7am to midday on the following dates:

- Wednesday 29th September: Beaks Hill Road, Kings Norton
- Friday 1st October: Rea Valley Drive, Northfield/Kings Norton
- Monday 4th October: Lowhill Lane, Longbridge

The **People's Show Choir** is being relaunched on Tuesdays, 7.30-9pm, at the Moseley Community Hub, It is a non-auditioned community choir where it's all about singing for enjoyment, with some great tunes from stage and screen. No need to read sheet music, just a willingness to come and sing! There's the opportunity to be part of a concert with full live orchestra this Christmas, along with recordings for Commonwealth celebrations.

For more information, or to sign up for the free four-week trial, call 0121 569 2616, visit

<https://thepeoplesorchestra.com/the-peoples-show-choir-south-birmingham/> or message via <https://m.facebook.com/ThePeoplesShowChoir/>

Child-to-Parent abuse is rarely talked about meaning it can be very difficult for those affected to find help. Northfield Families is offering a free Zoom event for anyone who would like to better understand the impact it can have and the support that's available. Thursday 30th September, 11am-12.30pm. Register at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pegs-child-to-parent-abuse-there-is-support-available>

Covid

All residents are invited by the Birmingham & Solihull Clinical Improvement Post COVID Rehabilitation Group to an **online event to find out about Long Covid**, the symptoms and treatment available in Birmingham and Solihull. Listen to clinicians and ask questions.

Tuesday 28th September from 5:30pm - 6.30pm

Agenda and Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/living-with-long-covid-support-in-birmingham-and-solihull-tickets-168214121967>

The Birmingham City Council Public Health Team has provided the following updates...

- The vaccination programme has started for young people aged 12-15. If you know anyone in this age group, do direct them to the information the Government has made available specifically for them, so they get to know the facts rather than misinformation they may pick up through social media: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>
- The government has announced the next phase of reopening international travel, which aims to make travelling more simple and straightforward with less testing and lower costs. Changes take place from 4th October. See <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for full details.
- Case rates have dropped slightly as a whole across Birmingham, but remained the same in the 60-79 age group.
- Kings Norton South and Frankley continue to rank in the top ten wards with the highest case rates.

- Walk-in vaccinations for adults are still available at Edgbaston Cricket Ground, for first and second doses.
- Vaccine boosters for adults are now being rolled out, to the same priority groups as previously.
- It is recommended that as many people as possible receive a flu jab to help reduce pressure on the NHS. Contact your GP or local pharmacy.
- The Government's Covid response plan for the autumn and winter can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021>
- Although there is a desire to get back to normal, in addition to having the vaccine we are encouraged to: continue wearing masks in shops, public transport, and other crowded/confined spaces; maintain social distance; ensure good ventilation; wash hands regularly; have lateral flow tests twice a week; and take PCR tests for even mild symptoms.
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Let's all do our bit to keep each other safe.

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| To book for services use EVENTBRITE LINKS or, if this isn't possible phone | |
| Revd Theresa on 07557472096. Please leave a message if no answer. | |
| Please remember that if you are coming to a service in church or pastoral centre we ask you to : | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pre-book by the deadline (Sunday School Service only) 2. Demonstrate your care for others by wearing a face covering (unless exempt) 3. Social Distance – please be sensitive to those around you. 4. Avoid unnecessary conversation before the service – though we can chat outside afterwards 5. Be prepared to sit where directed by the church wardens 6. Bring a small bottle of sanitiser for use before receiving Holy Communion 7. If attending the Sunday School Service bring a 'kit bag' of pencils & crayons, scissors and a Glue-stick 8. NOT attend if you have any symptoms of Covid or you have been told to self-isolate | |
| SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE In Pastoral Centre for the rest of the term PLEASE book only for the dates you can attend and cancel as early as possible if you can't make it. | https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/170206735929 As usual, bookings for each Sunday will close at 2pm on the Saturday before. |
| Sunday 26th September 4pm "Edith Holden's Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady in Song" in church £10 adults £5 children | https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/160723382965 OR tickets available in church OR phone 0121 477 3111 |
| SERVICES AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK | |
| Saturday 25th September Church open 9.30 – 4pm | And from 1-4pm Mrs History leads a 'drop-in' Family Community Afternoon No need to book |
| Sundays 8.30am Sunday School Service 9.30am Holy Communion | In the Pastoral Centre – needs to be pre-booked No need to book- just come along. |

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| <p>4pm Sunday 26th September</p> <p>“Edith Holden’s Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady in Song” (see above for ticket details)</p> | <p>Also by zoom and zoom-phone on 26th Sept but not 3rd & 10th October and available later on YouTube. Sermons only on 3rd & 10th Oct</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84533030134</p> <p>Meeting ID: 845 3303 0134</p> |
| <p>Mondays 9.30-11am</p> <p>5pm Evening Prayer</p> | <p>Stay and Play in the Pastoral Centre</p> <p>No need to book</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992167638</p> <p>Meeting ID 89992167638</p> |
| <p>Tuesdays 10am Gridiron ‘Coffee’</p> <p>5pm Evening Prayer</p> | <p>Currently meeting at 10.30am in the grounds of Rowheath Park following Covid Guidance with Coffee etc available at the Pavilion. Just turn up!</p> <p>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89992167638</p> <p>Meeting ID 89992167638</p> |
| <p>Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion</p> <p>8.30pm Compline</p> | <p>IN CHURCH and by Conference Call only</p> <p>01902 693302 Code 1139 (no Zoom)</p> <p>by Conference Call only</p> <p>01902 693302 Code 1139</p> |
| <p>Thursdays 3.30 - 5pm Larry’s (for young people of secondary school age)</p> | <p>In the Pastoral Centre</p> |
| <p>Saturdays going forward</p> <p>Church open 10am – 11.30am</p> | <p>Pop in to pray, light a candle and a look around.</p> |

How to Conference Call

Phone **01902 693302** and when asked enter the code **1139** and then say your name.

It then takes a few moments before you can hear and be heard.





Also - You can Phone a Service 24 hours a day!

freephone 0800 804 8044 for Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

And to hear one of the **St Laurence Ministers preaching: 0121 270 4690**

These are changed after the services on Sundays and Wednesdays (usually by early evening)

CONTACT DETAILS

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| PARISH OFFICE | |
| Lorraine Freeman (Parish Administrator) <i>Open 9-12noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday</i> | stlaurence@btconnect.com  0121 475 1518 |
| RECTOR | |
| Canon Janet Chapman <i>Not available 27 Sept – 12 Oct</i> | janet.rectory@gmail.com  0121 477 3111 |
| ASSISTANT CURATE | |
| Revd Theresa Morton <i>Day off: Friday</i> | theresa.curate@gmail.com  07557472096 |
| READER | |
| Janice Wones <i>Day off: Friday</i> | janice.wones@talktalk.net  0121 459 7417 |

Church Website: www.stlaurencenorthfield.org

Twitter: @stlaurenceb31

Rector: @janetchapman5

Facebook www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/stlaurencenorthfield>

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. If you need to contact someone regarding a church safeguarding concern (adults or children), please call our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Rowena Nicholls, on 07724 170448.

If you have an urgent concern for the safety of yourself or someone else, call 999.

St Laurence Church Northfield is Registered Charity 1132975