

*St Edmund King & Martyr,
Dudley
Parish Magazine*



*A Church of England Parish
November 2016
Price 50p*



*Welcome to the Church of
St Edmund,
King & Martyr, Dudley*



Mass Times

Wednesday 12.15pm

Sundays 11.00am

**The church is open on Thursday Mornings from
10.30am to 12 noon**

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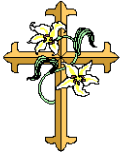
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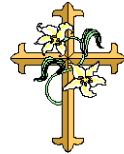
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to the Church Wardens*

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IN REMEMBRANCE NOVEMBER



2nd	Eleanor May Woods
6th	Elizabeth Howell
	Ethel May Gillbanks
7th	Geoffrey Spearman
8th	Harry Hickman
10th	Edith Muriel Fletcher
11th	May Ethel Degenhard
	Jack Turton
12th	Elsie Vanes
17th	Ethel Price
	Frank William Perry
18th	Edward Wood
	Edith May Guest
19th	David Howell
	Stanley Fielding
20th	Arthur Roland Gretton Dodd
21st	Eric Edward Millington
	Peter Hayes
24th	Patricia Wood
26th	Josiah Whitehouse
29th	Winifred Roberts
30th	Wilfred Greasley

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory

**Would you like to remember a loved one on their anniversary
by sponsoring a floral display in church?
If so, please have a word with Mrs Dodd.**

The darkness deepens



Compline, or Night Prayer, is perhaps one of the most beloved services stemming from the Book of Common Prayer. Recently I was in the company of a group of Pentecostal pastors who were experiencing its rhythms and cadences. “Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping.” “Keep me as the apple of your eye, hide me under the shadow of your wings.” The latter is a quotation from Psalm 17. The whole service is steeped in the

scriptures. I remember as students how we would enjoy gathering to sing Compline in chapel late on a Saturday evening, soaking in the stillness by candlelight, reverently but with more than a dash of student playfulness. There were giggles of mirth when reciting the closing chapters of the Book of Job as we pondered the teeth and scales of Leviathan, the crocodile.

Most readings at Night Prayer involve not chapters of scripture at a time but only one or two verses for the mind and heart to dwell on as the day draws to a close. And the verse from Night Prayer to which I find I am drawn again and again is from Jeremiah 14; “You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Forsake us not, O Lord our God.” The words express confidence in the presence of God the end of the day. Yet also as darkness falls, they are a heartfelt prayer not to be abandoned.

The coming of night brings with it the hope of rest and refreshment but also the surfacing of our fears, perhaps precisely because sleep is the daily act of letting go at the end of the day. Sleep after all prepares us for our last and final letting go into the love of God as life itself draws to a close. I'm conscious that the Christian life seems to bring with it anguish and heartache, if not for all of us most of the time, at least for some of us more often than we sometimes care to consider. In those times of darkness, when we can hold onto very little, those words from the prophet Jeremiah can be a lifeline.

Even when we're not mercifully stretched to breaking point, they are words that we can receive with hope and with compassion as were bidden to remember others who need to hold on in the midst of darkness. For them, and for all of us we can pray, “the darkness deepens, Lord with me abide.”

Andrew

The texts for Daily Prayer, including Compline are available online at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/texts/daily2.aspx>

NOVEMBER

READERS

6 th	Mr M. Wisbey Mr J. Harcourt
13 th	Mr M. Clews Mrs J. Lambert
20 th	Mr A. Baillie Mrs D. Dodd
27 th	Mrs J. Fraser Mrs M. McGraghan
Dec 4 th	Mrs A. Mullaney Mr M. Wisbey

INTERCESSORS

6 th	Mrs M. McGraghan
13 th	Mr J. Harcourt
20 th	Mrs J. Lambert
27 th	Mrs A. Mullaney
Dec 4 th	Mr M. Clews

Please volunteer to join the reading and prayer rotas!

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

How many deaths will it take till he knows that too
many people have died.....

Bob Dylan

Letter from Robert Jones, Archdeacon of Worcester



It's a celebrity world, and whilst we may look down on that, I suspect we are all a bit addicted to it too. I bumped into an erstwhile Dr Who in an Oxford pub once (the actor, not the character), and was more excited than I probably should have been!

The Church has its own set of celebrities. We like to put people like archbishops on pedestals, and sometimes we quite like to knock them off too. Our main celebrities are the ones we celebrate on All Saints Day. Some may well have been commemorated locally, but others are just gathered up into this wonderful 'catch all' festival on 1st November. They are the often unknown, unnamed and unsung heroes of the faith who have simply got on with living out their faith in their own time and place, people who know that God loves them.

Each church has its own particular heroes. This year the Lutheran church worldwide celebrates the man who made the Reformation happen in Germany 500 years ago, a monk called Martin Luther. He was a complicated man – bad-tempered and intense, and he made some dodgy political comments about the Jews and about the poor, which were to have unintended consequences years later. But he also changed the German language for ever, in the same way Shakespeare, the Book of Common Prayer and King James Bible did for English, and he turned the church upside down in a way that affected us all. As one commentator puts it, Luther had one really good strong central idea, that God loves us anyway.

It should not surprise us that Luther had a complex personality. Recently Mother Theresa has been raised to the altar and named a saint in the Roman Catholic Church. We all know the good works she and her sisters did with the least of the least in Kolkata and elsewhere. But we discover that she too was complex – in some of her alliances and opinions, and not least, amazingly, in the fact that for many years her spiritual life seemed barren and dry, more like a wilderness than a fount of living water, a dark night of the soul.

Celebrating the saints is a great idea: it can really inspire us to fresh vision and purpose. But as Fr Harry Williams once wrote, have you ever had to share a house with a saint? We might find their foibles every bit as annoying as our own. None of us are perfect. Celebrities and pedestals are risky, because all of us are complex – it goes with the territory of being human.

So maybe we need to hold on to Luther's core idea as the most important one, the one that saints have known of old, namely that God loves us anyway.



Remember. Remember.

We do a lot of remembering in November each year.

On November 1st comes All Saints day, a day to pause and remember that, on our journey of faith, we are always surrounded by a great invisible cloud of witnesses, who have struggled like us to love God in Jesus Christ and love other people just as Jesus did. We call these ones the Saints.

On November 2nd we have All Souls day. It's a chance for us to remember all whom we have loved and who have died. Many churches hold services around this time and invite people recently bereaved to join them in an act of remember their loved ones.

Then on November 5th, fireworks shoot into the heavens and fires burn brightly. Still there is often an effigy burnt on the fires of a man, Guy Fawkes, who was driven by desperation because he was a Roman Catholic and therefore, in his day, a member of an oppressed and hounded minority in British society. This is a strange remembering in the 21st century, but not a remembering that is far from our lived experience, in a world where once again the gaps between people in our world are widening, and there are many who feel they are being hounded because

of who they are, what they believe or where they come from.

Finally on November 11th comes Remembrance Day - the original Armistice, remembering those who were lost in World War one, in the horrors of the Second World war and all conflicts since.

So much remembering. What's it for?

Remembering is of little use if it only serves to hold us in the past, looking back with longing, comparing the now, unfavourably, with "the way back when".

Remembering must be active. It is no use if it stands still and does not move us onwards. Such fixed remembering leads to sentimentality, jingoism and stagnation, and nothing is learnt from past mistakes.

True remembering should move us, and move us on.

Jesus laid remembering upon all who would follow him, knowing that only in remembering could they grow, flourish and move forwards to become his living body in and for this world-

He broke bread and said, do this to remember me.

He shared a cup of wine and said each time you share this, remember me.

We cannot undo any of the wars we have waged and continue to wage up-
on this earth.

We cannot restore the lives that were taken nor heal the families and
individuals, the nations and the earth itself that have been ripped apart
and mangled by conflict.

But we can take our remembering and make it active -

Letting our remembering lead us to be peacemakers

Letting our remembering lead us to seek justice for all, especially for the
oppressed.

Letting our remembering inform the way we live our lives today,
transforming the way we are with one another and the way we are with
those who are for us strangers, outsiders and even enemies.

Let our remembering the past today, lead us to work for a better future.

Rev. Joanna Anderson

St Edmund's Patronal Festival

Monday 21st November at 7.30pm.



Preacher and Celebrant the Rt. Revd.

Jonathan Goodall, Bishop of Ebbsfleet.

All are welcome and refreshments will be
provided following Mass.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2nd November - "Knitting Ministry" at St John's Kates Hill.

19th November - St Barnabas's Christmas Fayre

21st November - St Edmund's Patronal Festival

26th November - St James's Christmas Fair

Copy for the December Edition to Andrew by 10th November - please use
'DCN' in the subject box of emails.



St James's Church Christmas Fair



Saturday 26th November

at 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm in the crypt.

There will be all the usual attractions including lunches, tombola, raffle, cakes, books, Christmas stall plus much more to help you get ready for Christmas



St Barnabas Christmas Fayre



Saturday 19th November

12.00 noon – 3.00pm

Come and join us at St Barnabas Church for our Christmas Fayre.

ST JOHN'S, KATES HILL

On Wednesday 2nd November at 2pm we welcome Gwen Taylor who will be talking about the "Knitting ministry".

This will be an Open meeting in the lower hall, so please do join us if you can.

Avril Wood - M. U. Branch Leader'



Contact information

More information is available on the website: www.cofedudley.org.uk

Revd Joanna Anderson 01384-838695 revjoannacam@gmail.com

Revd Dr Tom Atfield 01384-836480 tomatfield@virginmedia.com

Revd Andrew Wickens 01384-214487 astljwickens@gmail.com

Rota For NOV 2016	St Augustine 11:00	St Barnabas 9:30	St Francis 11:00	St James 9.30	St Thomas 11:00	St Edmund 11:00	St John's 10:00
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
06-Nov	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev J Anderson	Rev J Anderson	Canon A Wickens	Canon G. L Yall	Fr M Brain
				Evening Prayer @ 6.30pm	Evening Prayer @ 6.30pm		
3rd Sunday Before Advent				Mr J Taylor	Canon A Wickens		
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer @ 10.30am	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
13-Nov	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev J Anderson	Rev J Anderson	Mrs M Clift	Fr J Oakes	Fr M Brain
2nd before Advent Remembrance Sunday							
	Service of the World	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
20-Nov	Mrs S Sharp	Rev J Anderson	Canon A Wickens	Canon A Wickens	Rev Dr T Atfield	Fr A Mottram	Fr M Brain
Christ The King							
27-Nov	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev Dr T Atfield	Rev J Anderson	Rev J Anderson	Canon A Wickens	Fr M Brierley	Fr M Brain
Advent Sunday							

Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays: St Francis 10.00 am; St Thomas & St Luke 10.15 am; St Edmund's 12.15 pm.

NB Rota is subject to change—latest info is at www.cofedudley.org.uk

ST EDMUND'S PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Monday 21st November 2016 at 7.30pm

Preacher and Celebrant

**The Rt Rev. Jonathan Goodall
Bishop of Ebbsfleet**



Followed by refreshments



Everyone welcome



Many thanks to Patrick McGraghan for standing in at the last minute to speak to us in October instead of November. It was interesting to hear about the Catenian Society, an organisation of RC professional and business men who meet to maintain their faith and promote family life. It was remarked that there is a similarity with the MU in this respect.

This month there will be the delayed talk from a representative of the Alzheimer's Society. This will be on **Monday 14th November at 3pm, Usual venue.**
MM

Calendars

Calendars for 2017 are now available in church.

Desk size £5 Hanging option £7.50

More pictures taken in church from interesting angles by
Mike Hessey.

Numbers limited - Hurry while stocks last!

Gerald Mullaney 1941 - 2016



Gerald was born in Gold's Hill, West Bromwich in 1941 and spent his childhood there. On leaving school he joined the Wellington Tube Company in Great Bridge as an apprentice mechanic.

In 1964 he met his future wife, Anne, at Wolverhampton Civic Hall. They were married two years later at St John's church Kates hill and their first home was in Dudley Port.

Gerald worked at various places over the years, always involved with trucks, their sales and service.

In 1972 Gerald and Anne emigrated to New Zealand where he worked as a service manager later moving on the sales. He had many tales to tell of their life on the other side of the world, Their son Ian was born in 1976 in Auckland as a New Zealand citizen.

In 1978 they returned to this country and came to live in The Parade where they remained. In 1982 Gerald became a Freemason and passed through the chair as Grand Master and was for many years Chaplain to the Dormston Lodge.

Their son Ian won a place at The Royal Worcester Grammar School and Gerald did a fair amount of "chauffeur" to and from Rugby matches.

If Gerald's first love was his family, trucks came a close second, they were his working life and when he won an award for selling the most trucks it can only be because of his love and enthusiasm for the product shining through.

In retirement he bought an ERF truck to do up as a pastime but was unable to complete the project due to ill-health.

When working for Kelly's Scania he had the opportunity to take a logging truck through Sweden (Scania being a Swedish company) within the arctic circle, to see the Northern lights. A wonderful experience.

During the war in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s Gerald volunteered to drive a truck in an aid convoy organised by the Walsall police force. He saw



some harrowing and heart-breaking sights which deeply affected him and he found it difficult to speak of these things on his return.

Gerald was an active member of the congregation, on the Parochial Church Council and a representative to the Deanery Synod. He regularly mopped the church floor, coming in when no one else was present and enjoyed the peace and silence of the empty church.

Gerald bore his illness with dignity and courage. It was never just a 'duty' to visit him in the last weeks, there was always a twinkle in his eye and some chat to be had.



He will be missed as an active member of the church, and as a much loved friend. We send our love and sympathy to Anne, also to Ian, Jen and Ben.

May he rest in peace.

We give our loved ones back to God, and just as he gave them to us and did not lose them in the giving, so we have not lost them in returning them to him. For Life is eternal, love is immortal, death is only a horizon, and a horizon is nothing but the limit of our earthly sight.

Croatia

This year, we went to Croatia on holiday. It looked lovely in the brochure, and did not disappoint when we arrived. The people were friendly and welcoming and the surrounding countryside beautiful.



Bell Tower in Dubrovnik's Old Town

However, a good place for a holiday now, and also people from this country and others in Europe holidayed there in the 1980s when it was part of Yugoslavia. But during the 1990s it was a very different place.

I am sure you will all remember the harrowing pictures on television of the war there, as Yugoslavia disintegrated.

Why did this happen? No one really knows, but factors were the collapse of the USSR, communism failing in Eastern Europe and the death of Tito. There were also memories of a civil war and German occupation during World War II. The break up and fighting started in 1991 and did not end until 1999 despite the efforts of the UN, NATO and much international diplomacy.

The fighting was not only with rockets and guns but also with knives and pitchforks as former friends and neighbours attacked each other for their ethnicity and religion.

There were no good guys and bad guys, all factions were responsible for atrocities.

It is salutary to remember that as recently as the 1990s there were prison camps and ethnic cleansing present in Europe just a three hour plane ride from the UK.

What was Yugoslavia is now seven countries - Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Macedonia and Kosovo.

On the Sunday we were there, we went to a little village called Cilipe, which had been mostly destroyed during the war, but is now rebuilt. We went to Mass in the church which had been desecrated, but has been



War damaged buildings in Mostar

restored, except for a group of statues of the Holy family - Jesus and Joseph had their heads knocked off and the eyes of the Virgin Mary had been put out by Serbian - Montenegrin forces on 13th January 1992.



Croatia, on the Mediterranean coast, is an agreeable place to holiday now.

But don't let's forget how fragile peace can be. The picture of the Holy Family, above, is a blunt reminder that people in the area are not forgetting or forgiving the sins of the past.

Archbishop of Canterbury comes to Merry Hill

At the beginning of October the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, made a three day visit to the diocese of Worcester. He attended events in Worcester, Redditch and Dudley. The finale to his visitation was at Merry Hill on Sunday afternoon. A good crowd had gathered in the atrium outside Marks & Spencer on the lower floor, about six deep, and more on the upper level looking down.

The Archbishop arrived, descending on the escalator accompanied by Bishop John of Worcester and Bishop Graham of Dudley. He took time to talk to people, not forgetting children, getting down to their level.

There were hymns, accompanied by a gospel choir, and prayers written

by two school children. The event was

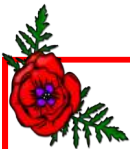
emceed by Robert Jones, Archdeacon of Worcester, aided by Nicki Groarke, Archdeacon of Dudley. The Archbishop spoke for about five minutes and then was presented with a Black Country Bible, and a t-shirt with the words 'Bostin Archbish' on, which he promptly put on.



To watchers he came across as a friendly and approachable man. To churchgoers it was an experience to see our Archbishop in the flesh.

Services for November

Wednesday 2nd:	TBC
Sunday 6th:	Canon Graham Lyall
Wednesday 9th:	TBC
Sunday 13th:	Fr John Oakes Remembrance Sunday
Wednesday 16th:	Fr Tony Hutchinson
Sunday 20th:	Fr Andrew Mottram
Monday 21st:	Patronal Festival at 7.30pm Rt Revd Jonathan Goodall Bishop of Ebbsfleet
Wednesday 23rd:	Fr Andrew Mottram
Sunday 27th:	Fr Michael Brierley
Wednesday 30th:	Fr Tom Atfield



Remembrance Sunday 13th November

Please be at church by **10.50am** to allow time for the Act of Remembrance.

Also, please be aware that some roads in Dudley will be closed due to the procession to the War Memorial.

Holy Days in November

1st	All Saints
2nd	All Souls
19th	Hilda Abbess of Whitby
20th	St Edmund King & Martyr
22nd	St Cecilia
23rd	St Columba
30th	St Andrew

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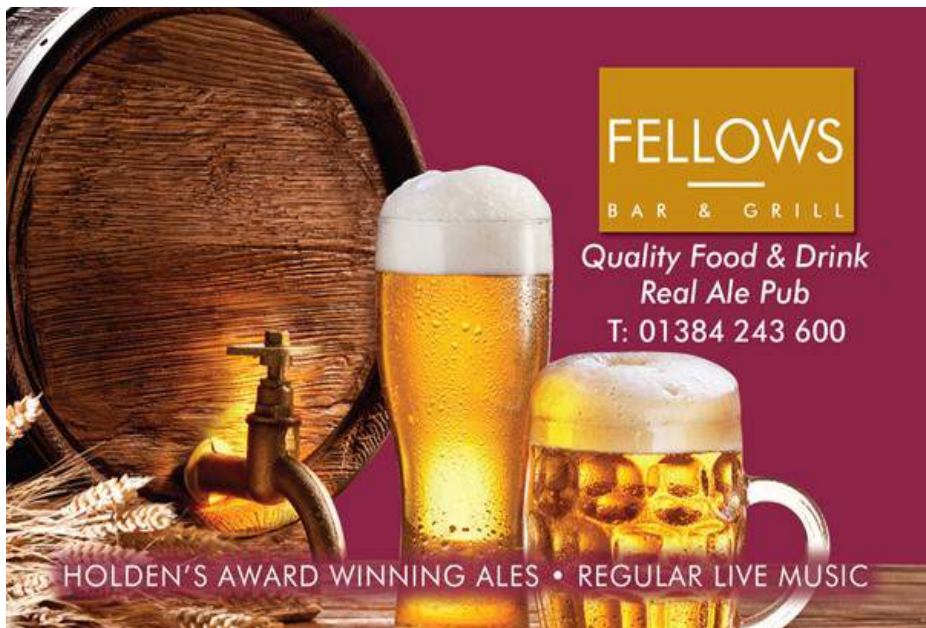
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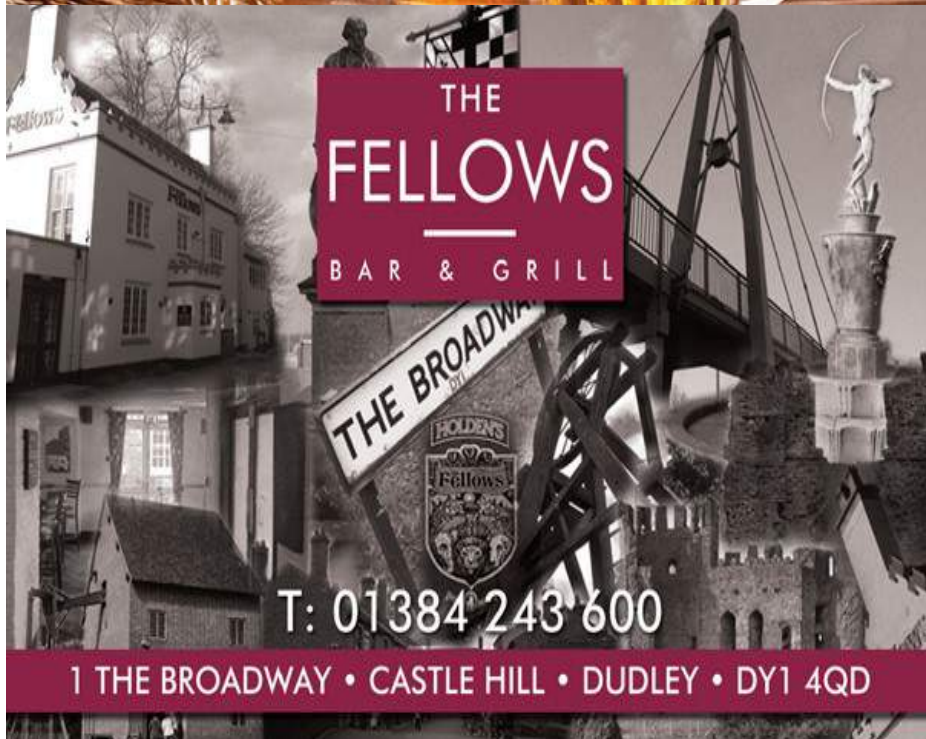
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