

THE PARISH OF ST. MARGARET, INGOL

Hello everyone,

A bit of a blustery day today, but then it is the end of October, what should I expect? It's hard to think that we are at the end of October and that Advent is just a few short weeks away, three Sundays after Remembrance Day (29th November) in fact; where has the year gone? In the meantime, before we get wrapped up in Christmas, wrapped up.....get it? oh have I missed my calling? Would comedienne have been the thing? I think not! Back to business, in the meantime we have much to think about and to celebrate, none the least of which is still being able to get to church and celebrate God together...have you joined us recently? Why not? Come and try.

As we approach the end of the month, we approach three very important days on our church calendar, All saints Day, All Souls Day and Remembrance Day, all of which will go ahead, as "normal". Sunday 1st November is All Saints Day when we celebrate the great and the good and their contribution to our Church and faith, Monday 2nd November is All Souls Day when we celebrate and remember the lives of our loved ones and those who have passed on before us and Remembrance Day is when we celebrate the fallen.

So the arrangements for these services are as follows;-

Sunday 1st November

We will be celebrating All saints and All Souls together, there will be 2 services one at 10.00am and one at 11.30am, both will be Holy Communion and in both services there will be an opportunity for you to bring a flower to the altar for me to lay before the Lord with prayers for your loved ones called home to God. There will not be opportunity to read out names of the deceased as we have done before, but their names will be read out in church daily for the week by myself as I pray for them all on your behalf. PLEASE join us for this service, ring me and book a place 01772 727208, or 07957334562, or e-mail revrie52@outlook.com. This is a wonderful opportunity to thank God for the love and lives of family and friends and to remember the love and fellowship they have given and received.



Sunday 8th November

Remembrance day will be held as normal in church, there will be 2 services one at 10.00am and one at 11.30am and we will honour and remember the fallen in the traditional way with laying of wreaths and observing respectful silence. PLEASE join us for this service, ring me and book a place 01772 727208, or 07957334562, or e-mail revrie52@outlook.com. Also I urge you to get a poppy, or make a donation to the Poppy Fund, so many charities are losing out in these uncertain times, it would be good to know that we can support this charity that works ceaselessly for those who have given so much, and continue to give, in the service of their country and to those dependants left behind. Thank you.

November will also see the start of an initiative from Bishop Julian, Bishop of Blackburn, A call to pray and to give. I have enclosed part of the letter he has sent out for your perusal....

“Dear friends,

The current pandemic has had a negative impact on the finances of many, if not most, organisations in some way. We must continue to uphold in prayer those who have lost their jobs or business as a result, find themselves in debt and are anxious about the future. I am extremely appreciative for all of the work that you, as church leaders, have done to serve and sustain the most vulnerable at this time. The Church has not been immune to the financial impact of the disease. Months of closures, limited capacity when open and a nervousness which has kept some away from services have all brought giving down, sometimes significantly. Those dependent on weekly giving in the offering plate and those dependent on rental incomes from church and halls have been hit particularly hard. While there has been a significant fall in Parish Share contributions, it has not been as great as anticipated and I give thanks to God for all who have continued to give towards the cost of the ministry they receive.

We had hoped to start a planned time of prayer with a focus on these issues this month, but it has not been possible and the time has not been right. However, I am very pleased to say that much work has been done and we are able to announce a call to pray and give which will take place in November. The launch day for this call to pray and give will be Thursday 12th November 2020. It will then run through until the 29th November. Advent Sunday, the start of the Church calendar year, has long been a day of prayer for our parishes and this year will be no different, but it will also be a day of giving for parishes funds.”

There will be lots of information and how to join the prayer circles, prayers, follow services, ideas for reflection culminating in the service on 29th November. WATCH OUT for details.

So much going on, busy, busy time, when are we not busy in God’s service? Please keep a watch for things that are going on, please come to church and join us in worship, you would be so welcome, and above all keep safe. If you need anything, ring me and I will be only too happy to help if I can.

With my love and every blessing

Rev Rie

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