

HEXAD

November 2023

Remember Remember...

The Anglo-Saxons called November the '*wind monath*' because it was the time of the year when the cold winds began to blow. The nights draw in leaving us with shorter and colder days. Sir Walter Scott in his long poem '*Marmion*' wrote (1808)

*"November's sky is chill and drear,
November's leaf is red and sear" (withered)*

The poet T.S. Elliot called it "*sombre November*"

November is also a time for gathering to remember: the month begins with All Saints Day and follows with services for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed when we remember loved ones, family and friends who have died.

Not all remembering stays the same

Guy Fawkes Night was also once a national day of remembrance. Originally the day was declared a national holiday by parliamentary decree. Unlike today, and until 1859, all parish churches were required to hold services. The rest of the day was given over to celebrations with bells ringing, canons firing and beer flowing.

Before 1918, the 11th of November was remembered as Martinmas. Famous for his generosity towards a drunken beggar, with whom he shared his cloak, St Martin is the patron saint of beggars, drunkards and the poor. This day was celebrated with great feasts and was also the time of hiring fairs, at which agricultural labourers and farmhands would seek employment.

Nowadays 11th November is remembered with solemnity for those who have given their lives in the service of their country in wars past and present. We remember the courage they showed, but also the cost that they and their loved ones bore; especially those who died or carry the ongoing scars of conflict both physical and mental.

As we remember their sacrifice it points us to the even greater sacrifice of Jesus who gave up his life; not for his friends or those who deserve it, but for a humanity that had turned its back on God and plunged his good world into conflict and chaos. Such is God's love that he looks on us with all our mistakes and failings and doesn't give up on us. But in love gives up his own life, so that we can be at peace with him now and forever. In the face of such love how can our hearts not be warmed and our desire be to loved as he loved us. Lest we forget...

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Madeleine Wang, lay Chair Launde Deanery

Hallaton Benefice Services

Church Services in the Hallaton Benefice

You are welcome in any church in any village. Details of services in the Whatborough Benefice are on the Benefice website.

November 5th:

5:00pm Tugby Holy Communion

November 12th:

10.30am Tugby Service of Remembrance

09.45am Hallaton Morning Service

10:45am Hallaton Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial

November 19th:

11.00am Tugby Holy Communion

November 26th:

9:30am Slawston Holy Communion

10.00am Tugby Morning Praise - Cafe Style

Zoom Services:

These will continue each Sunday at 11.00am.

Apart from Sunday November 12th when the Service of Remembrance will commence at 10:45am

Full instructions and Zoom link can be found at the Launde Deanery Minster Community Website:

launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk

Parish News:

Horninghold:

A yew tree with an accompanying plaque has been planted in the village churchyard to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III.

Slawston:

At All Saints, Slawston, we were very pleased to welcome a very good turnout for our Harvest Festival on 8 October, and the Revd. David and organist Kevin. All the children present enjoyed helping Revd. David with his Reflection on What Harvest Means.

Instead of donating garden produce, which in the past we have auctioned for charity, this year the village donated many tins, packets, bottles and jars for the local Foodbank, which Linda from Hallaton very kindly delivered for us.

We shared refreshments afterwards and enjoyed spending the time together.

Our next Family Communion is on Sunday November 26 at 9.30pm, followed by refreshments, and all are welcome.

East Norton:

All Saints hosted its popular harvest service on 1 October led by The Revd David Palmer. The church was full, with village and Benefice representation, and the service included readings and active participation from young East Norton residents.

Huge thanks as ever to the loyal cleaning team who banished dust and cobwebs from the church, for the vibrant autumnal decorations and delicious refreshments.

Our next village gathering is on 4 November when we will meet for a bonfire and light refreshments. Our next church services are in December.

Hallaton:

Thank you to everyone who decorated the church so beautifully for Harvest and to everyone who gave so generously to the foodbank. We are very grateful to Katherine and Lindsey for making the book stall look so appealing and ordered. Do pop in to the church for your next book!

Our Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 12th November. Please join us for a shortened service before we move to the War Memorial. We are very grateful to Denis for continuing to organise this with such precision.

Mothers' Union:

At our meeting on Tuesday 14th November our speaker is Revd. Ivor Bennett. He will be talking about his work with AFIA, family respite holidays, run by Leicester Diocese MU and supported by our group each year. The meeting is at Silva House, East Norton, at 7.30. Details from Carol. Tel. 0116 2598216.

Jubilee Food Bank: www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk

Our Churches continue to support the local Foodbank: Jubilee Foodbank Market Harborough.

You can drop off donations at Hallaton Church or to Linda Jones at 25, Eastgate, Hallaton *at any time*.

Details of items most needed can be found at:

jubileefoodbankmh.uk/shopping-list

Launde Abbey:

Don't forget **The Dairy Tea Room** at Launde is open daily from 10.00am to 4.30pm for morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea.

Classical Concerts: in the Chapel at 3.00pm

Sunday 19th November: Eleanor Hodgkinson (piano) and Nick Stringfellow (cello)

These concerts are very popular so it is wise to book in advance

Phone Launde Abbey to book your seat - £16 (Optional Cream tea £5 extra) 01572 717 254

Launde Deanery Minster Community Website:

John Dyson and Madeleine Wang have continued building a new website for the Launde Deanery Minster Community. Although much work remains to be done it may be visited at

launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk

There are 35 CofE places of worship and 4 CofE schools within the deanery so a rather more ambitious project than the benefice website. Comments are welcome using the 'Contact' page on the website.

Contact details for clergy (For pastoral support, baptisms, weddings and funerals):

The Reverend Jayne Lewis:

Priest in Charge of the Whatborough Parishes
Cold Overton, Knossington, Lowesby, Owston, Tilton-on-the-Hill

and with duty of care for the Hallaton Benefice

Telephone : 0116 2597244

East Norton, Hallaton with Allexton, Horninghold, Slawston, Tugby

email : jaynelewis28@gmail.com

Visit **launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk**

for regular updates and the latest news from around the Benefice and for a link to the Weekly Zoom Service.

Safeguarding - children, young people and vulnerable adults:

The Benefice co-ordinator is Jane Anne Gore Brown who may be contacted on janeannegb@yahoo.com or on 01162598382.