



PARISH OF BUXTED & HADLOW DOWN
ST. MARGARET THE QUEEN • ST. MARY THE VIRGIN • ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST



<https://www.bhdchurches.co.uk/>

News from the Parish – 1st November 2020

*"For all the saints who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest."*

For All the Saints

We celebrate this Sunday the Feast of All Saints. This celebration in the Christian Calendar is a timely occasion to remember before God those who have gone before us in the Christian faith.

During my recent induction service I marvelled at the heritage of faith that I was gifted with in the Church of St. Margaret the Queen. 770 years of Christian worship in that building. Generations of Christian ministers long before even the oldest members of our parish were born. Similarly with St. Mark's and St. Mary's, we are the beneficiaries and heirs of the faithful witness of those who have gone before us, whose names have been long forgotten.

Let me suggest two ways in which we should approach the All Saints service this Sunday.

First, take some time before God, perhaps with a pencil and a piece of paper and remember those who instilled the faith in you. Perhaps directly, parents or godparents who taught you to pray, or ministers of the gospel who told you the good news. Perhaps those who indirectly created opportunities of faith for us, like those who sacrificially built the churches in which we worship. Remember these people, and take some time in preparation for worship on Sunday to remember them by name before God.



Second, as the Saints in Buxted and Hadlow Down, think about what inheritance of faith you are passing on to the next generation. Our children and grandchildren certainly, but also our ministry in the community. While it seems unlikely that we will ever have Saints Days named after any of us, our Heavenly Father will see our good works and the generations that follow will be blessed by them.

I look forward to worshipping with you and All the Saints this Sunday.

CPM+

Readings for this Sunday

Readings for this Sunday are :

Revelation 7: 9 - 17

1 John 3: 1 - 3

Matthew 5: 1 - 12

Church services

The services for this Sunday (1st November) will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	Parish Communion
10.00	St Margaret's	Parish Eucharist
11.15	St Mary's	Requiem Mass for All Saints

On Monday 2nd November there will be a service at St Mary's for All Souls (see below)

There will be the usual Thursday morning communion at St Margaret's, starting at 10.00.

The services for the following Sunday (8th November) Remembrance Sunday will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
10.00	St Margaret's	Parish Communion, followed by an act of Remembrance
11.00	St Mary's	Parish Mass with Remembrance
15.00	St Mark's	Service of Remembrance



Please note : There will be no 9.00am service at St Mark's, but there will be the Service of Remembrance in the afternoon.

Further details on the services and acts of remembrance are given below.

Please note about social distancing : We are starting to get larger congregations attending services, which is obviously good news, but we still need to maintain social distancing of 2 metres (6 foot 6 inches in old money). Whilst we are taping off alternate pews / rows, there are options to put people at either end of consecutive pews and therefore increase the number who can attend. However, this does require co-operation and everyone to self-discipline themselves. We never want to turn people away, but even more we want to protect everyone

I am sure that, by now, you don't necessarily need to be reminded that face coverings are required in Places of Worship, unless you have a health reason for not wearing one, and we do need to continue to practice social distancing (as above) and hygiene and keeping a record of who has attended. We also now have QR codes at the entrance to the three churches so that you can "check-in" electronically rather than by paper.

All Saints and All Souls

Given Covid restrictions and the way that the calendar falls this year, it has been agreed that the normal All Souls service at St Margaret's, held on Sunday afternoon, will not go ahead. The church will be open for private prayer and contemplation, closing at sunset.

There will be an All Souls service at St Mary's on Monday at 10.30 am, where all are welcome to attend a parish service.

Remembrance Sunday

There has been much discussion on how to observe Remembrance Sunday and we have had to be realistic about what can be achieved in these times. The plan is, for Sunday 8th November :

St Margaret's : There will be a Parish Communion service at 10.00, with readings appropriate to the occasion, and hymns sung by the choir. The Royal British Legion will bring their standards and wreaths into the church at around 9.30, and seating will be available for them.



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Following the service, the standards and wreaths will be removed from the church and there will be an Act of Remembrance around the war memorial, including the two minutes silence marked by the bugler and reading of names. This will aim to be around 11.00. Members of the congregation will be able to stand around the churchyard to mark this moment.

St Mary's : The Parish Mass with Remembrance will commence at 11.00 (rather than 11.15) to allow for the two minute silence.

St Mark's : There will be no 9.00am service, but the Service of Remembrance will be held at 3.00pm, as usual. There will need to be some moving around of chairs to ensure that we optimise the seating, but this will allow for the appropriate laying of wreaths and act of remembrance.

Please note that at 11.00 on Wednesday 11th the two minute silence will be observed at St Mark's with the usual maroons being set off. The senior year group at the school will also be in attendance and will arrange flowers on the war graves.

It is hoped that, given this is such an unusual year, we will all have time to pause at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, to perform our own act of remembrance.



Prayers

In our prayers this week we continue to pray for Norman Longley, Jeremy Clark, Lindsay and Wilbs George and Jane Godfrey.

We also remember all those known to us who require our prayers.

If you know of anyone that you would like added to the list, please do get in contact.



Providing support

Should you need pastoral support, please contact Rev Pete Molloy. His contact details are :

Email : bhdrector@gmail.com
Phone : 01825 733103

His day of rest is Monday, so the churchwardens (and his family) would greatly appreciate if you could allow him this time and only contact him if there is something urgent. If in doubt, please try one of the churchwardens.

The Virtual Collection Plate

Whilst there is a collection plate at services (whose contents will be quarantined before counting and banking), however the guidance gives a clear preference for on-line giving.

If you are able to make a donation, then our bank details are :
HSBC Account: Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down PCC A/C No: 11454064 Sort Code: 40-45-32. If you wish to gift aid then please ask for a form from the Treasurer (treasurer@bhdchurches.co.uk)

Alternatively, the Planned Giving Scheme is where you can make a monthly direct debit and Gift Aid is automatically calculated. You can sign up by telephone (0333 002 1271) and all you will need are your bank details and the Parish name (Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down) and our PGS number (which is : *103080519*).

Thank you, in advance.

And finally

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands."

Revelation 7 : 9