

A note from the Vicarage:

Be careful that you do not forget the Lord you God

Deuteronomy 8:11

Dear Friends,

November has always been a time of festivals and celebrations marking the end of harvest but for me personally it is a month about remembering. Are you good at remembering? What do you find yourselves remembering at this time of year? What are we remembering as a church?

On all Saints Day on Wednesday 1st November, we have a day of prayer, we remember all the saints, known and unknown, we remember those past and present, those people who have inspired us and shaped us into the people God has called us to be. We gather together at 7:30pm in church to pray and you are very welcome to join us.

On Sunday 5th November we remember the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Bonfire night was a failed attempt to kill the new king James I and replace him with a catholic head of state. After Guy Fawkes and others were caught guarding a lot of explosives placed beneath the House of Lords, the public were encouraged to celebrate the king's survival with bonfires and fireworks which still happens today.



For many people perhaps the most significant and poignant remembering takes place on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th November, Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. This year, I am holding a short service from 10:45am in front of the church to mark Armistice Day as well as we join together on the Sunday at 10:30am for

our joint service to stop and remember those who have gone before us, those still in active service and those confronting the ongoing issues of war and peace, loss and self-sacrifice, memory and remembering.

Further into the month we gather at 3pm on Sunday 26th November for our Time to Remember service. It allows us to all remember with thanksgiving before God those who have died, those personally known, those who gave us life, made sacrifices for us and who nurtured us in our faith.

Finally, the last day of November is Thursday 30th St. Andrew's Day, Scotland's official national day. According to John's gospel Andrew was the first Christian evangelist to personally invite his brother to come and meet Jesus



I hope and pray that these events and maybe some more help us all to come together and remember as we are mindful of the past, learn from the inspiration and example of those who have gone before and, in our future together, grow in our faith and introduce others to Jesus.

Every blessing
Chris