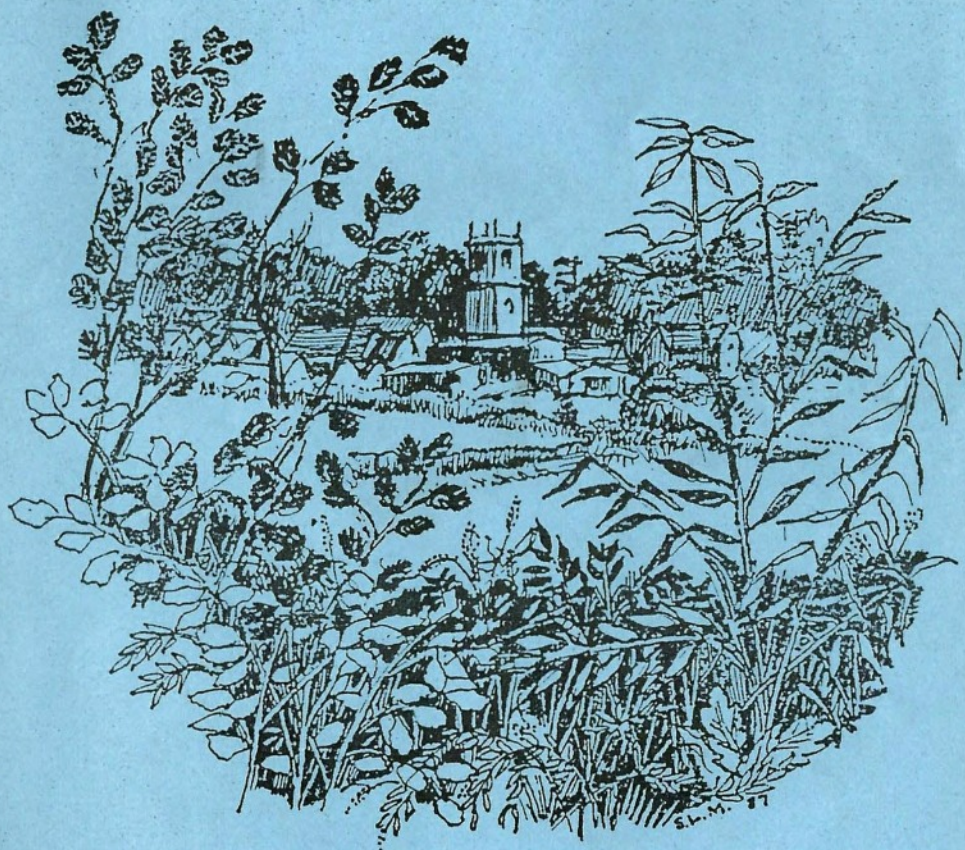
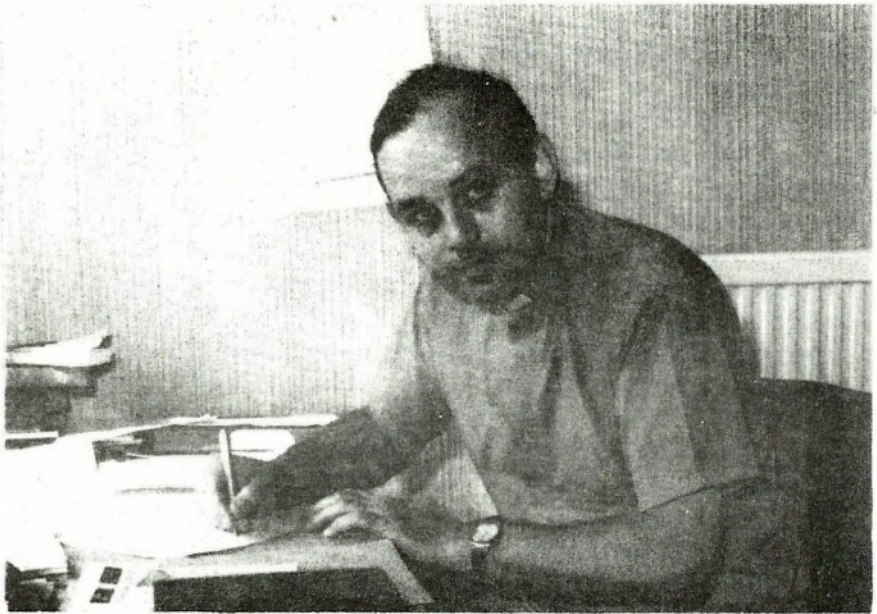


ECTON CHURCH AND VILLAGE NEWS





ECTON PARISH MAGAZINE: NOVEMBER 1987

FROM THE RECTORS STUDY

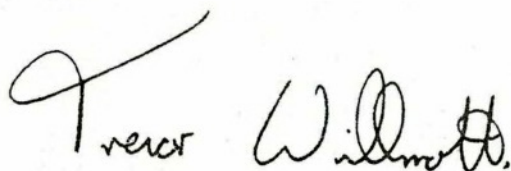
Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith and sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us in all
our days,
that we may live as those who believe in the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
and the resurrection to eternal life;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

November is the month of All Saints and All Souls. Timely reminders, in a world which often gives the impression that we shall live forever, of our own mortality. In a real sense, these two feasts help to free us of the pressures to possess, to dominate, and to see life, with all its richness and beauty, as a gift to be shared. The Saints of God - often ordinary men and women, yet all with a simple directness of faith which cuts through much of the confusion of everyday living and dying. The Saints give us a prospective on life in relationship to God which disturbs our expectations, and challenges our jealousies. "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also", for the Saint of God touched by the heart of God, the only lasting treasure is to be found in God. Not for them a life lived for itself, nor even a life recognised by the world as admirable, the Saints are awkward, angular companions, for all who would seek to follow Christ.

All Souls move the spotlight again to our own humanity, to a recognition of our own finitude. The only thing we all share in common is our own birth and our death. The one surrounded by much rejoicing, and the other nowadays almost a sign of our failure as human beings. Because we cannot yet heal everyone, death is a seeming disgrace, and so we hide it away and make it into a "decent event". Faced with its reality, we hope that we shall not be embarrassed by the tears of others, yet how rarely do we prepare for its eventual coming in the same way that we prepare for a new birth. All Souls challenges the world which would boast of its successes and ignore its failures; a world which refuses to share with others, because political or economic realities would never countenance so fool-hardy a decision. But, thank God, at

times we meet people in whom kindness and generosity bloom often in the unhealthiest of soils. Whose lives are seemingly the richer through sharing and in whose dying we can begin to glimpse the light of heaven.

 Trevor Willmott

RECTOR

FROM THE COLLECTION PLATE

September 27th	£186.89
October 4th	£170.98
October 11th	£ 99.77
October 18th	£143.17

READERS' ROTA

The Readers' Rota has gone missing from the back of the church, and a new rota has been prepared. The readings for the Holy Communion are listed for each Sunday, and members of the congregation are asked to add their name to the list. Do not be shy! We need as many different readers as possible.

PAMPAS-GRASS

Do any members of the village have pampas-grass in their gardens? If so, then Paddy McGuire would like to hear from you; Paddy is preparing fresh arrangements of dried flowers in the church, and would like pampas-grass with very long stems if possible.

'ALLO 'ALLO

Listen very carefully, I will say this only once!

The Ecton resistance group is arranging a day trip to France on Thursday, 19th November.

Whilst there we shall visit the Hypermarket to purchase enough Beaujolais Nouveau, Bread and Cheese to hold a village party on Saturday 21st, but the main purpose of the visit is just to enjoy a day out together before Winter really sets in.

We shall be collected by bus from Ecton School at 4.00 a.m.

You will need either a current passport or an identity card. If you possess neither of these then they are easily obtained from a main Post Office.

The crossing will be by Hovercraft and takes only 30 minutes, so we should be at the Hypermarket to do the main duty free shopping by 9.30 a.m.

Once this is completed the bus will take us on to the old town of Calais where there will be about 4 hours in which to explore, enjoy a leisurely meal or even do some early Christmas shopping.

There are a limited number of seats available, so please ring Sheila Infram on 406038 or call in to 17 West Street, Ecton to make your reservation.

The cost for the day, not including meals will be £21. Everyone is guaranteed a fun day out and we hope to be able to return you all safely to Dear Old Blighty and back to Ecton by 8.30 p.m.

SHEILA INGRAM

RECTOR'S NOTES

November 1st is All Saints Day - a day of thanksgiving for the lives of those who have lived the gospel of Jesus Christ. Their prayers and examples are an encouragement to all of us in our earthly journey in living out our calling to be Saints of God. Sunday morning service that day is also Church Parade - congratulations to the Brownies and Guides for their 'smart' turn out over the last months and thanks to the leaders and parents for so generously helping both groups to grow so well. Caroline Paula Nelson will be baptised at that service and we welcome her into the Lord's family in this place.

On All Souls Day, November 2nd, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m. in the church. This service gives us an opportunity to thank God for all those who have touched our lives for good and now rest in the peace of Christ.

A list is available at the back of the church for names to be remembered at the altar that day.

Sunday, November 8th

The annual service of Remembrance will take place at 6.00 p.m. in place of Evensong.

Sunday, November 29th is the beginning of Advent. The Church's solemn preparation for Christmas. It will also be Stewardship Sunday - the time when each of us, under God, renew our pledge to worship, and to service of his people. Stewardship is the response of the church to God and as such is the responsibility of every member of the congregation. During the month, members of the Stewardship Committee will be seeking your advice and support for the work of the parish. In turn, please remember them in your prayers and aim to be in the church that day to make your pledge.

LOOKING INTO DECEMBER

We shall celebrate Christingle Sunday on December 13th at 9.30 a.m. This service in support of the Church of England Children's Society, is a marvellous preparation for Christmas. It will also be Church Parade Service for the Brownies and Guides.

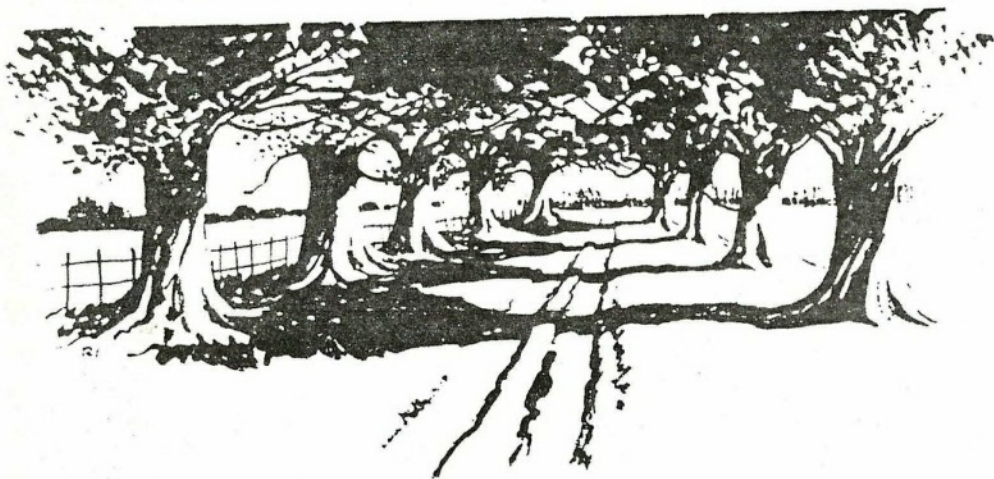
PCC will meet on Tuesday, December 8th at 8.00 p.m. (members please note the change of date) to review the results of the Stewardship renewals and to firm up plans for 1988.

CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL

The 99th Brownies and Guides who attend this church, invite you to a concert in aid of the above appeal on Thursday, 19th November at 7.00 p.m. at Lings Lower School, Hayeswood Road, Lings.

MAVIS ASHEAD
District Assistant

WILD ECTON



So the hurricane came and went and Ecton missed the worst of it.

The full force of the storm was graphically illustrated by the news pictures of the trees blown down in the wind.

We take trees for granted, don't we, hardly noticing them until something like that happens. And yet they are so important to the landscape, in and out of the village.

The approach to Whiston, just across the valley, is a case in point. When it was lined with mature elms this approach was exciting, full of anticipation; without them, lost to Dutch elm disease, it is now bare and uninteresting. The anticipation has evaporated.

My favourite approach to Ecton, up the hill at the bottom end of the village, is really enhanced by the limes alongside the lane - how grateful we should be to whoever planted them.

And equally for one of the most splendid sights around Ecton - the avenue of beeches alongside the cricket field. In the past few years several of these mighty trees have fallen and it will be a sad day when the last of them goes especially if no replanting has been done.

Tree planting requires long term planning and it would be nice to earn the gratitude of future Ecton residents.

RODNEY INGRAM

ECTON SCHOOL

On Tuesday, 3rd November there will be an Open Day in School. Anyone interested is welcome to pop in between 9.30 a.m. - 11.45 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.

On Tuesday, 8th December there will be a short Carol service in Church at 2.00 p.m.

Then Tuesday, 15th December there is a Bazaar in School preceded by a short Christmas performance.

Look ahead to Wednesday, 20th January for a trip to the Pantomime - Anyone interested please telephone 409213.

Price £6 per adult + bus fare
£3 per child and OAP + bus fare

SYLVIA JOHNSON

APPLES IN ABUNDANCE?

If your freezer is already full of apples, and you are wondering how to store some more, then read on:

1. Peel and core, and remove blemishes.
2. Cut into rings about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.
3. As you cut, place the apple into salted water (2oz salt to 1 gallon water).
4. Thread apple rings onto clean bamboo-sticks, or put in single layers on trays.
5. Dry in cool oven (140°), or over radiator, or in linen cupboard, until apple is like chamois leather. Apple should spring apart when pressed.
6. Remove from heat, leave for 12 hours, then pack and store in dry place.

Paddy Macguire

HARVEST SUPPER AND AUCTION

Our thanks to all of you who kindly donated produce for the Harvest Festival. You will be delighted to learn that we raised the magnificent sum of £123 which has already been passed to "The Childrens' Society" (formerly the Church of England Childrens' Society).

Following the auction those that attended the Harvest Supper enjoyed an excellent meal beautifully prepared by Joy Wilson and Sylvia Johnson. We offer our sincere thanks to them and to all those who kindly helped during the evening.

MARGARET WILLMOTT

MUMS AND TOTS

Thank you to those who have given toys and dressing up items. We now have a good range of toys for the children to play with.

All mums with children under school age are welcome on Thursdays between 2.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. in the Rectory Room.

MUMS AND TOTS ROTA

Jan Lennon	November 5th
Margaret Willmott	November 12th
Margaret Tinson	November 19th
Janet Stock	November 26th
Janet Scriven	December 3rd

MARGARET WILLMOTT

ACTION AID

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the "Action Aid Stall" we held in Wellingborough on October 10th. Our project this year is "Improving Sahara's Water Resources". However, we were not short of water in Wellingborough; it tipped down all day! Despite the weather we were able to sell all the cakes and jams and raised £154.

Thank you again for your support.

PAT BAYLIS

GREENBELT 1987 AND BEYOND

Greenbelt is the August Bank Holiday Christian Festival for the young in heart! It happens at beautiful Castle Ashby park 8 miles from Northampton and includes music, theatre, seminars, worship and a host of fringe activities.

Despite a sprinkling of classical music and a substantial portion of country and Western, it is a safe bet that for the majority of the thousands attending, Rock is what it's all about!

The organizers invite top Christian groups and others less well known to "pick up their guitars, plug in their amps and blow their own trumpets". That means for at least three hours in the Big Top in the afternoon, five hours on the main stage in the evening followed by a "late night special"!

You may have recognised the musical talents of David Grant, Deniece Williams, Stryper and Garth Hewitt or heard more of "The Fat Band", "The Mercy Seat" and "The Famous Potatoes" (Smiths?) and still not too deafened to hear the biblical insights of Os Guinness and Carol Anderson at the seminars (not to mention the crusading zeal of Bruce Kent) -

Greenbelt is a Christian family event to the glory of God, conspicuously short on the ugly overtones that mar some other pop festivals.

ECTON VILLAGE PLAYGROUP

Many thanks to all those who helped at the Jumble Sale, also to those who so kindly donated jumble. We raised £70 which will help us to buy a bookcase to stop our valuable books from getting damp.

Our next Coffee Morning is on Monday, 9th November 10.00 - 11.30 a.m. in the Rectory Room. We will have a brand new toy stall - toys can be bought on the day or ordered. We will have the usual tea, coffee, cakes, raffle, etc.

Our Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday, 28th November 2.00 - 3.30 p.m. in the Rectory Room. Father Christmas will be there. If you have any suitable items you wish to donate, such as home made jams, chutneys or handicrafts, also anything for a tombola, please contact me or Barbara Wheeler 403049.

We hope to see you there.

If anyone is interested in helping at Playgroup on a regular basis, we have a vacancy as deputy leader. No experience necessary, just a love of children; you will have an opportunity to go on courses sponsored by the Playgroup, if you so wish.

Please contact me.

MARGARET TINSON
Rectory Farm House 412233

MOTHER'S UNION

We had an interesting meeting in October when our speaker was Mrs Cullip talking about the media and Christianity.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th November at 2.30 p.m., when our speaker will be Mrs Peggy Jones who will talk about the Indoor Members Prayer Circle.

MARGARET WILLMOTT

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meeting Princess Diana, having tea at Buckingham Palace, and being feature in a Sunday Express Magazine article were just a few of the highlights of her busy year as a Lady Mayoress - described hilariously by Denise Fairhurst at the October meeting. A most enjoyable evening was rounded off by good reports of our WI's year from Secretary and Treasurer.

To start off the new programme (on Tuesday, November 3rd at 7.30 p.m.) is a demonstration with a difference by Mrs Kendall - Corrie, on "Japanese Punch Embroidery" and anyone who owns a Japanese item may like to bring it for the competition table please.

If any ladies in Ecton would like to join us for this meeting they can be sure of a very warm welcome and a pleasant evening.

J KNIGHT

OVER 60'S CLUB

A very enjoyable evening was had at the Whist Drive and after expenses £28.25 went to the Club.

We were pleased to celebrate with Mrs Smith on her 90th Birthday, thirty eight members sat down to tea.

The meetings in November are on the 2nd, 16th and 30th at 2.30 p.m. We maintain a good attendance at meeting but would always welcome new members. Why not pay us a visit?

Our thoughts are with Joyce in the loss of her mother. Mrs Orford was one of the original members of the Club.

Whist Drive Friday 13th November at 7.30 p.m. in Rectory Room NOT on 6th as shown in last months magazine.

EDNA WELCH

CLEANING ROTA

(R) Mrs Robinson & Mrs Haycox	November 7th
(L) Mrs L Johnson & Mrs Richards	November 14th
(R) Mrs W Johnson, Mrs Rands & Mrs A Johnson	November 21st
(L) Alice and Wynne	November 28th
(R) Mrs Harlot & Mrs Wright	December 5th

(L) Left Hand Side (R) Right Hand Side
of Pews (Looking toward the altar)

Plus any other parts of the church that need cleaning.

GOD'S WONDERFUL RAILWAY

THE LINE TO HEAVEN

by Christ was made
With heavenly truth the Rails are laid.
From Earth to Heaven the Line Extends
To Life Eternal where it ends
Repentance is the Station then
Where passengers are taken in
No Fee for them is there to pay
For Jesus is himself the way.

God's Word is the First Engineer,
It points the way to Heaven so dear.
Through tunnels dark and dreary here
It does the way to Glory steer.
God's Love the Fire, his Truth the Steam,
Which drives the Engine and the Train,
All you who would to glory ride,
Must come to Christ, in him abide.

In First and Second and Third Class,
Repentance, Faith and Holiness.
You must the way to Glory gain
Or you with Christ will not remain.
Come then poor Sinners, now's the time
At any station on the Line.
If you'll repent and turn from sin,
The Train will stop and take you in.

An 1845 memorial to two young railway navvies
in Ely Cathedral.

RECIPE CORNER CHEESE SOUP

Quick, easy and very popular at a Lent Meeting!

1½oz Butter (40g)
2 onions, chopped
1 carrot, chopped
1 stick celery, chopped (optional)
1oz flour (25g)
1¾ pints beef stock (I make with stock cubes)
(1 litre)
Salt and Pepper
Paprika
6oz mature cheddar cheese, finely grated
(175g)
1 tablespoon chopped parsley (dried will do)

Melt the butter and fry the vegetables until soft and just beginning to colour. Stir in the flour, then gradually add the stock and bring to the boil. Season with salt and pepper and paprika. cover and simmer for 20 minutes.

Sieve or liquidise the soup and return to the pan. Adjust the seasoning, bring back to the boil, then remove from the heat. Stir in 4oz (100g) of the cheese until melted, then add the parsley. Reheat gently (don't boil) and serve in bowls sprinkled with the remaining cheese.

Serves 4 to 6 people

MARY STRANGE

"THE MALAISE OF THE C OF E"

What a feeble concoction the ASB collect for St Barnabas Day is! Surely no one would want to admit to having composed it?

Here it is: Lord God Almighty, whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive: help us by the example of your apostle Barnabas to be generous in our judgements and unselfish in our service.

Generous in our judgements, my foot! The collect seems to be saying that we must never think we know what is right and true; we must keep an open mind, and be thoroughly liberal (with a small 'l').

In fact it is describing the malaise of the Church of England, which in general is weak in faith, unceretain in its teaching, afraid to take a stand and speak out, pathetically anxious to give people what they want and so try to be popular.

Compare that collect from the ASB with the collect for St Barnabas Day in the Roman Missal: God our Father, you filled Saint Barnabas with faith and the Holy Spirit and sent him to convert the nations: help us to proclaim the gospel by word and deed.

Isn't that a splendidly positive prayer? It encourages us in our Christian task. Those who built churches and dedicated them to St Barnabas did so not because they thought we should be generous in our judgements but because they honoured Barnabas as one of the greatest missionaries of all time, and encouragement to us in the missionary vocation laid on us all by Our Lord.

The forces of atheist materialism are full of missionary zeal. Islam is full of missionary zeal. Where is ours? We are just idling, being generous in our judgements.

Yes, I know that Barnabas, unlike some of the other early Christians, accepted Paul who had previously persecuted Christians, into the Church's fellowship. He was given wisdom for this by the Holy Spirit, so that Barnabas the great missionary was able to recognise Paul the still-greater missionary.

JOHN WILLETT

CROSS KEYS

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

Jean Leigh	November 7th
Jean Leigh	November 14th
Mary Hussey	November 21st
Mary Hussey	November 28th
Mothers' Union	December 5th

SACRISTANS ROTA

(B) Mrs Wilson & Mrs Willmott	November 7th
(A) Mrs Wilson & Mrs Willmott	November 14th
(B) Mr & Mrs Murdin	November 21st
(A) Mr & Mrs Murdin	November 28th
(B) Miss MacQuire & Mrs Treloar	December 5th

(A) High Altar, Nave Altars and Collection Plates	
(B) Lady Chapel, Collection Plates and Other Items	

"DROWNED IN WORDS"

"In the beginning was the Word" and it does seem that ever since we have drowned that Word in words. Quite recently I had two tiresome experiences, which made me think about our Church Services. Both were outside the Diocese. I went to a church where they had just introduced the Alternative Service Book. As you know, ASB is full of alternatives. However, there everything we could have in the Rite A Celebration we did have. By the time we had finished I felt drowned in words.

Later I was at a very-high powered conference. We began the day with Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion according to the 1662 rite. The Lessons were long, the Psalms were many, and we included the total richness of that great Book. Again, I came out drowned in words.

Or course, the major thing in worship is how the service is conducted, and to that an even, peaceful and sensitive pace makes an important contribution. In both my experiences I was overwhelmed by a feeling of rush, of wordy haste. It was fatal.

However, if we are faced with a mass of Psalms and long Lessons and many prayers, the temptation to "get through" is unworthy but strong, and we are weak. I believe that it is far better to have much less in the services so that we may handle prayers and readings from Scriptures with reverence, and may give them proper space.

I feel, therefore, that it is not always necessary to have three Lessons. It is much better to have two, with pauses following so that we may think about them and let a verse or phrase enter into our minds and hearts. I think, too, that the custom of introducing everything can so easily be overdone. I accept that this can be helpful, but usually the Scriptures do speak for themselves without our interpretation.

However, the part of the Service which does worry me now very much is the Intercession. There is all the difference in the world between a Prayer Group and the ordered worship of the Church. I do not think that it is necessary to introduce our own collects and prayers into the Prayer of the Church. Very personalised prayer with its stress on our own sensitivities can be selfish and intrusive.

Those of us who lead the Intercessions are there on behalf of the congregation, not on behalf of ourselves. There are certain biddings we can make which can be quite plain. Thereafter, neither God nor congregation need to be told in detail what is happening in Ireland or in our local hospital. Both know. Instead, we should leave these matters, in a blessed moment of silence, to the intercession of the congregation and to the privacy of people's hearts. Our words should not get in the way of their prayers.

Sometimes, I regret to say, intercessions become another form of sermon and sometimes they go on really far too long. If we have any spare time in the Service it really should be given to silence - but you know how I feel about that!

The same is often true about prayers at Morning and Evening Prayer. We ought to use good prayers but we ought never to use too many, and always people should feel that not only is the community praying but we are given an opportunity to pray personally.

I believe that in people's search for God today they want to be met by an opportunity to draw closer to him and they will not get that opportunity if they lose both the communal sense of a Service and the opportunity of peace because they are drowned in words.

CROSS KEYS

COFFEE ROTA

Kathy Stears	November 1st
Alice & Wynne	November 8th
Zara Hunwicks & Brenda Jones	November 15th
Trisha Fuller & Jackie Nelson	November 22nd
Millie Harlot & Dora Reynolds	November 29th
Janet Robinson & Jean Leigh	December 6th

Handbell Concert
by
The Weldon Handbell
Ringers

^{on}
Friday, 6th November
at 7.30 p.m.

ⁱⁿ
Earls Barton Church

~ Refreshments ~

Tickets £1.50 Available
from

Mary Strange

In aid of Chelveston Church
Bells Restoration

NOVEMBER DIARY

November

- Sunday 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY
(8th SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS)
9.30am Family Communion &
Brownie Church Parade
O.T. Genesis 3.1-15 Maurice Jones
Gospel Matthew 5.1-12
6.00pm Evensong
- Monday 2 ALL SOULS' DAY
9.30am Holy Communion
2.30pm Over 60's Club
8.00pm Cricket Club
- Tuesday 3 7.30pm Women's Institute
- Thursday 5 9.30am Holy Communion
- Sunday 8 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
(7th SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS)
9.30am Parish Communion &
Sunday School
O.T. Genesis 22.1-18 John Strange
Gospel Luke 20.9-17
6.00pm Service of Remembrance
- Monday 9 10.00am Playgroup Coffee Morning
- Tuesday 10 2.30pm Mothers' Union
- Thursday 12 9.00am Holy Communion
- Friday 13 7.00pm Whist Drive (Rectory Room)
- Sunday 15 6th SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS
9.30am Parish Communion &
Sunday School
O.T. Exodus 6.2-8
Gospel Mark 13.5-13
6.00pm Evensong
- Monday 16 2.30pm Over 60's Club

- Thursday 19 9.30am Holy Communion
- Sunday 22 5th SUNDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS
 9.30am Parish Communion &
 Sunday School
- O.T. Isaiah 10.20-23
Gospel Mark 13.14-23
- 6.00pm Evensong
- Thursday 26 NO Holy Communion
- Saturday 28 2.00pm Playgroup Christmas Fayre
- Sunday 29 ADVENT SUNDAY (STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY)
 9.30am Parish Communion &
 Sunday School
- O.T. Isaiah 51.4-11
Gospel Matthew 25.31-end
- 6.00pm Evensong
- Monday 30 ST ANDREW'S DAY
 2.30pm Over 60's Club

December

- Tuesday 1 7.30pm Women's Institute
- Thursday 3 9.30am Holy Communion
- Sunday 6 2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT
 9.30am Parish Communion
- O.T. Isaiah 64.1-7
Gospel Luke 4.14-21
- 6.00pm Evensong
- Tuesday 8 8.00pm P.C.C. Meeting

N.B. The Parade Service for December is on
 Sunday 13 December.