

## The United Benefice of Thornbury with Oldbury and Shepperdine



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### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November – All Saints' Day

Services are held within our churches and livestreamed via YouTube, see below.

Shepperdine is open as a place of pilgrimage and private prayer.

If you know or hear of anyone who is not online but needs pastoral support or contact do let clergy or wardens know. Wardens Tel: Jenny Ovens (01454 414727), Robin Gupta (01454 413650), Mike Dennett (01454 419082), Andrew Gazard (01454 412153) and Sandra Grey (01454 260316).

**Please follow our '[Thornbury, Oldbury and Shepperdine United Benefice](#)' page on Facebook, and make friends with '[Thornbury Benefice](#).' If you wish to add to these pages, then send photos and notices to**

**Pat Duru:** [patduru50@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:patduru50@yahoo.co.uk)

**Please use our Church [YouTube](#) page to watch future livestreamed and recorded services from St Mary's:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA>

**(\*live streamed)**

*Readings: Revelation 7.9-17, 1 John 3.1-3, Matthew 5: 1-12*

#### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

**9.00am** – Holy Communion at St Paul's

**10.30am** – \*Holy Communion at St Mary's

**3.00pm** – Refresh at St Arilda's

#### **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**7.30pm** – Bell ringing practice

#### **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

**9.00am** – Hopscotch at St Mary's

**12.00noon** – Funeral for Maureen Mann at St Mary's

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

**7.30pm** – Choir Practice at St Mary's

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00am** – Dads and Kids at St Mary's Hall

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

**9am** – Holy Communion at St Paul's

**10.30am** – \*Remembrance Service at St Mary's

**6.00pm** – Remembrance (with choir) at St Arilda's

*\*Please note: most services at St Mary's will be live streamed*

\*Live streaming – If you are unable to make it to church, please do use our Church YouTube page for the live-streamed services which are filmed from St Mary's:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA> so you can be part of our worship. The camera records the person speaking, with some wider shots of the church.

## **NOTICES AND EVENTS**

**Remembrance Service** - We are expecting many people at the Remembrance service being held at St Mary's on the 12th of November at 10.30 am. If you are able to help stewarding at this service, we would be very grateful. Please let Mike, Robin or Jenny know if you are available to help.

**Drivers** – Please could you let the office know if you would be able to help others of the congregation with transportation to Sunday services or other various church events. Likewise, if you find yourself unable to attend church due to difficulty with transport, please do let us know and we can see if we are able to help in anyway.

**Volunteers Needed** – We very much need some extra help with the refreshment rota for St Mary's. The rota currently has 6 pairs therefore if you could spare some extra time once every 2 months, we would be most grateful. Many hands make light work! If you would be able to donate some time to help, please contact the office on [thornburybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:thornburybenefice@outlook.com).

**Save the date Bible Studies** - As promised our online bible studies (on Zoom) will be resuming for the winter months from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. These will be an hour long (or thereabouts) from 8pm on Monday evenings in two halves from **13<sup>th</sup> Nov – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec and from 8<sup>th</sup> Jan – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb** and will be covering some of the heroes

and villains of Scripture. You do not need to make every session to be welcome in the group! Zoom details will be shared nearer the time.

**Christian Books** - Thornbury United Reformed Church will be selling new and second hand Christian books at the Church on the first Saturdays of each month. (**4<sup>th</sup> November** and 2<sup>nd</sup> December). **10am – 12.00**. Books for seasons in the Christian year, personal devotions and reading, greeting cards and seasonal gifts as part of the church's weekly coffee morning.

**Mariposa Trust and a service at Malmesbury Abbey** – On the **11<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm**, Malmesbury Abbey are hosting a special service for Baby loss remembrance and support. The service is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. The service is also welcome to any who are grieving the fact that they haven't had children for any reason. Babies and children are also invited as this will be a family event. All are welcome. For more information, please visit <https://www.sayinggoodbye.org/>

**Sustainable Thornbury – Walking the Biodiversity Ring**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November: "Eight Varieties of Wood"**. Meet at 1.30 p.m. in the Leisure Centre car park. This walk is also roughly 5km and is entitled "Eight Varieties of Wood". It explores the impact of ancient and modern tree planting. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing and bring your own refreshments. If you would like more information about the walk please contact me via [cats@sustainablethornbury.org](mailto:cats@sustainablethornbury.org)

**Mid-week Holy Communion 15<sup>th</sup> November** – Our sincere apologies, the Holy Communion on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November is cancelled.

**Coffee Morning in Support of The Children's Society**: All are invited to a Coffee Morning to support The Children's Society taking place 10.00 am - 12.00 noon on Thursday, **16 November** at 3 Hillcrest, Thornbury. Please bring your Children's Society collection box with you, if you have one. If you would like a collection box, find out more at the coffee morning or contact Christine Dadd on (01454) 414396. Thank you!

**Intercessor Refresher and Private Prayer Training** - Intercessors and members of St Paul's team who have agreed to take private prayer times, have been invited to a refresher training morning on **Saturday 18th November 2023 at St Mary's Church**. The first session will start at 10am with intercessor refresher training; break at 11am for refreshments and then cover private prayer from 11.15am on, in the second session. If you would like to come to training, (either session or both sessions) even if you do not yet take intercessions or have not yet volunteered for private prayer cover, please do. Please let Alice know if you would like to attend. [thornburybenefice@outlook.org](mailto:thornburybenefice@outlook.org) or tel 01454 281900.

**Julian Trust Nightshelter for the Homeless:** Helps homeless and rough sleeps by providing a hot meal and a bed for the night. Warm clothes are needed as the weather changes. If you have clothes, suitable for younger people, there are collection boxes in the back of St Mary's and St Paul's churches. You can find out more about their very valuable work at [www.juliantrust.org.uk](http://www.juliantrust.org.uk).

**Julian Trust Nightshelter for the Homeless Advent/Christmas Appeal:** We would like to provide gift bags for their guests. Please can you donate any of the following items:

- \* 1 small bar of soap
- \* 1 small bar of chocolate (100 g only, no large bars please, they won't fit in the bags!)
- \* 1 toothbrush
- \* 1 tube of toothpaste (100ml)
- \* 1 pocket sized pack of paper tissues
- \* 1 small bottle of hand sanitiser/hand gel (100ml)
- \* 1 face mask/covering

There are boxes in St Mary's, St Paul's and St Arilda's churches for donations and at 22 Siband Road, Thornbury. For more information, please contact Christine Dadd on (01454) 414396. Thank you in anticipation.

**Save the Date - The 'Pack and Wrap' Party:** to make up gift bags for Julian Trust Nightshelter for the Homeless will take place on Monday, **11 December 2023** from 6.30 pm at 22 Siband Road, Thornbury. All very welcome to come along!

**Ukrainian Christmas Delivery** – "The Store" in Thornbury is working with "From Bristol to Ukraine with Love" Charity to deliver essential items to those who have been left behind. The refugees living with hosts in Thornbury are writing notes and

Christmas Cards to be included in our delivery. The minibus will leave for Ukraine in the middle of November. It will return with 10 refugees and those who have been injured. Your help to fill the minibus would be MUCH appreciated - items to be delivered to "The Store" at The Methodist Hall on Mondays 10.30 - 12.30 or Friday's 10.00 - 12.00 (1st Friday in month 1.00p- 3.00p) or phone Jacquie Rinaldi for collection 01454 602150. Thank you for the donations so far!

Items needed: Dry and tinned food. Cold and flu medicine. First Aid kits. Wet wipes and toiletries. Hand and feet warmers. Portable generators, power stations, power banks. Mens underwear and socks. Fleeces and coats. Baby food and nappies. Incontinence pads. Sleeping bags and ground mats. Pet Food, pet carriers. Candles, torches, batteries. Water treatment tablets, mould treatment, plastic water containers. Walking boots.

**Thornbury Christmas Lights Association** – The annual switch-on event will be **Tuesday 21 November at 7pm**. There will be a community market on the High Street from 5pm.

**Thornbury Choral Society** – The Choral society are hosting a concert **at 7.30pm on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** at St Mary's Church. Tickets are available to prebook or pay on the door. Please go to <https://www.thornburychoralsociety.org.uk/> for more information.

**Church Library Box** - We have started a book borrowing scheme in both St Paul's and St Mary's. It's a form of library of "good reads", we felt many folk have inspirational books which they have enjoyed reading and might be willing to share with others, here is your opportunity!

The library boxes are at the back of the church at St Mary's and on a windowsill in St Paul's room.

**Treasurer's Role** - We have not, so far, found the volunteer to take on this role and so we are looking at paying a company of accountants to carry out the bulk of the work. However, if anyone is able to help with the day to day local items, please do speak to Gill Young. We would very much appreciate this type of assistance.

**Food Bank** – We need some stock items which are detailed below but this month we are also asking for items to include in the extra Christmas parcels we make up for those who come to us for help during December. We will be making up these parcels on 4 December 2023. It would be most helpful if we could receive these items before that date.

**Thank you for your on-going support.**

Donations can be placed in the basket in Tesco, the Coop at Thornbury Fields or left on the Baptist church steps on **Wednesdays between 9.30am and 11am**

**Chocolate novelties**

**Box/tin of biscuits**

**Tinned Custard**

**Alcohol Free Mince pies (*Not dated before Christmas*)**

**Tinned salmon (*large and small*)**

**Savoury nibbles**

**Small gifts suitable for children**

**UHT Milk**

**Long life fruit juice**

**Instant Mash**

**Tinned cold meat**

**Adult & children's toothbrushes**

**Household cleaning items**

Cooking oil – 1 ltr bottle

Chick peas/kidney beans

Crisps/Savory snacks

Instant meals /pot noodles

Jam

Squash

Coffee

Sweets/chocolates

Soup

Shaving foam

Male & female deodorant

Toilet rolls

Dog food

**If you are recently bereaved or need pastoral care**-Please contact the clergy. We offer the opportunity to share your concerns. Or, if you or someone you know is in hospital, struggling in isolation or has cause for concern, please let the office know and we can pass on information as appropriate.

**The Office**- The office in St Mary's will be open during the hours of 10am and 2pm, **Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday**. Do please leave a message or send an email on other days and they will be dealt with as soon as possible. Please send any items for the newsletter to the office by 10am on the **Wednesday** of the week when you wish your item to appear. Send to: thornburybenefice@outlook.com. Thank you.

## KEY LINKS –Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Services at St Mary's Livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNkUbB6tYzHdbDPJFSkdaZA>

Diocesan Bulletin:

<https://mailchi.mp/a7e585de77c7/the-weekly-bulletin-31-october-2023?e=56d437cfb1>

### GOSPEL READING:

#### Matthew 5. 1-12

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### BENEFICE PAGE OF PRAYER

Those who have asked for our prayers at this time:

Gareth Mullinex, Angela Swan, Hughan Welch, Joyce Barge, Hannah, Stuart Elliott, Verity Barker, Phil and Sheila Jones, Gill and Chris Platt.

Those for whom we regularly pray: Joan Cole, Dorothy Long, Jean Thompson, Emma Stuart and Venetia Grant.

Recently departed: We pray for the families of Richard Cornock, Florence Rugman and Maureen Mann as they mourn the loss of their loved one at this time.

**FOR THE ENVIRONMENT** – Give thanks and pray for all those who are working to tackle the plastic pollution crisis across the world and especially for those taking part in the UN treaty negotiations in Kenya in November. Pray that those negotiating would have open hearts to listen to the voices of waste pickers and people most affected by the plastic crisis.

**FOR OUR WORLD** – Acapulco, Mexico faced Hurricane Otis last week. At least 100 people were killed, hundreds more injured and infrastructure destroyed. Buildings were badly damaged by winds of 165mph, along with downed trees and entire parts of the city was underwater, a city where one million residents reside.

**FOR OUR COMMUNITY** – Congratulations to the first 6 months of the Mockingbird family model. South Gloucestershire council and The Fostering Network have helped launch this new model to help bring foster families together forming an extended family, referred to as a 'constellation'. The group meet monthly and arrange regular activities for both foster carers and the children they care for.

The Mockingbird Family Model is just one source of support offered to foster carers in South Gloucestershire. Carers also receive comprehensive training, a dedicated social worker to support, an out-of-hours phone line and peer mentoring. Being a foster carer is hugely rewarding and it takes a special kind of person to do it. To find out more, visit [www.fostersouthglos.org.uk](http://www.fostersouthglos.org.uk) or call 01454 868675 to speak to a member of the team.