

## RETHINK – Next Steps

The printed invitation leaflets and tickets are now ready and are at the back of church and also available on our website.

In the meantime, please consider the following ways to get involved:

**1 Please pray for all the preparations.**

**2 Which Rethink events will you pick?**

Choose one or two (or three!).

**3 Who could you invite to come with you?**

Start praying for the people that come to mind, then invite them.

**4 Could you buy one or two extra tickets**

to give to family members or friends as a gift?

**5 Spread the word:** Do you have links with shops and other public places in our community? Could you take some leaflets and ask whether they would display them?

**6 Help in practical ways** – e.g. baking cakes for “Tea and Cakes”. More details soon.

**7 Join us for a short Rethink Prayer after the 10.30 service** – weekly from today.

Get a tea or coffee – we will meet in the children’s corner for no longer than 10-15 minutes.

Find more details and book tickets online at [www.denhamparish.church/rethink](http://www.denhamparish.church/rethink)  
(Please note: There is a small online booking fee.)

**RETHINK PRAYER:** God our Redeemer, in Jesus Christ you brought good news for everyone. We pray for *RETHINK* - for your blessing and guidance in all our preparations, for boldness to invite others, and for rich fruit as many begin a new journey of faith or deepen their faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## WEEKLY DIARY

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.00am** Lifegroup for Women.  
The Rectory

**8.00pm** Lifegroup. The Rectory

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**10.00am** Little Lions Toddler Group  
St Mark’s

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**10.00am** Holy Communion. BCP.  
St Mary’s Vestry

### KNOW AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS

A three-part sermon series in preparation for “Rethink” has started: (1) What is the Good News? (2) Why should we share it? And today (3) How can we share it? Catch up on all talks on our website (Click on “Resources”)

**Remembrance 100.** Please pick up a daily prayer guide for this week from the back of church or download it at [www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/](http://www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/)

### **Book stall**

New cards and Notelets by Hannah Dunnett are now available on bookstall at back of church. Advent calendar, Christmas cards and Calendars will be on sale from 4<sup>th</sup> November.

**The Big Sleep Out.** It’s that time again!

As winter is approaching, our thoughts turn to those without a roof over their head or a place to call home. On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November, a small group of us will be ‘Sleeping Out’. 2 years ago we raised over £800! Let’s see if we can top that! Contact Caroline Ashcroft to see how to donate or visit.

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/caroline-ashcroft1](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/caroline-ashcroft1)



# PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

28<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Last Sunday after Trinity

Bible Sunday

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.  
*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

### **Children’s Questions about Halloween**

Here are some questions children from a school in London asked about Halloween. Steve Hutchinson and Terry Clutterham from *Scripture Union* are trying to give some answers:

**Why is Halloween in October?** Because the ancient Gaelic people believed that on this date the boundary between living people and dead people dissolved, and the dead people became dangerous. Costumes and masks were worn at the festivals to mimic the evil spirits, to keep them happy or keep them away.

**Why do we call it Halloween?** The church calls the day after Halloween – 1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints Day or All Hallows Day. It’s the day the church remembers all Christians (saints) who have died. So 31<sup>st</sup> October was called ‘All Hallows (Saints) Evening’. This name was shortened to ‘All Hallows Eve’ or ‘Halloween’.

**What is Halloween basically all about?** Most families think of Halloween as just a bit of fun, though many Christians feel uneasy about the celebration of the dark side of life. They believe it’s not what Jesus wants them to do. But actually Halloween offers the opportunity to celebrate light. All Saints Day – 1<sup>st</sup> November – helps people remember that death isn’t the end and that our life with God stretches beyond the grave.

**Is Halloween real or fake?** It can represent the dark side of life, if we’re not careful. Jesus made it clear that the power of evil *is* real: When he was on earth he spoke about the devil and was tempted by him, so he must be real. Some people dress up in black to pretend that they’re bad or evil spirits. Of course they aren’t really bad or evil spirits, so in that way it’s fake.

**Why do people carve pumpkins?** From around 750 BC to 12 BC, the Celts were the most powerful people in parts of Europe. As part of their autumn celebration, they carved faces into vegetables to light the way to their homes for the good spirits.

Why not carve a cross into your pumpkin to remember that Jesus is the light of the world?

More questions and answers:

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/story/real-big-questions-about-halloween>

## Worship today



### 28<sup>TH</sup> October Last Sunday after Trinity Bible Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

**Sidesman:** Philip Constable

**Reader:** Alison Barrett

**Readings:** Jude 1-8

John 15. 17-37

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

*St Mary's, front of church*

10.30am Sung Communion *St Mary's*  
with Sunday club for children with Guest  
Preacher Meyrick Beebee.

**Know and Tell:**

**Why should we tell others?**

**Sidesmen:** Brian & Heather O'Regan

**Readings and readers:**

1 Peter 3:13-16

Robert Ash

John 9.13-34

Beverley Gray

**Prayers:** Michael Carmody

**Servers:** Carlene Litchmore &

Michael Carmody

**Sunday Club Leader:** Sonja Clements

4pm Messy Church for families.

*St Mark's*

#### Collect

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Post Communion Prayer

God of all grace, you Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

## Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine in your church  
gathered today.*

Longing for peace,  
our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter,  
many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building,

sheltering others,

Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom come.

#### John 9.13-34

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to John. All: Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.'

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<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided.

<sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.'<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup> and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.'

<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.'<sup>25</sup> He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.'<sup>26</sup> They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' <sup>27</sup> He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' <sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.'<sup>30</sup> The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'<sup>34</sup> They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

## Worship next week



### 4<sup>TH</sup> November 4<sup>TH</sup> Sunday before Advent

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

**Sidesman:** Carlene Litchmore

**Reader:** Mary Gage

**Readings:** Philip 3. 17-21

Matt. 22.15-22

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

*St Mary's, front of church*

10.30am Family Service *St Mary's*  
with Sunday club for children with  
guest speaker Des Scott, Church Army

**Sidesmen:** Craig Alexander &  
Caroline Goodwin

**Readings and readers:**

Hebrews 9: 11-14 Harry Williams

Mark 12: 28-34 Olivia Clements

**Prayers:** Clergy

**Sunday Club Leader:** Edda Lindner

3.30pm Café Church.

*St Mark's*

In your prayers this week, please remember **Vi Slade and Christine Willson**. Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the families of **Pauline Best**.

